



Parks & Recreation

To: Mayor and City Council Members
Doug Faseler, City Manager

From: Jack Jones, Director of Parks and Recreation

Through: Rick Cortes, Assistant City Manager

Date: March 17, 2015

Subject: **Ordinance on first reading amending the Seguin Code of Ordinances Chapter 74, Parks, Article III, Use Regulations to restrict motorized vehicles on park trails; providing for publication of this ordinance; providing a severability clause; providing for an effective date; and authorizing city staff to prepare this ordinance for submission as a supplement to the Code of Ordinances.**

The Walnut Branch Hike and Bike Trail project is well underway with some sections of the trail already completed. With the concrete trail being up to 12 foot wide in places, some vehicles have been observed driving on the trail. Currently, there is nothing in the Seguin Code of Ordinances that prohibits this undesirable activity.

The attached proposed Ordinance updates Chapter 74.57.-Motor vehicles:

- It shall be unlawful for any operator to drive any motor-driven vehicle into, along, or across any grassy area of a public park, playground, trail system or public recreation area which is owned, operated, or maintained by the City, except upon public roadways and parking lots maintained by the city for the operation of such vehicles. No motor drive vehicle shall be driven upon any hike-bike trail, footpath or footbridge spanning a creek or stream located therein. For the purposes of this section wheel chairs and motorized bicycles and scooters with motors smaller than 3 H.P shall not be considered as a motor driven vehicle. This prohibition does not apply to the use of golf carts in designated areas of the Max Starcke Golf Course.
- Motor driven vehicle restrictions shall not apply to city owned vehicles being used strictly for the purpose of loading or unloading freight therein or in the construction, maintenance or repair of such public parks, public playgrounds, trail systems or public recreation areas owned or maintained by the City.

In May/June, city staff will bring forward for City Council consideration additional Use Regulations in regards to Park West, etc. The trail issue is being brought forward now for enforcement purposes due to the immediate concern of motorized vehicles on trails.

City staff recommends approval of an Ordinance on first reading amending the Seguin Code of Ordinances Chapter 74, Parks, Article III, Use Regulations to restrict motorized vehicles on park trails; providing for publication of this ordinance; providing a severability clause; providing for an effective date; and authorizing city staff to prepare this ordinance for submission as a supplement to the Code of Ordinances.