

ORDINANCE NO.: 2014-038

Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 15, Parks and Recreation, Sec. 15-1 Prohibited acts in parks to add (14) Exclusive minor child play zones

WHEREAS, Columbia City Council desires to set aside as safe an area as possible where minor children can play; and,

WHEREAS, restricted access designed as exclusive child play zones within City parks will enhance the safety and welfare of minor children at play; and,

WHEREAS, the intent of this ordinance is not to restrict public access to other areas of the park not designated as a child play zone; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and City Council this 15th day of July, 2014 that Chapter 15, Parks and Recreation, Sec. 15-1 Prohibited acts in parks is amended to add (14) Exclusive minor child play zones, to read as follows:

(14) *Exclusive minor child play zones.* The Director of Parks and Recreation shall designate exclusive minor child play zones within such City parks as deemed appropriate to enhance the safety of minor children at play and limit the use of playground equipment to age appropriate users

(a) No persons over the age of twelve (12) years are allowed in exclusive minor child play zone areas unless such persons are the parents, legal guardians or authorized temporary custodians caring for the minor child or minor children playing within the area or family members of the minor child or minor children playing within the area.

(b) Authorized temporary custodians for the purpose of this ordinance are any person who has a minor child or minor children in his or her care and custody with the consent of the minor child or minor children's parent(s) or legal guardian(s).

(c) The boundaries of exclusive minor child play zones shall be clearly designated by the placement of fencing or other discernable barriers along with the placement of signage.

(d) Prior to implementing exclusive minor child play zones within any park, the Parks and Recreation Director shall request that the designation be placed on City Council's agenda for public input and for approval by a majority vote of members of City Council present at the meeting.

(e) This section does not apply to special authorized events held within the City parks.

Requested by:

Councilmember Runyan

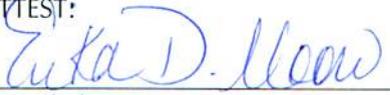
  
Mayor

Approved by:

  
City Manager

Approved as to form:

  
City Attorney

ATTEST:  
  
City Clerk

Introduced: 5/20/2014; deferred 6/17/2014;  
deferred 6/24/2014  
Final Reading: 7/15/2014

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