

Chapter 7 of CPD Code - Public Comments on Proposed Amendments

#	Proposed Code Amendment	Created Date	First Name	Last Name	Comments	Submitted Attachments w/ Comments
1	Chapter VII Amendment	9/14/2022	Danny	Cozzi	Any measure that centers the residents of the neighborhood(s)/ward(s) in which a public park is located is a good move. I would like to see additional language regarding the approval process of events larger than 10,000 that includes or suggests a democratic process involving residents of the relevant neighborhood(s)/ward(s) directly. What incentive is there for a Chicago mayor and city council to ensure future-appointed commissioners will be held to account for the desires and needs of city residents? The current board members are certainly esteemed in their experience and qualifications, but if we are to amend the park district code to prevent future issues with large events like Riot Fest disrupting residents' lives (for private profit that does not benefit Douglass Park), why would residents themselves not have a direct say in whether such events are approved in the first place? This is an opportunity to empower civilians who are otherwise ignored until they are forced to engage in mass-organized civic action for their government to do the bare minimum to act in the best interest of its PEOPLE. Not well-connected professionals, private companies, or other organizations seeking profit and/or prestige at the expense of city residents. It is a mistake to not seize an opportunity to advance social equity in Chicago when one presents itself so plainly.	
2	Chapter VII Amendment	9/14/2022	Rubi	Conchas	I am in support of this amendment to the Code of the Chicago Park District to require that any permit application for an event or activity with 10,000 or more attendees per day must receive provisional approval from the Board of Commissioners	
3	Chapter VII Amendment	9/14/2022	Rodrigo	Pantoja	It seems like the parks aren't for the community anymore with all these events	
4	Chapter VII Amendment	9/15/2022	Sandra	Castillo	I support requiring the Board of Commissioners to approve permits for events of large attendees like the commercial festivals that have destroyed Douglass Park, excluded community residents, caused the disruption of regular park activities, disrupted the transportation of critically ill patients to neighborhood hospitals, disrupted the peace of recovering hospital patients. My concern with Section C.3.c. is that the ceiling of 10,000 is too high and should be lowered. A for profit festival with 5,000 daily attendance can be as disruptive and cause the above problems as a festival of 10,000. The goal is to honor the right of the Douglass Park community to make use of this beautiful park to the greatest extent possible.	
5	Chapter VII Amendment	9/16/2022	Rachel	Muir	remove riot fest from douglass park! it is unethical and destructive to have hoards come into an already economically and politically harmed neighborhood such as lawn. please move the fest to grant park, a horner park, lincoln park, just anywhere besides the south and west sides where little of the benefits are seen and most of the harm.	
6	Chapter VII Amendment	9/17/2022	Shannon	Kephart	I am writing in hopes this amendment will increase community input into large events in neighborhood parks. I would like to specifically make a complaint against large festivals in Douglass Park. I live on the 1800 block of S. Troy and am unable to be in my house for hours on end without the house vibrating due to the sound systems from Riot Fest and other festivals. I have a small baby at home who is unable to sleep regular hours. For the large festivals like Summer Smash, Riot fest, and now Heatwave, the park is not accessible for approximately 3 weeks (2 weeks for set up and 1 week to take down, if they stay on schedule). This is a total of 8-9 weeks with very limited access to the park which amounts to about half the summer. If my child cannot sleep, I can only imagine what people who are sick in the hospitals that border the park must be going through and the doctors who are trying to provide care during this time. There is no consent given by the people in the neighborhood for large festivals. There are no other neighborhood parks which house 3 large festivals during one season! Festivals of this size should choose a venue better suited to their capacity and noise disruptions. I did not move to this neighborhood to be forced to live as though I live downtown. The only explanation for this is an already disenfranchised neighborhood being taken advantage of. I hope this amendment will help ensure that events in the neighborhood parks are for the benefit of the neighborhood residents, and not large corporations.	
7	Chapter VII Amendment	9/19/2022	Edgar	Gonzalez Jr.	Submitted a letter - see attached	Yes, letter attached
8	Chapter VII Amendment	9/19/2022	Adam	Cantando	All fests should be at grant park	
9	Chapter VII Amendment	9/19/2022	Jorge	Angel	Yo. Estoy. A favor que. Se. Apruebe la. Enmienda al. Capítulo VII Para. Los. Permiso. Del. Los. Festivales Y. No. Sólo. La. Junta. Del. Distrito de. Parques Si. No. También los. Residente que. Viven. A. Los. Lados. Del. Park Somos. Los que. Sufrimos Por El Ruido de la. Música. Y porque. Nos quitan. El. Park Douglas  I am in favor of what I know. Approve the Amendment to Chapter VII for the permission of the festivals and no only the Council Of District Of Parks yes. Also the Resident who live to the sides of the Park, we are the ones that suffer from the noise of the Music. And because they take us away from Douglas Park.	
10	Chapter VII Amendment	9/22/2022	Susan	Mullen	The proposed amendments have no provisions for the public to voice concerns about the granting or denial of permits. It does not in any way give the communities affected by large events in their community parks a say in whether or not the permits will be granted or denied. This is not a genuine effort on the part of the Chicago Park District to give communities a say in the privatization of our parks. It seems this is nothing but smoke and mirrors.	

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11	Chapter VII Amendment	9/26/2022	John	Slivka	I'm a music lover and go to Lollapalooza, Riotfest and Pitchfork on an annual basis. I think the music fests are good for the city. That said, I do understand residents issues with excessive use of individual parks. Riotfest has been getting a lot of negative press, I think unfairly. They were the first fest to use Douglass Park. I know they added two additional ones. Maybe exclude the other fest from Douglass Park. I think a dedicated music fest location near Soldier Field could be something to consider. I don't support the NASCAR event, primarily because it is not the right time to have an event like that while we are dealing with all of the reckless driving, drag racing and other issues dealing with the reckless car and motorcycle drivers.	
12	Chapter VII Amendment	9/26/2022	A Anne	Holcomb	I hope that this ammendment would also apply to any proposed PGA Golf tournaments. Furthermore, I hope that public outrage against such events would persuade the CPD board not to permit them, despite any political pressure from the Mayor's Office, the University of Chicago or from a former US President. We do not want the Tiger Woods Golf Course in Jackson and South Shore Parks!	
13	Chapter VII Amendment	9/26/2022	Barbara	Greenman	I'm in agreement with the proposed approval by city council of permits for special events that would host more 10,000 people per day. However I only see that as a beginning step as I would like to see city council permits for events that are smaller than 10,000 people. The best idea is to have a dedicated festival space where no harm can come to the parks and wildlife. The fact that there is so little legal protections for parks and lakefront is appalling. The city council needs to consider adding laws of protection for our green space and lakefront. I am outraged that the mayor and Chicago Park District have been making so many harmful decisions on their own without feedback from residents of the city. It really has been an ugly continuation of the infamous Chicago Machine.	
14	Chapter VII Amendment	9/26/2022	Anne	Ladky	I support the proposed amendment to Chapter VII of the Code, which I believe will provide much-needed oversight and community input about large public events in our parks. Until and unless Chicago creates a festival site, these events should be decided on with public input and full consideration of the impact on neighborhoods.	
15	Chapter VII Amendment	9/26/2022	Rena	Henderson Mason	I would like to see greater transparency about the awarding of permits, regardless of size. We don't understand nor have we been given a good reason why so many large, all-day events (200-500 people) with amplified music are given permits for our small park (Lake Meadows Park) in a residential area. We would like to see a searchable database of all event permits issued throughout the CPD system, which includes the organizer, nature of the event, number of people and fees paid. Too often, event organizers knowingly list their events as much smaller than what they actually plan for them to be to get into better parks, avoid paying fees and saddling the Park District with additional costs. This has a major impact on the noise, traffic, trash, security and overall quality of life in our communities.	
16	Chapter VII Amendment	9/27/2022	Renee	Patten	Proposed rule is good and we should be considering holding large events at the Solider Field/Northerly Island site.	
17	Chapter VII Amendment	9/28/2022	James	Rice	Good amendment. I hope it passes.	
18	Chapter VII Amendment	10/2/2022	Laurel	Ahlenius	Hi. Frankly, I am concerned about the untold impact these planned "events" take a toll on the natural beauty and natural wildlife in Chicago. The actual devastation of noise, litter, complete disregard for the green space of shrubs, trees, and natural settings. This puts the precious resource of migrating and resident birds in great peril. I have seen the utter disregard for the protection of Montrose Bird Sanctuary in the past years. I have also seen the positive response with the Piping Plovers. But, also, I have seen the City of Chicago keep taking land away from the parks for "various entities and building programs" taking away the precious little space that migrating birds depend on. More needs to be done to protect what is left of the precious resource. Many people like to come to Chicago to bird for migration. Like Lalapalooza, yes, the park district can replace grass and trees, and pick up litter, but can it bring back the migratory, breeding, nesting birds these events so rudely disrupt and eventually destroy? Sadly, the answer is no. More needs to be done to protect the parks from any large events, and protect and patrol the important bird areas along the lakefront. Bird watching can be a great source of income to Chicago. Besides, the carbon footprints left behind are minimal. Please do more to restrict event group sizes, select locations away from birding hotspots, and protect our diminishing resource. If people are willing to pay thousands to go on birding tours, why not improve and protect and encourage the visiting birds here, and bring more tours to Chicago?	
19	Chapter VII Amendment	10/2/2022	Rhetta	Jack	Large concerts and events should be moved away from the beaches or edge of Lake Michigan. Many birds, bats and insects use this corridor for migration in the Spring and in the Autumn and Fall. This is a very special place for those species. Considering that now 60 percent of birds are at risk of extinction. They should take priority over selfish behavior from humans. Most shores of the world have been developed for no real reason. Time to reverse the trend.	
20	Chapter VII Amendment	10/3/2022	Suzanne	Reed	As a resident of Chicago and user of the parks, particularly those along the lakefront, I would like to see large events such as Lalapalooza, held in a dedicated event venue. If Soldier Field is an option, public transportation provided. Grant Park, Millennium Park etc are best suited to full public access with smaller, short term events (ie the Chicago marathon) that do not close off the parks or cause as much physical damage to the parks. Realizing that large events such as Lalpalooza are revenue generators for the city I would think other solutions to this process could be developed which ensure the sustainability of our signature downtown public parks.	

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21	Chapter VII Amendment	10/3/2022	Debra	Hammond	I think this changed is intended to protect parks and reserve/preserve them for the community in which they dwell. If so, there must be a better formula than 10k people attending. What about a ratio of park area and maximum attendees to an event? Then small parks would have equitable protection, not just Grant Park or Lincoln Park. Some formula that provides social/economic/just equity and protection across all Chicago parks would be a better formula. Thanks.	
22	Chapter VII Amendment	10/4/2022	Susan	Avila	The preservation of our public land, parks included require a transparent, independent and community driven process. The proposed changes do not meet that criteria. The approval process left with the Chicago Park District is not an independent one. The request for usage of the CPD land is often tied to promise of funds to the District. I would refer you to the Chicago Sun Times opinion in the 10/4 print edition by Ed Bachrach and Austin Berg. The City needs to establish a concession commission with clear guidelines protecting public and community interest adhering to a transparent process. Here is the link <a href="https://chicago.suntimes.com/2022/10/2/23380687/chicago-public-property-private-concessions-reform-ed-bachrach-austin-berg-op-ed">https://chicago.suntimes.com/2022/10/2/23380687/chicago-public-property-private-concessions-reform-ed-bachrach-austin-berg-op-ed</a>	
23	Chapter VII Amendment	10/7/2022	Karen	Gibson	It's high time to designate a single, permanent place to hold venues for large crowds such as Milwaukee's Henry Maier Festival Park. Initially, Chicagoans were told that was the main purpose for the redevelopment at Northerly Island. Stop disrupting our communities and our precious nature for monetary gain!	
24	Chapter VII Amendment	10/8/2022	Brenda	Nelms	<p>On behalf of Jackson Park Watch and as an individual resident of Chicago, I write to support the proposed amendments to the Park District Code that would require that any permit application for an event or activity with 10,000 or more attendees per day receive approval from the Park District Board of Commissioners and that would specify that the Board's decision is final and not reviewable by the General Superintendent.</p> <p>We believe that this is a positive step toward accountable management for the Park District and a step back from monetizing public park space as its first priority as has been the case in the past. We believe parks should be preserved and available as respites for the general public and not viewed as rental space for events controlled by private, for-profit corporations.</p> <p>To strengthen and clarify the proposed amendments, we would like to suggest two additional specifications:</p> <p>1) The text should also specify that Board approval is required for an event/activity with 10,000 or more attendees per day that is proposed for any park property, regardless of the classification of that particular site within the CPD system. There should be no loopholes or special exceptions.</p> <p>2) In addition to the number of daily attendees, a second key criteria for assessing any large event permit request should be the length of time that the event would make the park space inaccessible by regular park users. For instance, the time for setup before and for repairing the damage after Lollapalooza render major portions of Grant Park unusable for six or more weeks during the prime season for park use. Similarly, the PGA golf tournaments unrealistically envisioned for the proposed Tiger Woods golf course in Jackson Park and South Shore Park would close the course to regular public players for at least three weeks, again in the middle of an already short season. Such displacements and infringements on the use of public parks by the general public should not be acceptable.</p>	
25	Chapter VII Amendment	10/21/2022	Nora	Walsh	If there is a scheduled in person meeting, Lakeshore Athletic Services, Inc. would like to attend. Thank you	
26	Chapter VII Amendment	10/23/2022	Janet	Pellegrini	<p>I support this proposed amendment to Chapter VII, Section C of the Code of the Chicago Park District, with the following caveats:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Please ensure that the public has more advanced notice than the 45-day period cited in the proposed language. As these issues are usually complicated and take time to research, period of 90 days would be more appropriate.</li> <li>2. Lower the trigger for public notice, meaning any event with 1,000 or more participants should require advanced public comment period.</li> <li>3. Include environmental/ wildlife impact review of these events, especially when they are centered at established parks and sanctuaries meant for wildlife (i.e. Montrose Point Bird Sanctuary, LaBagh Woods, etc)</li> <li>4. Prohibit the use of music in the parks for these events. These parks are here for peace &amp; relaxation, they are not public nightclubs with blaring music.</li> <li>5. Consider the following: Chicago should form a standing independent concession commission that reports to the City Council and has authority over the concessions of all city agencies: the parks, the airports, the schools and other sister governments.</li> </ol> <p>Commission members should take into account the public interest. The commission should publish its proceedings, findings and decisions. Then, an informed City Council can take the time to deliberate on the concession.</p> <p>In other big cities like New York and Los Angeles, concessions are governed by the city charter. Chicago has no such charter, and this is perhaps the biggest shortcoming to effective government here. Short of adopting a charter, the council should form a concession commission.</p>	
27	Chapter VII Amendment	10/25/2022	Rebecca	Wolfram	If I understand it, the change is that the Commissioners of the Board of the Chicago Park District will now give "provisional approval" to large events in the parks. There is nothing in this amendment requiring that the community be empowered to approve or disapprove large events in the parks. Therefore this is not a real change in the process, as the voice of the people who need and use the parks is still not heard.	

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28	Chapter VII Amendment	10/26/2022	Connie	Smith	<p>I support this proposed amendment to Chapter VII, Section C of the Code of the Chicago Park District, with the following caveats:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Please ensure that the public has more advanced notice than the 45-day period cited in the proposed language. As these issues are usually complicated and take time to research, a period of 90 days would be more appropriate.</li> <li>2. Lower the trigger for public notice, meaning any event with 1,000 or more participants should require advanced public comment period.</li> <li>3. Include environmental/ wildlife impact review of these events, especially when they are centered at established parks and sanctuaries meant for wildlife (i.e. Montrose Point Bird Sanctuary, LaBagh Woods, etc)</li> <li>4. Prohibit the use of music in the parks for these events. These parks are here for peace &amp; relaxation, they are not public nightclubs with blaring music.</li> <li>5. Open and maintain bathrooms for people who use the park all year long. There a very few portable stations, add more year-round.</li> <li>6. Consider the following: Chicago should form a standing independent concession commission that reports to the City Council and has authority over the concessions of all city agencies: the parks, the airports, the schools and other sister governments.</li> </ol> <p>Commission members should take into account the public interest. The commission should publish its proceedings, findings and decisions. Then, an informed City Council can take the time to deliberate on the concession.</p> <p>In other big cities like New York and Los Angeles, concessions are governed by the city charter. Chicago has no such charter, and this is perhaps the biggest shortcoming to effective government here. Short of adopting a charter, the council should form a concession commission.</p>	
29	Chapter VII Amendment	10/27/2022	Tim	Smith	See Attached Comments	Yes, comments attached
30	Chapter VII Amendment	10/27/2022	Greg	Hipp	<p>Board Members,</p> <p>Events on public land should be required to demonstrate a public benefit. As well, I fully support ensuring events execute an effective community engagement strategy. Events should be required to execute specific community engagement processes that ensure they engage the community, provide community voice, address community concerns, demonstrate community benefit, and provide proper community notification. I encourage the Park District to review and establish increased best practice standards for community engagement in a collaborative effort with community stakeholders, Park Advisory Councils, respected event organizers, and Park District staff.</p> <p>I do not support adding an additional layer to the permit process where the Board would directly take part in permit approvals. The Board should focus their attention to strategic matters of the Park District, not day to day tasks such as permit approvals.</p> <p>However, the Board can play a critical role in oversight of the permit process and events by addressing, reviewing, and making decisions on events that specifically become a public concern. When events have a negative outcome to the public, do not operate in the public's interest, routinely are a public concern, and or have a history of damaging the parks; the Board should address these bad actors. Then requiring these events to address concerns in writing, or directly to the Board. In these cases, the Board could require changes, or revoke future permit opportunities for events and organizers who are not acting in the best interest of the community or Park District.</p> <p>In short, I recommend the Board not become routinely involved in the permit approval process. However, I recommend the Board play an oversight role in reviewing events of concerns, requiring changes or revoking future permits where necessary.</p> <p>Greg Hipp Sr. Director of Operations Chicago Event Management Bank of America Chicago Marathon Bank of America Shamrock Shuffle Bank of America Chicago 13.1 BTN 10K/5K</p>	

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31	Chapter VII Amendment	10/28/2022	Michelle	Carr	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to Chapter VII, Section C of the Code of the Chicago Park District.</p> <p>Since 2015, The Nature Conservancy in Illinois has worked in partnership with the Chicago Park District and local communities to support the stewardship of natural areas in parks throughout the city of Chicago. With the District and many partners, we have especially focused on improving community connections with natural areas in South and West Side parks, such as Garfield Park, Washington Park, and Ping Tom Park. Community leaders have campaigned for years to maintain access to parks and to keep these natural areas intact for the benefit of both people and nature.</p> <p>Based on this experience, The Nature Conservancy encourages the Board of the Chicago Park District to support proposed changes giving the Board oversight of permits for large events, with the goal of bringing community voices into the decision-making process for events that could have a significant impact on park natural areas and other access. Events that influence the use of such vital spaces need direct input from affected communities and consistent transparency in decision-making, beginning in the earliest phases of the planning process.</p> <p>The Nature Conservancy is committed to maintaining, expanding and conserving nature in Chicago Parks for sustaining healthy, resilient communities. We are called to take particular care when it comes to equitable access to green space. Chicago's parks and natural areas are spaces that foster connection between people and nature. We encourage the Chicago Park District to support community members who maintain and utilize our parks, which are critical to our health and well-being.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration of our request. A formal letter is attached.</p> <p>Sincerely, Michelle Carr</p>	Yes, Letter attached
32	Chapter VII Amendment	10/28/2022	Clare	McDermott	<p>Bike the Drive has been successfully operating for 21 years and this event has become a part of the fabric of the City. It is produced by the Active Transportation Alliance, a non-profit that advocates for better walking, transit and biking. We thank the Chicago Park District, City of Chicago and City agencies for their partnership over the years. As a non-profit that values community, we've refined the event based on public comment over the years and it has remained a beloved event. Also, Bike the Drive always happens in the early morning as to minimize impacts on auto traffic. Most importantly, one of the comments we consistently hear from downtown residents is they love how quiet the neighborhood becomes when bikes are the only sound on Lake Shore Drive – "you can hear the waves crashing and birds chirping," a sentiment that's also shared by our riders. It's a true testament to how life improves when we prioritize health and wellness in our community. In general, our event promotes healthy use of our parks and shared spaces. We draw people into park district spaces through healthier ways of getting around - walking, biking, and transit - which improves quality of life for residents and park users alike.</p> <p>Events that occur on public land should provide a community benefit. Furthermore, there should be a standardized practice that allows for community voices to be heard, address concerns, demonstrate public benefit and ensure proper notifications are broadcast.</p> <p>We have concerns about the proposed amendment – the Board should continue to focus on strategic level issues – not day-to-day permitting. We already jump through many hoops in our permitting process and we already have a robust Community Engagement plan.</p> <p>However, the Board can play a critical role in oversight of the permit process and events by addressing, reviewing, and making decisions on events that specifically become a public concern. When events have a negative outcome to the public, do not operate in the public's interest, routinely are a public concern, and or have a history of damaging the parks; the Board should address these bad actors. Then requiring these events to address concerns in writing, or directly to the Board. In these cases, the Board could require changes, or revoke future permit opportunities for events and organizers who are not acting in the best interest of the community or Park District.</p> <p>This new amendment seems excessive however the Board should be involved once it's become clear that an event is disruptive and negatively impacts the community – the Board should have the ability to weigh in on these events and revoke permits, if necessary.</p> <p>Thank you, Clare McDermott Managing Director of Events &amp; Marketing Active Transportation Alliance</p>	
33	Chapter VII Amendment	10/28/2022	Juanita	Irizarry	Letter attached	Yes, letter attached

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34	Chapter VII Amendment	10/28/2022	Betsy	Godwin	<p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>I support this proposed amendment to Chapter VII, Section C of the Code of the Chicago Park District, with the following caveats:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Please ensure that the public has more advanced notice than the 45-day period cited in the proposed language. As these issues are usually complicated and take time to research, a period of 90 days would be more appropriate.</li> <li>2. Lower the trigger for public notice, meaning any event with 1,000 or more participants should require advanced public comment period.</li> <li>3. Include environmental/ wildlife impact review of these events, especially when they are centered at established parks and sanctuaries meant for wildlife (i.e. Montrose Point Bird Sanctuary, LaBagh Woods, etc)</li> <li>4. Prohibit the use of music in the parks for these events. These parks are here for peace &amp; relaxation, they are not public nightclubs with blaring music.</li> <li>5. Consider the following:</li> </ol> <p>Chicago should form a standing independent concession commission that reports to the City Council and has authority over the concessions of all city agencies: the parks, the airports, the schools and other sister governments.</p> <p>Commission members should take into account the public interest. The commission should publish its proceedings, findings and decisions. Then, an informed City Council can take the time to deliberate on the concession.</p> <p>In other big cities like New York and Los Angeles, concessions are governed by the city charter. Chicago has no such charter, and this is perhaps the biggest shortcoming to effective government here. Short of adopting a charter, the council should form a concession commission.</p> <p>Thank you, Sincerely Betsy Godwin</p>	
35	Chapter VII Amendment	10/29/2022	Michael	Neri	Are holidays excluded from the seven (7) business days?	
36	Chapter VII Amendment	10/30/2022	Elizabeth	Elsaesser	I am in favor of new protections for our parks and more regulations for large events (10,000 and up). I hope the Board of Commissioners takes into account the waste and pollution produced by very large crowds and the vehicles and generators needed to support these events. Diesel engines should not be allowed amid so many people. Trees may need to be replaced after an event in addition to sod. All events, large and small, should have a recycling and garbage reduction plan.	
37	Chapter VII Amendment	10/30/2022	Jane	Hagstrom	I strongly support changes to the park code that put the focus on the people who use the parks as part of a healthy lifestyle. I would support an increase in my property taxes if it increased people's ability to access experiences good for their mental and physical health - especially if it did so for those who are least able to leave their own neighborhoods. I support the involvement of local Park Councils in advising on all scheduled park activities that will be run by an outside entity. There are many possible solutions that don't require use of park space for those who need massive commercially-run festivals to make them happy.	
38	Chapter VII Amendment	10/30/2022	Shirley	Fastner	The parks belong to us, not private enterprise that prevents us from any access for up to a month, like tge dreaded lollapalooza. It is just wrong. We have a short summer..everything must stop for these private events. Even grant park symphony is pushed out, etc please leave our parks for us...not out of towners. Tgey are not paying taxes	
39	Chapter VII Amendment	10/30/2022	Christine	Perri	Megafests should stay out of Chicago parks, especially those that have had to host two or more fests, like Douglass Park. The public should have access to the parks every day, not essentially barred from the parks for many days in good weather.	
40	Chapter VII Amendment	10/30/2022	Marie	Keefe	As a Chicago resident, I feel that the Chicago Parks are for the residents. I wrote to the Chicago Park District this past summer and received NO response. I wrote in response to a Chicago Tonight episode that interviewed a Friend of Chicago Parks. She was concerned about how Lollapaloosa is really not a "good thing" for Grant Park.I was horrified when she told of the environmental destruction of the Grant Park by the vendors and audience. I also listened to a resident of a park, (I think it was Washington Park) that is used most of the summer for concerts. The residents can't use their park. He also said that businesses don't benefit from the concerts because most people leave when the concert is over because it's not so safe in that neighborhood. So my point is, I don't think that 10,000 people in ANY of our Chicago parks should be allowed. We have beautiful park that were planned years ago in the Plan for Chicago. It was NOT planned for wild concerts, NasCar Racing, etc. I went to Roosevelt University and I would look out the window and see Grant Park and Lake Michigan. It was and still is a beautiful sight to see. The park district of Chicago should be there to PROTECT our parks. The Chicago Park District should not allow our parks to be taken over by outside producers that don't really care about Chicago and our parks. Please protect our beautiful park.	
41	Chapter VII Amendment	10/30/2022	Avis	Henkin	I would also support the dedicated use of a facility, for example, Soldier Field, for the use of large festivals, so the parks can remain open to the citizens of the city.	

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42	Chapter VII Amendment	10/30/2022	John Paul	Jones	Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important matter. I recall when the Obama election celebration was being planned. I suggested using Marquette Park in the Chicago Lawn community as the celebration site. How wrong I would have been if the site was selected, considering that the numbers were far more anyone can forecast. Site selection and public safety protocols goes hand in hand. Municipal authorities and their collection of experts should determine these large crowd decisions, not private promotion teams. It is both wise and prudent for the Chicago Park District Board to centralize decision making related to large crowd site selection approval. Also, the park board may need to consider adding special taxing districts, similar to the Metropolitan Exposition and Pier Authority in these new large crowd sections. It is reasonable to predetermine some neighborhood sites following careful planning Emergency Management and Homeland Security units. How these new site may come on line and emergency preparedness would be warranted, would be a helpful exercise to pursue. Again, the Park District Board should approve special use applications. Thank you for this opportunity to share.	
43	Chapter VII Amendment	10/30/2022	IRENA	SROMEK	I agree with having an additional approval process fir large events that involves community input.	
44	Chapter VII Amendment	10/30/2022	Anthony	Ramirez	I support this and suggest that the Park District should operate in venues that don't inhibit neighbors' everyday use of public parks and don't strain infrastructure that was not intended to support the needs of mega-events. The City and the Chicago Park District ought to use this moment to pursue the idea of a dedicated festival space like the one in Milwaukee. A great space that is under used, and has enough empty space that wouldn't cause problems for the surrounding area is the Lakeside South Works space of the former US Steel mill. It stretches from 79th street to 92nd on the lakefront and has more than enough space, that it would be great for multiple large festivals. Its has proved itself as a good space for a fest with the Dave Matthews Caravan that was held there in 2011. As a resident of the local community, I would love to see a return of fests to the space.	
45	Chapter VII Amendment	10/30/2022	Michele	Dreczynski	I would like to suggest provisional approval should be for events where 2500 or more people are present. 10000 is too large a threshold.	
46	Chapter VII Amendment	10/30/2022	Norma Claire	Moruzzi	Please DO pass this amendment that would require permit approval for any event or activity with 10,000 or more expected attendees per day! As a Chicago resident, I value and use the public parks on a regular basis. Enormous events in local parks disrupt local community use. This disruption includes not only the period of the actual event, but the extended time needed for preparation and clean up. In addition, large events with 10,000 or more attendees often cause damage to aspects of the parks, particularly plants and natural aspects. The damage cannot be cleaned up in a matter of days, but last through growing cycles and often for the entire rest of the season. Local communities need to be consulted and involved in the decision to hold such large events in the parks. Too often, these kinds of large events have disregarded local users and access. Passing the proposed amendment would ensure community involvement and more transparency in the decision making process, leading to a better outcome for everyone. Please pass the proposed amendment!	
47	Chapter VII Amendment	10/30/2022	Daniella	Pereira	While I support the proposed change the Chicago Park District Code, I hope to see more steps taken in the future to address the burden community residents feel regarding when large swaths of public parks are rented out, and too often. I ask the Chicago Park District to prioritize resident and general public use of park spaces over high-priced revenue-generating activities AND to consider how to bring benefits to the community beyond revenue generation for the park district at large.	
48	Chapter VII Amendment	10/30/2022	Robin	mcperson	I am a member of the pottawattommie park advisory council and I would like to say that I agree that community stakeholders have the rights to have a say so 100% on what benefits the community stakeholders and what do not and what is in the park itself best interest Sincerely Robin Mcpherson	
49	Chapter VII Amendment	10/30/2022	Kurt Maria P.	Gippert Cabrera	See Attached Comments	Yes, comments attached
50	Chapter VII Amendment	10/31/2022	Debra	Hass	I support the proposed amendments. Community voice and area resident access to neighborhood parks should take priority in decision making.	
51	Chapter VII Amendment	10/31/2022	Unete La Villita		We are attaching a statement from our organization, Únete La Villita. Thank you for your consideration.	Yes, letter attached
52	Chapter VII Amendment	10/31/2022	Nora	Walsh	Please see the attached commentary for the Chicago Park District Board of Commissioners. Thank you for considering our comments.	Yes, letter attached