

From: **Dawn Damori**

Date: Wed, Aug 4, 2021 at 3:41 PM

Subject: Stark Public Boat Ramp

Dear City Manager,

I would like to express my concerns about possible adjustments being considered regarding use and access to the Stark Public Boat Ramp.

I do not support shortening the hours of access. The ramp should remain open, as it currently does, until 9 pm. Closure at an earlier time, especially in the summer months, basically eliminates the ability to go kayaking or paddle boarding after work, despite there being adequate remaining daylight to do so safely.

Next, the closed gate gives the feeling that visitors are not welcome. If I didn't live nearby and know better, with the gate closed and current signage in place, I would feel intimidated to enter and make use of this public space. Of course parental supervision is necessary at the ramp and surrounding park, but the gate being open does not increase the risk of an accident involving children. It impedes access to the water, makes it difficult to haul equipment, and exudes a strong feeling that visitors are not welcome.

Lastly, regarding parking.... Can part of the current grass area of the park be turned into parking for river access? I recognize that Dogwood Drive gets busy, so further restricting parking of visitors and residents on this street will only make the situation worse. Not to mention, it makes it much more difficult to haul equipment to the river.

I would like to see current hours of operation maintained, current street parking access maintained and the gate removed or held open during hours of operation.

Thank you,  
Dawn Damori