



**TO:** Mayor and Council Members

**CC:** Marc A. Ott, City Manager  
Robert Goode, Assistant City Manager

**FROM:** Robert J. Spillar, P.E., Austin Transportation Director

**DATE:** July 21, 2009

**RE:** Council Item 92  
**Bat Fest, August 22, 2009**

The annual event called Bat Fest will be held on August 22, 2009 at the Ann Richards Memorial Bridge. The bat colony living under the bridge is a definite source of interest and wonder for our citizens and event participants, which is why the event promoter is requesting to use this bridge as opposed to other sites.

As the event permit request was submitted prior to the codification of the revised Street Event Ordinance, the promoter needed to obtain at least 80% approval from those businesses that front the closure in order for city staff to issue an event permit. In an overwhelming show of support, the promoter has received 100% approval from the businesses and affected neighborhood organizations impacted by the closure. A list of approvals is attached for your review.

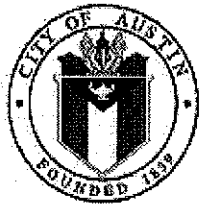
In the previous two years, a local business located on the south end of the bridge had voiced their concern about the potential loss of revenue due to the then two-day Bat Fest closure. As directed by Council last year to find resolution, a compromise was reached by moving the event to the South 1<sup>st</sup> Street Bridge in order to accommodate both the business and the event.

At the conclusion of the last years' event, Right of Way Management staff urged the promoter, French Smith IV, to immediately start discussions with the affected businesses for this year, if they intended on using the Ann Richards Memorial Bridge as their venue. The promoter was successful in reaching an agreement with the store owners, that this years' event would only be a one-day event and occur on a mutually agreed upon date (August 22<sup>nd</sup>).

With the outreach effort conducted by the promoter and with the 100% approval he received, city staff is not aware of any remaining issues that would result in hardship to an affected business or prevent the issuance of the Bat Fest permit. The promoter is adhering to the Special Event Taskforce recommendations and is planning on occupying only one of the two critical bridges (South First Street Bridge will remain open during the event). If you have additional questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Betty Torres, Acting Events Manager at (512) 974-2779.

RJS:bt

Encl.: 1 page



City of Austin  
Right of Way Management  
Austin Transportation Department  
One Texas Center  
505 Barton Springs Road

## Notification and Signoff Request List Received for the Bat Fest 2009

<u>Approved by:</u>	<u>Name of Business:</u>	<u>Address:</u>
1. Charlie McCabe	Austin Parks Foundation	816 Congress #880
2. Thomas Butler	Downtown Austin Alliance	211 E. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street #818
3. GeGe Cordeiro	Your Living Room	220 S. Congress Ave.
4. Carol Martin, VP	Martin Properties	315 S. Congress Ave.
5. Robert L. Tucker	Austin Amer. Statesman	305 S. Congress Ave.
6. Susan Kwasniak	Bat Conservation Int'l.	500 CapofTex Hwy Bld.#1
7. Shannon Shaddock	Capital Cruises	208 Barton Springs Rd.
8. Win Bent	Central Pres. Church	200 E. 8 <sup>th</sup> Street
9. Mike Ayoub	LAZ Parking	101 W. 6 <sup>th</sup> Street #515
10. Michael Knox	Downtown Commission	301 W. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Street
11. Darrell Tompkins	Four Season Hotel	98 San Jacinto
12. Lance Stumpf	208 Barton Springs Road	Hyatt Regency Austin
13. Bob Sargent	Palmer Events Center	900 Barton Springs Road
14. Tom Schurr	Radisson Hotel/Townlake	111 E. Cesar Chavez @ Congress
15. Paula Mayberry	Sherry Matthews Mktg.	200 S. Congress Avenue
16. Patty LeBlanc	Shoreline Grill	98 San Jacinto Blvd.
17. Ashley Biggerstaff	The Long Center	701 W. Riverside Drive
18. Gary Hyatt	Bouldin Creek Neigh. Assoc.	1804 Eva Street
19. Julie Glover	CB Richard Ellis	100 Congress Avenue, #455
20. Kenny Hilbig	Save Town Lake	1304 Alta Vista Avenue
21. Josh Allen	Sixth Street Austin	211 E. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street
22. Lisa High	One Congress Plaza	111 Congress Avenue