

**City of Venice
Planning and Zoning Department**

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Council

From: Roger Clark, Planner

Date: October 14, 2013

Re: Special Event – Venice Brews and Blues Festival

Venice Mainstreet Association is proposing the Venice Brews and Blues Festival for Saturday, November 16th from 11AM to 7PM. The event will take place on the vacant property between the Venice Avenue bridge and East Tampa Avenue. The event will include multiple blues artists performing throughout the day along with vendors of food, drinks and merchandise. The Venice Farmer's Market has agreed to relocate to the site to participate in the event and reduce any further impact to Tampa Avenue.

The event will take place on private property, under multiple ownership. The event holder has acquired the approval, in writing, of all property owners to hold the event on the site and has provided the city with all applicable documentation for confirmation. In addition, all property owners, along with the city, are included as "additional insured" on certificates of general liability for the event.

Parking for the event will be available onsite for staff and volunteers. Additional parking for the event will be provided at multiple locations throughout the downtown at no cost. Written permission has been provided by owners of all the proposed remote lots for use of their facility. In addition to the privately owned lots, the event holder is requesting the use of the vacant Legacy Park site for parking. Since it is public property, use of this facility requires the approval of City Council. The event holder desires to use this location for the majority of event parking and will provide shuttle service by Venice Street Legal and YMCA buses to the event site. A detailed parking plan has been worked through by the applicant and staff, including police personnel, to ensure adequate direction is provided to event attendees and transition from lot to lot occurs in an efficient manner.

City staff has met with the applicant on multiple occasions, including onsite, to confirm all aspects of the event. Police and public works staff have been essential in working out the details of the event to ensure the event will not negatively impact the city. The event layout directs the amplified sound to the east toward the industrial area of the city and away from the downtown. The adjacent residential property owners (Waterfront Towers) will be notified prior to the event and access to their homes will not be limited.

Due to the location on private property, the event is being processed through a Temporary Use Permit for special event. The city's code provides for administrative approval of Temporary Use Permits by the Zoning Administrator and the event is approved pending City Council approval of street closure and use of Legacy Park for event parking. Tampa Avenue will be closed just east of the entrance to the Waterfront Towers as will American Legion Way and East Miami Avenue to Bahama Street. In addition, East Venice Avenue will be closed on both the north and south side of the bridge from the base of the bridge to American Legion Way. Both Fire and Police have confirmed emergency access to the site. As indicated above, city staff has reviewed the event and are in agreement with the approval.

Contact me if you have any questions or would like additional information.

cc: Edward Lavalley, City Manager
David Persson, City Attorney