

AGENDA ITEM # _____

DATE: February 9, 2015

COAC NUMBER: 15-5447

**CITY OF GOODYEAR
CITY COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: Temporary Suspension of
Enforcement of Special Event
Ordinance**

STAFF PRESENTER: Roric Massey,
City Attorney

COMPANY

CONTACT:

RECOMMENDATION:

ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 15-1317 TEMPORARILY SUSPENDING THE ENFORCEMENT OF CHAPTER 26 OF THE GOODYEAR CITY CODE RELATING TO SPECIAL EVENTS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

PURPOSE:

On June 23, 2014, the Mayor and Council of the City of Goodyear approved Ordinance 14-1301 adopting Chapter 26 – Special Events to the Goodyear City Code, which regulates special events held within the City. Since its enactment, concerns have been raised that the scope of the ordinance may be overly broad and might deter the sorts of events the Mayor and Council want to encourage and facilitate. The Mayor and Council will be revisiting the ordinance to identify changes that may need to be made, but until that occurs want to suspend the enforcement of Chapter 26 – Special Events of the Goodyear City Code.

BACKGROUND AND COMMUNITY BENEFIT:

The City encourages special events for the greater good, cultural diversity, and the promotion of the City. Nonetheless, these gatherings and organized activities may place unique demands on public resources, may present public health and safety issues, and may create unreasonable adverse impacts to neighboring property owners, businesses, City residents and the general public. To balance these competing interests, on June 23, 2014, the Mayor and Council approved Ordinance 14-1301 adopting Chapter 26 – Special Events of the Goodyear City Code (“Special Events Ordinance”).

Since it was adopted, concerns have been raised that the scope of the Special Events Ordinance may be overly broad and that it is deterring the type of community events and gatherings that the Mayor and Council want to encourage and facilitate. Staff has been working on the identification of areas in which the Special Events Ordinance may be overly broad and the Mayor and Council will be revisiting the Special Events Ordinance in the future. However, it will take some time to work through these issues. The suspension of the enforcement of the Special Events Ordinance is intended to avoid the potential deterrent effect the Special Events Ordinance may have on the types of events

the City wants to facilitate and encourage. Because the majority of the events are held in the winter months, the suspension needs to take effect immediately.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS AND DISCUSSION:

On March 17, 2014, a work session was held during which a draft of the proposed Special Event Ordinance was provided to Council. During the work session, Council provided input and direction on the Special Events Ordinance. The draft of the proposed Special Event presented during the work session was revised pursuant to the direction and input received during the work session and was presented to Council on June 23, 2014, at which time the Council adopted the ordinance as presented.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Suspending the enforcement of the Special Event Ordinance will result in the loss of the fees charged for processing Special Event Applications. Last year a total of \$4,320 was collected annually for Special Event Application Fees, and a portion of those fees will be lost.

ATTACHMENTS:

Ordinance No. 15-1317