

# Major Revisions to the Special Events Ordinance after First Reading



# Significant Changes

- \* Neighborhood block parties are not subject to special events ordinance.
  - \* Created a separate permit process in Chapter 14-8.
- \* Requirements for “High Capacity Event Venues” removed from ordinance.

# 4-15-1 Definitions

- \* Added:
  - \* Amplified Sound Equipment
  - \* Legacy Event
  - \* Outdoor
- \* Deleted:
  - \* High Capacity Event Venue and related definitions.
- \* Modified:
  - \* Preliminary Recommendation: clarified by adding “decision by ACE”.
  - \* Special Event: removed “inconsistent with the occupancy levels permitted on the property”
  - \* Special Event District: changed to Special Event Impact Area.

# 4-15-21 Categories of Special Events

- \* Slight change to Tier 1 from “5 hours” to one day.

# 4-15-22 Special Event Permit

- \* Added “A special event permit is effective after all required inspections have been passed.”
  - \* Adds clarity.

# 4-15-26 Insurance Required; Exceptions

- \* Added types of city property
  - \* Provides clarity

# 4-15-30 Special Event Application Fees and Deadlines

- \* Allows ACE to make the decision about whether to waive deadlines.
- \* Good cause AND the waiver does not cause unreasonable burden on the City.

# 4-15-31 Contents of Special Event Application

- \* Deleted the information required for applications and states that the requirements will be set out in the Rules.
- \* The earliest date an application can be submitted is now based on tier.
  - \* Tiers 1 and 2: 150 days (new events)/180 days (for returning events).
  - \* Tiers 3 and 4: 335 days (new events)/365 days (for returning events).
  - \* Language amended to remove use of copyrighted names.

# 4-15-34 Approval or Denial of Special Event Application

- \* Substituted “application” for “permit” for clarity.
- \* Language clarified for:
  - \* Sufficient traffic control
  - \* Final action dates by ACE for Tier 1 & 2 events

# 4-15-36 Notice of Proposed Special Event Dates

- \* Allows a legacy event to submit its special event dates for up to a five year period.
- \* Still must comply with deadlines to submit applications and must also pay fees.

# 4-15-42 Sale of Goods, Food, and Beverage Within a Special Event

- \* Made it clear that a person may only sell alcohol if authorized by the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission.

# 4-15-44 Additional Requirements

- \* Renamed section
  - \* Substituted “Additional” for “Miscellaneous”
- \* Re-ordered subsections.
- \* Sustainability plan mandatory for only Tier 4 events.
  - \* Tier 2 & 3 events to be placed in guidebook as recommended.

# Article 7. High Capacity Venues

- \* This Article was deleted in its entirety.

# Changes to Chapter 14-8

- \* Re-ordered the Articles.
  - \* Article 1: General Provisions and Enforcement
  - \* Article 2: Closure Permits for Special Events
  - \* Article 3: Closure Permits for Neighborhood Block Parties.
- \* In Article 1: added “Previous Violation” and “Review and Reporting Requirements.”

# Article 3: Closure Permits for Neighborhood Block Party

- \* Included in Chapter 14-8 because requires a road closure.
  - \* Definition: an event that requires closure of a residential street and is open only to attendees from the immediate area.
- \* Application
  - \* Deadline: 10 days prior to event
  - \* Proof that owners/occupants of property that will be impacted by the block party have been notified.
- \* Additional requirements
  - \* Barricades
  - \* Insurance/Indemnification
  - \* No closures of intersections



# *Notification Process*

# 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