

Street Event User Fees for Business Improvement Areas

Date: October 27, 2017

To: Budget Committee, Executive Committee

From: General Manager, Transportation Services

Wards: All

SUMMARY

City Council, at its meeting of February 15 and 16, 2017, requested the General Manager, Transportation Services to conduct further consultation with the Business Improvement Areas on the impact of the Street Event Fee increases in the 2017 Transportation Services Operating Budget.

As a result of the consultation, staff are recommending the new fees be implemented through a two-year phased-in approach. The new BIA fees would see a 75 percent and 50 percent reduction applied to the approved fees, as shown in Attachment 1 of this report. The proposed 75 percent reduction would be introduced January 1, 2018 and the 50 percent reduction in January 1, 2019. This approach would allow the BIAs to better plan for their upcoming operating budgets.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager, Transportation Services, recommends that:

1. City Council approve the following fees applicable to Street Event applications and permits, effective January 1, 2018 and January 1, 2019, respectively, and amend City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 441, Fees and Charges, Appendix C – Schedule 2 and Chapter 743, to include any necessary descriptions:

- a) *BIA Signature Events* of Attachment 1 to this report at \$625 per permit as of January 1, 2018 and \$1250 as of January 1, 2019;
- b) *BIA One Day Events* of Attachment 1 to this report at \$100 per application per event and a permit fee of \$125 as of January 1, 2018 and \$250 as of January 1, 2019; and
- c) *BIA Sidewalk, Boulevard and/or Curb Lane* of Attachment 1 to this report at \$25 per application per event and a permit fee of \$100 per day as of January 1, 2018.

2. City Council direct the Chief Financial Officer to annually determine, in accordance with the City's User Fee Policy, the automatic annual inflationary adjustment to be applied to the street event fees and that Chapters 441 and 442 of the City of Toronto Municipal Code be amended accordingly. Inflationary increases for the fees listed in items 1. a) and 1. b) to commence January 1, 2020.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Adoption of the recommendations in this report would result in the loss of approximately \$50,000 of potential revenue in 2018 and \$35,000 in 2019, based on the fees approved through the 2017 Budget process.

The Acting Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information

DECISION HISTORY

City Council at its meeting of February 15 & 16, 2017, by adoption of EX22.2, item 210, authorized the new 2017 user fees for Transportation Services. City Council requested the General Manager, Transportation Services, to conduct further consultation with the Business Improvement Areas and to report to the Budget Committee on the implication of the fee increases and on ways to mitigate the impacts:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2017.EX22.2>

COMMENTS

Background

Transportation Services undertook a review of Street Event user fees in 2016 in order to narrow the gap between the administrative and enforcement costs involved with the application process and event monitoring, and the revenues received. Prior to this review, Street Event user fees increased annually with inflation.

New application and permit fees were established and presented during the 2017 Budget process. The new fees were adopted by City Council at its meeting of February 15 and 16, 2017, and presented in Table 1 below. At the same meeting, City Council adopted a member's motion directing Transportation Services to consult with BIAs on the impact of the new fees and ways to mitigate them.

Table 1 – Approved 2017 Street Event Fees

Approved 2017 Street Event Fees			
Service	Reference No.	Rate Description	Budget Rate
Street Events	60	Sidewalk, Boulevard, Curblane Event Application Fee	\$100
	60.1	Sidewalk, Boulevard, Curblane Event Permit Fee	\$200-\$300
Street Events	61	Motor Vehicle Races - Application	\$500
	61.1	Motor Vehicle Races - Permit	\$10,000
	61.2	Signature Events - Application	\$200
	61.3	Signature Events - Permit	\$2500-\$5000
	61.4	One (1) Day Events - Application	\$100
	61.5	One (1) Day Events - Permit	\$500-\$1000
	61.6	Athletic Events - Application	\$200
	61.7	Athletic Events - Permit	\$3000-\$5000
	61.8	Neighbourhood & Community Event Application	\$25
	61.9	Neighbourhood & Community Event Application	\$81.03 + 2017 annual adjustment
Street Events	61.10	Farmers Market - Application	\$500

Consultation

Transportation Services staff met with Councillor Paula Fletcher and the Toronto Association of Business Improvement Areas (TABIA) on three separate occasions to discuss the impact of the proposed Street Event fees and new fee options. TABIA is a non-profit umbrella organization that represents the City of Toronto's 82 BIAs who in turn represent more than 40,000 business and property owners. Transportation Services staff also attended a TABIA Board meeting where a number of City-wide BIAs were present.

The fees approved by City Council saw the fees increase between 26 percent and 138 percent. The BIAs were concerned that they would be financially unable to host their

annual events due to the increases, especially for their planned 2017 events as their current years budgets were set in the fall of 2016.

Proposed BIA Fees

Through our consultation, we recommend implementing new user fees in a two-year phased-in approach. The new BIA fees would see a phasing-in of the fee, with 25% of the fee being charged starting January 1, 2018 and the 50 percent charged starting January 1, 2019. This approach would allow the BIAs to better plan for their upcoming operating budgets.

Conclusions

The proposed BIA fees were established after consultation with BIAs and are proposed to be phased in over a two year period. The proposed reduction in fees as compared to non-BIA events reflect the ongoing partnership between the City and BIAs.

CONTACT

Dave Twaddle, Acting Director
Toronto and East York District, Transportation Services
Telephone: 416-392-7714
E-mail: Dave.Twaddle@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Barbara Gray
General Manager, Transportation Services

ATTACHMENT

Attachment 1 - Proposed BIA Street Event Fees

ATTACHMENT 1

Proposed BIA Street Event Fees

Event Category	Category Definition	Examples of Events	Application Fee	Permit Fee as of January 1, 2018	Permit Fee as of January 1, 2019
BIA Signature Events	Business Improvement Area applicants only: Street events which require full or partial road closures/occupation of Major Arterial, Minor Arterial and Collector roads for two (2) or more consecutive days. (2-4 days)	Taste of the Danforth; Taste of Manila; Taste of Lawrence; Polish Festival; Salsa On St. Clair; Big On Floor; Taste of Kingsway; Cabbagetown Festival	\$200 <i>Per Application</i>	\$625 <i>Per Event</i>	\$1250 <i>Per Event</i>
BIA One-Day Events	Business Improvement Area applicants only: a reoccurring Street Event which requires full or partial road closures/occupations of Major Arterial, Minor Arterial and Collector roads for one (1) day up to four (4) separate days. (Event maximum cannot exceed four (4) separate days)	Kensington Market Pedestrian Sundays; Pape Summerfest; Thrill of the Grill; Leslieville Beerfest	\$100 <i>Per Application</i>	\$125 <i>Per Event</i>	\$250 <i>Per Event</i>
BIA Sidewalk, Boulevard and/or Curb Lane	Businesses within and/or Business Improvement Area applicants only: closure of the boulevard, sidewalk and/or curblane for the purpose of an event, sidewalk sale or staging required in preparation of an event. (Per day)	Sidewalk Sales, Red Carpet Events, queueing, staging for events	\$25 <i>Per Application</i>	\$100 <i>Per Day</i>	\$100 <i>Per Day</i> + inflationary adjustment