
ORDINANCE NO. 2026-03

**CITY OF INDEPENDENCE
COUNTY OF HENNEPIN
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING INDEPENDENCE CITY CODE REGARDING
REGULATION OF LAKE INDEPENDENCE SURFACE USE**

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE DOES ORDAIN:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. The Independence City Code Chapter IX - Public Safety, Section 915.19 Slow no-wake zone on Lake Independence, is hereby amended by adding the underlined material and deleting the ~~stricken~~ material as follows:

Section 915.19. – Slow no-wake zone on Lake Independence.

Subd. 1. *Slow no-wake at high water level.* Whenever the waters of Lake Independence reach or exceed 958.2 feet above sea level for a period of three consecutive days or more, as measured by the water level gauge set by the Minnesota department of natural resources on Lake Independence, the city administrator-~~clerk~~ or designee, ~~upon notifying the Hennepin county sheriff,~~ shall establish a slow no-wake zone on those portions of the lake within Independence which are less than 600 feet from the shoreline. No person shall operate a watercraft, including aircraft except during landings and take-offs, in excess of a slow-no wake speed (five miles per hour) slow no-wake speed on the entire lake within the designated slow-no wake zone (600 feet) of any shoreline on Lake Independence when the high water slow no-wake restrictions are in effect. Both the implementation and removal of these restrictions must be done in coordination with action by the city of Medina.

Subd. 2. *Entire Lake Slow no-wake at extra high-water level.* Whenever the waters of Lake Independence reach or exceed 959.2 feet above sea level for a period of three consecutive days, as measured by the water level gauge set by the Minnesota department of natural resources on Lake Independence, the city administrator or designee, shall establish a slow no-wake zone on those portions of the lake within Independence. No person shall operate a watercraft, including aircraft except during landings and take-offs, in excess of slow no-wake speed on the entire lake when the extra-high water slow no-wake restrictions are in effect. Both the implementation and removal of these restrictions must be done in coordination with action by the city of Medina.

Subd. ~~2.3~~. *Effective date of no-wake regulation.* A slow no-wake restriction shall become effective upon the date specified by the city administrator-~~clerk~~ and shall remain in effect until the water level for the lake has receded below ~~958.2 feet above sea level~~ the relevant triggering elevation for at least three consecutive days.

915.21. Notification.

The ~~city administrator of City of Medina-clerk~~ shall notify the Hennepin County Sheriff, Three Rivers Park District, Lake Independence Citizens Association (LICA) and post or cause to be posted the ~~posting the~~ restriction at all public lake access points on Lake Independence ~~within the city~~ prior to and during the time the restriction is in place. ~~The city administrator of Independence shall~~ posting the restriction at the Independence ~~e~~City ~~h~~Hall, and by such other means as the city administrator-~~clerk~~ determines to be reasonable.

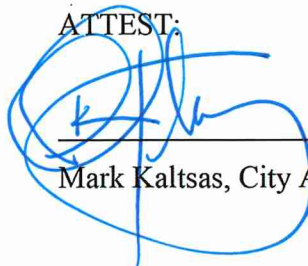
SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publications as required by law and following adoption of a similar ordinance by the City of Medina.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Independence this 7th day of April 2026



Brad Spencer, Mayor

ATTEST:



Mark Kaltsas, City Administrator

CITY OF MEDINA

ORDINANCE NO. 763

An Ordinance Amending Section 512 of the Code of Ordinances Regarding Surface Use of Lake Independence

The city council of the city of Medina ordains as follows:

SECTION I: Section 512 of the code of ordinances is amended by adding the underlined material and deleting the ~~stricken~~ material as follows:

Section 512.01. Authority to regulate water surface use. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, sections 459.20, 471.59 and 86B.205, Medina has entered into a joint powers agreement with the city of Independence for the purpose of regulating the surface use of the body of water known as Lake Independence. This ordinance shall be effective after adoption and publication of this ordinance and after adoption of a similar ordinance by Independence. This ordinance shall remain in effect until repealed or until the joint powers agreement is terminated.

Section 512.03. Definitions.

Subd. 1. The terms used in this ordinance related to boating, including “slow no-wake,” shall have the meanings given to them in Minnesota Statutes, section 86B.005.

Subd. 2. “Lake Independence” means that body of water located in section 24, township 118, range 24, Hennepin County, Minnesota and designated by the Minnesota department of natural resources as lake #27-176.

Section 512.05. Slow no-wake zone on Lake Independence.

Subd. 1. Slow no-wake at high water level. Whenever the waters of Lake Independence reach or exceed 958.2 feet above sea level for a period of three consecutive days, as measured by the water level gauge set by the Minnesota department of natural resources on Lake Independence, the city administrator or designee, upon notifying the Hennepin county sheriff, shall establish a slow no-wake zone on those portions of the lake within Medina which are less than 600 feet from the shoreline. No person shall operate a water craft, including aircraft except during landings and take-offs, in excess of slow no-wake speed ~~on the entire lake~~ within 600 feet of the shoreline when the high water slow no-wake restrictions are in effect. Both the implementation and removal of these restrictions must be done in coordination with action by the city of Independence.

Subd. 2. Entire Lake Slow No-Wake at Extreme Water Level. Whenever the waters of Lake Independence reach or exceed 959.2 feet above sea level for a period of three consecutive days, as measured by the water level gauge set by the Minnesota department of natural resources on Lake Independence, the city administrator or designee, upon notifying the Hennepin county sheriff, shall establish a slow no-wake zone on those portions of the lake within Medina. No person shall operate a water craft, including

aircraft except during landings and take-offs, in excess of slow no-wake speed on the entire lake when the extreme water level slow no-wake restrictions are in effect. Both the implementation and removal of these restrictions must be done in coordination with action by the city of Independence.

Subd. 3. Effective date of no-wake regulation. A slow no-wake restriction shall become effective upon the date specified by the city administrator and shall remain in effect until the water level for the lake has receded below ~~958.2 feet above sea level~~the relevant triggering elevation for at least three consecutive days.

Section 512.07 Subd. 4. Notification. The city administrator shall notify the public of both the implementation and removal of the no-wake restriction by publishing a notice in the city's official newspaper, posting the restriction at all public lake access points within the city prior to and during the time the restriction is in place, posting the restriction at city hall, and by such other means as the city administrator determines to be reasonable.

Section 512.09 Subd. 5. Exemption. Enforcement, resource management and emergency personnel, while in the performance of their official duties, are exempt from the provisions of this ordinance.

Section 512.4407. Penalties. Any person convicted of violating this ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject to a maximum fine or a maximum period of imprisonment, or both, as specified by Minnesota Statutes, section 609.03.

Section 512.4309. Enforcement. The Hennepin county sheriff's department and special deputies appointed and sworn by the sheriff have primary responsibility for enforcing the provisions of this ordinance, but nothing herein shall preclude other licensed peace officers from enforcing this ordinance.

SECTION II. The City Clerk is directed to publish this ordinance only following adoption of a similar ordinance by the City Council of the City of Independence and approval of the ordinance by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

SECTION III. This ordinance shall become effective upon its adoption, adoption of a similar ordinance by the City Council of Independence, approval by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and upon its subsequent publication.

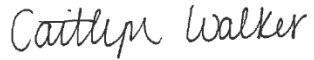
SECTION IV. Ordinance 757, adopted on January 20, 2026, is hereby rescinded, having never become effective pursuant to the terms of Section III of said Ordinance.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Medina this 7th day of April, 2026.



Todd Albers, Mayor

ATTEST:



Caitlyn Walker, City Clerk

Published in the Crow River News the ____ day of ____, 2026.