



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council Members

CC: Elaine Hart, Interim City Manager
Robert Goode, P.E., Assistant City Manager

FROM: Robert Spillar, P.E., Director,
Austin Transportation Department 

DATE: June 30, 2017

SUBJECT: Public Input Process for Draft Event Parking Program (Related to CIUR 1864)

In response to [City Council Resolution 20170202-046](#) related to implementation of the Parkland Events Task Force recommendations, the Austin Transportation Department (ATD) is seeking public input to inform a draft event parking program consistent with those recommendations. The goal of this program would be to improve mobility, safety and parking management near locations that host major events.

Open House Meeting

ATD is inviting stakeholders and residents to an open house meeting to request feedback about issues related to parking in residential areas during major events as well as potential solutions.

What: Open House Meeting – Draft Event Parking Program

When: Thursday, July 13, 2017, 5-7 p.m.

Where: Austin Energy Town Lake Center Assembly Room, 721 Barton Springs Rd.

This will be a drop-in meeting with no formal presentation; ATD will provide information about existing conditions, challenges and potential solutions while collecting feedback from attendees. The focus of this open house will be areas that are near more-frequent, high-volume events, in particular the Zilker, Barton Hills and Bouldin Creek neighborhoods, where an initial roll-out would occur.

Next Steps

Following this public input process, ATD will finalize a plan and seek Council approval (e.g., on necessary City Code amendments and fee updates), prior to implementing an initial roll-out. Following an initial roll-out phase, ATD will consider future roll-outs in other neighborhoods affected by major events, including Festival Beach, Deep Eddy, East Austin and other neighborhoods, and engage those communities for feedback using a similar process. ATD will

also pursue using this program to address parking spillover in neighborhoods resulting from nearby construction projects, as outlined in previous Council direction, detailed below.

More information is available at austintexas.gov/page/event-parking-program and updates will be provided to those who sign up via an [email list](#) linked on that webpage.

Background

- Resolution 20170202-046 directed the City Manager to “prepare code amendments, budget amendments, or resolutions necessary to implement the (Parkland Events Task Force) recommendations, and to present the code amendments, budget amendments, and resolutions to Council.”
- Among the recommendations in [the Parkland Events Task Force final report](#) is “immediate implementation of a Special Events Permit Parking (SEPP) Program for neighborhoods that are in or adjacent to the special event impact zone with specific priority focus on the Zilker, Bouldin and Festival Beach area neighborhoods.”
- The report also recommends that the program “focus on increased fines for parking, changes to City procedure and practice to encourage effective towing or booting authorization and ticketing by non-sworn personnel.”
- While the Parks and Recreation Department has taken the lead on responding to the Parkland Events Task Force recommendations as a whole, ATD is responding to this particular recommendation because it relates to mobility and the public right of way.

Previous Action

- [Council Resolution 20140522-043](#) directed the City Manager to “initiate a stakeholder process to make recommendations on a temporary Residential Permit Parking program to be implemented at times when there are parking impacts from events, including but not limited to festivals and construction projects.” Following passage of this resolution, ATD staff identified the Bouldin Creek and Zilker neighborhoods as the two most affected by events. In February 2015, ATD staff began meeting with representatives from these neighborhoods to gather input and discuss possible solutions.
- In March 2015, Council adopted [Resolution 20150305-025](#), creating the Parkland Events Task Force, charging it with, among other tasks, “an assessment of the impact that park special events have on surrounding neighborhoods, businesses, and infrastructure, in coordination with the work under way by the City Council's Mobility Committee regarding transportation impacts.” City of Austin staff, including ATD staff, was present at the Parkland Events Task Force meetings that led to the final report and recommendations, which Council approved in January 2017 prior to adopting Resolution 20170202-046.