



BOARD/COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

MUSIC COMMISSION

Recommendation Number: 20161107-4: Red River Sound Curfew Case Study

WHEREAS, the Red River Cultural District is the home of Austin's single largest concentration of live music venues and complementary business, and is a source of consistent and creative and financial support and employment for our local musicians and nightlife economy; and

WHEREAS, venue owners and operators in the Red River Cultural District are facing critical affordability issues; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin can mindfully adopt policy changes that would provide additional revenue to live music venues at no cost to the City; and

WHEREAS, the Downtown Austin Plan (Sec. AU-4.4), Create Austin Master Plan, Waller Creek District Master Plan and Imagine Austin already recognize and recommend that protections and preservations are necessary to maintain this unique cultural resource and aim at ensuring that downtown redevelopment aligns with our City's long-term goals; and

WHEREAS, there is understandably concern of sound travel from this area, and weather conditions and certain times of the year may create more impact, a study comprised of real data over the course of various Central Texas seasons would provide policy makers with factual data; and

WHEREAS, the Music & Entertainment Division continues to successfully serve both the music industry and Austin's citizens as an effective, approachable ally to help address the increasing pressures from various stakeholders related to the live music industry and Austin's rapid population growth in the downtown corridor, and those incumbent difficulties. The Music & Entertainment Division would be well suited to conduct this case study.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Music Commission encourages the Austin City Council to create legislation to allow for a Case Study to investigate the impact of extending the amplified sound curfew for the Red River Cultural District. As part of the study, allow the Music & Entertainment Division to intermittently extend the hours listed in City Code Chapter 9-2-14 at scheduled times over a twelve month period and document both the economic impact as well as any negative impacts from residents. The data compiled from this case study should be presented to the Music Commission to determine if a

permanent modification to the curfew hours through a Council approved code amendment is appropriate.

Commission in Attendance: Baker (Motion), Duarte (Second) , Escamilla, Garcia, Lawson, Rappaport

Record of the vote: 6-0

Date of Approval: 11/7/16

Attest: 