

**ORDINANCE NO. 2025-O-10**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER IV OF AN  
ORDINANCE REGULATING THE USE OF THE  
PARKS AND PROPERTY OWNED OR CONTROLLED BY  
THE WILMETTE PARK DISTRICT  
("CONDUCT ORDINANCE")**

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**Adopted December 8, 2025**

**(Published by Authority of the Board of Park Commissioners  
of the Wilmette Park District on December 8, 2025)**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER IV OF AN  
ORDINANCE REGULATING THE USE OF PARKS AND PROPERTY  
OWNED OR CONTROLLED BY THE WILMETTE PARK DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, the Wilmette Park District ("Park District") is an Illinois park district and unit of local government organized under and operating pursuant to the laws of the State of Illinois, including but not limited to the Park District Code, 70 ILCS 1205/1-1 *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, Section 8-1(d) of the Park District Code authorizes the Park District's Board of Park Commissioners ("Park Board") to "establish by ordinance all needful rules and regulations for the government and protection of parks, boulevards and driveways and other property under its jurisdiction, and to effect the objects for which such districts are formed" (70 ILCS 1205/8-1(d)); and

WHEREAS, on November 9, 2009, the Park Board adopted Ordinance No. 2009-O-9, "An Ordinance Regulating the Use of the Parks and Property Owned or Controlled by the Wilmette Park District," and have amended same from time to time ("Conduct Ordinance"); and

WHEREAS, Chapter IV of the Conduct Ordinance, entitled "Park Hours, Closing, and General Operation Policies," establishes certain rules regarding access to and use of Park District property and facilities, and otherwise regulates the public's use of the Park District's property and facilities at certain times and under certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, it is the stated mission of the Park District to enrich the quality of community life by promoting wellbeing, providing exceptional parks and facilities, and offering creative programming for people of all ages and abilities; and

WHEREAS, as part of this stated mission, the Park District stands against racism, hate, discrimination, prejudice and intolerance, and is committed to providing a safe, equitable and inclusive environment where all are welcome and treated with dignity and respect; and

WHEREAS, the Park Board is committed to respecting and ensuring the safety, dignity, and civil and human rights of all residents and members of the general public, regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, immigration status, or national origin; and

WHEREAS, in September 2025, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement launched "Operation Midway Blitz" and deployed federal agents into Chicago and the surrounding suburbs, including the Village of Wilmette; and

WHEREAS, since the inception of Operation Midway Blitz, federal agents have increased the frequency and severity of civil immigration enforcement in and around the Chicagoland area, and, according to news reports and court documents, have utilized publicly owned parking lots, vacant lots, and garages in other communities as staging or operational sites for civil immigration enforcement operations; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the United States Supreme Court jurisprudence, civil immigration enforcement operations are a federal function, and states and their political subdivisions need not participate or assist in such enforcement, but also may not interfere or obstruct federal agents conducting civil immigration enforcement operations; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with established Federal and State law, the unauthorized use of Park District property, including but not limited to its parks, facilities, and parking lots, to facilitate civil immigration enforcement actions interferes with the Park Board's statutory authority to manage and control the Park District's property, resources, and personnel, and is inconsistent with the Park District's mission, values, and goals; and

WHEREAS, the Park Board has determined that it will serve and be in the best interests of its residents and the general public to amend Chapter IV of the Conduct Ordinance in order to clarify the Park District's policies with respect to the use of Park District property by federal agents in connection with civil immigration enforcement operations and activities in order to properly serve and protect the public interest, and to ensure compliance with applicable Federal and State laws and regulations.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE WILMETTE PARK DISTRICT, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, as follows:**

**SECTION ONE: INCORPORATION OF RECITALS.** The foregoing recitals are incorporated in and made a part of this Ordinance as the findings of the Park Board.

**SECTION TWO: PARK HOURS, CLOSING, AND GENERAL OPERATION POLICIES.** Chapter IV of the Conduct Ordinance, entitled "Park Hours, Closing, and General Operation Policies" is hereby amended by adding a new Section 4.08 that states as follows:

**Section 4.08. Use of District Property for Civil Immigration Enforcement Activity.**

- (a) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary elsewhere in this Ordinance, no District Property (as that term is defined in Section 1.02.12) shall be used to conduct any federal civil immigration enforcement operations or activities. This prohibition extends to any persons employed by the United States of America who have the power or authority to arrest or detain individuals, including but not limited to employees of the Department of Homeland Security and employees of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (individually and collectively, a "Federal Agent").
- (b) For purposes of this Section 4.08, the prohibition on the use of District Property for Federal civil immigration enforcement operations or activities shall include, but is not limited to, use of such District Property as a staging area, a detention area, a processing location, an operations base, or to otherwise assemble, mobilize, or deploy vehicles,

equipment, material, or personnel for civil immigration enforcement operations or activities.

- (c) No person, including a Federal Agent, shall enter any restricted or private area of any District Property.
- (d) No vehicles may stop, stand, or park in or on any portion of District Property that is not otherwise designed as a lawful parking spot. No vehicles may be used, even when otherwise lawfully parked, for any other purpose than for parking. This shall include, but is not limited to, use by a Federal Agent for civil immigration enforcement operations or activities, including as a processing location or as a detention area.
- (e) No person, including a Federal Agent, shall erect any permanent or temporary structure or place materials or equipment on any District Property.
- (f) Nothing in this Section 4.08 shall restrict any person, including a Federal Agent, from using District Property for its intended purpose as authorized by the Park District. Nor shall anything in this Section 4.08 be construed as restricting or interfering with the execution of lawful judicial warrants or the enforcement of criminal law, nor as limiting the rights of any person or entity under Federal or State law.

**SECTION THREE: PUBLICATION.** The Park District's Secretary is hereby directed to publish this Ordinance in pamphlet form pursuant to the Statutes of the State of Illinois.

**SECTION FOUR: EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication in the manner provided by law.

Approved this 8<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2025 by roll call vote as follows:

Ayes: Duffy, Adrianopoli, Goebel, Clarke, Murdock, Frazier, Lahay

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Published in Pamphlet Form: December 8, 2025.

  
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President, Board of Park Commissioners  
Wilmette Park District

State of Illinois        )  
                                  )       ss.  
County of Cook         )

**SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE**

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I am Secretary of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Wilmette Park District, Cook County, Illinois, and as such official, I am keeper of the records, ordinances, files and seal of said Park District.

I further certify that the foregoing is a full, true and complete copy of Ordinance No. 2025-O-10 titled,

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adopted at a duly called Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Wilmette Park District, held in Wilmette, Illinois, in said District at 7:30 p.m. on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2025.

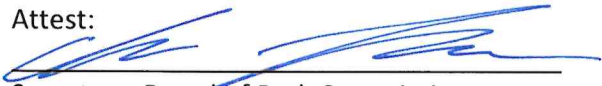
I do further certify that the deliberations of the Board on the adoption of said ordinance were conducted openly, that the vote on the adoption of said ordinance was taken openly, that said meeting was held at a specified time and place convenient to the public, that notice of said meeting was duly given to all of the news media requesting such notice, that an agenda for said meeting was posted at the location at which said meeting was held and at the principal office of the Board at least 48 hours in advance of the holding of said meeting, that said meeting was called and held in strict compliance with the provisions of the Open Meetings Act of the State of Illinois, as amended, and with the provisions of the Park District Code of the State of Illinois, as amended, and that the Board has complied with all of the provisions of said Act and said Code and with all of the procedural rules of the Board.

In witness whereof, I hereunto affix my official signature and the seal of said Wilmette Park District, Illinois, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2025.

  
Secretary, Board of Park Commissioners  
Wilmette Park District



Attest:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several fluid, connected strokes, positioned above a horizontal line.

Secretary, Board of Park Commissioners  
Wilmette Park District