



AGENCY:	City Council
MEETING DATE:	June 22, 2015
DEPARTMENT:	CDD
PRESENTED BY:	Marie Jones

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

TITLE:

RECEIVE REPORT AND CONSIDER INTRODUCING, BY TITLE ONLY, AND WAIVE FURTHER READING OF ORDINANCE 915-2015 REPEALING AND REPLACING CHAPTER 9.68 OF TITLE 9 (PUBLIC PEACE, SAFETY AND MORALS) OF THE FORT BRAGG MUNICIPAL CODE

ISSUE:

On May 26, 2015, the City Council provided direction to staff regarding recommended modifications to Fort Bragg Municipal Code Chapter 9.68 to address park management issues unique to Noyo Headlands Park. New regulations are presented in Ordinance 915-2015 to address these issues.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Waive the first reading and introduce, by title only, Ordinance 915-2015 Repealing and Replacing Chapter 9.68 of Title 9 (Public Peace, Safety and Morals) of the Fort Bragg Municipal Code.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION(S):

Provide alternative direction to staff.

ANALYSIS:

The City's Noyo Headlands Park project is a great success. The Coastal Trail is heavily utilized resulting in some impacts on coastal resources. Several recommended changes to the Municipal Code to address specific challenges were brought forward to the Community Development Committee (CDC) for consideration in April. The CDC recommended several new park rules, which were reviewed by City Council at its May 26, 2015 meeting. The new regulations address the following:

- 1) Trespass into rare plant areas. The City installed habitat protective fencing to keep people from trampling through rare habitat, however many people ignore the fencing and may be impacting State and federally listed plants. Additional habitat protective fencing and signage has been installed to deter people from entering these fragile areas. The proposed change to the Municipal Code would enable City police officers to issue citations to people who violate the signage and fencing.
- 2) Use of City property to tie-off for rappelling down the bluff face. At times, abalone divers use City property (benches, culvert structures, fencing, etc.) to tie off and rappel down the bluff face in order to collect abalone. The proposed change to the Municipal Code would prohibit use of ropes and other rappelling equipment to scale bluff faces at the City's two coastal parks.
- 3) Removal of glass from Glass Beach. With the installation of the new access stairs to Glass Beach on the City's property, it is possible for people to remove large amounts of beach glass. The proposed change to the Municipal Code would prohibit removal of beach glass from City property.

- 4) Digging on the site. Humans and dogs that dig on the Coastal Trail property could disturb and/or remove cultural resources from the site. The proposed change to the Municipal Code would prohibit digging on the site.
- 5) Fireworks. Use/possession of fireworks on Noyo Headlands Park could impact coastal resources (rare plants, marine mammals, nesting sea birds) and is a serious fire concern. Additionally, use of fireworks on Noyo Beach has become increasingly problematic and challenging for law enforcement during the 4th of July celebrations. The proposed change to the Municipal Code would prohibit possession or use of fireworks in park areas except by permitted pyrotechnic engineers in conjunction with a special event.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with adoption of this ordinance.

CONSISTENCY:

The proposed ordinance changes are consistent with Coastal General Plan policies regarding providing public access, preservation of coastal resources, and preservation of parks.

IMPLEMENTATION/TIMEFRAMES:

If introduced on June 22, 2015, the ordinance will come back to the Council on July 13, 2015 for adoption and will become effective in August of 2015.

ATTACHMENTS:

Proposed Ordinance 915-2015 amending Chapter 9.68 of the Fort Bragg Municipal Code.

NOTIFICATION:

1. Coastal Trail interested parties list

City Clerk's Office Use Only

Agency Action ☐ Approved ☐ Denied ☐ Approved as Amended

Resolution No.: _____ Ordinance No.: _____

Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____

Vote: _____

☐ Deferred/Continued to meeting of: _____

☐ Referred to: _____