

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM  
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**TO:** Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Malcolm Matthews, Director, Parks and Recreation Department

**THROUGH:** Terry M. Brechtel, City Manager

**COPIES:** Christopher J. Brady, Assistant City Manager; Finance; Management and Budget; Legal; File

**SUBJECT:** Ordinance Authorizing the Temporary Closure of Certain Downtown Streets in Connection with the City's New Year's Eve Celebration

**DATE:** November 13, 2003

**SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

This ordinance authorizes the temporary closure of certain downtown streets in connection with the City's New Year's Eve Celebration to be held in HemisFair Park on December 31, 2003. The ordinance also prohibits silly string and pop-sounding noisemakers and glass beverage containers and requires pets to be on a leash in La Villita, HemisFair Park, and on certain downtown streets near the HemisFair Park area in connection with the New Year's Eve event and provides penalties for the violation of these provisions.

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The New Year's Eve Celebration at HemisFair Park is an annual event. It is sponsored by the City of San Antonio and the San Antonio Parks Foundation. In connection with the event, food and drink concessions will open and entertainment will begin at 6:00 p.m. on December 31, 2003 and the event will conclude at 1:00 a.m. on January 1, 2004. Entertainment will occur on a series of stages set up in HemisFair Park and La Villita. A stage will be built in front of the HemisFair Park entrance arch, the two (2) City mobile stages will be located at Durango and Alamo Streets, the event will use the Arneson River Theater in La Villita and additional portable stages will be set up in Juarez Plaza in La Villita, in Maverick Plaza in La Villita and at Market and Alamo. Food and beverage booths will line the sidewalks along Alamo Street and in La Villita. The event will culminate with a 15-minute fireworks display at midnight with a focal point of the Tower of the Americas.

As in years past, silly string and pop-sounding noisemakers will be prohibited at the event. Also, no glass containers will be permitted. This year a provision is being added to require that all pets be on

a leash in all of the event areas. La Villita currently has this restriction, but it will also apply to HemisFair Park and to the streets utilized for the event. These measures are required in order to add to the public's security and safety during the function. Penalties are established for violators of the ordinance.

### **POLICY ANALYSIS**

The City has co-sponsored New Year's Eve celebrations in HemisFair Park since 1997. This action is consistent with this prior policy.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**


As this is a City-sponsored event, no fees will be assessed for the street closures or use of City equipment in connection with this event. City support will include the provision of police officers to control traffic and provide security during the event and for the necessary barricades. The Fire Department, Public Works Department and Parks and Recreation Department divisions will provide additional support. Total out-of-pocket City costs for this event will be approximately \$40,000.00 that has been budgeted in the City's FY03/04 operating budget. The Departments supporting the festivities will also incur in-kind costs.

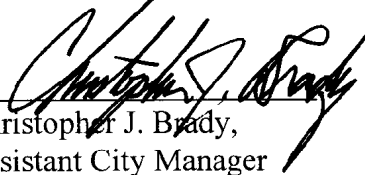
### **COORDINATION**

The San Antonio Parks Foundation is coordinating this event. The event has been coordinated with the Public Works Department, the Fire Department and the Police Department.


### **SUPPLEMENTARY COMMENTS**

A Discretionary Contracts Disclosure Form is not required.

  
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Malcolm Matthews,  
Director of Parks and Recreation

  
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Christopher J. Brady,  
Assistant City Manager

Approved:

  
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Terry M. Brechtel  
City Manager

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