Notification for Special Events Stakeholder Meeting

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Overview

• City of Austin Notice of Proposed Street Closure and Appeals Process

• Notice of Proposed Street Closure and Appeals Process in Other Cities

• Notice of Application for Amplified Sound

• Ideas for Revised Process

• Information

• Questions
Current Notice of Proposed Street Closure Process
City of Austin

- Event organizer must issue a Notice of Proposed Closure (NOPC) to all affected persons and neighborhood associations, including:
  - Letter describing event components and alternative traffic routes
  - Event site map
  - Approval and disapproval form

- City creates notification list for affected persons, event organizer mails NOPC **90 days prior** to street event

- No costs incurred by City; event organizer pays all mailing costs
Current Notice of Proposed Street Closure Approval and Denial Process
City of Austin

- Affected persons and neighborhood associations have until the 60th day before the event date to return the approval or disapproval form.

- Event may be denied if 20% or more affected persons disapprove or one or more neighborhood associations disapprove.

- No response is considered approval.
Current Notice of Proposed Street Closure
Appeals Process
City of Austin

• If 20% or more of affected persons, or one neighborhood association disapproves of event, then event organizer and affected persons and/or neighborhood associations in disapproval discuss at Urban Transportation Commission meeting

• Urban Transportation Commission provides recommendation for City Council

• City Council determines approval or denial of event
Notice of Proposed Street Closure Process in Other Cities

- Nine Cities Researched:
  - Dallas, TX
  - San Antonio, TX
  - Fort Worth, TX
  - New Orleans, LA
  - Nashville, TN
  - Portland, OR
  - Tampa, FL
  - Philadelphia, PA
  - Atlanta, GA
Notice of Proposed Street Closure Process in Other Cities

- **Deadline**
  - Between 5 days – 120 days
- **Types of notification**
  - Direct mail
  - Email
  - Hand-delivered
  - Website/bulletin board
  - Media advisory
  - Neighborhood meetings
  - Block signatures
  - Door hangers
  - Permanent sign-posts in special event areas
- **No incurred costs by City**
Street Closure Appeals Process in Other Cities

- No Process
  - City acts as negotiator between event organizer and affected persons and addresses concerns

- Appeals Process
  - Contingent on event location, type, size/scope

Appeals Process in Researched Cities

- Yes 44%
- No 56%
Notice of Multi-Day Special Event Permit
Applications for Outdoor Amplified Sound
City of Austin

• City provides a mail notice of Multi-Day Special Event Permit applications no later than the 14\textsuperscript{th} day after application submission to:
  • Residents within 600 feet of the event;
  • Multifamily property owners adjacent to the event; and
  • Neighborhood associations whose declared boundaries are within 600 feet of the event.

• Notification fee of $302.00 per application
Outdoor Amplified Sound Appeals Process
City of Austin

• An appeal must be filed with the accountable official in writing no later than the 14th day after the date the decision of application approval/denial; a period of 14 days is available for the applicant (permit denial) and or interested parties (permit approval) to appeal the decision.

• A public hearing on an appeal shall be held at the earliest council meeting, if a valid permit appeal is received within the required 14-day period, it will be placed on the soonest available City Council meeting agenda.

• At any time prior to a scheduled appeal hearing, the accountable official may revise a permit to include conditions that are agreed to by the parties.

• In deciding an appeal, the City council may uphold, reverse, or modify a decision of the accountable official, including the requirements and conditions of a multi-day sound permit.
Proposed Tiered System in Pending Special Event Ordinance

- Tiers 1 and 2
  - Smaller impact = shorter deadlines
    - Hand walk notices/door hangers
    - Signed petition
    - Signs posted

- Tiers 3 and 4
  - Larger events = bigger impacts
Approval and Notification Challenges

• Separating the approval process from the notifications
• Align deadline between street closure approval/notifications and amplified sound applications
• Short turn around events
• Commission and Council review increase appeal processes
Ideas for Revised Process

• Opt-in electronic notification of application review
  • 30 days after application submission for street event closure
  • If amplified sound is within a street closure, *both* notifications will follow the street closure notification process

• Separated approval process from notifications for *Tier 3* and *Tier 4* events

• Incorporating 3-1-1 as a part of the process (before, during and after event)

• Review event input by ACE management for approval or disapproval

• Appeal team of Department Directors

• Postcard notification to affected persons
  • 30 days prior to event
Information

• Visit the City Stage Website: www.austintexas.gov/CityStage

• Sign up for the RSS Feed

• Upcoming Event Closures online: “Getting Around Austin”

• Sign up on the Community Registry: www.austintexas.gov/CR

• Special Events Ordinance: www.austintexas.gov/department/special-events-ordinance
Questions?

If you have additional ideas or need more information, please email
SpecialEvents@austintexas.gov