



City of Costa Mesa

Agenda Report

77 Fair Drive
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

File #: 23-1067

Meeting Date: 2/9/2023

TITLE:

RECOMMENDATION FOR CHANGES TO THE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION TITLE 12 PARKS AND RECREATION

DEPARTMENT: PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

PRESENTED BY: PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR, JASON MINTER

CONTACT INFORMATION: PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR, JASON MINTER, (714) 754-5009

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend that the Commission review and approve changes to the Costa Mesa Municipal Code Title 12, sections 12-1 through 12-55 regarding Park Use Regulations.

BACKGROUND:

In 2022, members of the Parks and Community Services Commission requested that staff bring forward for their review the City's Policy and Municipal Code section regarding the group size requirement for park permits. Included in the Municipal Code is Title 12: PARKS AND RECREATION, which includes a variety of Parks related ordinances.

In December 2022, staff brought forward a report engaging the Commission in a discussion regarding section 12-53 Park Permits. Staff presented a report with comparison data to other cities and their policies, and answered Commissioner questions regarding the report (Attachment 1).

Costa Mesa Municipal Code section 12-53 (a) Permits reads as follows:

Any lodge, society, social organization, group, sports league or team, social club or any other organization of persons having ten (10) or more members or attendees desiring to use any area of any public park, square, avenue, ground or recreation facility for a parade, picnic, game, or other purpose and where such use will exclude or interfere with use by other members of the public from such area shall obtain a permit from the administrative services director or his designee not less than three (3) business days or more than one (1) year prior to such use. (CMMC 12-53)

As mentioned during the December meeting, the ordinance referenced above was last updated in 2002, with changes made through various resolutions over the years. Here is a summary of the changes approved by City Council, the year the changes were made, and the change that was made:

Year	Group Size	Notes
1968	25	Originally set
1986	10	Reduced to 10
2002	10	No change
2023	25	<i>Recommended increase</i>

ANALYSIS

At the request of the Commission, staff have provided the Municipal Code section 12-53 with the recommended change from a ten (10) person group size to a twenty-five (25) person group size. In addition to section 12-53, staff have provided recommended changes to other sections in Title 12 that are administrative in nature and clean up the language and references that have been changed within the City over the years. A red-lined version of these sections is provided (Attachment 2). These sections include definitions and a variety of ordinances that have been approved by City Council over the years.

As referenced at the last meeting, staff contacted the Costa Mesa Police Department and requested the number of citations that had been issued for Municipal Code section 12-53 over the past 5 years. According to the Police Department there were zero (0) citations reported over that period of time.

At this time staff have reviewed the Municipal Code Title 12 Parks and Recreation and made recommendations for position titles, department references, and other administrative updates, along with the recommended change to section 12-53 Permits. Please review the attached changes and provide feedback, comments, or suggestions that can be forwarded to the City Council for approval.

ALTERNATIVES:

There were no alternatives considered at this time.

FISCAL REVIEW:

There is no fiscal impact for this review and discussion.

LEGAL REVIEW:

Legal review will be completed prior to this recommendation going before the City Council.

CONCLUSION:

It is the recommendation of the Parks and Community Services Director that the Commission review and approve recommended changes to the Costa Mesa Municipal Code Title 12, sections 12-1 through 12-55 regarding Park Use Regulations. Any changes to the Municipal Code will need to be reviewed and approved by the City Council as a part of a formal hearing process.

