

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	71212	Agenda Number	23.
Meeting Date:	6/15/2017		Department:	Parks and Recreation
Subject				
<p>Approve an ordinance amending City Code Chapter 8-1 related to park use, enforcement, amplified sound, parking, motor vehicles, penalties, and limits on special event days at Zilker Metropolitan Park, Auditorium and Vic Mathias Shores at Town Lake Metropolitan Park, and Fiesta Garden/Edward Rendon Senior Metropolitan Park at Festival Beach; and amending City Code Chapter 12-5 related to parking at park facilities and property, and creating offenses and establishing penalties.</p>				
Amount and Source of Funding				
Fiscal Note				
A fiscal note is not required.				
Purchasing Language:				
Prior Council Action:	<p>March 5, 2015 – Council approved resolution creating the Parkland Events Task Force December 14, 2016 – final report presentation to Open Space Environment and Sustainability Committee January 26, 2017 – City Council approved the Parkland Event Task Force Report February 2, 2017 – City Council approved Council Resolution No. 20170202-046 related to implementing the report approved in January 26, 2017</p>			
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Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:	December 14, 2016 – Open Space, Environment and Sustainability Committee approved Parkland Events Report			
MBE / WBE:				
Related Items:				
Additional Backup Information				

The proposed ordinance will implement recommendations from the Parkland Events Taskforce Report. More specifically, the proposed ordinance addresses enforcement issues related to illegal use of structures and personal property as part of commercial activities (vending) on park property, driving and parking of motor vehicles on park property, changes the late extension for amplified sound to align with current practices; increases fines for parking violations during special events; and increases fines for illegal park uses during special events; and establishes limits on special event days at 3 parks.

During the year-long task force study, a majority of themes focused around event impacts and impact mitigation; such as mitigating unrelated event activity such as illegal parking and illegal vending. Both activities can negatively impact pedestrian flow and mobility and unnecessarily impact city resources during events.

Because illegal vending and parking in unauthorized areas are ongoing issues, the Task Force recommendations state the current penalty for parking on parkland as not sufficient for day to day illegal parking. Per the Parkland Events Task Force Report, the fines for illegal parking and illegal vending during special events need to be increased to deter these activities. The proposed ordinance also adds clarity to the requirements related to vending and using parkland.

The current curfew for day to day amplified sound permits on parkland is 10 p.m. With review and approval by the department, the current City Code allows consideration of a curfew for amplified sound until 2 a.m. However, since 2008, no special event has been permitted beyond 11 p.m. and all event facilities which host weddings/birthday parties end by 11 p.m. Currently, all special events end by 10 p.m., with three historic events (Cinco de Mayo, Deizyseis, and Urban Music Festival) ending at 10:30 p.m. on a Saturday. The Parkland Events Task Force recommended that the City Code be changed to reflect the current standards and be amended to allow maximum time of 11 p.m. for amplified sound curfew.

The Parkland Events Taskforce recommended the City reduce the number of days three parks are used for special events. The proposed ordinance allows current special event days to continue unless the special event is discontinued or moves to another park property. The proposed ordinance also allows for an additional special event days for one-day non-reoccurring special events.

Park	Currently	Recommended
Zilker Metropolitan Park	29 event days	24 event days via attrition/incentives
Auditorium and Vic Mathias Shores at Townlake Metropolitan Park	20 event days out of 25	17 event days via attrition/incentives
Fiesta Gardens/ Edward Rendon Sr. Park at Festival Beach	19 event days	17 event days via attrition/incentives