

Resolution #31126

WHEREAS, the City is a municipal corporation responsible for multiple departments and agencies providing public services to City residents and visitors.

WHEREAS, the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners is authorized and responsible by the provisions of the City Charter for planning, developing, extending, maintaining and operating system of public parks, parkways, boulevards, and facilities for the use of the City.

WHEREAS, the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners goals are to provide a broad range of safe, enjoyable outdoor recreation experiences for all visitors, to protect and preserve parks and natural resources and foster stewardship through education and information sharing.

WHEREAS, In June of 2017 the City Council adopted Resolution 170387 which instituted hours for parks and directed the City Manager to work with the Parks Board to create a team to develop strategies to address crime and the perception of crime in parks.

WHEREAS, a Task Force was formed and consisted of members from the City Manager's Office, the Mayor's Office, Parks and Recreation, KCPD, the Law Department and the Health Department and developed a plan as directed by Council.

WHEREAS, Recommendation #3 of the **Safety Plan** was recommended for the development of a park ranger program to educate park users on park rules and to intervene when necessary in combination with off-duty Kansas City, Missouri Police Department officers as needed for enhanced security.

WHEREAS, in FY19 Budget a "Park Ranger" program was approved by the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners.

WHEREAS, in order to address the concern of the City Council regarding the safety and accessibility of the City's parks and trail system, the Board recommends that the City Council of Kansas City adopt the recommendation of the Park Safety Committee regarding the development of Park Ranger program.

WHEREAS, it is the intention that the Park Ranger program will assist the Director of Parks and Recreation in the security, control, management and protection of all Kansas City, Missouri parks, park property, boulevards, roadways within the parks, community centers and all wildlife and natural/cultural resources of the park.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Kansas City Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners approves of the attached proposed ordinance that Amends Chapter 53 of the City's Code of Ordinances, by enacting new Sections 53-8 and 53-9, for the purpose of providing Park Rangers with the authority to issue General Ordinance Summons (GOS) and Uniform Traffic Tickets (UTT) within City parks, community centers and park property to enforce city ordinances and provides other park ranger duties or powers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be incorporated into the minutes of the Kansas City Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners and that a copy hereof be presented to the Mayor and City Council Members on behalf of the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners.

I, Karmen Houston, Secretary to the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners, do hereby certify that the above is a true and exact copy of Resolution #31126, adopted by the Board on Tuesday, October 16, 2018, and record in the official Board proceedings for that date.

BOARD OF PARKS AND RECRATION COMMISSIONERS

Karmen D. Houston, Secretary

Date

Proposed Chapter 53 added Section _____

Kansas City, Missouri Parks and Recreation Department Security Officer, hereafter, referred to as ‘Park Rangers’.

The following section shall apply to the duties of the Kansas City, Missouri Parks and Recreation Department security officers herein referred to as “Park Rangers:

Defined

A “Park Ranger” is defined as a security officer employed by the Kansas City, Missouri Parks and Recreation Department who shall hold a Class A, patrol agent, license issued by the Kansas City, Missouri Board of Police Commissioners.

“Park Rangers”

The Kansas City, Missouri Parks and Recreation Department “Park Rangers” (“Park Rangers”) shall assist the Director of Parks and Recreation in the security, control, management and protection of all Kansas City, Missouri parks, park property, boulevards, roadways within the parks, community centers and all wildlife and natural/cultural resources of the park.

General Duties

The “Park Rangers” shall strive to assure the convenience and safety of all persons using the Kansas City, Missouri parks as permitted by city ordinance.

Authority

The “Park Rangers” shall have such powers of a police officer of the Kansas City, Missouri Police Department in the performance of their duties as are set forth in specific provisions of this code and as provided by state law in all Kansas City, Missouri Parks, on all park property, boulevards, roadways within the parks and in all community centers owned and/or operated by the Parks Department.

“Park Rangers” Authorized to Issue General Ordinance Summons (GOS) or Uniform Traffic Ticket (UTT).

Whenever a park ranger observes a violation being committed of any city ordinance set out in chapter 53, Parks, Recreation and Boulevards or as listed in this section, such park ranger may issue a GOS or UTT.

Enforcement of Other City Ordinances

The “Park Rangers” may also issue a GOS or UTT for violations of the following city ordinances:

Section 4-2, Advertisements in parks

Section 14-33, Dogs running at large prohibited

Section 10-371, Purchase or possession of alcoholic beverages by minors

Section 46-5(3), Portable sound systems

Section 46-5(7), Vehicular Stereos

Section 50-44, Obstructing or resisting public safety officer, employee or inspector

Section 50-71, Indecent Exposure

Section 50-103, Trespassing on golf courses, parks and trails

Section 50-104, Occupation of reserved shelter houses

Section 50-105, Obstructing watercourse

Section 50-107, Tenting without consent of landowner

Section 50-123, Placing bicycle, wheelbarrow or other vehicle on parks or boulevards

Section 50-124, Institutional vandalism

Section 50-125, Defacing property with aerosol paint and like materials

Section 50-127, Vandalism of vacant buildings and structures

Section 50-128, Trespassing at vacant building or property

Section 50-152, Drinking alcoholic beverages in public place

Section 50-160, Prohibited acts at public amusement events

Section 50-163, Selling articles on park, boulevard or other public grounds

Section 50-164, Disorderly conduct

Section 50-167, Disturbing the peace

Section 50-195, Roller skating, skateboarding and use of similar devices on public right of way

Section 50-196, Ball games on streets or other public property

Section 50-197, Coasting or skating in streets or public parks

Section 50-202, prohibition on swimming and wading in fountains and in Brush Creek

Section 50-204, Urinating or defecating in public

Section 50-237, Citywide curfews for persons under 18 years of age

Section 50-263, Discharging firearms generally

Section 50-266, Use and sale of arrows

Section 62 -89, Illegal dumping, littering

Section 64-9, Dumping dirt, rock or other materials on street or other public property

Section 64-10, Glass beverage bottles prohibited in parks and recreational facilities

Section 64-11, Throwing missiles

Section 64-114. Permit for excavation in parks, parkways and boulevards

Section 64-415, Trimming

Section 70-253, Driving on sidewalk, park or other public property

Section 70-521, Stopping, standing or parking on roadway outside business or residence district; disabled vehicles.

Section 70-523, Stopping, standing or parking prohibited in specified places

Section 70-524, Manner of parking generally

Section 70-527, Parking for certain purposes prohibited

Section 70-528, Parking not to obstruct traffic

Section 70-532, Obedience to signs limiting parking time

Section 70-535, Use of parking spaces for physically disabled persons

Section 70-538, Marked fire lane parking

Section 70-564, Standing in passenger loading zone

Section 70-565, Standing in loading zone for unloading or loading of property

Section 70-602, Use of off-street parking facilities for physically disabled persons

Section 70-681, Scope of article; responsibility of parent or guardian

Section 70-688, Number of riders on bicycle

Section 70-689, Clinging to vehicles

Section 70-690, Position on roadway of persons riding bicycle or moped

Section 70-691, Riding tow abreast; use of bicycle paths

Section 70-692, Carrying packages or other articles on bicycle

Section 70-693, Left turns by persons riding bicycle or moped

Section 70-694, Turn and stop signals by persons riding bicycle

Section 70-695, Riding bicycle or other human powered vehicle on sidewalk

Section 70-696, Bicycle parking

Section 70-697, Bicycle racing

Section 70-699, Lights on bicycles

Section 70-700, Rear reflector on bicycles

Section 70-701, Side reflector or light on bicycles

Section 70-703, Brakes on bicycles

Section 70-704, Sirens and whistles prohibited on bicycles

Section 70-749, Operation of all-terrain and off-road vehicles

Section 70-750, Operation or riding of certain motor-driven cycles on streets and sidewalks unlawful (Phillip's Law)

Section 70-787, Pedestrians soliciting rides or business

Section 70-792, Pedestrians under influence of alcohol or drugs

Section 70-902, Operation of trucks on roadways under control of board of parks and recreation

Section 72-9, Parking mobile home or recreational on street or other public place

Violation of Law Other Than Park Related Ordinances and Certain Other Ordinances as Listed in This Section

Upon observing any violation of the city ordinances other than those as described in this section, of the laws of the state of Missouri or of the United States, the “Park Rangers” may notify the Kansas City, Missouri Police Department or any other appropriate law enforcement agency of the state of Missouri or of the United States. The “Park Rangers” are authorized to take such action as is necessary to stop such violation of the city ordinances or of the laws of the state of Missouri or of the United States and may detain the violator for disposition by the appropriate law enforcement agency.

“Park Rangers” authorized to Direct Traffic

“Park Rangers” are authorized to direct all traffic by voice, hand or signal in conformance with traffic laws, provided that, in the event of a fire or other emergency or to expedite traffic or to safeguard pedestrians, such officers may direct traffic as conditions may require, notwithstanding the provisions of the traffic laws within park boundaries and on all park property, boulevards, roadways within the parks and community centers.

Emergencies

In the event of emergencies involving illness or injury, or danger to life, the “Park Rangers” shall take reasonable steps to obtain needed medical, rescue or other emergency assistance.

Rangers Authorized to Remove Vehicles

Whenever a park ranger finds a motor vehicle or trailer parked in violation of any city ordinance relating to the parking of a motor vehicle or a trailer in any Kansas City, Missouri park, on park property, boulevards, roadways within the parks or in community center parking lots, such ranger is authorized to remove such vehicle, or require the driver or other person in charge of the vehicle to do so.

Removal of Park Patrons.

Any person in violation of any law, or the rules and regulations of the director of parks and recreation, or in any other way endangering the safety or property of others, may be required to immediately leave the park for the day.

Obedience to “Park Rangers”

It shall be unlawful for any person to willfully fail or refuse to comply with any lawful order or direction of a park ranger in the performance of the duty of that ranger.