Key Peninsula Metropolitan Park District Dba Key Pen Parks



Resolution No R 2017-05

A RESOLUTION OF KEY PEN PARKS SUPPORTING AND ENCOURAGING TOBACCO FREE PARKS

WHEREAS, the people of Washington state recognize the inherent dangers of second-hand smoke and overwhelmingly passed Initiative 901 in 2005 amending and revising RCW 70.160 prohibiting smoking in public places and places of employment; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control, tobacco related disease is a significant contributing factor in the leading causes of death to Washington residents; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency has classified second-hand smoke as a Group A human carcinogen and therefore concludes that second-hand smoke and other tobacco related products are a risk to non-smokers and non-tobacco users; and

WHEREAS, there is no safe level of exposure to second-hand smoke and only brief exposure can cause immediate harm; and

WHEREAS, the parks are intended for the healthy enjoyment of all citizens, including children and youth; and

WHEREAS, cigarettes, cigarette butts, cigar butts and other tobacco related waste pose a significant litter burden; they are the largest source of outdoor recreation trash in parks and the single most littered item in the world; reports from jurisdictions with tobacco policies in place indicate a dramatic reduction in litter and subsequently maintenance costs; and

WHEREAS, adults are often role models for young people, and adults who smoke or use tobacco related products promote a culture of tobacco use, especially for youth; and

WHEREAS, it is in Key Pen Parks interest and in the interest of park users to be aware of the risks posed by second-hand smoke and the use of tobacco related products and to acknowledge the desirability of adults providing good role models for kids; and

WHEREAS, discarded smoking materials and tobacco related waste are a significant source of wildfires in suburban and rural areas; and

WHEREAS, approximately eighty percent (80%) of Pierce County residents do not smoke; and

WHEREAS, Key Pen Parks encourages the use of park facilities in a safe and healthy manner and recommends the installation of signage requesting compliance of park patrons not to smoke, vape or use tobacco related products;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF KEY PEN PARKS AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Key Pen Parks staff is hereby requested to install signage at all parks owned or managed by Key Pen Parks prohibiting smoking, vaping or the use of tobacco related products as directed per RCW 70.160.050 while visiting Key Pen Parks District parks.

Section 2. Ratification. Any act consistent with the authority and prior to the effective date of this Resolution is hereby ratified and affirmed.

Section 3. Severability. The provisions of this Resolution are declared separate and severable. The invalidity of any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section, or portion of this Resolution or the invalidity of the application thereof to any person or circumstance, shall not affect the validity of the remainder of the Resolution or the validity of its application to other persons or circumstances.

Section 4. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption and signature provided by law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Park Commissioners for Key Pen Parks at a regular meeting this 9th day of October 2017.

Attest:

Key Pen Parks

Board of Commissioners

Pierce County, Washington

Edward Robison, President

linton Clerk

Mark Michel, Vice President

John Kelly, Member-at-Large

Shawn Jensen, Member-at-Large