



# STAFF REPORT

## CITY OF GREEN COVE SPRINGS, FLORIDA

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**TO:** Regular Session **MEETING DATE:** September 20, 2022  
**FROM:** L. J. Arnold III, City Attorney  
**SUBJECT:** Consider adoption on first reading of attached Ordinance No. O-18-2022 which prohibits smoking in City parks.

### BACKGROUND

The Florida legislature amended Section 386.209, Florida Statutes, effective July 1, 2022, which now allows the City to restrict most smoking within public parks. A copy of the new law is attached hereto. Many other cities in Florida with public parks or beaches are adopting similar ordinances. St. Augustine; Fernandina Beach, Jacksonville and Longboat Key are all adopting such restrictions. A recent article describing Longboat Key's process is also attached. Staff recommends adoption of this ordinance to keep our City parks as free from litter as possible.

### FISCAL IMPACT

There should be no negative fiscal impact to the City, other than nominal signage costs, for the adoption of this ordinance.

### RECOMMENDATION

Approve Ordinance No. O-18-2022, on first reading as to form only.