



RAMSEY COUNTY PROPOSAL: HOW THE CHANGES IMPACT YOU!

RAMSEY COUNTY IS PROPOSING MAJOR CHANGES TO THE ORDINANCE GOVERNING OPERATION OF ITS PARKS.

Why these changes matter to you: These changes will impact your local park (see the list of Ramsey County Parks on the back). The proposal has not been widely publicized, and action is planned soon.

THE PROPOSED CHANGES INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- » **Parks could be open 24 hours per day, 365 days per year.**
What are the potential advantages and disadvantages of keeping the parks open all night? What are the ramifications for overnight camping or for people taking up residence in the parks?
- » **Language that previously labeled some behavior as unlawful could change to behavior that “should not happen.”**
What, if any, will be the penalties for loitering, disturbing the peace, and more? Will the penalties be enforceable?
- » **Penalties for non-compliance with rules could be eliminated or greatly reduced.**
The previous ordinance allowed for misdemeanor conviction or fines of up to \$1,000. Those could be reduced to an administration fine less than \$100. What will be the impact? If the ordinance states something “should not be done”, are there any “teeth” in the language? Could penalties be enforced?
- » **The revised ordinance does NOT provide language protecting properties adjacent to park borders.**
The previous ordinance protects adjacent property owners from noise violations, erosion caused by boat wakes, and more. That language would be significantly softened or eliminated. What will be the impact on those living in park neighborhoods?

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- » Talk to your neighbors to make sure that they know about this proposal.
- » Visit: ramseycounty.us/parkordinanceproject to read information Ramsey County has posted.
- » Contact the Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department
- » Contact your County Commissioner (See the back for a list of commissioners).
- » Contact your local City Manager and City Council Members

PARKS IMPACTED BY THE RAMSEY COUNTY PARK ORDINANCE:

REGIONAL PARKS:

Bald Eagle-Otter Lakes
Battle Creek
Keller
Long Lake
Tony Schmidt
Vadnais-Snail Lake
Vadnais-Sucker Lake

COUNTY PARKS:

Beaver Lake
Lake Gervais
Island Lake
Lake Josephine
Lake McCarrons
Lake Owasso
Poplar Lake
Turtle Lake
White Bear Lake

RAMSEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

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Ramsey County Parks and Recreation

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