



AGENDA REPORT

City Council Meeting

TODAY'S DATE: July 9, 2026

MEETING DATE: July 15, 2026

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Jason Welker, Planning & Community Development Director

SUBJECT: Consider approval of the Festival at Sandpoint's request to apply pesticide treatments at War Memorial Field in association with the 2026 Summer Series

DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND:

The City's 2026 lease with the Festival at Sandpoint requires the Festival to request approval from the City prior to the use of any pesticide product on the leased premises. The lease requires that the request be made in writing at least 15 days in advance, and that any approval may include associated terms and conditions, including public notice signage posted at least 72 hours before and 72 hours after application. The required signage must identify the active ingredient, application date, and contact information for questions.

The Festival has submitted a written request for pesticide application in advance of the 2026 Summer Series, scheduled July 30 through August 9. Veronica Knowlton, Director of Operations and Programs for the Festival, will be present to introduce the request and answer Council questions.

REQUEST SUMMARY:

The Festival is requesting authorization for potential pesticide applications on July 25, July 29, July 31, August 4, and August 7. The Festival has indicated these are maximum requested dates and that not all applications may occur, depending on weather and pest conditions. The proposed product is Bifen I/T, proposed for general insect control, including spiders, ants, stink bugs, bees, and mosquitoes. The application plan includes treatment of areas of concern in and around the festival area, including food vendor booth exteriors before occupancy, and mosquito fogging before the first event and potentially during an off day between events.

The Festival has provided draft public notice signage identifying Bifen I/T, the proposed application dates, Northern States Pest Control as the contact, and a statement that treatment will not occur during rain or when wind exceeds 10 mph. The notice also directs the public to the Festival's pesticide FAQ page through a QR code and web address.

STAFF COMMENT:

Staff has advised the Festival that, because the lease requires approval by the Lessor, the request should be made directly to City Council. If Council approves the request, staff recommends approval be conditioned on compliance with all product label requirements, applicable federal and state pesticide

regulations, the City lease notice requirements, and the Festival's stated weather limitations and public communication plan.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

I move to approve/deny the Festival at Sandpoint's request for pesticide application at War Memorial Field on the dates identified in its request,

If moving to approve, additional motion language may include, "subject to compliance with all applicable product label requirements, federal and state pesticide regulations, the public notice requirements in the City lease, and the Festival's stated weather and public communication commitments."