



### **Resolution 2022-173**

#### **RESOLUTION TO REPEAL RESOLUTION 2020-232 (RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE MINNEAPOLIS PARK AND RECREATION BOARD TO MAKE CERTAIN CHANGES PERTAINING TO POLICING WITHIN MINNEAPOLIS PARKLAND, INCLUDING CEASING THE USE OF MINNEAPOLIS POLICE TO STAFF PARK-SANCTIONED EVENTS, AND CEASING PARK POLICE RESPONSE TO MINNEAPOLIS POLICE DEPARTMENT CALLS)**

Whereas, The Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board (MPRB) is the steward of Minneapolis parks;

Whereas, The Board of Commissioners passed Resolution 2020-232 on June 3, 2020;

Whereas, Resolution 2020-232 prohibits the use of City of Minneapolis police officers to supplement security for events taking place on parkland within the City of Minneapolis;

Whereas, Resolution 202-232 restricts MPRB police officers from responding to or assisting on certain police calls for service within the City of Minneapolis;

Whereas, During 2020 and 2021, permitted special events within the park system were significantly limited due to the public health crisis caused by the COVID19 pandemic;

Whereas, The COVID19 pandemic has currently subsided to a point where public events can resume within the park system;

Whereas, The MPRB Park Police Department has limited capacity to provide special event security and cannot match pre-pandemic levels without supplemental assistance;

Whereas, MPRB police officers have professional and ethical obligations to assist the public with all emergencies and crimes when they are in a position to do so; and

Whereas, This resolution is supported in Parks for All, the MPRB Comprehensive Plan 2021-2036, which sets the goals, "Goal 3: Provide Core Services with Care," and Goal 4: Work From Our Strengths and Determine Our Role in Partnerships;"

**RESOLVED**, That the Board of Commissioners hereby repeal Resolution 2020-232; and

**RESOLVED**, That the President of the Board and Secretary to the Board are authorized to take all necessary administrative actions to implement this resolution.



TO: Administration and Finance Committee

FROM: Alfred Bangoura, Superintendent

DATE: April 20, 2022

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION TO REPEAL RESOLUTION 2020-232 (RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE MINNEAPOLIS PARK AND RECREATION BOARD TO MAKE CERTAIN CHANGES PERTAINING TO POLICING WITHIN MINNEAPOLIS PARKLAND, INCLUDING CEASING THE USE OF MINNEAPOLIS POLICE TO STAFF PARK-SANCTIONED EVENTS, AND CEASING PARK POLICE RESPONSE TO MINNEAPOLIS POLICE DEPARTMENT CALLS)

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## **BACKGROUND**

On June 3, 2020, the Board of Commissioners passed Resolution 2020-232 (*Attachment A*). This resolution prohibits the use of City of Minneapolis police officers to supplement special event security needs in parks. In addition, the resolution restricts MPRB police officers from assisting or responding to "...any MPD calls for backup in non-violent incidents..." This resolution was passed at the beginning of the COVID19 pandemic and, due to cancellations of public events, the initial impact was minimal.

In 2019, prior to the COVID19 pandemic, the MPRB relied on supplemental assistance from City of Minneapolis police officers for 2,207 hours (38% of total) of special event security coverage.

Presently, the COVID19 pandemic has subsided to a point where the MPRB can again host large public special events. Current Park Police Department staffing levels do not support the necessary amount of special event coverage at pre-pandemic levels.

The Minnesota State Patrol, University of Minnesota Police Department, Metro Transit Police Department, and Hennepin County Sheriff's Office have all declined to assist with supplemental coverage for MPRB special events. Without supplemental assistance, the number of special events would need to be reduced.

As nearly all park events occur within the City of Minneapolis, on-going coordination and cooperation with the Minneapolis Police Department is necessary for the interest of public safety.

Resolution 2020-232 also restricts MPRB police officers from responding to certain "non-violent" incidents within the City of Minneapolis. This restriction could, for example, prevent a MPRB



police officer from rendering aid to an injured driver on a nearby city street. All police officers have professional and ethical obligations to assist with emergencies and act in the face of crime.

## **PREVIOUS BOARD ACTIONS**

June 3, 2020                      Resolution 2020-232: Resolution Directing the Superintendent of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to Make Certain Changes Pertaining to Policing Within Minneapolis Parkland, Including Ceasing the Use of Minneapolis Police to Staff Park-Sanctioned Events, and Ceasing Park Police Response to Minneapolis Police Department Calls.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the Board of Commissioners repeal Resolution 2020-232.

This action is supported by the following goals and strategies in Parks for All, the MPRB Comprehensive Plan 2021-2036.

### **Goal:**

Goal 3: Provide Core Services with Care.

Goal 4: Work from Our Strengths and Determine Our Role in Partnerships.

### **Strategy:**

(03) Ensure events remain safe in a densifying city and in the face of violence.

(12) Increase park staff, safety, programming, operations and design capacity to meet increased demands of park system expansion, including new park acquisition, development, new facilities, increased programs, increased events and to support the implementation of the comprehensive plan.

(11) Continue to enhance partnerships for emergency operations, climate disaster resiliency planning, and reinforce staffing and partnership standards that consider safety and maintenance needs before, during and after emergencies.

## **Attachments:**

1. Attachment A – Resolution 2020-232