ORDINANCE NO. 2010-20

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF VENICE FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 46, PARKS AND RECREATION; ARTICLE III, CONDUCT IN PARKS, SECTION 46-61, PENALTY; ADDING SECTION 46-68, SMOKING PROHIBITED ON BEACHES; PROVIDING FOR A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, city beaches attract people and families who travel from near and far to enjoy the coastal environment, breathe the fresh air, jog, play or relax on the sand or in the water, and engage in other healthy recreational or fitness-related activities; and

WHEREAS, the litter caused by those who improperly dispose of cigar and cigarette butts or other tobacco products in public beach parks or on public beaches is difficult to remove, can lead to severe burns and/or ingestion hazards to patrons and wildlife, can significantly detract from a healthy environment and reduce the enjoyment of the city's beaches for those individuals and families who want to enjoy a healthy environment free of smoking related pollution and hazards; and

WHEREAS, for a number of years, city staff and volunteer groups performing coastal cleanups have reported that cigar and cigarette butts constitute one of the largest categories of litter collected from these areas; and

WHEREAS, City Council wishes to promote and enhance a healthy environment at its public beach parks and public beaches for the safe enjoyment of individuals and families by prohibiting smoking in public beach parks and on public beaches except in areas specifically designated and suitably equipped for smoking.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VENICE, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. Chapter 46, Parks and Recreation, Article III, Conduct in Parks, Section 46-61, General Penalty, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 46-61. Penalty.

- (a) Any person who violates any provision of this article, with the exception of section 46-68, shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished as provided in section 1-14.
- (b) Any person who violates section 46-68 is subject to a civil fine in the amount of \$97.00 plus any additional costs imposed by state or local law, including court costs that may be imposed as provided by law.
- **SECTION 2**. Chapter 46, Parks and Recreation, Article III, Conduct in Parks, Section 46-68, Cigarettes, cigars and tobacco products prohibited; enforcement, remedies and penalties, is amended to add the following:

Sec. 46-68. Cigarettes, cigars and tobacco products prohibited; enforcement, remedies and penalties.

(a) The use of cigarettes, cigars or any tobacco product is prohibited at any public beach or public beach park within the city limits, excluding leasehold properties and designated smoking

areas as identified in section 3 of this ordinance. For purposes of this section, Beach means that sandy or rocky area seaward of the erosion control line or mean high-water line and all area seaward of a gulf front property owner's property line or mean high-water line. Public beach means any beach within the corporate limits of the city located on property owned by the city. Public Beach Park means any parkland contiguous to a public beach or separated by a roadway from a public beach, including parking areas, piers, docks, jetties, boat ramps, or similar structures associated with the public beach park.

(b) City police officers and any other law enforcement officer authorized to enforce city ordinances shall have the duty and authority to enforce this section by the issuance of a citation to the alleged violator in substantially the following form:

<u>CIVIL VIOLATION</u> <u>CITY OF VENICE, FLORIDA</u>
TO NAME:
ADDRESS:
DATE/TIME OF CITATION/ISSUANCE
(Month) (Day)
(Year) (Time)
LOCATION:
CODE NO. OR SECTION VIOLATED:
CODE NO. OR SECTION VIOLATED.
PENALTY/FINE AMOUNT:
DESCRIPTION OF VIOLATION:
POLICE OFFICER:

The fine imposed by this citation may be paid in person at, or mailed to, the City of Venice, City Hall, 401 West Venice Avenue, Venice, Florida 34285, within 30 days from the date of the citation. Payment must be made by cash, money order or certified check. Your failure to either pay the fine or to contest the citation within 30 days from the date of the citation shall constitute an admission by you of the violation and shall entitle the city to the entry of a judgment against you in the amount of the fine, attorney fees, court costs and any other fees and charges allowed by law.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this section for enforcement or penalties, the city may also enforce this article by actions at law or in equity for damages and injunctive relief, and, in the event the city prevails in any such action, the city shall be entitled to an award of its costs and reasonable attorneys' fees.

SECTION 3. The designated smoking area for Chauncy Howard Park shall be between the park entrance and the no smoking sign. The designated smoking areas for the following shall be the parking lots as depicted on the maps attached and incorporated herein as Exhibit "A."

- 1. Venice Public Beach Park
- 2. Brohard Public Beach Park
- 3. Service Club Park
- 4. Maxine Barritt Park
- 5. Paw Park
- 6. South Brohard Park

SECTION 4. Severability. If for any reason a provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person, group of persons, or circumstances is held invalid, the invalidity shall not effect other provisions or applications of the Ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of the Ordinance are severable.

SECTION 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption, as required by law.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VENICE, FLORIDA, THIS 9TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2010.

First Reading: October 26, 2010

Final Reading and Adoption: November 9, 2010

Ed Martin, Mayor

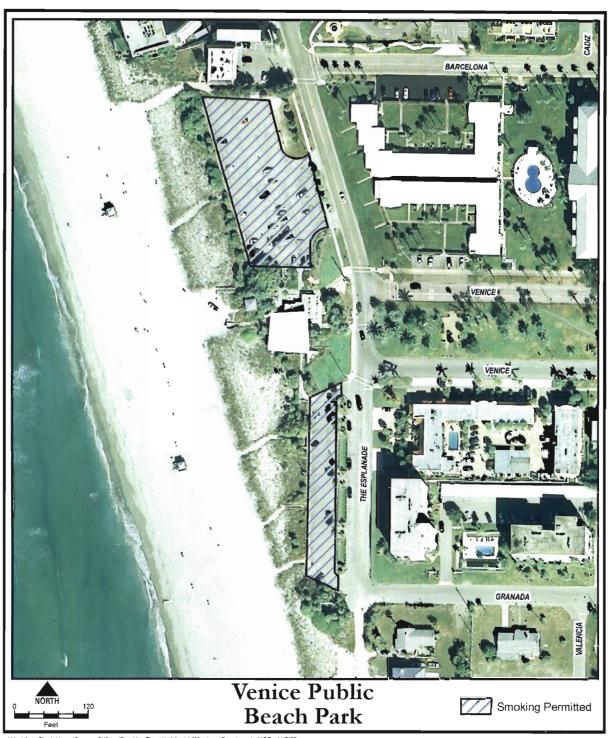
ATTEST:

I, LORI STELZER, MMC, City Clerk of the City of Venice, Florida, a municipal corporation in Sarasota County, Florida, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full and complete, true and correct copy of an Ordinance duly adopted by the Venice City Council, at a meeting thereof duly convened and held on the 9th day of November 2010, a quorum being present.

WITNESS my hand and the official seal of said City this 10th day of November 2010.

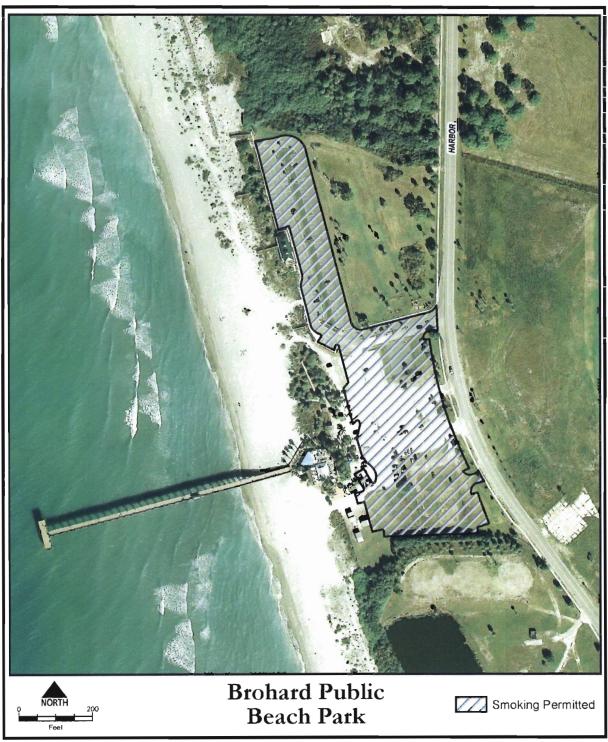
APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney



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EXHIBIT "A" (1 OF 6)



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EXHIBIT "A" (2 OF 6)

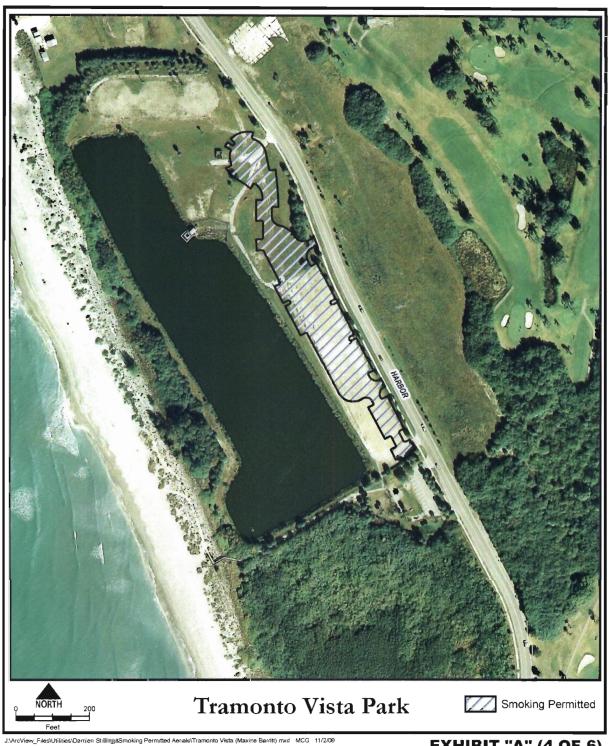


EXHIBIT "A" (4 OF 6)



EXHIBIT "A" (5 OF 6)

