

**ORDINANCE NO.**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 14-8 RELATING TO NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTIES; AND CREATING A PENALTY.**

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

**PART 1.** City Code Section 14-8-1 (Definitions) is amended to add new definitions of “neighborhood block party” and “residential street” to read as follows.

NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY means an event that requires closure of a residential street and is open only to attendees from the immediate area.

RESIDENTIAL STREET means a street that abuts single-family homes but is not controlled with an automated traffic control device at either end of the block and does not have any bus stops operated by Capital Metro.

**PART 2.** Chapter 14-8 (*Temporary Closure of Right-of-Way for Special Events*) of the City Code is amended to add a new Article 5 (*Permits for Neighborhood Block Parties*) to read as follows:

**ARTICLE 5. PERMITS FOR NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTIES.**

**§ 14-8-51 PERMIT REQUIRED.**

A person may not temporarily close any portion of a residential street to conduct, start, participate, or assist in a neighborhood block party, unless the person obtains:

- (1) A permit required by this Article; and
- (2) Any other permit required by this Code.

**§ 14-8-52 APPLICATION REQUIRED.**

- (A) A person must submit a block party application for a neighborhood block party on a form approved by the director.
- (B) An applicant shall pay an application fee set by separate ordinance.
- (C) An applicant must submit proof to the director that occupants of property impacted agree to the block party.

1 (D) An application must be submitted at least 10 calendar days before a block  
2 party.

3 (E) The director shall approve a block party permit if the director determines  
4 that the application complies with this Article.

5 **§ 14-8-53 APPEAL OF A DENIAL OF APPLICATION.**

6 (A) If a block party application is denied, the applicant may appeal the denial to  
7 the director.

8  
9 (B) An appeal must be received by director no later than 10 business days after the  
10 applicant is notified that the application has been denied.

11  
12 (C) The director may uphold or reverse the denial of the application.

13  
14 **§ 14-8-54 BARRICADES**

15 An applicant shall use traffic control devices and barricades to close a street as  
16 required by the director and by the Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control  
17 Devices.

18 **§ 14-8-55 INSURANCE AND INDEMNIFICATION**

19 An applicant must execute a written agreement to indemnify the City and its  
20 officers and employees against all claims of injury or damage to persons or property,  
21 whether public or private, arising out of alleged willful or negligent acts or omissions  
22 of the applicant or agents of the applicant in connection with the neighborhood block  
23 party.

24 **§ 14-8-56 INTERSECTIONS.**

25 A neighborhood block party cannot include the closure of an intersection.

26 **§14-8-57 OFFENSE AND PENALTY.**

27 (A) A person commits an offense if the person violates the terms of the block  
28 party permit, closes a residential street without a block party permit, or  
29 violates any provisions of this Article.

30 (B) An offense under this section is a Class C misdemeanor punishable in  
31 accordance with Section 1-1-99 (*Offenses; General Penalty*). A culpable  
32 mental state is not necessary to commit an offense under this Article.

**PART 2.** This ordinance takes effect on \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

**PASSED AND APPROVED**

\_\_\_\_\_, 2014      § \_\_\_\_\_  
   § \_\_\_\_\_  
   § \_\_\_\_\_  
   Lee Leffingwell  
   Mayor

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
                         Karen M. Kennard  
                         City Attorney

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
                         Jannette S. Goodall  
                         City Clerk