

**Madison Parks
Parks Long Range Planning Subcommittee**

Permitting Political Rallies in Madison Parks

Project Outline – Determine what Madison Parks policy/process should be regarding political rallies.

Project Description (Describe what is being proposed, why the project is needed)
Recently a presidential candidate asked to have a campaign rally in James Madison Park. It was discovered that Madison Parks did not have a formal process for political rallies that are often spontaneous or short-noticed and don't meet the advance notice required through the normal park event permitting process.

This project will look at political rallies policies and practices in other municipalities and determine options for Madison Parks. A Political rally policy would establish criteria to evaluate this type of request and a process to allow for administrative review and approval.

Outcome (Research, recommendation to Park Commission, written report, etc.)
Research into permitting political rallies will provide parameters for these event to occur, and allow the Madison Parks Division to determine the “time, place and manner” of these activities through a fair and equitable process. The process would be codified into park policy and/or ordinance.

Action Plan (List the major steps and timeframes you will follow to complete this project)

1. Research (Summer 2019)
 - Research and review other city's political speech policies and ordinances and create a composite of current practices;
 - Review RESJI analysis of political rally issues in regard to street use events;
 - Consult with ACA Lara Mainella to utilize her expertise in the City's compliance with First Amendment laws, statutes and ordinance
2. Draft written report on research and present DRAFT proposal to Parks Long Range Planning Subcommittee in July 2019.
3. Propose administrative review policy and ordinance amendments at the August 2019 LRP meeting.
4. Refer to Board of Park Commissioners September 2019 meeting.

Internal/External Resources Needed for the Project (list the resources)

Internal: Parks staff, City Attorney, RESJI team evaluating First Amendment issues for street use events

External: other parks systems political rally policies