USE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN COUNTY PARKS

Policy:

The Board of Supervisors finds and declares that the consumption of alcoholic beverages has become pervasive in society in general. Scientific findings have made us increasingly aware of the possible deleterious effects of the habitual or excessive use of alcoholic beverages, especially on our youth.

County parks are operated primarily to respond to the cultural, educational, aesthetic and recreation needs and interests of the citizens of Riverside County. While the sale, possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages is not prohibited in County park facilities, it is necessary that these activities be monitored and controlled, particularly where youth are involved.

As part of the continuing review of County park policies to keep them consistent with park and recreation trends, public needs and societal health and well-being, the following policy is promulgated.

1. The consumption of alcoholic beverages by individuals or groups in County park facilities is permitted, however

   a. No unauthorized sale of alcoholic beverages is allowed in park facility.

   b. Park users must not conduct themselves in such a manner so as to disturb the public peace or to materially disrupt the quiet enjoyment of such park unit, facility, open space area or nearby properties by any other person who is lawfully present, and

   c. Participants must not operate a motor vehicle in the park unit or upon leaving the park unit while under the influence of any intoxicating beverage.

2. The endorsement, advertisement, sale, gift, or consumption of alcoholic beverages is not authorized at fundraisers or similar charitable events conducted in County park facilities where the primary participants and/or beneficiaries are youth.

3. Insurance is required for concessionaire-promoted special events and for charity or other fundraising events in County park facilities if alcoholic beverages will be sold and/or consumed at these activities.

Reference:
Minute Order 3.25 of 09/01/92
Minute Order 3.4 of 12/18/07