

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Park Code - Golf Course Fees]

Ordinance amending the Park Code to permit the Recreation and Park Department General Manager to set all golf course fees and charges other than resident rates and certain tournament rates by flexible pricing based on certain factors; increase the allowable flexible pricing discount that is available to residents; establish a resident rate for the Gleneagles Golf Course; authorize automatic annual cost of living increases for all resident rates and tournament rates; create a \$2 per nine hole fee for each golf course to fund course improvements; expand the Harding Park advance booking fee to all other golf courses; and, further, affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Existing Law

Article 12 of the Park Code sets rates to play on each of the City's golf courses, as well as discounted rates for persons holding resident golf cards or playing in tournaments. The Recreation and Park Department ("RPD") General Manager may authorize flexible pricing to temporarily increase or decrease these rates with a certain range – up to a 25% discount for residents – based on fluctuations in customer demand. Article 12 also includes rates for golf ball and golf cart rentals at certain courses, and an advance reservation fee at Harding Park. Unlike all other rates in Article 12, the rates for golf cannot be adjusted to reflect cost of living increases except upon approval of the Recreation and Park Commission.

Amendments to Current Law

The ordinance would allow the RPD General Manager to set all golf course rates (other than the resident rates and certain tournament rates) through flexible pricing, based on fluctuations in customer demand and other factors such as rates at comparable courses. The resident rates and tournament rates would stay the same, except that the allowable flexible pricing discount for residents would increase from 25% to 50%. RPD has not had a resident rate at McLaren Park, so the resident rate at that course would be set at the former standard rate.

The ordinance will allow resident cardholders to obtain advance reservations at all courses upon payment of a \$15 advance reservation fee. The \$15 fee is equal to the amount that RPD may charge for advance reservations at Harding Park, based on the existing code and cost of living increases that could have been authorized in previous years.

RPD will also impose a \$2 fee per 9 holes for each player at Harding Park, Fleming, Lincoln Park, Sharp Park, and Golden Gate Park who is above the age of 17, to fund course improvements at the course in question.

All of golf rates that are specifically listed in Article 12 (*i.e.*, all golf rates other than those set through flexible pricing) will be subject to the same cost of living increase procedures as the rest of Article 12. Specifically, the rates will be subject to increase upon approval of the RPD, rather than upon approval of the Recreation and Park Commission.

Background Information

RPD operates the following City golf courses: Harding Park, Fleming, Lincoln Park, Sharp Park, Golden Gate Park, and McLaren Park (Gleneagles).

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