

OFFICE OF SPECIAL EVENTS

200 South Lamar, Austin, Texas 78704 (512)974-6797 (512) 974-6756 Fax reservations@austintexas.gov http://www.austintexas.gov/parkevents

Event Organizer Feedback

The following needs and challenges continue to resonate in the City of Austin's dialogue with various event production stakeholders and organizers:

Space:

- Limited opportunities for new events due to date restrictions or existing occupancy of events sites by annual events.
- Limited park spaces available for new events.
- Inadequate growth opportunity for existing events due to space physical size limitations.
- Lack of dedicated park venue for events.
- Absence of a park which allows runs, or has a develop trail of substantial width to accommodate runs relocating from the downtown core.
- Tourism industry professionals report expanding needs for recruiting and retention purposes in terms of access to new bookable outdoor locations for convention related events.

IE – a convention wants to host a fun run or small concert for its attendees, but timelines, space availability and street impacts preclude such amenities for conventions.

Costs of Business:

- Private rental facilities have either expensive exclusive catering contract requirements or cost prohibitive food/beverage requirements.
- Cost increases related to mitigating traffic and similar event impacts.
- Complexity of time and depth of permitting requirements as safety and mitigation trends continue to grow.
- Increasing burden of permitting downtown streets for runs/activities.

General/Miscellaneous:

- Underfunded park maintenance and resources.
- Ongoing difficulty mitigating conflicts and area impacts in a metropolitan area with a growing population.