



City Council Agenda Item Report

February 19, 2013

Agenda Item No.

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Subject: Approval of the Special Events Packet submitted by the Buda Lions Club and on a request to close Garison Road and San Antonio Street on Saturday, April 27 and Sunday, April 28 for the 16th Annual Buda Country Fair and Wiener Dog Races to be held at City Park.

1. **Background / History**

The 16th Annual Buda Country Fair and Wiener Dog Races to be held at City Park has many exciting elements including a bar-b-que cook-off, bake-off, food vendors, arts and crafts vendors, Buda bee, pet parade, wiener dog races, live music and entertainment, and a washer tournament. In order to help offset costs associated with the event, the Lions Club plans to fence in City Park and charge \$3 per person and kids 12 and under are free similar to the last two years. Similar to previous years, shuttle bus service will be provided from vacant property located north of the US Post Office off of Cabela's Drive. Parking is \$5 per car and the shuttle bus will drop off/pick up passengers adjacent to City Park off of San Antonio Street.

2. **FINDINGS/CURRENT ACTIVITY**

City staff has met with the organizers of the Buda Country Fair and Wiener Dog Races twice to discuss the possibility of not closing Garison Road and allowing some public parking in the large parking area north of City Park. Staff has been informed that, similar to previous years, the large parking area north of City Park will be reserved for the bar-b-que cook off teams and their guests, vendors, event volunteers, VIP parking, etc. As such, there is no planned general public parking provided for at City Park with the exception of handicapped parking along Garison Road and overflow handicapped parking in the parking area north of City Park.

In order to maximize the parking lot north of City Park, the Buda Lions Club has agreed to sell 150-200 additional parking passes to craft vendors, barbeque cooks, food vendors, and volunteers for their family members and friends to utilize.

The Buda Lions Club has submitted their Special Events Packet. In accordance with City Ordinances, the City Council reviews/approves the submitted Special Events Packet and all street closures. Similar to previous years, the Lions Club is requesting the closure of the following streets: San Antonio Street as this road is used for shuttle bus drop off/pick up and Garison Road as the public is not allowed to park in the parking area north of City Park. Entry onto Garison Road is by permit only including handicapped parking.

Since there is no public parking available at City Park similar to other special events, staff is concerned about the traffic and parking impact to downtown neighborhoods and residential streets in the downtown area even though there is shuttle bus service provided. Staff has been working with the Buda Lions Club to address these concerns. Similar to last year, Main Street will be roped or coned off from the railroad tracks east to the Santa Cruz Catholic Church so cars cannot park along Main Street. In addition, Railroad Street and the Downtown Greenbelt will be roped off as well and signage/barricades will be placed on roads leading to downtown neighborhoods discouraging parking on neighborhood streets.

3. FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no costs to the City for closing public streets. Paid fees to the City will include the \$500 exclusive rental fee of City Park (\$250 per day) and the \$500 refundable deposit. In addition, the Lions Club will pay the \$500 commercial activity fee in accordance with City Ordinances. It is anticipated that the Buda Country Fair and Wiener Dog Races will generate significant Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) revenue and sales tax revenue for Buda.

4. ACTION OPTIONS/CONSIDERATION

The City Council can approve, disapprove, or require changes to the submitted Special Events Packet and to the closing of Garison Road and San Antonio Street related to the 16th Annual Buda Country Fair and Wiener Dog Races on April 27 and April 28.