

## **MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

**DATE:** November 1, 2022

**TO:** Mayor and Council

**FROM:** Melinda Moritz, Public Works Director

**THROUGH:** Crystal Caldera, City Manager

**SUBJECT:** Presentation and Discussion to Consider Approval of an Ordinance Amending the Leon Valley Code of Ordinances, Chapter 1 General Provisions, Article 1.09 Parks and Recreation, Division 2 Use Regulations, Section 1.09.032 Alcoholic Beverages to prohibit alcohol consumption at city-owned swimming pool facilities as recommended by the Park Commission (1st Read as Required by City Charter)

### **PURPOSE**

This item is to consider a Park Commission recommendation to prohibit the consumption of any type of alcohol at city-owned swimming pool facilities. The current code section states:

“No person shall consume or possess any intoxicating beverage whatever on city public park property except for wine, beer, ale, and malt liquor as those products are defined by the laws of the state. No person shall use or possess a volume-drinking device on city park property.”

The Park Commission is recommending an amendment to this section to add a sentence as follows:

“The consumption of alcohol of any kind is specifically prohibited at city swimming pool facilities.”

Alcohol can influence balance, coordination, and judgment, and its effects are heightened by sun exposure, wind, sun glare, and heat. Individuals may take risks, such as diving into shallow water. Alcohol can also reduce swimming skills, even those of an excellent swimmer.

- Alcohol depresses central nervous system processing and impairs balance and coordination.
- Alcohol lowers inhibitions and judgment and can lead to risky behaviors.
- Alcohol can dilate blood vessels increasing the risk of hyperthermia.
- Alcohol can contribute to fatigue or loss of consciousness.
- Alcohol reduces attention span and the effective supervision of children in and around water.

A review of Police Department records indicates that there have been two incidents reported at city-owned swimming pools as follows:

2005 – Disorderly conduct/Public Intoxication

2022 – Other Incident

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Social Equity – Prohibiting alcohol at swimming pool facilities reduces the threat of accidental drowning at city-owned pool facilities for all citizens.

Economic Development – The prohibition of alcohol at city-owned pools may encourage more families to visit the facilities, which may encourage relocation.

Environmental Stewardship – Prohibiting consumption of alcohol at the pool facilities may reduce the amount of trash accumulated at these facilities.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

It is unknown if this amendment would have any effect on the number of memberships or pool parties at these facilities.

### **STRATEGIC GOALS**

N/A.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

At their October 13, 2022 meeting, the Park Commission recommended revising the current Park ordinance to prohibit the consumption of alcohol at city-owned swimming pool facilities.

ATTEST:

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**SAUNDRA PASSAILAIGUE, TRMC**  
City Secretary