

CITY OF BALTIMORE
ORDINANCE _____
Council Bill 08-0096

Introduced by: Councilmember Cole, President Rawlings-Blake, Councilmembers Young,
Branch, D'Adamo, Middleton, Conaway, Reisinger, Henry, Kraft, Welch, Holton, Curran
Introduced and read first time: April 7, 2008
Assigned to: Community Development Subcommittee

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
Council action: Adopted
Read second time: September 15, 2008

AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING

**Public Parks, Squares, etc. – Closure Requirements
Closings and Other Restrictions on Public Access**

FOR the purpose of requiring ~~City Council approval before a public park, square, or recreational facility may be closed for longer than a certain period; providing for certain exceptions the~~ Department of Recreation and Parks to report annually on closings of and other public-access restrictions on parks, squares, and recreational facilities; and generally relating to the public's right of access to public parks, squares, and recreational facilities.

By adding
Article 7 - Natural Resources
Section(s) 51-5
Baltimore City Code
(Edition 2000)

SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the Laws of Baltimore City read as follows:

Baltimore City Code

Article 7. Natural Resources

Division V. City Parks and Trees

Subtitle 51. Department Jurisdiction

~~§ 51-5. PARKS, SQUARES, ETC., TO REMAIN OPEN.~~

~~(A) *IN GENERAL.*~~

~~NO PARK, SQUARE, OR RECREATIONAL FACILITY OPERATED BY OR UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS MAY BE CLOSED, IN WHOLE OR ANY~~

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
Underlining indicates matter added to the bill by amendment.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from existing law by amendment.

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1 SUBSTANTIAL PART, FOR MORE THAN 72 CONSECUTIVE HOURS WITHOUT THE EXPRESS
2 PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

3
4 ~~(B) EMERGENCIES EXCEPTED.~~

5 THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO THE EXTENT THAT A CLOSURE IS NECESSITATED BY AN
6 EMERGENCY THAT ENDANGERS THE PUBLIC HEALTH OR SAFETY.

7 **§ 51-5. REPORT ON CLOSINGS AND OTHER PUBLIC-ACCESS RESTRICTIONS.**

8 (A) ANNUAL REPORT REQUIRED.

9 ON OR BEFORE MARCH 30 OF EACH YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS
10 SHALL SUBMIT TO THE CITY COUNCIL A WRITTEN REPORT ON ALL CLOSINGS OF AND
11 OTHER PUBLIC-ACCESS RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED ON ALL PARKS, SQUARES, AND
12 RECREATIONAL FACILITIES OPERATED BY OR UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE DEPARTMENT.

13 (B) CONTENTS.

14 THE REPORT SHALL:

15 (1) INCLUDE A SUMMARY OF ALL CLOSINGS AND PUBLIC-ACCESS RESTRICTIONS THAT
16 OCCURRED DURING THE PRECEDING CALENDAR YEAR; AND

17 (2) SPECIFY:

18 (i) THE NUMBER OF HOURS OF EACH CLOSING OR RESTRICTION;

19 (ii) WHETHER THE CLOSING OR RESTRICTION WAS PURSUANT TO A PERMIT AND,
20 IF SO, THE TYPE OF PERMIT; AND

21 (iii) WHETHER THE CLOSING OR RESTRICTION WAS NECESSITATED BY AN
22 EMERGENCY AND, IF SO, THE NATURE OF THAT EMERGENCY.

23 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That the catchlines contained in this Ordinance
24 are not law and may not be considered to have been enacted as a part of this or any prior
25 Ordinance.

26 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30th day
27 after the date it is enacted.

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Certified as duly passed this _____ day of _____, 20__

President, Baltimore City Council

Certified as duly delivered to Her Honor, the Mayor,
this _____ day of _____, 20__

Chief Clerk

Approved this _____ day of _____, 20__

Mayor, Baltimore City