

TRANSMITTAL MEMO

TO: Council President Young
FROM: Peter Little, Executive Director
DATE: October 18, 2016
RE: City Council Bill 16-0728



I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 16-0728 – Discounted City Services and Equipment for Nonprofit Events.

The purpose of this bill is to require that the City grant a 50% discount for City services and equipment used to support a nonprofit event; and generally relating to the provision of City support to nonprofit events.

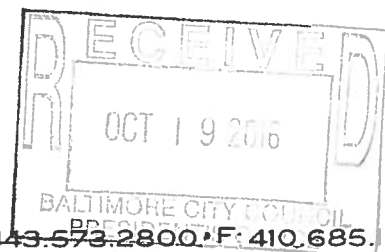
The Parking Authority has several questions and concerns about this legislation. The Parking Authority's questions are as follow:

- How will "City services or equipment" be defined?
 - Will the definition include the bagging of parking meters?
 - Will the definition include the sale/provision of parking in City-owned off-street parking facilities (garages and lots) to nonprofits for events?
- How will "event" be defined?
 - Will it include only nonprofit events held on City property or public right-of-way?
 - Will it include nonprofit events held anywhere, including at hotels, restaurants, or other venues?
- Who/what agency would evaluate the documentation submitted by nonprofits to determine whether any event qualifies for the discount?
 - Will that person/agency have criteria for evaluating each request?
 - Is "net proceeds" 100% of the net proceeds, or any fraction of net proceeds?

The Parking Authority's concerns are as follow:

- Parking meter bagging fees are calculated by adding: 1) estimated actual parking meter revenues lost by the City as a result of meter bagging; and 2) estimated actual costs incurred (i.e. payroll; vehicle fuel) by the Parking Authority/City to bag parking meters. There is no profit margin built into parking meter bagging fees. Therefore, if the fee is discounted by 50%, then the City will, in effect, be subsidizing these events to some degree.

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- If the definition of “City services” includes the sale/provision of parking in City-owned off-street parking facilities (garages and lots), then the legislation should state that parking will be sold/provided only if the Parking Authority anticipates that spaces will be available, and only if parking for the event will not displace parkers who would be paying the full rate.
- The Parking Authority does not have the capacity or expertise to evaluate documents submitted as evidence of qualifications for the discount.

Until we can get responses to these questions and concerns, the Parking Authority is unable to support the passage of City Council Bill 16-0728.