

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**AN ORDINANCE CREATING A DOWNTOWN STREET EVENT CLOSURE TASK FORCE AND WAIVING THE REQUIREMENTS OF CITY CODE SECTIONS 2-7-63 AND 2-7-64.**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

**PART 1. Findings.**

The city council finds that:

- (A) Foot races and walks benefit numerous local nonprofit organizations and the community as a whole.
- (B) These events help the City of Austin further its goals of being recognized as the fittest city in America by the year 2010.
- (C) Outdoor festivals and parades held on City streets also enhance the quality of life for Austin residents by providing opportunities for entertainment, commemoration, and celebration.
- (D) Many of these events take place within the City's downtown area, where the City aims to create a vibrant mix of uses including homes, offices, retail stores, parks and civic centers, entertainment districts, and houses of worship.
- (E) All users of the downtown area continue to search for efficient travel routes, parking, and street access that suit the needs of all.
- (F) Such access is key to the sustenance of all downtown enterprises.

**PART 2. Creation and Purpose.**

- (A) The Downtown Street Event Closure Task Force is created. The Task Force shall include stakeholders affected by events involving street closures in the downtown and near south Austin area, bounded by Lamar Boulevard on the west, Interstate Highway 35 on the east, Oltorf Street on the south, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard on the north.

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2 (B) The task force consists of at least 7 and not more than 13 members, to be  
3 appointed as follows:

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5 1. One member each to be nominated by the Mayor, the Mayor Pro Tem, and  
6 each Council Member, and confirmed by Council.  
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8 2. Council confirmation of additional persons nominated by Council Member  
9 Leffingwell, selected as representatives of the following groups:  
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11 - non-profit organizations that sponsor events requiring street closures;  
12 - organizers of foot races and walks;  
13 - houses of worship;  
14 - Downtown Austin Neighborhood Association;  
15 - Downtown Austin Alliance; and  
16 - Austin Convention and Visitors Bureau.

17 (C) The purpose of the Task Force is to:

- 18 1. review and recommend revisions to pertinent ordinances affecting street  
19 closures for events; and  
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21 2. recommend strategies for creating a mutually beneficial schedule for  
22 events requiring street closures, including alternate days for events;  
23 alternate routes for access to businesses and buildings; a possible limit on  
24 the number of events and/or days per year on which streets are closed; and  
25 preset routes for foot races/walks; and other changes which the Task Force  
26 recommends to create a plan for mutually beneficial street event closures  
27 which respect the needs of all stakeholders.

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29 (D) The task force shall report its findings back to Council within 120 days of  
30 appointment of representatives.

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32 (E) The City Manager shall provide staff support as necessary to assist the Task  
33 Force.  
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**PART 3.** The council waives the requirements of City Code Section 2-7-63 (*Prohibition on Conflict of Interest*) and 2-7-64 (*Disclosure of Conflict of Interest*) for the Downtown Street Event Closure Task Force.

**PART 4.** The Downtown Street Event Closure Task Force is subject to City Code Sections 2-1-43 (*Meeting Requirements*) and 2-1-44 (*Meeting Procedures*).

**PART 5.** This ordinance takes effect on \_\_\_\_\_, 2008.

**PASSED AND APPROVED**

\_\_\_\_\_, 2008      §  
   §  
   §  
   \_\_\_\_\_  
   Will Wynn  
   Mayor

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
                         David Allan Smith                           Shirley A. Gentry  
                         City Attorney                           City Clerk