# AUSTIN PARKS & RECREATION

#### 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

## Neighborhood/Stakeholder Feedback

The following needs and challenges continue to resonate in the City of Austin's dialogue with various neighborhood or impacted stakeholders:

### **General/Miscellaneous:**

- City Council should discontinue waiving fees and deposits for events.
- City Council should support City Staff when organizers attempt to circumvent rules or policies.
- Underfunded park maintenance and resources.
- There is ongoing difficulty mitigating conflicts and area impacts in a metropolitan area with a growing population given the added burden of events.
- Reduce the overall number of events.
- Set limits on event capacities and the number of road closures.
- Post all post-event reports for public review.
- Establish a policy that defines balance, and access.
- New organizers should be vetted with references/credential checks, or create a certification program for all Austin event organizers.
- Alert the stakeholders/neighborhood for assistance when events have been denied or may seek to pursue rule/policy exemptions from City Council.

#### **Penalties/Enforcement:**

- Increase fees/fines for all offenses at events such as sound, illegal vending, and parking violations around events and on parkland.
- Create a penalty or fee/fine to assess organizers in addition to repair costs when parkland is damaged.
- Increased staffing for on-site and post event inspections.

#### **Costs of Business:**

- Assess and increase rental fees for park use.
- Increase fees for unnecessary or longer set up or take down periods.
- Increase damage deposits for all events.

#### Traffic/Parking:

- More parking resources are needed in the central core.
- Regulations should be changed to prioritize mobility and establish pedicab zones during events.