

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 13 (STREETS, SIDEWALKS, AND PUBLIC PLACES), CHAPTER 13.24 (CITY PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS), SECTION 13.24.090 (MOTOR VEHICLES) AND SECTION 13.24.010 (CREATION AND PURPOSE OF PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT; DEFINITIONS; AND SALE OF GOODS AND SERVICES) TO ALLOW MOTOR VEHICLES TO DRIVE AND PARK AT LINCOLN PARK FOR PERMITTED CULTURAL EVENTS WITH A PENALTY AS PROVIDED BY SECTION 13.24.220.

WHEREAS, Lincoln Park, also known as “Chicano Park,” has a rich history of celebrating the Chicano culture in the City of El Paso; and

WHEREAS, on August 12, 2025, City Council directed the City Manager and City Attorney to amend the parks ordinance to allow for parking at Lincoln Park during cultural events and to include provisions that require event organizers to be financially responsible for any and all damage, repair, and necessary maintenance as a result of these events; and

WHEREAS, City Code Chapter 13.24 is the relevant Chapter of the Code that regulates use of motor vehicles on city parks and trails.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS:

Section 1. That Title 13 (Streets, Sidewalks, and Public Places), Chapter 13.24 (City Parks and Recreation Areas), Section 13.24.090 (Motor Vehicles) is hereby amended to read as follows:

“A. No person shall drive, or ride in or on, any motor vehicle, four-wheeler, all-terrain vehicle, motorcycle, go cart, dirt bike, or any other similar motorized device except for a motorized wheelchair, in any city park or trail, except licensed vehicles may drive or travel on streets that are graded or surfaced for vehicular travel and of sufficient width for use by the vehicle. This section shall not apply to the following persons when engaged in the performance of their duties: peace officers, ambulance operators or attendants, physicians, employees of the city, employees of a public utility company, or persons under contract with the city performing construction, maintenance, or other necessary work in city park or a trail.

B. Subsection A restrictions do not apply to Cultural Events at Lincoln Park if an event organizer meets the following criteria:

1. Event organizer provides to the City Manager or designee a certificate of insurance for general liability coverage or other financial security deemed acceptable by the City Manager or designee. If providing insurance, event organizer will also provide a copy of the insurance policy which lists Lincoln Park as a covered location on the dates of the

ORDINANCE NO. _____

25-5512|TRAN#618471|P&C

Amendment Park Ordinance

JAQ

event and listing the City of El Paso as a certificate holder. If providing other financial security, event organizer shall provide a copy of such financial security documentation; and

~~2. Event organizer provides the City Manager or designee with a list of all participating vehicles that will be driven or parked on Lincoln Park and proof of automobile liability coverage for each vehicle. Alternatively, event organizer may provide proof of automobile liability insurance to the City on the same general liability certificate of insurance. Event Organizer may also provide other automobile financial security documentation deemed acceptable by the City Manager or designee; and~~

~~2-3.~~ Event organizer participates in a walkthrough of Lincoln Park with Parks and Recreation staff at least two weeks prior to Cultural Event to avoid areas of Lincoln Park that may be extra sensitive to parking or driving to include, but not be limited to, the irrigation system; and

~~3-4.~~ Event organizer shall cooperate with Parks staff to appropriately drive and park at designated spaces on Lincoln Park on the dates of the Cultural Event.

~~4-5.~~ Event organizer will provide material that will prevent oil leakage from causing environmental harm to Lincoln Park. Event organizer and Parks staff shall agree on acceptable means and material to prevent leakage of motor vehicle oil or other fluid from causing environmental harm.

Section 2. That Title 13 (Streets, Sidewalks, and Public Places), Chapter 13.24 (City Parks and Recreation Areas), Section 13.24.010 (Creation and Purpose of Parks and Recreation Department; Definitions; and Sale of Goods and Services) Subsection B be amended to read as follows:

“B. Definitions. The following definitions apply to these terms as used in this chapter.

1. "Alcoholic beverage" means alcohol or any beverage containing alcohol that is capable of being used for beverage purposes, either alone or when diluted, including but not limited to beer, wine, distilled spirits and mixed beverages containing alcohol.
2. "Amusement device" means any item that is temporarily installed for the purpose of playing on, including but not limited to climbing walls, dunking booths or inflatable items such as jumping balloons, slides, castles and similar items and temporary playground equipment.
3. "Appeals official" means the city manager or a deputy city manager as designated by the city manager.
4. "City park" means any property in the city that is designated, set aside or operated by the city for public recreational purposes, whether dedicated or developed as a park or not, or that is located in any street right-of-way and is maintained as public open space, including all buildings, recreation facilities, playgrounds, parking lots, driveways,

ORDINANCE NO. _____

25-5512|TRAN#618471|P&C

Amendment Park Ordinance

JAQ

pathways, trails and other areas within a park, to include Scenic Drive. Designation of property as a city park pursuant to this subsection is solely for the purposes of identifying areas governed by this chapter and shall not be construed to be a dedication of any property as a park.

5. "Cultural Event" means an event that celebrates Cesar Chavez Day, Lincoln Park Day, Cinco De Mayo, 16th of September, Dia de Los Muertos, Dia de La Virgen de Guadalupe. A Cultural Event may take place on an extra day either immediately preceding or immediately succeeding one of the aforementioned days if planned on the weekend. A Cultural Event includes a lowrider event organized by a local organization. Council may, by resolution, approve another event as a Cultural Event.
6. "Department" means the parks and recreation department.
7. "Director" means the director of the parks and recreation department or a designee.
8. "Facility" shall have the meaning as defined in Section [13.24.200](#).
9. "Identifiable area" means a building, a shelter, a fenced athletic field, or other area subject to controlled ingress and egress as determined by the director.
10. "Roadway" means the portion of a street, alley or highway designed or ordinarily used for vehicular travel.
11. "Security guard or officer" means a uniformed private security guard who is duly licensed as provided in the Texas Occupations Code, or a uniformed peace officer.
12. "Sidewalk" means all portions of a street, alley or highway between the curblines, or the lateral lines of the roadway and the adjacent boundary lines, whether or not the same have been improved for pedestrian travel.
13. "Stand" means any structure, machine, box, table, container, vessel, vehicle, utility, post or pole, traffic control signs or signals, building or any other thing located, placed, stopped or allowed to remain upon, over or along any city park or street, sidewalk, alley, square, or public right of way abutting a city park or Scenic Drive.
14. "Street," "alley," or "highway" means the entire width between the boundary lines of every publicly maintained way when any part thereof is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular or pedestrian travel, to include but not be limited to the roadway and the sidewalk.

Section 3. Except as herein amended, Title 13 (Streets, Sidewalks, and Public Places) of the El Paso City Code shall remain in full force and effect.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2025.

ORDINANCE NO. _____

25-5512|TRAN#618471|P&C

Amendment Park Ordinance

JAQ

CITY OF EL PASO

Renard U. Johnson
Mayor

ATTEST:

Laura D. Prine
City Clerk

APPROVED AS FORM:



Jesus A. Quintanilla
Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:



Pablo Caballero, Director
Parks and Recreation

ORDINANCE NO. _____
25-5512|TRAN#618471|P&C
Amendment Park Ordinance
JAQ