



MEMO

To: Mayor Teske – Common Council
From: Daron J Haugh – City Administrator
Subject: Veteran’s Memorial Park Camping and Site Use Considerations
Date: 2026-06-23

The City has been working with a group of local veterans on a new Veteran’s Memorial for our community. As that project moves forward, staff is reviewing the current practice of allowing camping along Highway 58 South, between the tree line and the outfield area of the ball diamonds. The review is needed because the new memorial changes how this area will function and be viewed by the public, and because the construction area may create practical concerns related to space, visibility, and safety.

The purpose of the memorial is to create a respectful, visible, and lasting public space that recognizes local veterans and serves the broader community. For that reason, the City should consider whether continued camping in this specific area is compatible with the intended public use of the site once the memorial work begins and after it is completed. This discussion is not intended to diminish the past use of the area or the value of camping opportunities in the community. Rather, it is a site-specific question about whether this location remains appropriate while the memorial project is underway and as the park area transitions to include a more formal public memorial space.

Staff is asking the Common Council to discuss the future of camping in this area and provide direction on whether camping should continue, be limited during construction, or be discontinued at this location to better support the public purpose of the new Veteran’s Memorial.