

ORDINANCE NO. 2024- 4

CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY, INDIANA

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 96 REGARDING PARKS
FOR THE CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY, INDIANA

WHEREAS, Columbia City Code §96.04 applies to the regulation of the Blue River Trail in the City of Columbia City, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, within §96.04 there are certain prohibitions against the operation of motorized vehicles on the Blue River Trail; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to amend its current rules and regulations pertaining to motorized vehicles on the Blue River Trail to provide for safer travel across US 30 and for the safety and welfare of its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Common Council of the City of Columbia City in Whitley, Indiana, that Chapter 96 of the City of Columbia City's Code of Ordinances regarding parks be amended as follows:

1. Section 96.04 is amended in its entirety to read as follows:

(A) Definitions. For the purpose of this Chapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning:

Blue River Trail. The Blue River Trail is that certain pedestrian and non-motorized vehicle walkway (including the area of any rights-of-way or easements in connection therewith) constructed by the city on and along the Blue River between South Main Street to the baseball complex located at Morsches Park, all within the corporate boundaries of the city, and including any extensions thereto.

Handicapped Individuals. A handicapped individual means any person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, including, but not limited to, the functions such as caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning and working.

(B) Prohibition against motorized vehicles. Unless an exception applies as set forth herein, the Blue River Trail shall be utilized as a pedestrian and non-motorized vehicle walkway, and no person shall drive or operate any automobile, truck, motorcycle, mini-bike, go-cart, or any other motor-driven vehicle on the Blue River Trail.

(C) Exceptions to prohibition against motorized vehicles.

(C)(1). Self-propelled or powered wheelchairs may be operated on the Blue River Trail by persons who are handicapped individuals.

(C)(2). Employees of the City of Columbia City may use motorized vehicles on the Blue River Trail for patrolling, inspecting, maintaining, and/or improving the Blue River Trail.

(C)(3). Golf carts, as defined in Columbia City Code §73.35, and as such code section may be amended, may be used on the Blue River Trail only between the SDI bridge at Morsches Park and

Countryside Drive.

(D) Prohibition against certain animals. Only leashed dogs or cats are allowed with their handlers on the Blue River Trail. No person shall ride or otherwise allow on the Blue River Trail any horse, pony, mule, donkey or any other animal not a dog or cat.

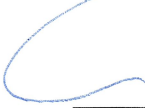
(E) No person shall carry, transport, possess, or consume any alcoholic beverage on the Blue River Trail.

2. If any section, sentence or provision of this Ordinance, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall be declared invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any of the other sections, sentences, provisions, or applications of this ordinance in which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are declared to be severable.

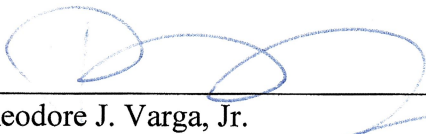
3. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect after its adoption by the Common Council and approval by the Mayor of the City of Columbia City, Indiana.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Columbia City in Whitley County, State of Indiana, this 9th day of April, 2024.


**COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
COLUMBIA CITY, INDIANA, BY:**



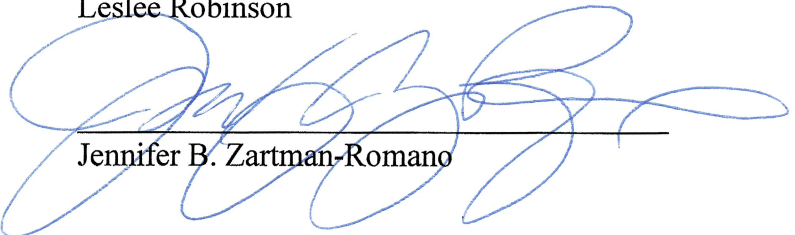
Daniel Weigold



Theodore J. Varga, Jr.




Leslee Robinson



Jennifer B. Zartman-Romano


Jennifer Middleton

ATTEST:



Rosie Coyle, Clerk-Treasurer
City of Columbia City, Indiana

APPROVED AND SIGNED BY:



Ryan Daniel, Mayor
Dated: 4-9-2024