



Ordinance Fact Sheet

TO: CITY COUNCIL

DATE: July 20, 1998

FROM: ACTING CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASADENA AMENDING SECTION 3.24.110(A)(23) OF THE PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING A SUNSET CLOSING TIME AND A DAWN OPENING TIME FOR NATURAL PARK AREAS IN THE ARROYO SECO.

TITLE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASADENA AMENDING SECTION 3.24.110(A)(23) OF THE PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING A SUNSET CLOSING TIME AND A DAWN OPENING TIME FOR NATURAL PARK AREAS IN THE ARROYO SECO.

BACKGROUND:

On March 2, 1998, the City Council directed the City Attorney to amend the Parks and Public Grounds Ordinance to authorize the Pasadena Police Department to enforce a dawn opening and sunset closing time for Lower Arroyo Seco Park and Hahamongna Watershed Park, both natural park areas in the Arroyo Seco. Natural park areas differ from regular City parks because they do not have lighting for after hours activities, they contain areas of steep terrain, have nocturnal wild animal activity, and do not have City staff on duty in evening hours. Closing these parks at dusk and reopening them at sunrise is a safety measure to protect the public from danger and, in addition, protect the natural park environment from illegal trash dumping or disruption of park wildlife. The preparation of the ordinance amendment required a current map and legal description that required additional time to complete before the ordinance could be presented to Council.

PURPOSE OF ORDINANCE:

The proposed ordinance will allow for closing of the City's natural parks by the Police Department with the assistance of Inter-Con Security and the opening of the parks in the morning hours by City staff. These special opening and closing hours are in the interest of public safety and protection of the environment.

REASON WHY LEGISLATION IS NEEDED:

The Pasadena Municipal Code may only be amended by ordinance of the City Council.

PROGRAMS, DEPARTMENTS OR GROUPS AFFECTED:

Parks and Natural Resources Operations will be primarily affected by this proposed amendment of the ordinance. Locking these entrance gates at dusk should result in fewer calls to the Police Department related to illegal and/or non-permitted activities in these parklands.

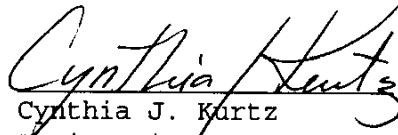
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

The Environmental Administrator has determined that the proposed ordinance is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under the General Rule that CEQA applies only to activities which may have a significant effect on the environment (section 15061(b)(3)).

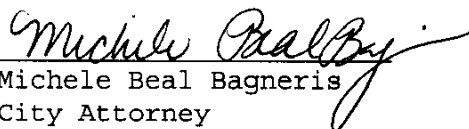
FISCAL and SERVICE IMPLICATIONS:

Amending the ordinance to allow for closing of the two natural parks at dusk will result in Inter-Con Securities adding the securing of two additional gates to their current contract. This additional service will result in no extra charge to the City. There is no fiscal impact to the Parks and Natural Resources budget.


Respectfully submitted,


Cynthia J. Kurtz
Acting City Manager

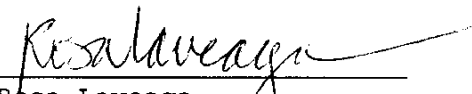
Concurrence:


Michele Beal Bagneris
City Attorney


Prepared by:


Doren Wade
Management Analyst

Reviewed by:


Rosa Laveaga
Arroyo Seco Park Supervisor

Approved by:


Robert C. Baderian
Director of Parks
& Natural Resources