### Draft Special Events Ordinance



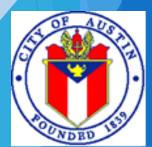
#### **Presentation Outline**

- Council Resolution No. 20120524-089
- Implementation of Council Resolution No. 20120524-089
- Draft Ordinance
  - Boards and Commissions
  - Council Actions
  - Elements of the Draft Ordinance
  - Post-First Reading
  - ▶ Updated Draft for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> readings
- Questions



## Council Resolution No. 20120524-089

- Approved on May 24, 2012
- Issues raised in the Resolution:
  - No single, publicized point of contact, nor a single responsible department or office
  - Multiple requirements found in multiple sections of City Code for events
  - No scalability in permitting based on size of events



## Council Resolution No. 20120524-089

- Resolution directed the City Manager to, in part:
  - Create a special events team Austin Center for Events
  - ► Identify any budgetary, ordinance, or staffing changes that would be necessary to implement the creation of a special events team and provide the necessary amendments.



## Implementation of Resolution No. 20120524-089

➤ Several City departments moved into one suite at One Texas Center in September 2012, which is now the Austin Center for Events (ACE).





## Implementation of Resolution No. 20120524-089

- Created a comprehensive online application.
- Created a system to record and track event applications.
- Created a consolidated website: <u>http://www.austintexas.gov/citystage</u>
- Generated RSS Feeds
- Created the Special Events Guidebook



## Implementation of Resolution No. 20120524-089

- Drafted an ordinance that:
  - Codifies the Austin Center for Events
  - Creates a new City Code chapter for special events.
  - ► Focuses Chapter 14-8 (*Temporary Closure for Right of Way Events*) on roadway closures and neighborhood block parties.
  - ► Repeals Section 14-6-3 (*Temporary Closure for a Street Festivity*).
  - ► Adds requirements to Section 10-3-96 (*Temporary Food Handlers*)
  - ▶ Initiates a code amendment for special event signs.



## Draft Ordinance: Boards and Commissions

- ► Fall 2013 City staff presented the draft ordinance to following Boards and Commissions:
  - Urban Transportation
  - Public Safety
  - Music
  - Downtown Commission
  - Parks and Recreation Board
  - Music Commission



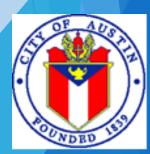
## Draft Ordinance: Council Action

- October 24, 2013
  - Council approves the draft ordinance on first reading.
- November 21, 2013
  - Council considered a resolution to create a Council subcommittee to discuss possible changes to the draft ordinance but later withdrew the resolution.
- February 13, 2014
  - Council adopts an ordinance regulating temporary signs during special events.



# Draft Ordinance: A special event

- ► A special event is an event that:
  - ► Has 100 or more attendees per day at a city facility
    - Exceptions: Convention Center, Long Center, City Hall, or Palmer Events Center;
  - Impacts a city right-of-way; or
  - ▶ Is temporary, 100 or more attendees per day, and
    - requires a temporary use permit or a temporary change of use permit and
    - Includes one of the following:
      - ► Temporary structures
      - ► Sound equipment; or
      - ▶ Food or alcohol



## Draft Ordinance: Tiers

- Creates a tiered approach to processing applications for special events.
- Events with a smaller impact
  - ► Tier 1: No alcohol and small footprint
  - ► Tier 2: Max attendees 2,500 or closes 2 blocks of city right of way
- Events with a larger impact
  - Tier 3: Default tier
  - ➤ Tier 4: Involves 2 or more city facilities plus city right-ofway or requires at least \$100,000 in city services, staff time, and equipment.



## Draft Ordinance: Deadlines

- Tier 1:
  - Submit at least 3 business days before event
  - Approve at least within 1 business day of event
- Tier 2
  - Submit at least 30 calendar days before event
  - Approve at least within 1 business day of event





## Draft Ordinance: Deadlines

- ► Tier 3
  - Submit at least 120 calendar days
  - Preliminary recommendation due within 10 business days of submittal.
  - Approve at least 30 days before event.
- Tier 4
  - ► Submit at least 180 calendar days before event
  - Preliminary recommendation due within 10 business days of submittal
  - ► Approve at least 30 days before event



## Draft Ordinance: Special Event Permit

- Special Event Permit satisfies requirements for sound and temporary use permits.
- Does NOT satisfy requirements for other permits (food handlers, tent, pyrotechnics, etc.)





## Draft Ordinance: City Costs

- City will charge event organizer actual cost of City services provided.
  - ► Exception: Costs of City personnel present to protect attendees from counter-demonstrators or members of the public who are hostile to the event.

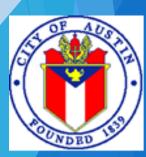




#### Draft Ordinance: Special Event Impact Area

Allows Austin Center for Events to limit the number of permits within the Impact Area based on capacity, public health, safety, and welfare





## Draft Ordinance: Appeals Process

- Appeals Team
  - Inter-departmental team comprised of directors of city departments that participate in the Austin Center for Events.
  - Appeal must be submitted within 10 days of denial.
  - Appeal Team must act on appeal within 10 business days.



#### Draft Ordinance: Event Requirements

- Waste management plan (all)
- Sustainability plan (Tiers 2-4)
  - Waste management plan
  - Waste reduction and recycling plan
  - Emission reduction plan
  - Bicycle parking and encouraging alternative transportation plans
- ADA compliance plan (when event interferes with accessibility on city streets and at city facilities)



### Draft Ordinance: Event Requirements

- Public Safety Plan (all Tiers)
  - Police
  - Fire
  - **EMS**
  - ► Traffic control
  - Private security (if hired by event organizer)





### Draft Ordinance: High-Capacity Venues

 Created a regulatory scheme to permit venues that operate as high-capacity venues.



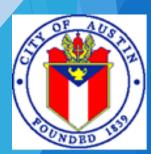
## Draft Ordinance: Enforcement

- Criminal offense to violate the chapter or a requirement of the permit.
- Permit revocation (includes appeals process)



## Draft Ordinance: Post-First Reading

- Staff requested suggestions to improve the draft ordinance from event organizers and stake holders.
- Staff changed the draft ordinance.



## Draft Ordinance: Updated for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Readings

- Some application requirements will be included in administrative rules.
- Tied approval to "application" instead of "permit" to align with actual City practice.
- Allowed for "legacy events" to give notice of proposed special event dates for a five year period.
- Limited sustainability plan requirement to Tier 4 events.
- Redrafted Chapter 14-8 (Right of Way Events) to include neighborhood block parties.
- Removed high-capacity venues from ordinance.



### Questions?

