

# Consider Code Amendment Park Usage for Special Events

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# Summary

- Question
  - City Council is being asked to consider amending the LVCC Park regulations to add regulations for special events at the park
- Options
  - Recommended:
    1. Approve the amendment
    2. Consider fees for event variance consideration
  - Denial
  - Other
- Declaration
  - The amendment would provide a more secure environment for park users
  - Council to decide final outcome

# Purpose

- Consider Approval of an Ordinance Amending the Leon Valley Code of Ordinances, Chapter 1 General Provisions, Article 1.09 Parks and Recreation, Section 1.09.034 Prohibited Activities and Uses, to Add a Subsection (i) Special Events
- This amendment will include regulations for special events at the city's parks

# Purpose / Background

- Code already states that the entire park cannot be rented at one time to any group; however, one group circumvented regulations by renting different portions of the park at different times of the day, stating the event was a family picnic
  - Group was told after their previous year's event that they would need permission from the Park Commission and City Council to use the park again
- Attendance at this weekend's event was so large that attendees parked outside of the park, blocking driveways along Cherryleaf Street
- The Police Department had to use all its resources to provide security for the event

# Purpose / Background

- To better prepare for these types of events in the park in the future, we propose the following amendment to the park usage rules:
  - “(i) Special event. A special event is defined as a group of persons or an organization, with or without vendors, that rent any single or combination of pavilions, athletic fields, or tennis/basketball courts, that may have a significant impact on park resources, as determined by the Leon Valley Police Department, over the period of a single day or weekend. Such special events shall require a completed application and an approved variance from the Park Commission and City Council. Arrangements for security must be made and approved by the Leon Valley Police Department and event logistics must be approved by both the Leon Valley Police and Leon Valley Fire Departments.”

# Fiscal Impact

- A Special Event fee could be created for this type of activity
- Staff suggests a fee of \$500, which would recover the cost of staff time, and the Park Commission and Council consideration of each request. Cost of security would be at the cost of the requester.

# Recommendation

- Staff recommends amending the Code to require special event organizers to acquire a variance from the Park Commission and City Council for their events
- The cost for such consideration is at the discretion of the City Council