



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: June 21, 2016

Subject: **An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Seguin, Texas, amending the Seguin Code of Ordinances, Chapter 74, Parks and Recreation, Article III, Use Regulations, by adding a new section 74-72 establishing special rules to protect Park West facilities; providing for publication of this ordinance; providing a severability clause; authorizing City staff to prepare this ordinance for submission as a supplement to the Code of Ordinances; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.**

With construction completed on the voter approved Parks Bond projects at Park West, numerous Seguin residents and visitors are enjoying several new park amenities including the splash pad and playground. Since school is out now, there has been more use of Park West and park attendance will continue to increase during the summer months. As such, new rules specifically at Park West are needed to protect the more than \$4 million in tax payer investments at that park. The goal is to help keep Seguin residents and visitors safe as they enjoy all that Park West has to offer in addition to protecting park amenities.

In and around the splash pad and playground, staff has observed persons rolling through the splash pad on skateboards, scooters, rollerblades, and bicycles and some of these same wheeled devices have been seen on the playground. These nuisances are happening despite clear signage prohibiting these kinds of activities. With all of the park shelter and pavilion rentals that include birthday parties, etc. and overall general park use, a lot of the festive items related to park usage wind up in the splash pads' filtration system causing clogs in the spray features and multiple staff visits to the splash pad daily to backwash and clean all of the filter baskets. These items include, but are not limited to silly string, confetti, water balloons, silly putty, food, and drinks. Food and drinks are a nuisance on the playground as well making the play equipment unsanitary.

An ordinance will provide an enforcement mechanism for park rules as needed. Due to the pressing need of public safety and protection of tax payer investments for enforcement of the rules, staff is requesting that this item be passed on an emergency basis with only one reading. Otherwise, the new park rules could not be enforced until August.

Staff recommends approval of an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Seguin, Texas, amending the Seguin Code of Ordinances, Chapter 74, Parks and Recreation, Article III, Use Regulations, by adding a new section 74-72 establishing special rules to protect Park West facilities; providing for publication of this ordinance; providing a severability clause; authorizing City staff to prepare this ordinance for submission as a supplement to the Code of Ordinances; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.