

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM
CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

<p>AGENDA TITLE: Ordinance #458 – Modifying Term Limits for Park Board DEPARTMENT: Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services PRESENTED BY: Dick Deal, PRCS Director</p>

PROBLEM/ISSUE STATEMENT:

The Shoreline Municipal Code Chapter 2.55 established term limits for the Park, Recreation, and Cultural Services Board (Park Board) members. The Code was created in 1998 and limits Park Board members to two four-year terms. This was done initially to stagger the expiration dates for terms of some members who served only two years on their first term; since then all terms have been four-year terms.

The Park Board is very active in assisting and guiding Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services staff in the development of master site plans and facility improvements. Currently there are nineteen park projects scheduled in the 2007 – 2012 Capital Improvement Plan. The number of projects increased substantially with the passage of the Park, Open Space, and Trails Bond Issue in May 2006. Eight of the current Park Board members are now serving their second term and based on the existing Code, will not be eligible for re-appointment at the end of their term. Five Park Board member terms will expire in March 2007, with three additional terms expiring in March 2009. All will have served the maximum time allowable by existing Code and will need to be replaced.

Staff is confident there are other community members interested in serving on the Park Board, but to lose 80% of the Park Board membership with their historical knowledge and perspective at this critical time in the development of our park system will be difficult for the continuity of our programs and projects.

As discussed at the City Council meeting on January 22, 2007 the addition of a third four-year term for Park Board members will allow staff to complete the majority of bond issue and other CIP projects with guidance from the Board that helped create these opportunities for improvements. Attached is Ordinance No. 458 that reflects the City Council's comments at the January 22nd meeting. Changes in the attached Ordinance include:

- The creation of two new youth positions for sixteen to twenty-five year olds
- The elimination of the "alternate" position at the completion of their current term
- Increasing the number of four-year terms a member can serve from two terms to three terms.

At the Thursday, January 25th meeting of the Park Board, there was much discussion on this proposal and members were pleased with the Council's interest in allowing an additional four-year term. They also thought the creation of two youth positions was a very good idea. They asked staff to relay to Council that they would prefer the following changes be considered for these positions.

- Youth members serve a two-year term (not four-years terms as proposed)
- All City of Shoreline middle school and high school students be eligible to apply for these positions (not sixteen to twenty-five year olds as proposed)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no financial impact created by adding the youth positions, eliminating the current "alternate" position, or adding the additional four-year term.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt Ordinance No. 458 with the following modifications as recommended by the Park Board:

- Youth terms are two-year terms
- Youth terms are open to all middle school and high school students who reside in the City of Shoreline.

Approved By:

City Manager



City Attorney



Attachments: Ordinance No. 458

ORDINANCE NO. 458

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON, REMOVING AMENDING TERM LIMITS AND ADDING YOUTH MEMBERS TO THE PARKS BOARD; AND AMENDING SHORELINE MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 2.55.

WHEREAS, The City of Shoreline established term limits of two consecutive terms for appointees to the Parks Board when this advisory bodies was created; and

WHEREAS, the Council finds that the Council reappointment process for new terms protects the City's interest in diverse viewpoints and citizen opportunity to serve without arbitrarily sacrificing valuable experience and expertise with excessive limits on consecutive terms; and

WHEREAS, the youth of our community are primary users of parks, trails and recreational programs and their representation on the Parks Board should be encouraged and assured; now therefore

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Amendment. Shoreline Municipal Code 2.55.020 is amended as follows:

The board shall consist of eleven members.. Only persons who reside, own property or are employed in the city of Shoreline shall be eligible for membership on the parks, recreation and cultural services board. Two members shall be between the ages of sixteen and twenty-five at the beginning of their term in addition to meeting other eligibility requirements. Members shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses pursuant to city ordinances and policies. The position of a member shall become vacant upon such member's ceasing to reside within, own property within, or be employed within the Shoreline city limits. The position of a member shall be forfeited and become vacant for failure to attend three regular consecutive meetings of the board, unless such absence is excused by a majority of the board. Vacancies occurring other than through the expiration of terms shall be filled for the unexpired terms in the same manner as for appointments as provided in this chapter.

Members shall serve four-year terms with no member serving more than three consecutive four-year terms. Terms shall expire the thirty-first day of March. ~~No board member shall serve more than 10 consecutive years.~~

Section 2. Implementation. The amendments of Section 1 of this ordinance changing the limits on consecutive terms shall take effect with the effective date of this ordinance. The amendments of Section 1 changing the membership of the board shall be implimented as follows:

a. The removal of the alternate member from board membership shall take effect at the expiration of the two-year term of the current alternate member.

b. The two additional positions to the board added by the amendment shall be filled by members satisfying the youth qualifications. One of these positions shall be added on April 1, 2007, the second shall be added on April 1, 2009.

Section 2. Publication, Effective Date. A summary of this ordinance consisting of its title shall be published in the official newspaper of the City. This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force five days after passage and publication.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON January 22, 2007.

Mayor Robert L. Ransom

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Scott Passey
City Clerk

Ian Sievers
City Attorney

Date of Publication:
Effective Date: