

City of North Port

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-R-18

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA DESIGNATING DOG-FRIENDLY AREAS IN SPECIFIED CITY PARKS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Section 10-31 of the City of North Port Code adopts and enforces the Sarasota County Animal Control Ordinance within the City of North Port; and

WHEREAS, Section 14-48 of the Sarasota County Code prohibits animals in certain public areas, including parks, but allows for certain sites to be specifically designated by resolution for activities involving animals such as dogs; and

WHEREAS, Section 14-48 of the Sarasota County Code requires dog owners to immediately pick up after their pets and dispose of their waste in a lawful manner; and

WHEREAS, Section 14-41 of the Sarasota County Code requires that dogs shall not be permitted to run at large and shall be leashed; and

WHEREAS, the City of North Port recognizes that citizens and visitors wish to enjoy public outdoor recreational spaces with their dogs; and

WHEREAS, dog parks (also knowns as paw parks) serve as places where dogs can safely be off-leash in a fenced area specifically designed for such use and dog-friendly parks are places where pets are welcome, but must be leashed at all times within the areas designated as such; and

WHEREAS, designating dog-friendly areas in parks will contribute to the health and well-being of dogs and their owners;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1 – FINDINGS

The City Commission hereby makes the following findings:

1.01 The recitals outlined above are incorporated by reference as findings of fact as if expressly set forth herein.

SECTION 2 – DESIGNATION OF DOG-FRIENDLY AREAS IN CITY PARKS

2.01 The Commission finds that the parks designated herein support dog-friendly recreational opportunities.

2.02 The Commission hereby designates all areas of the following parks as dog-friendly areas, except any areas of said parks that include playgrounds, courts, batting cages or sports fields.

- i. Blue Ridge Park
- ii. Butler Park
- iii. City Center Front Green
- iv. Dallas White Park
- v. Highland Ridge Park
- vi. Hope Park
- vii. Kirk Park
- viii. LaBrea Park
- ix. Marina Park
- x. Marius Park
- xi. McKibben Park
- xii. Myakkahatchee Creek Environmental Park
- xiii. Oaks Park
- xiv. Pine Park
- xv. Veterans Park
- xvi. Sumter Boulevard Linear Park

2.03 The Commission hereby designates the Canine Club as a dog park, the entirety of which is a leash-free recreational space.

2.04 Appropriate signage, guidelines, fines for littering, emergency and contact phone numbers, and other information shall be posted to identify the designated dog-friendly areas.

SECTION 3 – CONFLICTS

3.01 In the event of any conflict between the provisions of this Resolution and any other Resolution or portions thereof, the provisions of this Resolution shall prevail to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 4 – SEVERABILITY

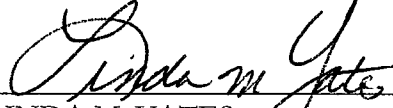
4.01 If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or provision of this Resolution is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such provision shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof.

SECTION 5 - EFFECTIVE DATE

5.01 This Resolution shall take effect immediately after adoption by the City Commission of the City of North Port, Florida.

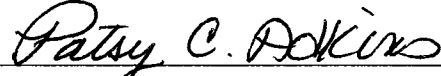
PASSED and DULY ADOPTED by the City Commission of the City of North Port this 25th day of July, 2017.

CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA



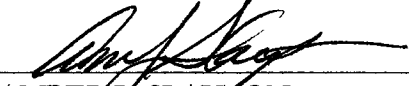
LINDA M. YATES
MAYOR

ATTEST:



PATSY C. ADKINS, MMC
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
CORRECTNESS:



AMBER L. SLAYTON
INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY