



ALCOHOL POSSESSION IN CITY OF AUSTIN PARKS

FEBRUARY 24, 2015
PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

Presented by:
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Assistant Director





Background

December 10, 2013

Parks and Recreation Board Presentation

- Review of City Ordinances relevant to Alcohol Consumption in Austin Parks
- Review of City Code application;
- Explanation of Director's designation of areas requiring a permit to possess, sell, or consume alcohol.
- Explanation of annual Board review

Purpose Today

Brief the Parks and Recreation Board regarding the Department's work processes/products associated with alcohol permits within the Austin park system

- Clarify the current ordinance language associated with alcohol within the Austin park system,
- Establish the methodology for establishing permit requirements within the park system and
- Establish a public input with regards to alcohol within the park system
- Establish background for a future presentation to Parks Board to request action regarding the permit requirements for alcohol within the Parks system.



Working Group Goals

- Reduce the confusion as to where/if consumption is permitted;
- Develop City Ordinance modifications to allow for clear interpretation of the intended regulation
- Provide citizens with a real-time method to give input to the working group and the Director with regards to alcohol within the Austin park system
- Determine site recommendations made to the Director;



Applicable City Code Chapters

Chapter 4-9 Restrictions on Alcoholic

**Chapter 8-3 Restriction on Food, Beverages and
Containers**

- § 8-3-1 Alcohol Beverages Prohibited
- § 8-3-2 Designation of Prohibition on Alcohol
- § **8-3-5** **Temporary Sale of Beverages and Food**
- § 8-3-9 Notice of Prohibitions
- § 8-3-10 Review of Prohibitions by Board



§ 8-3-1 Alcoholic Beverages Prohibited

Except as provided in Section 8-3-5, a person may not knowingly sell, possess, or consume an alcoholic beverage in:

- (1) the fenced, enclosed area surrounding a swimming pool in a park, or within 100 feet of an un-enclosed swimming pool in a park;
- (2) a recreation facility or **adjacent outdoor area that is part of the recreation facility** including a field, playground, parking lot, play slab, or playscape;
- (3) All or part of a park or playground designated by the director as being an area in which the sale, possession or consumption of alcohol is prohibited;
- (4) The **playing area or dugout area of an athletic field**;
- (5) **A school district/playground area**; or
- (6) A nature preserve

§ 8-3-1

Alcoholic Beverages Prohibited

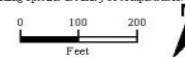


District Park:
Alcohol Allowed Areas

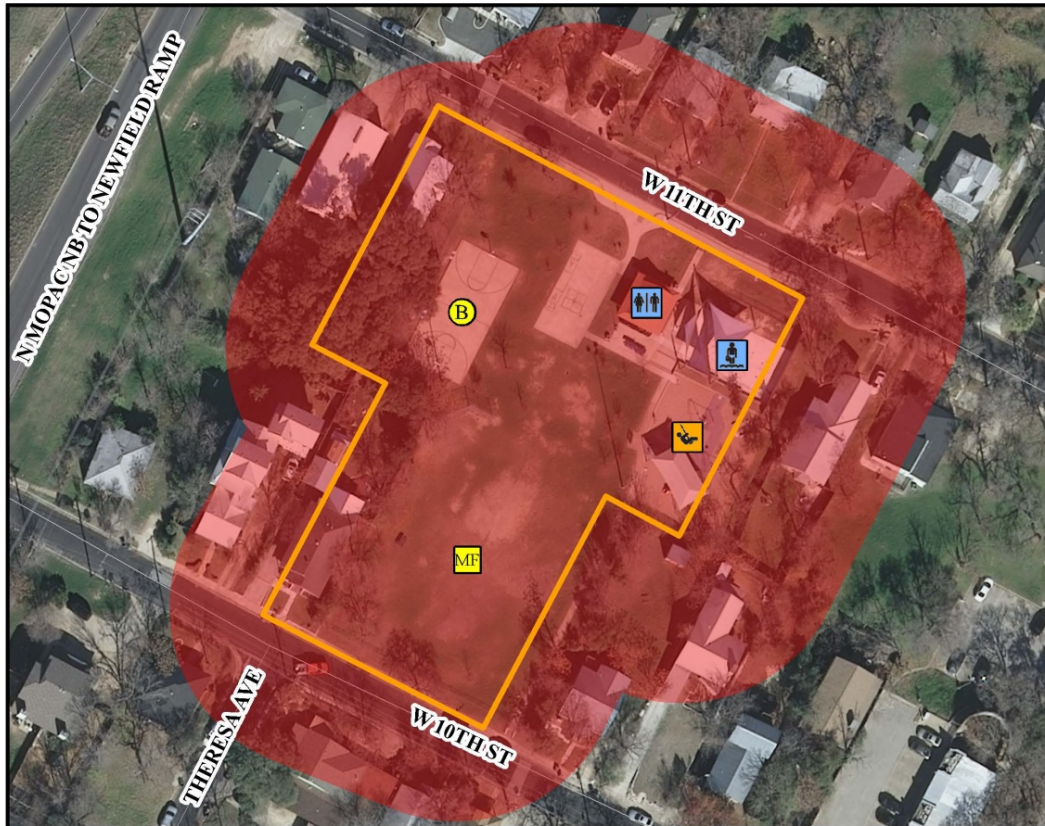
Facilities	Legend			
Tennis	Swimming Pool	Ballhouse		
Baseball	Ballhouse	Park Ground or Area		
Softball	Pump Station	Restroom	Playground	
Recreation Center	Playground	Parking Lot		

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§ 8-3-1 Alcoholic Beverages Prohibited



Mary Frances Baylor Clarksville Pocket Park
Alcohol Permit Area

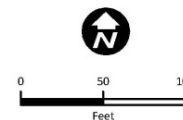
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Legend

-  Basketball
-  Mixed Use Field
-  Sprayground
-  Playground
-  Restroom
-  Alcohol Permit Required
-  Park Boundary

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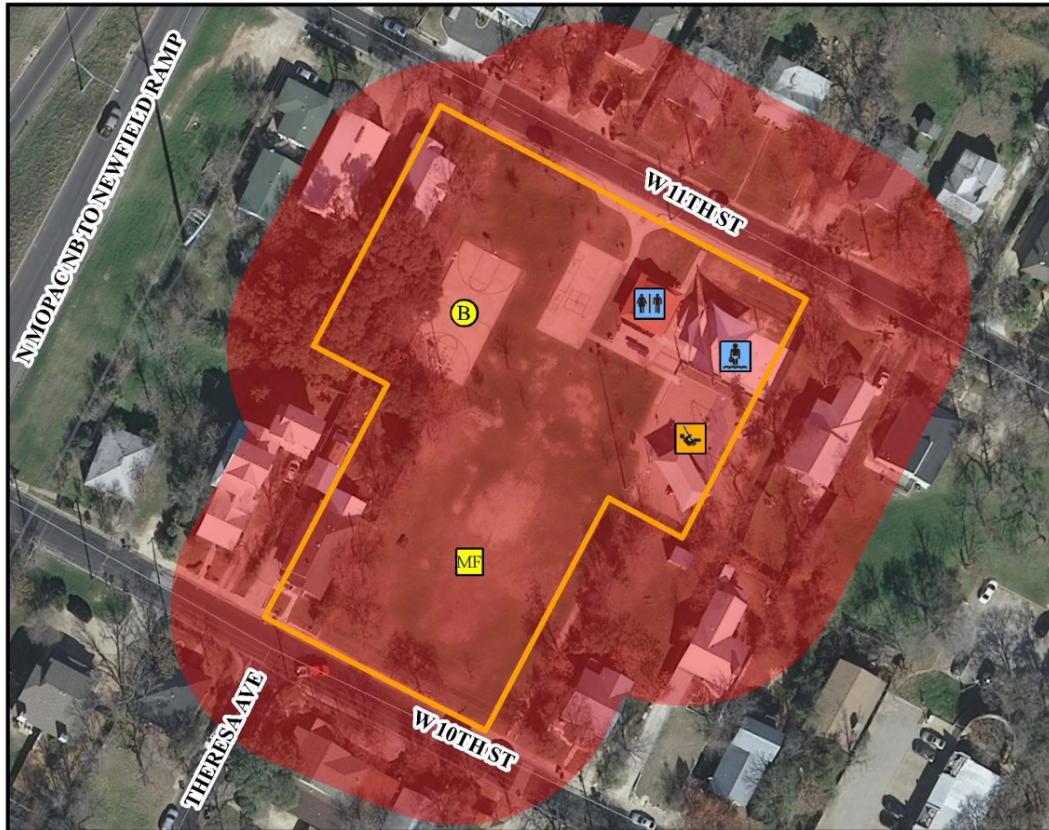




8-3-2 Designation of Prohibition on Alcohol

- (A) The director may designate all or part of a park, playground or nature preserve as an area in which the sale, possession, or consumption of alcohol is prohibited
- (B) In making a designation under Subsection (A), the director may consider:
- (1) the nature and use of the area;
 - (2) the use of surrounding land
 - (3) the relationship between the area and the surrounding community
 - (4) a problem caused by sale, possession, or consumption of alcohol in the area; and
 - (5) other factors the director determines are relevant

8-3-2 Designation of Prohibition on Alcohol



Mary Frances Baylor Clarksville Pocket Park
Alcohol Permit Area

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Legend

- Basketball
- Mixed Use Field
- Sprayground
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- Restroom
- Alcohol Permit Required
- Park Boundary

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Alcohol Consumption Permitted

In accordance with § 8-3-5 Temporary Sale of Beverages and Food, the Director may authorize the temporary sale, possession, or consumption of alcoholic beverages in a park or public recreation area. An authorization issued under this subsection may not exceed a 48 hour period.

In making a recommendation or decision, the director shall consider:

- (1) the impact on the surrounding neighborhood
- (2) a problem related to the sale, possession or consumption of alcohol
- (3) a clean-up agreement made by the person requesting the authorization; and
- (4) Citizen input determined relevant by the director



Working Group Action Plan

Moving Forward

- Complete the list of facility types and amenities to add to 8-3-1
- Draft proposed changes to 8-3-1 (in cooperation with City Law Department), conduct public hearing and request Council Action
- Update signage and placement upon adoption of revised 8-3-1
- Develop public education, input, and notification methodologies to discuss alcohol consumption within the Austin park system with community with regards to 8-3-2
- Return to the Parks Board with recommended list

Questions?