

ORDINANCE NO. 728

AN ORDINANCE of the City Council of the City of Lakewood, Washington, amending Chapter 8.76 of the Lakewood Municipal Code relating to structures relating to parks, rights of way and city property.

WHEREAS, the City of Lakewood has a variety of parks enjoyed by its citizens and many visitors; and

WHEREAS, the City has allocated resources and effort to improving the condition and appearance of its rights of way and other city property, particularly, though not exclusively, at city entrances and along major city corridors; and

WHEREAS, the condition of parks impact the use and enjoyment of parks; and

WHEREAS, the condition and appearance of city rights of way and property establishes the image citizens and visitors have of the City; and

WHEREAS, the appearance and image of the city serves as a foundation for economic development for the City; and

WHEREAS, the City is responsible for the condition and upkeep of parks, rights of way and city property, including grounds and structures within city property; and

WHEREAS, there is increasing construction of tents and other shelters in the region which distract from the appearance and allowed use of parks, rights of way and other city property; and

WHEREAS, regulation of such structures in order to ensure health and safety is beyond the resources of the City and the purpose of its parks, rights of way and city property; and

WHEREAS, it is within the authority of the City to restrict park, right of way and city property use to activity compatible with those areas;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN as Follows:

Section 1. That Section 8.76.290 of the Lakewood Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

8.76.290 ~~Tents and shelters on beaches.~~ Structures in parks or on city property.

~~No person shall erect, maintain, use or occupy a temporary tent or shelter on any swimming beach and/or in any park area unless there is an unobstructed view through such tent or shelter~~

~~from at least two sides; provided, however, that nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize overnight camping.~~

~~Tents in excess of 400 square feet shall not be erected, operated or maintained for any purpose within the boundaries of a City park facility without a City special use permit. A permit is also required from the local Fire District. [Ord. 579 § 10, 2014; Ord. 420 § 1, 2006; Ord. 126 § 1, 1997.]~~

A. It is unlawful to camp, erect, install or set tents or other shelters overnight or place any structure within a park, city right of way or on city property, except as provided herein.

B. "Structure" means any structure or shelter, including but not limited to any temporary makeshift dwelling units, lean-tos, shacks and/or trailers, comprised of tree branches, wood, cardboard, plastic, metal, nylon, tarp or any other materials.

C. This section shall not apply to:

1. Any structure erected installed or placed within a park, right of way or city property by the City or as expressly authorized by special use permit issued by the city.

2. A temporary structure that has only a roof and no walls.

Section 2. Severability. If any portion of this Ordinance or its application to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of the Ordinance or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.

Section 3. Effective Date. That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect thirty (30) days after publication of the Ordinance Summary.

ADOPTED by the City Council this 21st day of January, 2020.

Attest:

CITY OF LAKEWOOD

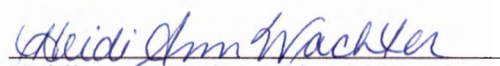


Don Anderson, Mayor



Briana Schumacher, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:



Heidi Ann Wachter, City Attorney