



City Council Agenda Item Report

February 19, 2013

Agenda Item No.

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Subject: Approval on a request by the Buda Downtown Merchants' Group to close Ash Street between Main Street and Austin Street from 5-9 p.m. for First Thursday to be held on March 7, 2013.

1. Background / History

First Thursday takes place on the first Thursday of each month throughout downtown Buda and focuses on providing downtown visitors the chance to stroll through the unique antique and specialty shops in downtown, while enjoying food from downtown restaurants. First Thursday occurs from 5-9 p.m. and also includes historical walking tours and Art Around Town activities at the Library.

Previously, the City Council has unanimously approved the closer of Ash Street on September 6, 2012, for the 35th anniversary of the Memory Lane Antiques store at its present location as part of First Thursday and on November 17, 2012 for the 30th anniversary party for Dr. Taylor at Buda Dental Professionals. There have been no issues with the closer of Ash Street previously.

2. FINDINGS/CURRENT ACTIVITY

The Buda Downtown Merchants' Group is seeking approval to close Ash Street (Between Buda Dental & Memory Lane Antiques) for First Thursday on March 7, 2013. The purpose of the street closure would be to allow the merchants' group to offer the Buda Gearheads and other home businesses the opportunity to participate in First Thursday by setting up on Ash Street. In accordance with City Ordinances, the City Council reviews/approves all street closures.

3. FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no costs to the City for closing streets. The event could generate sales tax revenue for the downtown merchants.

4. ACTION OPTIONS/CONSIDERATION

Either approve or deny the request by the Buda Downtown Merchants' Group to close Ash Street between Main Street and Austin Street from 5-9 p.m. for First Thursday to be held on March 7, 2013.