Introduced September 8, 2026, by Councilman Fadely, seconded by Council Members DiSanti and Jones

Item No. 26-09-3667

ORDINANCE NO. 4309

An ordinance amending and restating the Code of Ordinances of the City of Slidell, Chapter 19, Sec. 19-2 with respect to the City's sports assistance program.

WHEREAS, the City of Slidell recognizes the essential role of youth recreational programs in fostering physical health, teamwork, respect for others, safe environments, and community engagement for young city residents, all of which are substantial public benefits; and

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 14 of the Louisiana Constitution provides that, "[f]or a public purpose, the state and its political subdivisions . . . may engage in cooperative endeavors with each other . . . or with any public or private association, corporation, or individual; and

WHEREAS, the City has, for decades, partnered with local youth recreational sports organizations, including by way of offering financial support and no cost public facility use, in order to secure the public benefits set forth above, these partnerships serving a public purpose the City is authorized to pursue; and

WHEREAS, through these partnerships, the City has a reasonable expectation of receiving an equal or greater benefit than the benefit it conveys, the City's obligations not being wholly gratuitous; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to strengthen and better define the parameters of these partnerships for the public good, the City wishes to amend and restate its codal

provisions governing financial and facility support for youth recreational sports organizations.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Slidell City Council, in legal session convened, that Chapter 19-2 of the City's Code of Ordinances is amended and restated to read as follows:

Section 19-2. – Sports assistance program.

(a) Youth recreational sports organizations seeking city financial assistance and/or no cost city facility use assistance for sports activities must meet the following minimum eligibility requirements before the city may authorize such assistance:

(1) Be organized as a non-profit entity authorized and in good standing to do business in the State of Louisiana;

(2) Allow participation in its sports activities for all age-eligible city residents meeting the requirements of its sporting organization;

(3) Have been in continuous existence serving city youth for at least three years immediately preceding the city assistance;

(4) Hold an active, valid 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status with the Internal Revenue Service, with no tax-exempt revocations occurring within the preceding three years;

(5) Require and maintain updated criminal background checks on all board members, employees, staff, and volunteers 18 years of age or older who work with children;

(6) Not allow any person under 18 years of age to supervise or instruct youth participants without the direct presence of a screened adult;

(7) Prohibit any person convicted of, or who has plead guilty or nolo contendere to, any crime of violence (as defined in La. R.S. 14:2) or any sex-related offense from working with or supervising children in the organization;

(8) Require all board members, employees, staff, and volunteers 18 years of age or older who work with children to complete abuse detection and prevention training through SafeSport or an equivalent national governing body-recognized program;

(9) Comply with the concussion training requirements required by Louisiana law; and

(10) Not discriminate in its employment practices or in the provision of its services in violation of applicable law.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, recreational sports assistance, when authorized by the city, is granted on a city fiscal year or partial fiscal year basis. Organizations meeting the minimum eligibility requirements for city assistance and wishing to apply for such assistance must do so on or before the last day of February of the city fiscal year preceding the city fiscal year or partial fiscal year for which assistance is sought. Application shall be made by completion and submission of application forms provided by the city, including all requested supporting information, to include, at a minimum:

(1) Current organization operating budget and proposed operating budget (for upcoming year);

(2) An income statement covering the organization's last full fiscal year and an income statement covering its current fiscal year;

(3) Operating account bank statements covering the organization's most recent 12 months of operation; and

(4) Copy of the organization's most recently filed IRS Form 990/990-EZ/990-N

(c) Upon administrative review and confirmation of the completeness of an application form, the organization shall appear at a council meeting designated by the council in March or April of the city fiscal year immediately preceding the city fiscal year or partial fiscal year for which assistance is sought. A minimum of two authorized representatives of the organization, preferably board members, shall attend the council meeting to present and answer questions on the organization's request for assistance.

(d) Any approved assistance for recreational sports organizations shall be upon the recommendation of the council and approval of the administration. The agreement shall be evidenced through the execution of a written cooperative endeavor

agreement between the city and the sports organization setting forth the obligations and expectations of the parties, in a form and under terms approved by the administration. Meeting minimum eligibility requirements is not a guarantee of assistance, nor shall this section obligate the council or the administration to recommend or approve any agreement or expend any funds.

(e) In evaluating requests for assistance, the council and administration shall consider factors required for evaluation of cooperative endeavor agreements and may consider other factors including, but not limited to:

(1) The organization's length of service in the community;

(2) The organization's ownership of or access to other adequate facilities to provide its recreational sports services;

(3) The organization's stewardship of its funds;

(4) The number of young people the organization serves;

(5) The reputation of the organization in the community;

(6) Whether any other organization provides similar recreational sports services for city youth; and

(7) Whether any requested facility use may interfere with other required use of the facility.

(f) Any approved financial assistance shall be on a reimbursement basis. Unless otherwise approved by the council and the administration, financial assistance may only be applied toward capital improvements, maintenance costs, or essential equipment upgrades. In no event shall financial assistance be used for salaries, stipends, or travel expenses.

(g) The city may waive any missed deadline provided for herein by consent of the administration and affirmative vote of a majority of the authorized membership of the council.

(h) Notwithstanding anything in this section to the contrary, the council may authorize a lease or use agreement of city assets for a period longer than a year for sports-related purposes.

This ordinance shall be effective January 1, 2027, and shall apply to requests for assistance for city fiscal years 2027/2028 and thereafter.

ADOPTED this 22nd day of September, 2026.

Leslie Denham
Vice President of the Council
Councilwoman at-Large

Randy Fandal
Mayor

Thomas P. Reeves
Council Administrator

DELIVERED 9/24/26
8:30 am to the Mayor
RECEIVED 9/25/26
8:15 am from the Mayor

Sec. 19-1. Recreation fees.

All fees established for the use of city recreational facilities shall be established by the mayor.
(Code 1966, § 12¼-1)

Sec. 19-2. Sports assistance program.

(a) The city may appropriate for the use and benefit of the various city sports organizations a sum not to exceed $10,000.00, per organization, each year under the conditions listed as follows:

(1) The organization must be devoted to providing recreational programs and facilities for the use of city residents;

(2) The organization must have been in continuous existence for at least three years;

(3) The organization must satisfy the city that it is in need of financial assistance;

(4) The use of facilities by city residents has caused its need for improvement and repair;

(5) The organization must ensure and guarantee the city that any financial assistance received will be used for capital improvements or maintenance and for the reimbursement of maintenance and capital improvements only.

(b) Organizations meeting the requirements of this program and desirous of participating may request this funding by application to be provided by and submitted to the city's director of finance.
(Code 1966, § 12¼-2; Ord. No. 2957, 8-22-00)

Sec. 19-3. Use of jogger's trail in Possum Hollow Park.

All motorized vehicles are hereby banned from utilizing the jogger's path at Possum Hollow Park. The city shall post signs to this effect. Bicycle riders shall yield to joggers in such park, and the city shall erect signs to this effect.
(Code 1966, § 12¼-4)

Sec. 19-4. Unauthorized vehicles in park facilities.

(a) All unauthorized motor vehicles are hereby banned from operating within the confines of any city park facility.

(b) The prohibition in subsection (a) of this section shall not apply to authorized parking areas, roads and authorized drives and rights-of-way.
(Code 1966, § 12¼-5)

Sec. 19-5. Declaration of Sam Bosco Municipal Park.

The city pays a special honor and tribute to one of its most respected citizens in officially naming the park commonly referred to as Effie and Rosa Park the "Sam Bosco Municipal Park" in his honor.
(Code 1966, § 12¼-6)

Sec. 19-6. Overnight parking.

There shall be no overnight parking and/or camping in any city park. The provisions of this section shall not apply to bona fide civic, church or school groups who have made application to and received permission from the director of parks and recreation of the city for the utilization of city park grounds for recreational camping purposes.
(Code 1966, § 12¼-7)

Sec. 19-7. Sale of alcoholic beverages.

No person or organization may sell alcohol in any city park without first obtaining a permit to do so in accordance with section 4-23 of this Code. Whenever alcohol is to be present in any city park, the user shall hire, for duty during the entire event, a police department officer, and shall notify the department of administration of the officer's name not less than 72 hours prior to the event. If an organization fails to comply with this section, the event shall be cancelled. If no police department officer is available to attend the event, an officer from the St. Tammany Sheriff's Office shall be hired.
(Code 1966, § 12¼-8; Ord. No. 3087, 9-24-2002)

Cross reference—Alcoholic beverages, ch. 4.