

SPECIAL EVENTS/ VOLUNTEER OFFICE

Description of Operations

It is the practice of other local and national governmental jurisdictions to charge a rental fee to offset a percentage of maintenance and administrative costs incurred for Special Events.

In 2008 the City of Sarasota had as many as nine city departments and 19 city employees involved in processing 358 permits (116 Events + 242 other Permits). City staff time is spent processing permits, assigning personnel, reviewing insurance and other administrative services. All of which, in the past, have been provided to event sponsors at no charge. The value of this staff time for 2008 was \$220,629. This cost does not include assigned Public Works and Police personnel who help staff the events.

Other local jurisdictions also charge rental fees for their public parks and open urban spaces while the City has a no-charge policy. Special events encompass such things as craft shows, block parties, walks/runs, car displays & concerts. The estimate of revenue that could have been collected in 2008 for all City events and simple permits under the County of Sarasota rental fee system would have been \$491,238.

It was recommended that the Commission consider a policy to recover some city costs for events going forward by adoption of a rental fee policy for City parks and open urban spaces that is equivalent to 10% of the current County fee structure. Although the City Commission did not approve the new fee, additional information will be gathered and presented to the Commission in December 2009. Based upon this additional information, an implementation date of January 2010 is projected.

Cost Center Expenditures By Category

	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Budget	FY 2010 Continuation	FY 2010 Issues	FY 2010 Totals
Personnel	0	0	97,186	0	97,186
Totals	0	0	97,186	0	97,186

Personnel Summary

Actual Positions	0.00	0.82	0.00	0.82
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Revenue Summary

	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Budget	FY 2010 Continuation	FY 2010 Issues	FY 2010 Totals
OTHER MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE	0	0	33,000	0	33,000
	0	0	33,000	0	33,000