A U S T I N C I T Y C O U N C I L

AGENDA



# Recommendation for Council Action

**AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL**
**Regular Meeting : February 1, 2018** Item Number: **014**

---

**Management Services**

Approve third reading of an ordinance relating to special events and high capacity event venues, repealing and replacing City Code Chapter 14-8 relating to right-of-way closures for special events and neighborhood block parties, amending requirements for temporary food establishments during a special event, repealing City Code Section 14-6-3 relating to closures for a street festivity, amending City Code Chapter 9-2 relating to 24-hour live music and multi-day special event permits; and creating offenses and establishing penalties.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Lead Department** | Management Services - Special Events Office. |
| **Fiscal Note** | There is no anticipated fiscal impact. |
| **Prior Council Action** | Resolution 20120524-089; 10/24/2013 1st reading approved; 08/31/2017 2nd reading approved. |
| **Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action** | August 13, 2013 - Approved by the Urban Transportation Commission on a 6/0/0/1 vote with Commissioner Blocker absent. Recommendation 20130813-004B.<br>August 14, 2013 - Approved by the Zero Waste Advisory Commission on a 5/1/0/1 vote with Commissioner Kazi voting against and Commissioner Sullivan absent.<br>August 21, 2013 - Approved by the Downtown Commission on a 8/0/0/1 vote with Commissioner Sher off the dais.<br>September 24, 2013 - Unanimously approved by the Parks and Recreation Board on a 6/0 vote. Recommendation 20130924-004.<br>October 7, 2013 - Approved by the Public Safety Commission on a 6/0/0/1 vote with Commissioner Moreno absent.<br>October 7, 2013 - Approved by the Austin Music Commission on a 4/0/1/2 vote with Commissioner Spies abstaining and Commissioners Wagner-Reed and Reynoso absent. |

| | |
|---|---|

---

**Additional Backup Information:**

For third reading, staff recommends some additional changes: (1) make a special event that is stationary and impacts one block of a street is now classified as a Tier 2 special event, instead of a Tier 1 special event; (2) adjust certain application deadlines to conform to other City Code Requirements; (3) add clarity related to the use of sound equipment at parks and on right-of-way and related to the sale of goods on parkland; and (4) remove changes to Chapter 10-3 related to mobile food establishments.

The purpose of reclassifying an actual one block-road closure as a Tier 2 special event is to give City staff adequate time to prepare for the impacts to vehicular traffic and associated public safety needs. The purpose of adjusting certain deadlines is to maintain consistency and allow staff adequate time to review certain requests. The changes related to clarifying sound equipment and sale of goods is because of recent changes to Chapter 8-1 (Parks Administration) and incorporating outdoor sound requirements into the proposed Chapter 4-19. Lastly, staff determined that the proposed changes to Section 10-3-96 related to mobile food establishments are not necessary.

Council Resolution No. 20120524-089 directed the City Manager to bring forward any necessary code changes related to implementing an interdepartmental special events team. The proposed ordinance creates a special events team and creates a City Code chapter dedicated to special events. More specifically, the ordinance adds a new chapter to Title 4 (Business Regulation and Permit Requirements) that will apply to special events, changes Chapter 14-8 (Temporary Closure for Right-of-Way Events) to be consistent with the new special events chapter, changes Section 10-3-96 (Temporary Food Establishment) to be consistent with the new special events chapter, repeals Section 14-6-3 (Temporary Closure for a Street Festivity) to create consistency, and amends Chapter 9-2 (Noise and Amplified Sound) to remove requirements for 24-hour live music and multi-day special event permits.

In October of 2013, Council approved staff's recommended ordinance on first reading. At first reading the ordinance also included requirements for high capacity event venues and initiated changes to the sign code related to special event signs. However, for second and third reading of the ordinance, staff recommends changes to the draft approved on first reading. These changes include: removing the high capacity event venue requirements, incorporating specific sound equipment requirements (based on existing City Code), allowing legacy events to give notice of proposed special event dates for a five year period, changes to conform the ordinance to staff's practices; and other changes that are based on information learned since first reading.