

CITY OF FORT PIERCE CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 12



Existing Conditions

- Strong history of marketing ourselves as an eco-tourism, water front destination, including FortPierceTours.com and our partnership with Visit Florida.
- City has been issuing BTRs to businesses operating as “home-based” in accordance with Sec. 22-63 and that they may not book tours and/or rentals, sell, accept money or act as a vendor in our public parks. Basically, deliver and leave – no set up, tent or solicitation.
- We subsequently learned that even the “delivery” is prohibited under our existing code.

Existing Conditions

- The Chamber of Commerce is now actively booking tours and excursions through the visitor center providing even greater opportunity and exposure for our Fort Pierce Businesses.
- RFP 2015-052 granted Lisa's Kayaks the exclusive right to offer non-motorized watercraft and bicycle rentals at South Causeway Park and Jaycee Park.
- This contract renews annually on January 31 upon agreement of both parties, with a final expiration on January 31, 2020.

Short-Term Solution

- After speaking with some of our businesses, it is clear that some minor changes to Chapter 12, specifically Chapter 12-202, will provide some much needed relief to many of our local, water sports types of businesses in order for them to thrive.
- A simple ordinance change can provide immediate relief.

Current Code

Section 12-202 – Prohibited activities, reads in part as follows:

“It shall be unlawful for any person to do any of the following in any park area or any other areas officially designated by the city commission as a park and posted as such unless specifically permitted by the appropriate authorization received from the city manager and issued pursuant to this article, except for activities of the city which are undertaken within the scope of its governmental authority:

....

(z) Engage in the sale, rental, **delivery, demonstration**, display, or offering as a business promotion any item or service for any non city-sponsored function(s), except as otherwise permitted for special events as provided by this chapter or administrative rule; [emphasis added]

Proposed Code

Section 12-202 – Prohibited activities, reads in part as follows:

“It shall be unlawful for any person to do any of the following in any park area or any other areas officially designated by the city commission as a park and posted as such unless specifically permitted by the appropriate authorization received from the city manager and issued pursuant to this article, except for activities of the city which are undertaken within the scope of its governmental authority:

....

(z) Engage in the sale, rental, ~~delivery, demonstration, or display, or offering as a business promotion~~ any item or service for any non city-sponsored function(s), except as otherwise permitted for special events as provided by this chapter or administrative rule;

Long-Term Solution

- Throughout our strategic planning activities, access to our waterfronts remains a common theme.
- Looking to our future and understanding the increase in visitors and residents, the city is in a position to enable our local business community to expand the services and activities currently available to visitors and residents, particularly in our parks.
- It may be prudent to evaluate our existing policies for the use of our parks by vendors and potentially identify appropriate areas for a wider array of services and activities.
- It is the recommendation of staff that the City Commission seek input from the Parks Committee or direct staff to evaluate the feasibility of expanding the number of sites for appropriate activities throughout the City in preparation of a new RFP in the future.



QUESTIONS?