



General Government Committee

Discuss Options for Modifying the Artesian Commons Smoking Ban

Agenda Date: 6/21/2018
Agenda Item Number: 6.B
File Number: 18-0605

Type: report **Version:** 1 **Status:** Filed

Title

Discuss Options for Modifying the Artesian Commons Smoking Ban

Recommended Action

Committee Recommendation:

Not referred to a committee.

City Manager Recommendation:

Receive a briefing on options for modifying the Artesian Commons smoking ban and provide guidance. Briefing only; no action requested.

Report

Issue:

Whether to evaluate the various options and process for implementing some modifications to the Smoke Free Parks rule at the Artesian Commons Park.

Staff Contact:

Paul Simmons, Parks, Arts, & Recreation Director, 360.753.8462

Presenter(s):

Paul Simmons, Parks, Arts, & Recreation Director, 360.753.8462

Background and Analysis:

On January 1, 2018, the City of Olympia implemented Smoke Free Parks throughout the park system in an effort to reduce secondhand smoke exposure to residents and create healthy and safe environments. This new rule has been one of many factors that has resulted in larger crowds gathering outside the park on 4th Avenue. This has created some challenges for neighboring businesses and the City has also received complaints from pedestrians who do not feel comfortable walking through a large crowd in a small space. The large crowd also impedes access to the 24-hour restroom that faces 4th Avenue in this same location.

It should be noted that one of the benefits of having the park smoke-free has been a much better experience for individuals who collect water from the Artesian Well. The smoke-free environment has also created better space for park users to engage in active recreation opportunities.

At this meeting, staff will present pros and cons for three options to modify the Smoke Free Parks rule at Artesian Commons Park along with a proposed process for City Council consideration.

Attachments:

None