

Parks and Recreation Committee

August 10, 2018

Dear Director Haynes,

INC Parks and Rec has discussed the new pilot alcohol policy and has had time to think about what we believe are the impacts of the new policy both positive and negative. INC Parks and Rec Committee hasn't taken a formal position as we heard clearly there is almost an even split of opinions about the changes.

Yet, as co chairs of the INC Parks and Rec, we believe it is important to be on record and respond to the new alcohol policy. Here are a few of our thoughts.

We think that the change from 3.2 beer to full strength beer will be easier for the Rangers to identify and also believe it will be clear after a year if the ability to bring full strength beer for personal consumption creates problems. We are concerned with more cans, plastic bottles and even glass bottles being brought into the park.

It appears that many in the general public were unaware of the prohibition of wine in our parks and we will be interested if the number of glass wine bottles is reduced with this new policy. We realize that wine comes in cans and cardboard boxes and we hope that wine drinkers prepare for this rather than spontaneously grabbing a glass bottle to enjoy in their park.

We don't agree with allowing alcohol permits in all parks. We also disagree with no limit to the number of special events permits with alcohol in each park. Fred Weiss told us that there will be only one alcohol event per day per park, however he also said that there are exceptions to those rules when asked about specific events. The number of alcohol events in all parks on any day can significantly increase the need for supervision and enforcement. There simply are not enough rangers to cover our parks to enforce the alcohol policy.

Our other major concern is the increased opportunity for people to leave the park under the influence of alcohol and travel through residential neighborhoods where children can pop out expectantly and a tragedy occurs. We hope that DPR shares our concern that there could be accidents or injuries influenced by the new alcohol policy during the 2019 pilot year.

We are not attorneys however we have been advised by some in the legal field that there are exceptions to governmental immunity. They believe that since the City is self-

insured that ultimately a financial burden to the residents and taxpayers would be created for any injury or death due to the new relaxed alcohol policy. It is our sincere hope that this will not prove true.

We look forward to reading the quarterly reports on the alcohol pilot program in the coming year. Do you know where we will be able to find the reports or will they only be sent to Council?

Sincerely,

Cindy Johnstone

Cindy Johnstone

Magja Price

Maggie Price Co Chairs, INC PARC

cc: Mayor Michael B. Hancock, Rafael Espinosa, Kevin Flynn, Paul D. Lo'pez, Kendra Black, Mary Beth Susman, Paul Kashmann, Jolon Clark, Christopher Herndon, Albus Brooks, Wayne New, Stacie Gilmore, Robin Kniech, Deborah "Debbie" Ortega, George Mayl, Loretta Koehler