

CITY OF MINNETRISTA



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

Subject: **Operation of Recreational Vehicles on Private Property Ordinance Discussion**

Prepared By: **Jasper Kruggel, City Administrator**

Meeting Date: **August 17, 2026**

Overview: At the August 3rd City Council work session, there was a discussion about an ordinance that describes the use of recreational vehicles on private property. At that meeting, there was a consensus to add language carving out an exemption for all recreational vehicle usage on any parcel as long as it does not exceed 15 minutes of use in a 60-minute period.

There were also some comments from a resident that expressed a desire to lessen restrictions due to a neighbor dispute regarding the use of recreational vehicles on their own property. After the meeting staff engaged in a discussion with representatives from the group and would like feedback on a proposal that would also change section “e” of the code. The proposed language would be as follows:

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

(e) Recreational vehicles may not be operated within 300 feet of the property line of any parcel without the permission of the residents of the other parcel unless they are being used in the course of conducting agricultural operations on the property; and

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

(e) Recreational vehicles may not be operated within 200 feet of the primary structure of any neighboring parcel without the permission of the residents of the other parcel unless they are in use in the course of conducting agricultural operations on the property; and

NEW PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

(g) Property owners may operate a recreational vehicle on private property that is de minimis in nature, meaning cumulative operation of less than fifteen (15) minutes within any sixty (60) minute period.

Mission Statement:

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EXISTING CODE LANGUAGE

920.19. - Operation of recreational vehicles on private property.

Subd. 1. Operation. It is unlawful for any person to operate a recreational vehicle on private property except in using said vehicle to depart or arrive from his or her residence, except under the following conditions:

- (a) Except as otherwise authorized by this section, no person shall operate a recreational vehicle between 9:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. the following day;*
- (b) recreational vehicles may only be operated for no more than two continuous hours per day per parcel. Riding time under this section may not be accumulated;*
- (c) Except as otherwise authorized by this section, recreational vehicles may only be operated on a parcel of three acres or larger;*
- (d) No more than a total of three recreational vehicles may be operated on any parcel at one time;*
- (e) Recreational vehicles may not be operated within 300 feet of the property line of any parcel without the permission of the residents of the other parcel unless they are being used in the course of conducting agricultural operations on the property; and*
- (f) Recreational vehicles must be equipped with a muffling system which reduces the noise of operation of the motor to the minimum necessary for operation which must include a spark arrestor and a properly operating muffler with the following information imprinted by the manufacturer: Meets U.S. EPA noise emission requirements of 80db(a). Approved U.S. Forest Service.*

Violation of this section regarding the use of recreational vehicles shall be a petty misdemeanor. Second and subsequent violations of this section within a 12-month period shall be a misdemeanor.

Next Steps: Staff are looking for feedback on these two modifications to the city code related to the use of recreational vehicles on private property. If consensus is met, an ordinance updating this section of city code will be added to the September 9th Regular Meeting.

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