

1
2
3 **ORDINANCE NO.**
4

5 **AN ORDINANCE WAIVING CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS UNDER CITY CODE**
6 **CHAPTER 14-8 AND MODIFYING CERTAIN CITY CODE REQUIREMENTS**
7 **UNDER CHAPTERS 9-2; 13-2; AND 25-10 FOR THE CITY CO-SPONSORED**
8 **2019 SOUTH BY SOUTHWEST CONFERENCES AND FESTIVALS TO BE HELD**
9 **MARCH 8-17, 2019.**
10

11 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**
12

13 **PART 1. FINDINGS**

14 The council finds the following:

- 15 (1) The City of Austin (the “City”) has been the host city for the South By
16 Southwest (SXSW) Conferences and Festivals (the “SXSW Event”) since the first SXSW Event in 1987; and
17
- 18 (2) The SXSW Event brings hallmark cultural value to the City by
19 featuring creative talent, including musical performers, film
20 producers, technology trailblazers, and speakers who are leaders in
21 their respective industries; and
- 22 (3) The SXSW Event has grown into an internationally recognized event
23 that attracts attendees and companies from all over the world to
24 Austin, with an economic impact of over \$1.5 billion for the City over
25 the past five years; and
- 26 (4) The SXSW Event is a City co-sponsored event, providing a range of
27 free public concerts and other popular cultural events attended by
28 thousands of Austin residents annually;
- 29 (5) It is important for venue owners and operators to properly manage
30 occupancy of venues and it is also important to facilitate safety
31 closures in the right-of-way;
- 32 (6) Council supports the creation, implementation, and inspection of a
33 comprehensive traffic control plan that includes all event closures,
34 pre-planned City safety closures, venue safety closures, and any
35 additional street or lane closures deemed necessary by City staff;

(7) Council supports safety closures deemed necessary by City staff in the Downtown area, including the 200 to 700 blocks of East 6th Street, 500 to 900 blocks of Red River Street, and 100 block of Rainey Street; and

(8) The 2019 SXSW Event will be held March 8-17, 2019.

PART 2. Council waives certain closure notice requirements that allow affected individuals and neighborhood associations to object to street closures under City Code Chapter 14-8 (*Temporary Closure for Special Events and Block Parties*) for the 2019 SXSW Event.

PART 3. With respect to an application for a right-of-way closure requested by SXSW for the 2019 SXSW Event, the requirements in Subsections 14-8-13(B)(2), (B)(3), and (C)(2) are waived.

PART 4. Council modifies the following City Code requirements and restrictions during the period of March 8-17, 2019. Nothing in these modifications is intended to waive required City staff approvals.

- (1) With respect to events during the Spring Festival Season that are produced or represented by SXSW for the 2019 SXSW Event, the restriction on maximum number of days for a multi-day special events permit in City Code Sections 9-2-36 (*Types of Live Music Permits*) and 9-2-38 (*Multi-day Special Events Permit*) is modified to allow a multi-day permit for a maximum of 10 days during the Spring Festival Season.
- (2) With respect to events during the Spring Festival Season that are produced or represented by SXSW for the 2019 SXSW Event, the restriction in City Code Section 9-2-38(F) (*Multi-day Special Events Permits*) is modified to allow a permit to be issued for a site or property that is used as a parking lot if the lot is not leased by an adjacent commercial structure.
- (3) With respect to events during the Spring Festival Season that are produced or represented by SXSW for the 2019 SXSW Event, the notice of application for multi-day permits in City Code Section 9-2-54 (*Notice of Application*) is modified to waive the notice requirement in Subsection 9-2-54(B).
- (4) With respect to events during the Spring Festival Season that are produced or represented by SXSW for the 2019 SXSW Event, City Code Section 25-10-157 (*Special Event Signs*) is modified as follows:

- 70 (a) Subsection 25-10-157(B)(1) is modified to allow a maximum of 10
71 signs;
- 72 (b) Subsection 25-10-157(B)(2) is modified to allow projected signs that
73 are a maximum of 75% of the area of a façade and are no larger than
74 9,000 square feet; and
- 75 (c) Subsection 25-10-157(C)(1) is modified to allow signs no larger than
76 360 square feet.
- 77 (5) For events that are produced or represented by SXSW for the 2019 SXSW
78 Event, City Code Subsection 25-10-157(D) (*Special Event Signs*) is further
79 modified to allow, subject to the director's approval, additional non-
80 projected signs that provide direction to activities occurring at the special
81 event. The director may disapprove a sign authorized by this paragraph if the
82 director or his designee determines that the sign constitutes a threat to public
83 health and safety or constitutes a traffic hazard.

84 **PART 5.** This ordinance takes effect on _____, 2018.

85 **PASSED AND APPROVED**

86
87 §
88 §
89 _____, 2018 § _____

90 Steve Adler
91 Mayor

92
93
94 **APPROVED:** _____

95 Anne L. Morgan
96 City Attorney

ATTEST: _____

Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk