

Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council Item ID 54344 Agenda Number 21.

Meeting Date: 2/4/2016 Department: Austin Police Department

Subject

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget Stabilization Reserve Fund Operating Budget (Ordinance No. 20150908-001) to transfer out \$1,100,000 to the General Fund; amending the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 General Fund Operating Budget (Ordinance No. 20150908-001) transferring in \$1,100,000 from the Budget Stabilization Reserve Fund; and appropriating \$1,500,000, which includes \$400,000 in estimated fees, to increase expenditures in the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Austin Police Department Operating Budget (Ordinance No. 20150908-001) for public safety support for the Spring Festival Season.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$1,100,000 is available from the FY 2015-2016 Budget Stabilization Reserve Fund. An additional \$400,000 in estimated revenue from event fees from South by Southwest is also included.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached detailing the transfer of funds from the Budget Stabilization Reserve Fund to the General Fund. Austin Police Department requirements are being increased to reflect their cost for service.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	November 19, 2015 – Council directed the City Manager to provide funding for public safety needs downtown and throughout the City during the 10 days in March defined in City Code Section 9-2-1(14) as the Spring Festival Season, which includes the South by Southwest music festival, conferences, and related events. December 10, 2015 – Council ratified the "Amendment to Agreement Between the City of Austin and the Austin Police Association" which established a framework for public safety needs during the spring festival season for future years December 17, 2015 – Council waived certain fees, payments, and requirements for the 2016 South by Southwest conferences and festivals.
For More Information:	Brian Manley, Assistant Chief / 974-5030; Ed Van Eenoo, Deputy Chief Financial Officer / 974-2638
Council Committee,	
Boards and	
Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

This budget amendment is the result of prior Council action regarding the Spring Festival Season, which includes the South by Southwest music festival, conferences, and related events. On December 17, 2015, Council approved a fee waiver for the 2016 South by Southwest (SXSW) conferences and festivals. This waiver did not include the waiver of any fees or costs associated with the Austin Police Department. A memo provided to Council on December 3, 2015 identified sources of funding available for consideration and advised that staff would return with a recommendation and budget amendment in January or early February. Based on financial information available, staff's recommendation is to utilize the Budget Stabilization Reserve Fund as one funding source for this action.

Additionally, estimated revenue from SXSW event fees of \$400,000 for public safety services is included. APD, in conjunction with the Austin Center for Events (ACE), is reviewing the SXSW 2016 request for public safety support for the Spring Festival Season to determine the fiscal impact of the area of requested coverage. Upon determination of the SXSW need and scope, the SXSW direct costs for the public safety support for this area will be billed to SXSW. The estimated revenue and expenditures will be reviewed after the event to determine the actual fiscal impact to the City and SXSW.

This action is generally consistent with the City's adopted Financial Policy No. 12, which limits the use of the Budget Stabilization Reserve Fund to providing financial stability during economic downtums and which authorizes the use of up to 1/3 of the Reserve for capital items or other one-time costs. While this action is not being taken at budget adoption, it is a use for a one-time cost. In FY 2017, these funds will be budgeted within the Austin Police Department Operating Budget. Any fiscal impact increases beyond FY 2017 are contingent upon future negotiations and contract agreements.