



Office of the City Clerk

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Legislation Text

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Committee on Cultural Affairs October 5, 2016
City Council Meeting

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, 8.5 percent of the land in the City of Chicago is devoted to park space, with more than 580 parks established in Chicago; and

WHEREAS, the 2016 operating budget of the Chicago Parks District is \$458.1 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, property taxes and the personal property replacement tax account for \$310 million of the parks operating budget; and

WHEREAS, the stated Mission of the Chicago Parks District is to, "[e]nhance the quality of life in Chicago by becoming the leading provider of recreation and leisure opportunities...[p]rovide safe, inviting and beautifully maintained parks and facilities," and to, "[c]reate a customer-focused and responsive park system that prioritizes the needs of children and families."; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago Park District's Core Values include a commitment to, "prioritize quality in our programs and accountability in our fiscal management."; and

Whereas, the taxpayers have a vested interest in the maintenance, integrity and profitability of the Chicago's parks; and

WHEREAS, the cost for maintenance and clean up of private events, which residents of Chicago are not afforded access to by their common ownership of the parks in which they are held, are costly and time consuming upon City resources; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago Park District waived fees of \$937,000 for the National Football League when it held its 2015 "Fantasy Football Draft" event at Grant Park; and

WHEREAS, the cost to the City of Chicago has not been disclosed due to Choose Chicago's refusal to provide documentation; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Mayor and the members of City Council call a hearing before the Committee on Cultural Affairs to consider an Amendment to Title 10-8-335 of the Chicago Municipal Code, regarding outdoor special events.