

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Emergency Ordinance - Emergency Response In Parks]

Emergency ordinance authorizing the use of park property for temporary shelter and other measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; directing the Recreation and Park Department to report to the Board of Supervisors with a list of potential locations for such uses; and waiving contrary provisions in Administrative Code, Chapters 79 and 79A, and Charter, Section 4.113, if and to the extent applicable.

Existing Law

The Recreation and Park Department (RPD) manages park property on behalf of the City.

Amendments to Current Law

The ordinance would direct RPD to prepare a report identifying park properties that could be used as temporary shelters or for other uses that may be necessary to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic (e.g., testing facilities). RPD would have to submit the report to the Board of Supervisors and post a copy on its website.

If RPD were to allow such uses on park property, it would need to consult with the Department of Public Health (DPH), the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH), and the Healthy Streets Operations Center (HSOC), as appropriate. Any shelter sites would need to allow for adequate social distancing and provide basic necessities such as bathrooms, sanitation, and a safety plan.

The ordinance would suspend existing City laws concerning public notice of City projects (e.g., Admin. Code §§ 79, 79A), and regarding the allowable uses of park property (Charter, § 4.113), if and to the extent those rules would otherwise apply.

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