



City of Kansas City, Missouri

Docket Memo

Ordinance/Resolution #: Ordinance 260064

Submitted Department/Preparer: Parks Recreation

Revised 12/03/25

Docket memos are required on all ordinances initiated by a Department Director. More information can be found in [Administrative Regulation \(AR\) 4-1](#).

Executive Summary

Authorizing the City and the Parks and Recreation Department to enter into a Kansas City Riverfront Park Lease Agreement with the Port Authority of Kansas City for the purpose of furthering the development and maintenance of additional recreational space on the Kansas City Riverfront.

Discussion

The City of Kansas City began the development of Riverfront Park in 1965, when its Parks Superintendent Frank Vaydik initiated a plan for a park spanning over 3 square miles along the length of the Missouri River from approximately N. Olive Street on the west to the mouth of the Blue River on the east; The City opened Area I of Riverfront Park in 1967, bounded by N. Olive Street on the west and N. Chouteau Trafficway on the east, which featured baseball fields, picnic areas, and later a boat ramp. Riverfront Park stood to be one of the nation's premier city parks, with development anticipated throughout its Area II, bounded by N. Chouteau Trafficway on the west and I-435 Bridge on the east, and its Area III, bounded by I-435 Bridge on the west and Harry S. Truman Bridge on the east.

Environmental concerns led to the closure of Riverfront Park in 1985, rooted in the Park's prior use as a landfill, before the development of parks space in Areas I and II. The environmental concerns leading to the closure of Riverfront Park in 1985 have since been remediated. The City of Kansas City, in coordination with the Parks and Recreation Department and the Port Authority of Kansas City, seeks to facilitate plans for the phased restoration and development of Riverfront Park, revitalizing ambitious plans for the site as one of America's premier parks in the heart and birthplace of Kansas City, on the Missouri River.

A lease agreement between the City of Kansas City, the Parks and Recreation Department, and the Port Authority of Kansas City allows for planning related to the development of the Riverfront Park site to proceed. A temporary access agreement

between the City of Kansas City, the Parks and Recreation Department, and the Port Authority of Kansas City allows for the Port Authority of Kansas City to immediately provide improvements to the Riverfront Boat Ramp at Riverfront Park, including the removal of overgrowth, noxious weeds and debris.

Fiscal Impact

1. Is this legislation included in the adopted budget? ☐ Yes ☒ No
2. What is the funding source?
Not applicable. This ordinance has no direct fiscal impact
3. How does the legislation affect the current fiscal year?
Not applicable. This ordinance has no direct fiscal impact
4. Does the legislation have a fiscal impact in future fiscal years? Please notate the difference between one-time and recurring costs.
Future fiscal impact is undetermined at this time but could include rental revenue.
5. Does the legislation generate revenue, leverage outside funding, or deliver a return on investment?
This ordinance could result in an undetermined quantity of rental revenue.

Office of Management and Budget Review

(OMB Staff will complete this section.)

1. This legislation is supported by the general fund. ☐ Yes ☒ No
2. This fund has a structural imbalance. ☐ Yes ☒ No
3. Account string has been verified/confirmed. ☒ Yes ☐ No

Additional Discussion (if needed)

There is no direct fiscal impact from this ordinance.

Citywide Business Plan (CWBP) Impact

1. View the [Adopted 2025-2029 Citywide Business Plan](#)
2. Which CWBP goal is most impacted by this legislation?
Housing and Healthy Communities (Press tab after selecting.)

3. Which objectives are impacted by this legislation (select all that apply):

- ☐ Utilize planning approaches in neighborhoods to reduce blight, ensure sustainable housing, and improve resident wellbeing and cultural diversity.
- ☐ Maintain and increase affordable housing supply to meet the demands of a diverse population.
- ☐ Address the various needs of the City's most vulnerable population by working to reduce disparities.
- ☐ Foster an inclusive environment and regional approach to spur innovative solutions to housing challenges.
- ☐ Ensure all residents have safe, accessible, quality housing by reducing barriers.
- ☒ Protect and promote healthy, active amenities such as parks and trails, play spaces, and green spaces.

Prior Legislation

None

Service Level Impacts

This will not create any service level impacts on our department.

Staff Recommendation

Parks & Recreation

Select One: ☐ Sponsored
☒ Directive: Res/Ord # 260064

Select One: ☒ Recommend
☐ Do Not Recommend
☐ Not Applicable

This will provide the citizens with a large activated green space.

Other Impacts

1. What will be the potential health impacts to any affected groups?
Increased activated green space will provide more opportunities for people to increase their physical activity, as well as benefit their emotional health by spending more time in nature.

2. How have those groups been engaged and involved in the development of this ordinance?
No

3. How does this legislation contribute to a sustainable Kansas City?
This will help preserve and protect a large greenspace in the heart of the City.

4. Does this legislation create or preserve new housing units?
No (Press tab after selecting)

Click or tap here to enter text.

Click or tap here to enter text.

5. Department staff certifies the submission of any application Affirmative Action Plans or Certificates of Compliance, Contractor Utilization Plans (CUPs), and Letters of Intent to Subcontract (LOIs) to CREO prior to, or simultaneously with, the legislation entry request in Legistar.

No - CREO's review is not applicable (Press tab after selecting)

Please provide reasoning why not:

CREO does not apply to this type of agreement.

6. Does this legislation seek to approve a contract resulting from an Invitation for Bid?

No(Press tab after selecting)

Click or tap here to enter text.

7. Does this legislation seek to approve a contract resulting from a Request for Proposal/Qualification (RFP/Q)?
No(Press tab after selecting)