

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CITY CODE  
CHAPTER 18, PARKS, AND RECREATION  
SECTIONS 18-24(b) and 18-25(f)**

**WHEREAS**, the Ragged Mountain Reservoir (“the Reservoir”) is owned by the City of Charlottesville (“the City”), but located in Albemarle County (“the County”) and supplies water to residents and businesses in both localities; and

**WHEREAS**, in April 2017, the County filed a legal action against the City challenging permitted recreational activities at the Reservoir, as the County sought to prohibit bicycling and permit horseback riding at the Reservoir, while a corresponding provisions of the City Code permitted bicycling and prohibited horseback riding at the Reservoir, and the two parties eventually entered into a Settlement Agreement which ended litigation on the matter; and

**WHEREAS**, City Council approved the Settlement Agreement on March 4, 2024, and pursuant to this Settlement Agreement, the City agreed to repeal City Code Sections 18-24(b) and 18-25(f); and

**WHEREAS**, the required public hearings on the proposed amendment have been conducted; and

**WHEREAS**, this City Council has considered staff recommendations; and

**WHEREAS**, this Council finds that the proposed appeal of City Code Sections 18-24(b) and 18-25(f) herein are in accordance with the Settlement Agreement, therefore,

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the City of Charlottesville, Virginia that Chapter 18 Parks and Recreation, Sections 18-24(b) and 18-25(f) of the Code of the City of Charlottesville, 1990, as amended, be and hereby is amended and reenacted as follows:

**Sections 18-24(b) and 18-25(f)**

Sec. 18-24. - Authorized activities.

The following activities are permitted in the Ragged Mountain Natural Area:

(a) Hiking and jogging on designated trails, picnicking, and birdwatching;

~~(b) Bicycling on designated trails;~~

(~~b~~) Kayaking, canoeing, and boating on the reservoir; the use of electric motors is permitted, but gasoline marine motors are prohibited, except when used by Rivanna Water and Sewer Authority employees, agents or contractors for purposes related to the maintenance or surveillance of the dam and the water supply; and

(~~d~~) Fishing that is conducted in compliance with all state regulations and licensing requirements.

(12-19-16(3))

#### Sec. 18-25. - Prohibited activities.

Any activity not expressly permitted by this article is prohibited within the Ragged Mountain Natural Area. These prohibited activities include, but are not limited to:

(a) Trapping, hunting, or the discharge of firearms;

(b) Camping or remaining in the natural area after sunset;

(c) Swimming or diving in the Ragged Mountain Reservoir;

(d) Setting, maintaining or allowing any fire;

(e) Consumption of alcoholic beverages;

~~(f) Horse riding, except when authorized by special permit issued through the city department of parks and recreation;~~

(~~f~~) Using motor vehicles except on roads paved or improved for vehicular traffic and in designated parking areas; provided that the prohibition of motor vehicles shall not apply to approved ADA mobility assistance devices;

(~~h~~) Accessing the reservoir's auxiliary spillway, except on designated trails;

(~~h~~) Storing boats or other personal property at the natural area; allowing motor vehicles to remain in the parking area after sunset; or mooring boats on the reservoir;

(~~j~~) Littering or leaving trash or refuse in the natural area;

(~~k~~) The transporting or releasing of wildlife or the disturbance of nests or nesting sites;

(~~h~~<sup>k</sup>) Conducting organized running or bicycling races or competitions;  
and(m)Bringing any dog, except for a service animal, into the natural area.

(12-19-16(3))

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>
Payne		
Pinkston		
Snook		
Wade		
Oschrin		

Approved by Council  
July \_\_\_\_, 2024

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Kyna Thomas, MMC  
Clerk of Council

Suggested Motion: I move that Chapter 18 Parks and Recreation, Sections 18-24(b) and 18-25(f), of the Code of the City of Charlottesville be amended.

Legend: Deleted language  
New language