

ORDINANCE NO. 29 - 21

By: Troy Markham

An Ordinance to amend 618.15 (Dogs on City Park and Recreational Property), to regulate the admittance of service animals in city parks.

Whereas, The current law of Bexley requires that service animals brought into city parks must be specifically licensed as such; and

Whereas, According to Ohio Revised Code, service dogs are not required to have a specialized license registration tag beyond the same licensing rules that apply for all dogs, and the current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) also states entities may not require such documentation as a condition of entry; and

Whereas, A "service animal" is defined by the ADA as: any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability.

Whereas, This proposed ordinance has been created to update the policy concerning service animals on city parks to align with current ADA policies and requirements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEXLEY, OHIO:

Section 1: That Section 618.15 (a) be amended to read as follows:

618.15 DOGS ON CITY PARK AND RECREATIONAL PROPERTY.

(a) No person shall permit ~~a dog to go or be~~ **any domestic or companion animal** upon any part of Jeffrey Park or Commonwealth Park, except a ~~dog accompanying a blind, deaf or mobility impaired person and displaying a registration tag issued~~ **service animal accompanying a person with a disability. For the purpose of this section, "service animal" is defined as any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability.**

Section 2. That this Ordinance shall go into effect, and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed:

August 24, 2021



Lori Ann Feibel, President of Council

Attest: August 24, 2021



William Harvey, Clerk of Council

Approved: August 24, 2021



Benjamin J. Kessler, Mayor

First Reading: June 22, 2021
Second Reading: August 10, 2021
Third Reading: August 24, 2021