

ORDINANCE NO. 20-\_\_\_\_\_

AN ORDINANCE SUBMITTING A CHARTER AMENDMENT TO THE REGISTERED QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO AT THE SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD AT THE COORDINATED ELECTION CONDUCTED BY MAIL BALLOT TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 3, 2020, ADDING A NEW SECTION 11-80 OF THE CITY CHARTER RELATING TO CONVEYANCES OF CITY-OWNED PARKLAND, PROVIDING FOR THE FORM OF THE BALLOT TITLE, PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN MATTERS WITH RESPECT TO THE ELECTION, AND PROVIDING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS:

Section 1. Council hereby submits and refers to the vote of the registered qualified electors of the City at a Special Municipal Election to be held at the Coordinated Election conducted by mail ballot on November 3, 2020 (the "Election"), a proposed amendment to the Charter of the City of Colorado Springs adding a new Section 11-80 to read as follows:

11-80. Conveyance of Parkland Requiring Vote.

(a) General Provisions. A voluntary Conveyance of Parkland which is included on the Parkland Designation List shall only be permitted with the approval of a majority of votes cast at a general or special election of the qualified electors of the City, following a referral of the question by a super-majority vote of not less than six (6) members of the Council, except as provided below.

(b) Term Definitions. For purposes of this section:

(1) "Conveyance" means a voluntary transfer of a property interest in Parkland which is included on the City's Parkland Designation List from the City to an individual or entity that is not controlled by the City.

(2) "*De Minimis* Conveyance" means a Conveyance of less than two (2) acres of Parkland or five percent (5%) of the total acreage of an entire park which is included on the Parkland Designation List, whichever is less, and which does not materially diminish the public's use of the Parkland.

(3) “Developed Parkland” means Parkland upon which construction has commenced in accord with the applicable City approved plan and a portion of which is open for public use.

(4) “Emergency” means any proclamation of public danger, emergency or disaster made by the Mayor pursuant to section 4-10 of this Charter, or adoption made by the Council of an emergency ordinance pursuant to section 3-90 of this Charter, that directly impacts the Parkland included on the City’s Parkland Designation List that is subject to the Conveyance. For purposes of this section, an Emergency shall not include a budgetary or fiscal emergency of the City.

~~(5)~~ “Parkland” means any land owned by the City that is administratively controlled by the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department, but excludes trails and land administratively controlled by other departments or enterprises that have a secondary parks use.

~~(6)~~ “Parkland Designation List” means a list of Parklands the Conveyance of which is subject to the restrictions contained in this Charter provision.

(c) Conveyances Not Requiring a Vote. The following types of Conveyances do not require an election and may occur pursuant to City procedures effective at the time of the Conveyance:

(1) A Conveyance that is required by court order, judicial proceeding, or regulatory action;

(2) A Conveyance effectuated through the exercise of eminent domain or following a written notice of intent to condemn through the exercise of eminent domain by a governmental entity with authority to condemn City property;

(3) A lease, temporary permit, license, or easement granted by the City pursuant to this Charter;

(4) The Conveyance of a conservation easement to and held by a qualified land trust;

(5) A Conveyance of Parkland that is not included in the Parkland Designation List;

(6) A *De Minimis* Conveyance;

(7) A Conveyance approved by City Council in order to resolve a bona fide title dispute identified by the City Attorney;

(8) A Conveyance of Parkland which is not Developed Parkland and was acquired by the City through the Park Land Dedication Ordinance, through other land use exaction, or as a requirement of annexation to the City;

(9) A termination of a secondary use by the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department of a property administratively assigned to another department or enterprise of the City;

(10) A Conveyance of Parkland that is required due to an Emergency;

(11) A Conveyance of Parkland that a supermajority of not less than six (6) members of the Council determines to be in the best interest of the City's park system.

(d) Parkland Designation List. The Parkland Designation List as approved by the qualified electors of the City is located in the Appendix at the end of the Charter. For Parkland acquired after the implementation of this Charter provision, City Council shall ~~by ordinance~~ add by ordinance any Developed Parkland to the Parkland Designation List. The Parkland Designation List shall be available for inspection in the City Clerk's Office. Parkland shall not be removed from the Parkland Designation List, except following a Conveyance as provided for in this Charter provision. For Conveyances made pursuant to this Charter provision, City Council shall by ordinance cause the Parkland subject to the Conveyance to be removed from the Parkland Designation List.

Section 2. The Parkland Designation List is attached and incorporated herein as "Exhibit A."

Section 3. The Election shall be a Special Municipal Election which is held as part of a Coordinated Election, conducted by mail ballot on November 3, 2020, pursuant to the Charter of the City of Colorado Springs and applicable Colorado statutes, except as otherwise provided in the Charter or ordinances of the City, all as impliedly modified by relevant judicial decisions. The City Clerk shall be the designated election official for all matters.

Section 4. The question of amending the City Charter for this stated purpose shall be submitted to the registered qualified electors of the City in substantially the following form:

"SHALL THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS BE AMENDED TO ADD SECTION 11-80 THERETO, REQUIRING THAT SPECIFIED CONVEYANCES OF CITY-OWNED PARKLAND ONLY BE PERMITTED UPON A REFERRAL BY A SUPER-MAJORITY OF NOT LESS THAN SIX (6) MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL TO A VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF VOTES CAST AT A GENERAL OR SPECIAL ELECTION OF THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY, AND PROVIDING EXCEPTIONS TO THE ELECTION REQUIREMENT ONLY FOR CONVEYANCES WHICH ARE

JUDICIALLY ORDERED, RESULT FROM EMINENT DOMAIN, EMERGENCIES, TITLE DISPUTES OR REGULATORY ACTIONS, CONSIST OF LEASES, TEMPORARY PERMITS, EASEMENTS OR CONSERVATION EASEMENTS, ~~AND-DE MINIMIS CONVEYANCES,~~ AND CONVEYANCES IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CITY'S PARK SYSTEM?"

Section 5. The City Clerk and officers of the City are hereby authorized and directed to take all action necessary or appropriate to effectuate the provisions of this ordinance. The City Clerk shall assist and cooperate with the County Clerk and Recorder in conducting the Special Municipal Election held as part of a Coordinated Election.

Section 6. All actions heretofore taken by the Council and officers of the City, not inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance and toward the general election, are hereby ratified, approved and confirmed.

Section 7. If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this ordinance shall for any reason be held to be invalid or unenforceable, the invalidity or unenforceability of that section, paragraph, clause or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this ordinance.

Section 8. All ordinances resolutions, bylaws and regulations of the City in conflict with this ordinance, are hereby repealed to the extent of any conflict. This repealer shall not be construed to revive any ordinance, resolution, bylaw or regulation, in whole or in part, previously repealed.

Section 9. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as provided by the Charter. If the Charter amendment is passed by the electorate, it shall be effective as provided by law.

Section 10. Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this ordinance, the City Clerk shall publish notice of the Election upon the amendment, which notice shall contain the full text of the amendment as set forth in this ordinance.

Introduced, read, passed on first reading and ordered published this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

**Finally passed:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Council President

ATTEST:

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Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk

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