

**Subject:** SASYNA Support for Parks Commission Resolution on Limiting Grass Parking

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**To:** LaVonne LaFave <llafave@ci.madison.wi.us>

**CC:** Superintendent Jim Morgan <jmorgan@ci.madison.wi.us>, SASY Council <sasy-council@yahoogroups.com>

Madison Parks Commission  
c/o LaVonne LaFave

The Schenk / Atwood / Starkweather / Yahara Neighborhood Association strongly urges the Madison Parks Commission to approve the resolution it will consider on February 25th limiting parking on grass in city parks unless negotiated with the Parks Department for a special event. As noted by Park's Department staff, existing surface parking capacity for Lake Monona already exceeds DNR guidelines under NR 1.91 by more than 5 times. There is no need for the shoreline, especially the grassy areas, to be used for parking. As demand for boating increases in Dane County, the Parks Commission should remember that improved access to the city lakes does not always require a boat launch. A shoreline and lake, uncluttered by parking lots and motorized boats and jet skis, still provides many benefits to city residents. It is unfortunate that a large portion of the Olbrich Park shoreline in our neighborhood is already paved for boat parking, when adequate parking already exists near Starkweather Creek, Olbrich Gardens and the Walter Street softball fields. Long term plans should include removal of the 35 trailer-only stalls along the shoreline and their return to useable grassy, park space.

Dan Melton, Chair  
SASY Neighborhood Association

Steven Klafka, Vice Chair  
SASY Neighborhood Association