

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF CLAYTON

ORDINANCE 2025-__

AN ORDINANCE BY MAYOR ANGELYNE BUTLER AND CITY COUNCILMEMBERS KIMBERLY JAMES, DELORES A. GUNN, HECTOR GUTIERREZ, LATRESA AKINS-WELLS, AND ALLAN MEARS OF THE CITY OF FOREST PARK, GEORGIA TO AMEND TITLE 7 (PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS), CHAPTER 1 (GENERAL PROVISIONS), SECTION 7-1-3 (RESERVATION OF FACILITIES BY GROUPS) IN THE CITY’S CODE OF ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE AN ADOPTION DATE; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the duly elected governing authority of the City of Forest Park, Georgia (“City”) is the Mayor and City Council thereof; and

WHEREAS, the City is authorized pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 36-35-3 to adopt ordinances relating to its property, affairs, and local government; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to establish and amend certain insurance and permit provisions for reservations of City parks and recreational facilities; and

WHEREAS, the amendments contained herein would benefit the health, safety, morals, and welfare of the citizens of the City of Forest Park, Georgia.

Section 1. Title 7 (“Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs”), Chapter 1 (“General Provisions”), Section 7-1-3 (“Reservation of Facilities by Groups”) of the City’s Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to be read and codified with permanent additions in **bold** font and permanent deletions in ~~striketrough~~ font as set forth in **Exhibit A** attached hereto and incorporated herein.

21 **Section 2.** The preamble of this Ordinance shall be considered to be and is hereby
22 incorporated by reference as if fully set out herein.

23 **Section 3.** (a) It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that all
24 sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this Ordinance are or were, upon their
25 enactment, believed by the Mayor and Council to be fully valid, enforceable, and constitutional.

26 (b) It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that, to the greatest
27 extent allowed by law, each and every section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this
28 Ordinance is severable from every other section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this
29 Ordinance. It is hereby further declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that, to the
30 greatest extent allowed by law, no section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance
31 is mutually dependent upon any other section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this
32 Ordinance.

33 (c) In the event that any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance
34 shall, for any reason whatsoever, be declared invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable
35 by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, it is the express intent of
36 the Mayor and Council that such invalidity, unconstitutionality or unenforceability shall, to the
37 greatest extent allowed by law, not render invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable any
38 of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs or sections of the Ordinance and that, to
39 the greatest extent allowed by law, all remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and
40 sections of the Ordinance shall remain valid, constitutional, enforceable, and of full force and
41 effect.

42 **Section 4.** This Ordinance shall be codified in a manner consistent with the laws of the
43 State of Georgia and the City.

44 **Section 5.** All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby expressly
45 repealed.

46 **Section 6.** The effective date of this Ordinance shall be the date of adoption unless
47 otherwise stated herein.

48 **Section 7.** The City Clerk, with the concurrence of the City Attorney, is authorized to
49 correct any scrivener's errors found in this Ordinance, including any exhibits, as enacted.

50 **SO ORDAINED** this 21st day of July 2025.

CITY OF FOREST PARK, GEORGIA

Angelyne Butler, *Mayor*

ATTEST:

_____ (SEAL)
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney

EXHIBIT A

TITLE 7 – PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

CHAPTER 1. – GENERAL PROVISIONS

[...]

51 Sec. 7-1-3. - Reservation of facilities by groups.

52 (a) **Recreational buildings.**

53 (1) ~~Groups of fifteen (15) or more persons~~ **Persons** desiring to use any recreational
54 ~~facility~~ **building**, including but not limited to, ~~picnic shelters~~, gymnasiums,
55 community buildings, or meeting rooms in the recreation center, shall ~~make~~ **submit**
56 **an** application for **a permit to allow** such use in the office of the director of parks
57 and recreation at least ten (10) days in advance of the date of desired use. The
58 director shall ~~grant~~ **approve** the application **for a permit** if it appears that the
59 group, association or organization will not interfere with the general use of those
60 **building** facilities by members of the general public, except in accordance with the
61 requirements of this section and applicable departmental regulations.

62 (2) Such permits shall contain a fee as fixed from time to time by the mayor and
63 council.

64 (3) **Any group that exceeds thirty (30) people must apply for a special event permit**
65 **under Title 9, Chapter 15 (Special Events).**

66 (b) Picnic areas (conditional use). No person(s) shall use any portion of any picnic area(s) or
67 any of the ~~buildings or pavilion~~ structures therein, for the purpose of holding picnics to the
68 exclusion of other persons if there is space available, nor shall any person use such areas
69 ~~and facilities~~ for an unreasonable time if the ~~facilities~~ **picnic areas** are crowded, ~~except in~~
70 ~~situations where the person(s), group, association or organization has met the requirements~~
71 ~~as listed in section 7-1-3(a).~~

72 (c) Organized league play.

73 (1) In recognition of the fact that the city's facilities may be more fully utilized by all
74 citizens of the city if a non-profit organization or organizations maintain a
75 continuing program of league play under the direction of the parks and recreation
76 department, the director of parks and recreation may from time to time lease any
77 ballfield to such organization(s) upon terms and conditions to be ~~agreed upon by~~
78 ~~the mayor and council~~ **prepared by the City Attorney.**

79 (2) The applicant is required to obtain and present evidence of comprehensive
80 liability insurance naming the “City of Forest Park, Georgia” as an
81 additional insured. The insurance requirement is a minimum of one million
82 dollars (\$1,000,000.00) personal injury and one hundred thousand dollars
83 (\$100,000.00) property damage against all claims arising under this section.

84 (3) ~~(2)~~ Any organized league requesting a lease agreement with the city shall apply for
85 such at least 90 days prior to the beginning of such activity. Decisions on granting
86 lease may and can be based on prior record in maintaining the park premises and
87 the programs offered for the well being of all citizens. **All leagues must employ**
88 **off-duty, uniformed and P.O.S.T. certified Forest Park police officers to**
89 **provide for adequate crowd and traffic control and security. There shall be at**
90 **least one officer employed for every fifty individuals participating in or**
91 **attending league play. Provided, however, it is within the discretion of the**
92 **Chief of Police if additional officers are needed in excess of the 1:50 ratio.**

93 (4) ~~(3)~~ It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, association, corporation or organization
94 to prevent any person(s) from using any park, or any of its facilities, or interfere
95 with such unless in compliance with this chapter and with the rules applicable to
96 such use.