



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: December 5, 2017

DATE: November 30, 2017
TO: Open Space and Regional Park Commission
FROM: Eric Crump, Operations Division Director
775-328-2182, ECrump@WashoeCounty.us
THROUGH: Dave Solaro, Director
775-328-3624, DSolaro@WashoeCounty.us

SUBJECT: Update from Smoke Free Parks Joint Agency Working Group and discussion and possible motion on Smoke Free Parks Initiative.

SUMMARY

This item is an update from Smoke Free Parks Joint Agency Working Group regarding the smoke free parks initiative. Two public surveys regarding smoke free parks were recently conducted. The City of Sparks conducted a poll allowing for citizen comments on smoke free parks. Approximately 3,500 emails were sent with a link to Survey Monkey, an anonymous survey tool. The email list included all City of Sparks' employees, Park and Recreation customer database, a subscriber list and those involved in Ignite Sparks during the citywide Comprehensive Plan update in 2016. 289 responses were received, an 8.25% response rate, and 89 comments were received. A complete report of the results is included with this staff report.

On November 20, Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation also conducted a survey about smoking, vaping and use of tobacco products in parks. The survey was conducted through the following platforms:

- TMPF Facebook paid advertisements targeting individuals 18 or older living within 25 miles of Carson City, Sparks and Reno.
- TMPF electronic newsletter
- TMPF's website, Facebook page, Twitter page and Instagram page

The survey closed on November 29 with a total of 984 responses. The full results of the survey along with a complete list of comments are included with this staff report.

BACKGROUND

At the January 18, 2017, concurrent meeting of City of Reno Recreation and Parks Commission, City of Sparks Parks and Recreation Commission and Washoe County Open Space and Regional Parks Commission, a presentation on Smoke Free Parks was given by the Director of Health Policy Research, University Nevada Reno and Washoe

AGENDA ITEM # _____

County District Health. During the discussion following the presentation, several members from the respective Park Commissions communicated interest in pursuing a smoke free park initiative.

A Joint Agency Working Group consisting of one Park Commissioner from the City of Sparks, City of Reno and Washoe County was formed to work on this initiative in an effort to be consistent throughout the community. The Joint Agency developed three specific questions to pose to each agency's park commission 1.) Develop a policy or an ordinance; 2.) Prohibit smoking in all areas, or create designated areas; and 3.) Prohibit only smoking/vaping or all tobacco/vape products.

Each of the agency park commissions have discussed these three questions and provided feedback or direction, with Washoe County's Open Space and Park Commission voting to have staff work with the Joint Agency Working Group to draft a smoke and vape free ordinance for all Washoe County Parks.

The Joint Agency Working Group met on November 30, 2017 and each of the agency representatives provided an update. The Joint Agency is scheduled to meet again on December 28, where it will begin drafting the key elements for consistent ordinance language and signage/branding. Staff will work on taking the initiative to their respective City Councils and Commission for direction and possible adoption.

PREVIOUS ACTION

September 5, 2017 Washoe County Open Space and Regional Park Commission voted in support of working with the Joint Agency Working Group to draft a smoke and vape free ordinance for all Washoe County Parks.

On July 13, 2017 Washoe County Open Space and Regional Park Commission appointed Park Commissioner Nenzel to the Joint Agency Working Group for the development of a smoke free park policy.

During the March 7, 2017 Washoe County Open Space and Regional Park Commission voted in support of having staff with the City of Reno and the City of Sparks parks staff on a smoke free park initiative.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Open Space and Regional Park Commission acknowledge receipt of this report on the smoke free parks initiative.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with the staff recommendation, a possible motion would be:
"Move to acknowledge receipt of this report on the smoke free parks initiative"