



Agenda Item:

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION City Manager's Office

GENERAL INFORMATION

Agenda Date: 01/26/04

Communication

No.: 04-028

Agenda Item Type: Ordinance

Roll Call

No.:

Submitted by: Diane Rauh, City Clerk
William McCarthy, Police Chief

SUBJECT—

Amended Ordinance regarding Street Use Events in Des Moines

SYNOPSIS—

The City of Des Moines has approximately 60 street use events every year. This ordinance was drafted to streamline the event application process. This ordinance requires event applications to be submitted at least 90 days prior to the event. It also requires an application fee for all events, and allows the first \$1,000 of Police costs associated with an event to be funded by the City. Any additional Police costs in conjunction with an event will be paid for by the event sponsor.

FISCAL IMPACT—

Based on 2002 event totals, this ordinance would have had an increased reimbursement to the Police Department in the amount of \$20,060 (see Council Communication No. 03- 423). The fiscal impact will vary from year to year based on the number and types of events.

RECOMMENDATION—

Approval

BACKGROUND—

It is the purpose of this ordinance to regulate special Street Use events held in Des Moines, so that such events can be held with the safety and health of the participants in mind, the protection

of public property considered, and the impact of the event on non-participating citizens minimized. A corollary purpose is to ensure that those who benefit from an event bear the cost of the event by reimbursing the City for special demands on City services.

Community festivals and special events promote tourism, invigorate community spirit, and contribute substantial economic and social benefits to Des Moines. In recognition of these benefits, it will be the policy of the City to encourage events by providing the first \$1,000 of Police costs associated with each event at no charge.

Members of the Street Use Team met with events sponsors on December 15, 2003. This meeting was attended by 15 event sponsors. The main topic of discussion was the process for calculating Police fees for events. The Police Department was on hand to explain the process. However; there was concern expressed by some event sponsors who do not charge admission or have any financial support. In this proposed ordinance, all events will be treated equally - first \$1,000 of Police costs will be provided by the City at no charge - any additional costs will be paid by the event sponsor.

Other cities have been contacted regarding their Street Use policies, (see below).

CITY	Number of Street Events each year	Source of funding for event	Currently considering changes to their ordinance
Lincoln, NE	15	Event Sponsor; however 5 events are Co-sponsored by the City	No
Davenport, IA	28	10-12 funded by Hotel/Motel grants, remainder paid by event sponsor	No
Omaha, NE	18 events plus 25 parades	Event sponsors pay for Police Dept overtime; parades -- No Charge	Yes
Cedar Rapids, IA	15	Some paid by Hotel/Motel grants, remainder paid by event sponsor	No
Madison, WI	12	Event sponsors pay for Special Duty officers	No
West Des Moines	15	City of West Des Moines	Yes

The major changes to the Street Use Ordinance are as follows:

1. Approval authority has been delegated to the Street Use Team, with appeals to City Council.
2. All Commercial Street Closures, Parades and Timed/Athletic Events now fall under one category - Street Use Events.

3. The \$100 application fee, miscellaneous City expenses, and Police costs over \$1,000 will be paid by the applicant.
4. Applications must be submitted 90 days (previously 30 days) in advance - late applications will be assessed a \$50 late fee.
5. More than 50% (previously 75%) of abutting businesses must sign petition for approval of "stationary" events. Other events must provide satisfactory notice to affected properties.
6. Residential Block Party process/fee has not changed - however applications received less than 30 days prior to the event will be assessed a late fee.