

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council		Item ID	52786	Agenda Number	6.
Meeting Date:	12/10/2015		Department:	Economic Development	
Subject					
Approve a resolution amending Resolution No. 20150402-004 to authorize the Circuit Events Local Organizing Committee to act on behalf of the City for the Texas Major Events Reimbursement Program, or, in the alternative, the Texas Events Trust Fund, for the purpose of conducting economic studies, submitting applications, and submitting any required funding to the Texas Office of the Governor for the 2016 and 2017 Austin X Games events to be held at the Circuit of the Americas facility					
Amount and Source of Funding					
No funding is required					
Fiscal Note					
There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.					
Purchasing Language:					
Prior Council Action:	May 23, 2013 - Council approved Resolution No. 20130523-019 authorizing CELOC to act on the City's behalf to apply for the Texas Event Trust Fund for the Summer X Games 2014, 2015, and 2016, at the Circuit of the Americas facility in Austin and authorizing the City Manager to submit to council fee waivers and in-kind assistance in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 if Austin is selected for these games. April 2, 2015 - Council approved Resolution No. 20150402-004 amending Resolution No. 20130523-019 to authorize the CELOC to act on behalf of the City for the Texas Major Event Trust Fund, or in the alternative, the Texas Event Trust Fund for the Summer X-Games to be held at the Circuit of the Americas Facility in 2015, 2016, and 2017.				
For More Information:	Synovia Holt-Rabb, Assistant Director, (512) 974-3131; Terry Franz, Contract Administrator, (512) 974-7871				
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:					
MBE / WBE:					
Related Items:					

Additional Backup Information

In 2013, Austin's Circuit of the Americas, LLC (COTA) secured the winning bid to host the Summer X Games from 2014 through 2016.

The X Games is the premier Action Sports Competition and Lifestyle Event which hosts 200 elite athletes and incorporates cultural elements in style, film and music, directed towards a youth lifestyle. Events are televised internationally on ESPN networks and through syndication. The four day event historically has attracted 20,000 to 25,000 spectators per day. ESPN offers a range of benefits to host cities including marketing and promotion, multimedia offerings and highlights, and host city exposure.

2013 legislation amended the Major Events Trust Fund (METF) statute to identify the X Games as an event, however it did not name ESPN as a site selection organization; as a result the 2014 X Games could not apply to the METF. Since the statute prohibited participation in the METF, in May 2013 the Council passed Resolution 20130523-019, which authorized the Circuit Events Local Organizing Committee (CELOC) to act on the City's behalf (as the endorsing municipality) to apply for the Texas ETF for the Summer X Games. The resolution allowed CELOC to apply for these funds through 2016 and committed CELOC to fully funding the cost of any commissioned study or amounts owed to the Texas Comptroller's office as per qualification with the ETF.

2015 legislation identified ESPN as a site selection organization in the METF statute, and last April, with Resolution 20150402-004 City Council amended Resolution No, 20130523-019 and authorized CELOC to apply, on the City's behalf, to the METF for the 2015 X Games. Council also referred the following items to the Economic Opportunity (EOC) and Audit and Finance (AFC) Committees for policy discussion:

- the composition of the CELOC and the process for appointments to the committee;
- how the committee operates under the Texas Open Meetings Act;
- the reporting by the City's ex officio board member and whether the City's board member should be ex officio;
- the auditing processes used by the committee.

This resolution would amend Resolution 20150402-002, giving CELOC the additional ability to act on the City's behalf in applying for funding from either the ETF or the MERP for the 2016 and 2017 Summer X Games. It would also allow CELOC to submit these applications and other necessary documents to the Texas Governor's Office. The resolution mandates that all of the requirements in the current contracts between COTA, CELOC and the City remain in effect, and recognizes that CELOC is responsible for all funds required to be submitted to the State to be eligible for funding from either the ETF or the MERP.

Should Council approve this request, CELOC will apply for MERP funding for the 2016 Austin X Games by the April 18, 2016 deadline. If it is not approved, CELOC will apply to the ETF by the February 3, 2016 deadline.