ORDINANCE NO. 20220203-052

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE CHAPTER 4-20 (SPECIAL EVENTS) TO MODIFY THE DEFINITION OF A SPECIAL EVENT AND THE DESCRIPTION OF A TIER 2 SPECIAL EVENT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

PART 1. City Code Section 4-20-1 (Definitions) is amended to read as follows:

(14) SPECIAL EVENT means an event that

(a) Has 50[400] or more attendees at any time [per-day] at a city facility, other than the Austin Convention Center, Long Center, City Hall, or Palmer Events Center;

(b) Impacts a city street, sidewalk, alley, walkway, or other city public right-of-way other than as permitted under Chapter 14-6 (Temporary Street Closures); or

(c) Is temporary, involves 50[400] or more attendees at any time [per-day]; and

(i) is inconsistent with the permanent use to which the property may legally be used, or the occupancy levels permitted on the property; and

(ii) includes one of the following: set up of temporary structures, including, but not limited to, tents, stages, or fences; use of sound equipment in an area described in Section 4-20-43(A); or provision of food or beverages, including alcohol.

PART 2. Subsection (B) of City Code Section 4-20-21 (Categories of Special Events) is amended to read as follows:

(B) A Tier 2 event is a special event that:

(1) is an assembly at a city facility that estimates attendance at less than 2,500 attendees at one time [per-day]; or

(2) is an assembly [lasting four days or less] that is held primarily on private property, and that estimates attendance at less than 2,500 attendees at one time [per-day]; or
(3) is stationary and impacts up to two blocks of a street, sidewalk, or city right-of-way.

PART 3. The City’s requirements for special events protect public health and safety. Many special events occur during Spring Festival Season, which happens in March. As a result, City staff must review numerous applications and permit requests. To protect public health and safety, City staff need sufficient time to review and approve those applications and permit requests. Because of this emergency, this ordinance takes effect the day following publication for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

PASSED AND APPROVED

February 3, 2022

APPROVED: Anne L. Morgan
City Attorney

ATTEST: Myrna Rios
City Clerk

Steve Adler
Mayor

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