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ORDINANCE NO. 2026-17

AN ORDINANCE OF WELLINGTON, FLORIDA'S COUNCIL AMENDING CHAPTER 14, ARTICLE I, DIVISION 1, SECTIONS 14-1 (DEFINITIONS), 14-3 (ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY), AND 14-4 (PENALTIES) OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES TO INCLUDE A DEFINITION OF NEIGHBORHOOD PARK AND CLARIFY THAT VIOLATIONS OF THIS CHAPTER MAY BE ENFORCED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS; AMENDING CHAPTER 14, ARTICLE II, DIVISION 2, SECTION 14-21 (GAME AND SPORT ACTIVITY) OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES TO CLARIFY THAT BICYCLES, SCOOTERS, AND OTHER SIMILAR ACTIVITIES ARE PROHIBITED INSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS AND IN OTHER PUBLIC RECREATIONAL AREAS; AND AMENDING CHAPTER 14, ARTICLE III, DIVISION 4, SECTION 14-26 (USE OF VEHICLES) OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES TO PROHIBIT ELECTRIC BICYCLES AND MOTORIZED SCOOTERS IN CERTAIN WELLINGTON PARKS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

24 **WHEREAS**, the Wellington Council is authorized and empowered to adopt and
25 amend legislation to govern the affairs of its citizens and promote the public health, safety,
26 and welfare of the community; and
27

28 **WHEREAS**, Chapter 14 of the Code of Ordinances governs Parks and Recreation
29 within Wellington; and
30

31 **WHEREAS**, Chapter 14, Article III, Division 2, Section 14-21 provides that roller
32 skating, roller blading, bicycling, skateboarding, and any other similar activity is prohibited
33 on turf, basketball courts, tennis courts, and parking lots; and
34

35 **WHEREAS**, Wellington has recently experienced property damage at its
36 neighborhood parks, boat docks, and other locations due to the apparent misuse of
37 micromobility devices, particularly electric bicycles and motorized scooters, and other
38 similar activities in such places; and
39

40 **WHEREAS**, the Wellington Council believes it is in the best interest of Wellington
41 to amend Section 14-1 to add a definition of neighborhood park and to amend Section
42 14-21 to specifically identify electric bicycling and motorized scooting among the
43 activities prohibited by this section and to clarify that such activities are also prohibited
44 inside neighborhood parks, on boat docks, and on playground equipment to promote
45 public safety and protect the community from further damage to public property; and
46

1 **WHEREAS**, Chapter 14, Article III, Division 2, Section 14-24 sets forth guidelines
2 for the use of vehicles in parks; and
3

4 **WHEREAS**, Wellington has seen an increase in the use of electric bicycles and
5 motorized scooters in and around Wellington, as well as an increase in the number of
6 accidents involving such micromobility devices in Wellington and throughout the State of
7 Florida; and
8

9 **WHEREAS**, the Wellington Council believes it is in the best interest of Wellington
10 to amend Section 14-26 to restrict where electric bicycles and motorized scooters may
11 be operated in Wellington parks to protect the public from property damage and to
12 promote public safety in certain park locations that see higher amounts of pedestrian
13 traffic; and
14

15 **WHEREAS**, Chapter 14, Article I, Division 1, Sections 14-3 and 14-4 address the
16 enforcement and penalties for all of Chapter 14; and
17

18 **WHEREAS**, Section 14-3 provides that it is the duty and responsibility of the Parks
19 and Recreation employees to enforce Chapter 14 and section 14-4 further provides that
20 the penalty for violation of Chapter 14 involves a fine and/or imprisonment; and
21

22 **WHEREAS**, the Wellington Council believes it is in the best interest of Wellington
23 to amend sections 14-3 and 14-4 to clarify that enforcement of Chapter 14 may also be
24 by law enforcement officers.
25

26 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF WELLINGTON,**
27 **FLORIDA, THAT:**
28

29 **SECTION 1:** Chapter 14, Article I, Division 1, Section 14-1 of the Code of
30 Ordinances, Wellington, Florida is hereby amended to add a definition of Neighborhood
31 Park in alphabetical order to read as follows:
32

33 **Neighborhood Park:** A public recreational area located within walking or biking distance
34 to one of Wellington’s neighborhoods and identified on Wellington’s official website as a
35 Neighborhood Park.
36

37 **SECTION 2:** Chapter 14, Article I, Division 1, Section 14-3 of the Code of
38 Ordinances, Wellington, Florida is hereby amended to read as follows:
39

40 **Sec. 14-3: Enforcement Authority**
41

- 42 A. It shall be the duty and responsibility of the Department employees to enforce this
43 chapter. This chapter may also be enforced by law enforcement officers.
44

1 B. It shall be unlawful for any person to do any act forbidden or fail to perform any
2 act required by this chapter or for any person to fail to comply with any lawful or
3 reasonable order given by Wellington employees.
4

5 C. The Council may adopt reasonable rules and regulations as are necessary to
6 manage, use, preserve, and govern park property and activities.
7

8 **SECTION 3:** Chapter 14, Article I, Division 1, Section 14-4 of the Code of
9 Ordinances, Wellington, Florida is hereby amended to read as follows:
10

11 **Sec. 14-4: Penalties**
12

13 A. Any person convicted of violating the provisions of this ~~section~~ chapter shall be
14 punished by a fine ~~not less than \$25.00 but not to exceed than \$500.00~~, or by
15 imprisonment not exceeding ~~90~~60 days, or both.
16

17 B. Any person found violating any provision of this chapter is subject to ejection and
18 arrest by a law enforcement officer.
19

20 **SECTION 4:** Chapter 14, Article III, Division 2, Section 14-21 of the Code of
21 Ordinances, Wellington, Florida is hereby amended to read as follows:
22

23 **Sec. 14-21: Game and Sport Activity**
24

25 A. No person in a park shall take part in the playing of any games involving thrown
26 or otherwise propelled objects such as stones, arrows, golf balls, javelins, rockets,
27 or radio-controlled airplanes, except in areas set apart for such forms of recreation.
28 The playing or practicing by organized sponsored athletic teams of such games
29 as football, baseball, and the like, is prohibited except on fields, courts, or areas
30 designated for such use, or as directed by the Director or their authorized
31 representative.
32

33 B. Roller skating, roller blading, bicycling (including electric bicycles as defined in
34 chapter 22, article VII of this Code), skateboarding, scootering (including
35 motorized scooters as defined in chapter 22, article VII of this Code), and any other
36 similar activity is prohibited in Neighborhood Parks, on turf, basketball courts,
37 tennis courts, boat docks, playground equipment, and in parking lots and shall be
38 confined to those areas specifically designated for such activityies.
39

40 **SECTION 5:** Chapter 14, Article III, Division 4, Section 14-26 of the Code of
41 Ordinances, Wellington, Florida is hereby amended to read as follows:
42

43 **Sec. 14-26: Use of Vehicles**
44

45 A. No person shall operate a vehicle in a park except upon designated paved or
46 improved park roads or driveways, or in and upon designated areas or trails set

1 aside for use by such vehicles, unless directed by a law enforcement officer or
2 park employee to do so, or by official signs or markings.

3
4 B. No person, except in emergencies, shall change any parts, repair, wash, wax, or
5 polish, grease, or perform other maintenance on a vehicle on any park roadway,
6 driveway, parking lot, or other park property.

7
8 C. No person shall operate or park a motor vehicle, camper, bus, or trailer within a
9 Wellington park or parking lot except in those areas specifically designated by
10 signs to be used for such driving or parking unless authorized by the Director or
11 the Sheriff's Department. Any agents or employees of federal, state, county, or
12 municipal governmental bodies operating motor vehicles on official business shall
13 be exempt from the provisions hereof.

14
15 D. No person shall bed down, sleep, or camp overnight in a Wellington park, including
16 any parking area, nor shall camper trucks, buses, trailers, or other vehicles be
17 permitted to remain in a Wellington park unless authorized by the Director.

18
19 E. Electric Bicycles and Motorized Scooters: No person shall operate an electric
20 bicycle or motorized scooter, as those terms are defined in chapter 22, article VII
21 of this Code, in any of the following Wellington park locations:

22
23 i. Wellington Town Center

24
25 ii. Neighborhood Parks

26
27 iii. The Heart Trail at Village Park.

28
29 **SECTION 6:** Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this
30 Ordinance conflict with any section, paragraph, clause or phrase of any prior Wellington
31 Ordinance, Resolution, or Municipal Code provision; then in that event the provisions of
32 this Ordinance shall prevail to the extent of such conflict.

33
34 **SECTION 7:** Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this
35 Ordinance be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such decision
36 shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance as a whole or any portion or part thereof,
37 other than the part so declared to be invalid.

38
39 **SECTION 8:** This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption
40 of the Wellington Council following second reading.

41
42 **PASSED** this _____ day of _____, 20___ upon first reading.

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44 **PASSED AND ADOPTED** this _____ day of _____, 20 on second and
45 final reading.

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WELLINGTON

FOR **AGAINST**

BY: _____

Michael J. Napoleone, Mayor

Maria Antuña, Vice Mayor

Amanda Silvestri, Councilwoman

Stephan A. Levin, Councilman

Johnny Meier, Councilman

ATTEST:

BY: _____

Chevelle D. Hall, MMC, Village Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY**

BY: _____

Laurie Cohen, Village Attorney