

Memorandum

Date: March 28, 2006

To: City Council Members

CC: Rick Graham, Rocky Fluhart, Chief Rick Dinse, Cindy Gust-Jenson, Assistant Chief Chris Burbank, Ed Rutan, Val Pope, Lt. Melody Gray, Boyd Ferguson, Diana Karrenberg, Barry Esham, Annette Daley, Gwen Springmeyer, and Cory Young

From: Jan Aramaki

RE: Follow-up discussion regarding Legislative Action initiated by Council Member Dave Buhler to request an ordinance amendment to Section 15.08.020 of Salt Lake City Code for mini parks relating to park closure hours

On September 20, 2005, the City Council approved a Legislative Action initiated by Council Member Dave Buhler proposing a change to park hour closure times from 11 p.m. to 10 p.m. for mini parks (1/2 acre to 5 acres). Park hours would remain at 11:00 p.m. for all other parks. Attached is a list of all mini-parks within Salt Lake City (in order of Council district) that would be affected by the proposed ordinance.

Section 15.08.020A of Salt Lake City Code currently states: "All public parks of the city shall be closed to the public between the hours of eleven o'clock (11:00) p.m. at night and five o'clock (5:00) a.m. the following morning."

The Police Department supports the proposed change and does not perceive there will be any challenges with enforcement since the new park closure hours will be clearly posted on park signs (refer to attached letter). Also a copy of the draft ordinance was provided to all community councils for their input. Two community councils submitted comments: both in support of the proposed park hour change.

According to Public Services, costs associated with having to update signs in each mini-park with the new closure time of 10:00 p.m. involves placing a decal with the new "10:00 p.m." park closure time over the previous 11:00 p.m. closure time. Costs are minimal for the decals as follows: \$375 for material and \$100 for installation – approximate total cost of \$475.

Previous Background:

Mini parks are usually located in the midst of residential neighborhoods. Constituents who live near one such park have expressed concern that often times they experience disruptions to their peace and quiet due to activities and inappropriate behavior taking place in the park, commonly during late hours. Given the close proximity of numerous residential homes to mini

parks in the City (refer to attached aerial maps for each park), Council Member Buhler expressed it is his belief that it is appropriate to have an earlier closure time of 10:00 p.m. to help alleviate the late hour disturbances that community members may be experiencing. Practically speaking, this means that park neighbors who are being disturbed may call the police at 10:00 p.m. rather than waiting until 11:00 p.m.

Issues raised by the Department of Public Services include 1) clearly defining that the hours have changed for mini parks from other City designated parks (community, special use, or neighborhood parks) to avoid potential park hour closure confusion; 2) ensure the Police Department is fully aware of the proposed ordinance change to eliminate potential confusion relating to enforcement of park closure times; and 3) costs associated to replace park signs that list the 10 p.m. park closure time.

March 27, 2006

David Buhler
City Council District 6
451 S. State St.
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

Mr. Buhler;

This letter is in response to your proposal to amend Section 15.08.020 of the Salt Lake City Code for mini parks relating hours of park closure. I am writing in support of your legislation to change the park hour closure times for mini-parks.

A change in this ordinance would benefit our communities by giving them quiet hours and reducing the disturbances caused to neighbors. This change could also give our officers the ability to prevent other crime, by stopping those gathered in the parks after hours.

The Police Officers could easily be informed of the ordinance change. This would occur by departmental memos and training. Our officers could be utilized in educating the public as well. This could happen by warnings being given during the first several months after the ordinance change. This would ensure that those who utilize the parks during the late hours would have the knowledge of the change in ordinance.

The Police Department should not face any challenges in having different closing times for parks. The posting of park hours will help alleviate any confusion that this may have caused. We currently have parks within the City that have different closing times, such as Pioneer Park. The Police Department can easily adapt to the changes.

Sincerely,

Charles F. "Rick" Dinse
Chief of Police

CFD/mg

SALT LAKE CITY ORDINANCE
No. _____ of 2005
(Mini-Park Closing Hours)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 15.08.020 OF THE SALT LAKE CITY CODE, RELATING TO PARK AND PLAYGROUND CLOSING HOURS.

Be it ordained by the City Council of Salt Lake City, Utah:

SECTION 1. That Section 15.08.020 of the Salt Lake City Code, relating to park and playground closing hours be, and the same hereby is, amended as follows:

15.08.020 Park Hours-Designated:

~~Except as provided for in section 4.15.08.025 of this code:~~

A. All public parks and playgrounds of the city shall be closed to the public between the hours of eleven o'clock (11:00) P.M. ~~at night~~ and five o'clock (5:00) A.M. the following morning, with the exception of:

1. Charles Lee Miller park which shall be closed to the public between the hours of nine o'clock (9:00) P.M. ~~at night~~ and five o'clock (5:00) A.M. the following morning; and

2. Pioneer park which shall be closed to the public between one-half (1/2) hour after sunset to seven o'clock (7:00) A.M. the following morning.

3. All public parks and playgrounds of the city five acres or less in size, whether or not specifically named or described in this Title 15, shall be closed to the public between the hours of ten o'clock (10:00) P.M. and five o'clock (5:00) A.M. the following morning.

B. The Memorial House in Memory Grove shall be closed to public use at twelve o'clock (12:00) midnight; outdoor activities on the leased south lawn shall be closed at eleven thirty o'clock (11:30) P.M.; and the Memorial House shall be locked and vacant no later than two o'clock (2:00) A.M. Between twelve o'clock (12:00) midnight and two o'clock (2:00) A.M., use of the Memorial House shall be limited to employees cleaning the premises after an activity.

C. No person or persons shall be permitted in said parks or playgrounds, either on foot or on or in any type of vehicle, during such hours unless for the express purpose of traveling directly through the park or playground on a public street which passes through the park or playground.

SECTION 2. That this ordinance shall take effect immediately upon the date of its first publication.

Passed by the City Council of Salt Lake City, Utah this ____ day of _____, 2005.

CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

CHIEF DEPUTY CITY RECORDER

Transmitted to Mayor on _____.

Mayor's Action: _____ Approved. _____ Vetoed.

MAYOR

CHIEF DEPUTY CITY RECORDER

(SEAL)

Bill No. _____ of 2005.

Published: _____.

Mini Parks

District	Park Name	Address
D1	Redwood Meadows Park	1780 West 400 North
D1	Steenblick Park	1069 West 800 North
D1	Fire Station Tennis	1015 West 300 North
D1	Miami Mini	1780 West 1565 north
D2	Post Street Tot Lot	950 West 500 South
D2	Nelli Jack Park	1500 West 1195 South
D2	Weseman	1325 South 900 West
D2	Sorenson Youth	855 West 1355 South
D2	Ninth South Park	850 South 1000 West
D2	Madsen Mini	Chicago & South Temple
D3	Silver Mini Park	500 North Center Street
D3	Fourteenth Avenue Park	700 North 550 East
D3	Swede Town Park	1500 North 800 West
D3	Almond Park	100 West 350 North
D3	Kletting Mini Park	170 North "B" Street
D3	5 th Ave & "C" Street	5 th Ave & C
D3	Ship Mini Park	579 4 th Avenue
D3	City Creek Park	North Temple & State Street
D3	Pugsley Ouray Mini	340 West 500 North
D3	Jackson Park	500 North Grant Street
D3	Guadalupe Park	619 West 500 North
D3	Bonneville Park	635 N. Bonneville Blvd
D4	Taufer Park	300 East 700 South
D4	6 th East Mini	600 East 215 South
D4	Galagher Tot Lot	650 South 550 East
D4	Faultline Park	1050 East 400 South
D4	Artesian Well	500 East 800 South
D4	Van Ness Tot Lot	430 East 860 South
D4	Richmond Park	450 East 600 South
D4	Roberta La Conia	740 South 240 East
D4	Beldon Mini	359 East 560 South
D4	Stanton Mini Park	360 East 560 South
D4	Gilgal Gardens	749 East 500 South
D4	Victory Park	250 South 1000 East
D4	Dinwoody Park	45 West 100 South

D5	Jefferson Park	West Temple 1000 South
D5	Inglewood Park	1040 East 1125 South
D5	Cotton Park	Downington & 3 rd East
D5	First Encampment	1700 South 500 East
D5	Beatrice Evans	1217 East 10 th South
D5	People's Freeway	1534 S. West Temple
D6	Curtis Park	2200 E. 1430 South
D6	Davis Park	1980 East 950 South
D6	Laird Park	1800 East 1200 South
D6	Dilworth Park	2100 East 1900 South
D6	Dee Glenn Smith Tennis	2425 East 1216 South
D6	Oak Hills Ball Diamond	Wasatch Blvd. & 1220 South
D6	Miller Park	1708 East 900 South
D7	Hidden Hollow	2160 S. 1255 E.
D7	Parley Pratt Plaza	2100 South/2300 East-Parley's
D7	Hillcrest Park	2000 East 2250 South
D7	Stratford Park	2000 East 2600 South
D7	Elizabeth Sherman	2400 South Highland Drive
D7	Arcadia Park	1825 S. Lakeline Dr. (2950 E)
D7	Parleys Way Green Belt	2810 East 2400 South
D7	Westminster Park	1700 South/1000 East

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

District	Park Name	Address
D1	North Gateway Park	900 North Beck Street
D2	Sherwood Park	1500 West 400 South
D2	Poplar Grove Park	800 South 1200 West
D2	Glendale Park	1200 West 1700 South
D2	Pioneer Park	300 West 350 South
D3	Ensign Down Park	800 North 80 East
D3	Popperton Park	1350 East 11 th Avenue
D3	Memory Grove	375 North Canyon Road
D3	Warm Springs	840 North 300 West
D4	Reservoir Park	1300 E. South Temple
D4	Library Plaza/Commons	200 East 450 South
D4	Washington Square	State Street 449 South
D5	Herman Franks Park	1700 South/700 East
D6	Wasatch Hollow Park	1631 E. 1700 S.