

ORDINANCE NO. C-24-

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 19 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, ENTITLED "PARKS AND RECREATION"; BY CREATING SECTION 19-8, ENTITLED "DESIGNATED CHILDREN PLAY AREAS", TO ESTABLISH REGULATIONS RELATING TO CHILDREN PLAY AREAS WITHIN CITY PARKS; AND PROVIDING FOR DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS AND REPEAL, PROVIDING FOR CORRECTION OF SCRIVENER'S ERRORS AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Chapter 19 of the City for Fort Lauderdale Code of Ordinances sets forth regulations and guidelines relating to parks and other city recreation facilities; and

WHEREAS, play activity is vital to the healthy development of children and research has indicated that outdoor play provides physical, emotional, social and cognitive enrichment; and

WHEREAS, many public parks provide play space for children thereby fostering child development, social interaction skills, and opportunities for physical exercise; and

WHEREAS, play areas for children are not designated to be used by adults, except for circumstances where adults are accompanying the children using these play areas; and

WHEREAS, play areas for children are intended to furnish and provide age appropriate recreational play equipment and open space to accommodate the needs and behavior of minor children in the City who are supervised by parents, guardians, caretakers, or other appropriate adults; and

WHEREAS, in order to provide the safest play areas for children and minors in the City of Fort Lauderdale, and maximize play area equipment available for children and minors for whom the City's play equipment and play areas are specifically designated, the City Commission has determined that it is necessary to establish regulations and guidelines for such play areas;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. That Chapter 19 of the City of Fort Lauderdale Code of Ordinances entitled “Parks and Recreation” is hereby amended by creating Section 19-8 entitled “Designated Children Play Areas” as follows:

DESIGNATED CHILDREN PLAY AREAS.

(A) Definitions. For purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply unless the context indicates or requires a different meaning.

ADULT. A person who has reached the age of 18 years.

CHILDREN. A person 12 years of age or younger.

PLAY AREAS. The area within a city park bounded by signs that identify the designated area as a children’s play area pursuant to this section.

(B) It shall be unlawful for any adult to enter or remain in a designated children’s play area, where signage is posted, unless the adult is supervising and/or accompanying a child or children who is/are visiting or using the play area.

(C) Violators of this section shall be subject to the penalties set forth in Section 1-6 of the Code of Ordinances.

SECTION 2. At the direction of the City Attorney, the publisher of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, is authorized to conform chapter, article, section, subsection, and clause numbers and letters, and capitalization, set forth in the Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and to correct any non-substantive scrivener’s errors in the codification of this Ordinance without the need for a public hearing.

SECTION 3. That if any clause, section, or other part of this Ordinance shall be held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Ordinance shall not be affected thereby but shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 4. That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, be and the same are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 5. That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon its passage on second reading.

CODING: Words, symbols, and letters ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words, symbols, and letters underlined are additions.

PASSED FIRST READING this ____ day of _____, 2024.

PASSED SECOND READING this ____ day of _____, 2024.

Mayor
DEAN J. TRANTALIS

ATTEST:

City Clerk
DAVID R. SOLOMAN