



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 11

Agenda Date: April 10, 2025

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Center City Development & Operations

DEPARTMENT HEAD: John Jacks

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

2025 Fiesta Street Closures

SUMMARY:

This ordinance authorizes the closure of certain streets in connection with Fiesta 2025, to include the Battle of Flowers and Fiesta Flambeau street parades; Fiesta river parade route; and approves the dates and times for the Fiesta Carnival and related requirements and conditions.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The annual Fiesta celebration begins Thursday, April 24, 2025, and runs through Sunday, May 4, 2025. The Fiesta events which require street closures are outlined in Attachment A.

On December 13, 2018, the City Council authorized a 10-year contract with the Fiesta Commission of San Antonio and designated the non-profit organization as the planning and coordinating entity for Fiesta. This agreement expires after Fiesta 2028. The Fiesta Commission has a multi-year contract with Wade Shows, Inc. (Wade) for operating the Fiesta Carnival.

Each year, the carnival concessionaire is required to coordinate security at the carnival area,

maintain operating standards and policies, and ensure that revenue and cleanup requirements are maintained. This year the carnival schedule and requirements are indicated in Attachment A.

On January 19, 2012, the City Council authorized prohibiting smoking on city property and within the public right of way along the Texas Cavaliers' River Parade, the Fiesta Battle of Flowers Parade, and the Fiesta Flambeau Parade routes. The City has coordinated with the Fiesta Commission on public outreach efforts.

In the 2018 contract with the Fiesta Commission, the alcohol policy for public Fiesta events specifies that all beverages would be served in a plastic, paper container, or aluminum can/bottle. In addition, Municipal Code Section 32-30 specifies these same beverage restrictions for Market Square events. In an effort to increase recycling and reduce waste, and at the request of the Fiesta Commission, the agreement grants an exception to the Municipal Code and vendors will be allowed the possession and sale of aluminum cans/bottles at their events.

Per the agreement with the Fiesta Commission, the City funds all costs required for traffic control personnel and security along the parade routes including the Battle of Flowers, Fiesta Flambeau Parade, and River parades, as well as the carnival. These expenses are included in the General Fund FY 2025 Adopted Budget.

ISSUE:

Each year, City Council considers this item which outlines street closures and requirements for Fiesta and the carnival. Various Fiesta events will require street closures including Fiesta-Fiesta, NIOSA, Fiesta De Los Reyes at Market Square, King William Fair, Fiesta Flambeau Parade, and Battle of Flowers Parade.

ALTERNATIVES:

City Council has the option to not approve the proposed ordinance. Staff would need to find alternative street closures because the Fiesta activities cannot occur without closing various streets downtown.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact expected for this Fiesta Street Closure item.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the street closures, the Fiesta street and river parade routes, and carnival operating hours in order to allow the Fiesta activities to occur.