

**CITY COMMISSION
CITY OF WALKER
KENT COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

ORDINANCE NO. 11-598

AN ORDINANCE TO ADD SECTION **94-171-A PUBLIC / SEMI-PUBLIC** AS A NEW ZONING DISTRICT IN CHAPTER 94 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF WALKER.

THE CITY OF WALKER ORDAINS:

Section 1. Addition of Section 94-171-A Public / Semi-Public Zoning District

That the Code of Ordinances, City of Walker, Michigan, is hereby amended by adding Section 94-171-A Public / Semi-Public Zoning District, which such Section shall read as follows:

Sec. 94-171 - A. "P - SP" district, Public – Semi-Public.

- (a) *Design and Intent.* The Public – Semi-Public zoning district is intended to apply to lands designated in the Master Plan as “Park / Open” or “Public / Semi-Public”. The district is designed to accommodate governmental, public utility, educational, community service and recreational facilities. Such uses are somewhat unique in that their proximity to sensitive land uses is not generally detrimental to quality of life and in many cases is desirable and convenient. The district is intended to provide space and facilities needed to complement residential and business areas.
- (b) *Principal uses.* Except as otherwise expressly permitted by this chapter, no building in a "P - SP" district, Public – Semi-Public shall be used, erected, altered, or converted or land used, in whole or in part, except for one or more of the following principal uses, subject to site plan review by the planning commission, consistent with the standards of Article X of the Walker Zoning Ordinance:
- 1) Essential Services.
 - 2) Public and charter schools.
 - 3) Public community centers.
 - 4) Public libraries.
 - 5) Publically-owned parking lots.
 - 6) Government offices, public works facilities, fire stations, police stations and court facilities.
 - 7) Mineral mining, as defined in section 94-5. Mineral mining does not include mineral processing and material storage as defined in section 94-5.
 - 8) Outdoor public recreational uses, such as playgrounds, playfields, golf courses, boating areas, swimming areas, fishing sites, camping sites, trails and parks.

- 9) Health and fitness centers owned by a government agency.
 - 10) Cultural facilities, including but not limited to theaters, museums and centers for the arts.
 - 11) Conservation lands, wildlife sanctuaries, forest preserves.
 - 12) Developed open space, such as arboreta and botanical gardens.
- (c) *Permitted accessory uses to principal uses.* The following are permitted accessory uses to the principal uses in a "P - SP" district, Public – Semi-Public :
- 1) Any use customarily incidental to any and all of the foregoing uses may be erected and used as accessory to the principal use.
 - 2) Outdoor festivals, fairs, carnivals, craft shows, athletic tournaments and events, concerts, farmer's markets, auto shows and other similar uses, as determined by the zoning board of appeals, subject to a temporary use permit administered per Section 94-522 of the Walker Zoning Ordinance, except that signage shall be regulated per the standards of this Section. Events proposed in city parks shall be consistent with the standards of Chapter 54 Parks and Recreation in the City of Walker Code of Ordinances.
- (d) *Special exception uses permitted after review and approval by the planning commission.* The following uses of land and structures may be permitted as special exception uses within the "P - SP" district, Public – Semi-Public if approved by the planning commission as provided by this Section and by Article IX of the Walker Zoning Ordinance:
- 1) Cemeteries, crematories and mausoleums, subject to the following requirements:
 - a. Cemeteries, crematories, mausoleums and related structures shall be developed under a unified plan.
 - b. Cemetery, crematory and mausoleum structures shall be located at least 250 feet from a residential district.
 - c. A greenbelt shall be installed between a cemetery, crematory or mausoleum and any adjacent residential zone district, either contiguous or across a street, as provided by Section 94-344 of the Walker Zoning Ordinance.
 - 2) Stables open to the public.
 - 3) Semipublic recreation facilities which provide large open space areas, such as Girl Scout camps, Boy Scout camps, church camps, picnic areas, and athletic grounds.
 - 4) Blandford Nature Center
 - 5) New wireless telecommunication towers and antenna, per the standards of Section 94-355 of the Walker Zoning Ordinance.

(e) *Building setback and height requirements.* The building setback and height requirements of the “P” district, Public shall be as follows:

- (1) Front building setback equal to 35 feet.
- (2) Rear building setback equal to 30 feet.
- (3) Side building setback equal to 30 feet on each side.
- (4) Maximum building height not to exceed 35 feet.

(f) *Signage.* Requirements for permanent and temporary signs in the "P - SP" district, Public – Semi-Public shall be as follows:

- 1) All signs shall follow the administrative, measurement, placement and appearance standards found in Section 94-406.
- 2) All permanent signs shall follow the standards of Section 94-410 Signs in Mixed Use and Commercial Districts, except that freestanding / pylon signs shall not be allowed.

All temporary signs shall follow the standards of Section 94-412 (1) Commercial Special Event Signs.

Section 2. **Severability.** The various parts, sections, and clauses of this Ordinance are declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section, or clause is determined invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the Ordinance shall not be thereby affected.

Section 3. **Effective Date.** This Ordinance will become effective upon the expiration of seven days after publication of a notice of ordinance adoption in a newspaper of general circulation within the City of Walker.

First reading: June 27, 2011

Second reading: July 11, 2011

Effective date: July 26, 2011