



ORDINANCE AMENDING RMC SECTION 9.08.165, "PARKING OF RECREATIONAL VEHICLES IN CITY PARKS"

City Attorney's Office

City Council
August 19, 2025

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BACKGROUND

- RMC Section 9.08.165 (as it currently stands) does not allow anyone to park an RV within any City Park unless the individual/group (1) obtains a permit from Parks, Recreation and Community Services, or (2) otherwise obtains another form of permission from them.
- RMC Section 9.08.110(A): City Parks are closed from 10:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. for developed parks (parks with amenities like trees, immigration, play equipment, and picnic areas), and from half an hour after sunset to a half hour before sunset for undeveloped parks (parks with minimal infrastructure established for protecting wildlife).



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STRIKING A BALANCE

- Evidently, RVs should not be allowed to be parked overnight at City Parks while they are closed and non-operational.
- At the same time, individuals and families should be allowed to make use of their RVs in City Parks during daylight/operational hours to enhance their sense of enjoyment, community, and recreation.



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PROPOSED AMENDMENT

- As amended, RMC Section 9.08.165 would say: "No person, group or entity shall park a recreational vehicle as defined in Section 10.04.132 within a park or recreation area owned or controlled by the City during said park or recreation area's non-operational hours as set forth in Section 9.08.110(A).
- In practice, the proposed amendment would (1) allow individuals and families the opportunity to park their RVs at City Parks during operational hours, and at the same time, (2) make it unlawful to park RVs at "developed parks" from 10:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m., and at "undeveloped parks" from a half hour after sunset to a half hour before sunrise. These are the same operational hours listed in RMC Section 9.08.110(A).



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ENFORCEMENT STILL AVAILABLE

- While RVs would now be allowed to park in City Parks during operational/daylight hours, law enforcement would still be able to enforce against improperly parked RVs.
- For example, law enforcement would be able to enforce/cite for violations of RMC Section 10.60.060, which makes it unlawful for vehicles to park in areas other than designated parking spaces, or park in multiple parking spaces at once.



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REPAINTING PARKING SPACES

- To accommodate longer RVs that would take up multiple parking spaces, Parks, Recreation and Community Services said they could repaint a few single-vehicle parking spaces within parks around the City.



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STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

Strategic Priority #2 Community Well-Being, Goal 2.4



Community Well-Being

Ensure safe and inclusive neighborhoods where everyone can thrive.

Cross-Cutting Threads



Community Trust



Fiscal Responsibility



Sustainability & Resiliency



Equity



Innovation



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RECOMMENDATIONS

That the City Council:

1. Receive this report summarizing the proposed amendment to Riverside Municipal Code Section 9.08.165, "Parking of recreational vehicles in City parks";
2. Recommend that the City Council introduce and subsequently adopt the proposed ordinance amending Riverside Municipal Code Section 9.08.165, "Parking of recreational vehicles in City parks."



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