

**To the Mayor and Members of the City Council****January 14, 2025**

Page 1 of 1

**SUBJECT: AMPLIFIED MUSIC WITHIN A CITY OF FORT WORTH PARK**

The purpose of this Informal Report is to provide information regarding events with amplified music held within a City of Fort Worth park. Section 23-8, Chapter 23, Fort Worth City Code regulates the control of all sound and noise within the City of Fort Worth. This section states that a noise may be in violation of this section because it is disturbing to a reasonable person of ordinary sensibilities or because it exceeds the decibel level restrictions.

However, Subsections 23-8(e)(2) and 23-8(e)(3) provide for exemptions to the noise regulations for: noise generated on public ... property, as permitted by the property owner; and for noise generated by an outdoor event that is permitted as described in Section 20-405, Article XII: Outdoor Events, Chapter 20, of the City Code, respectively.

#### Procedure for Allowing Amplified Noise Within a City-Owned Park

The public may use City-owned parks on a first come, first served basis so long as there is not a scheduled reservation for the desired location.

If an Event Holder wishes to reserve or have the park space cleaned prior to an event, it is the Event Holder's responsibility to contact the Park & Recreation Department (PARD) to obtain the required park reservation permit. This includes First Amendment Events. A park reservation permit allows the department time to schedule and provide the necessary maintenance prior to the event.

The park reservation application also requires Event Holders to respond to the custom question "will you have amplified music at your event?". If the Event Holder's response to the question is "Yes", PARD staff will contact the Event Holder directly to collect the required documentation and/or information for the event, such as:

- Event Flyer
- Site Plan
- Emergency plan
- Signage for review and approval (if applicable)
- DJ or speakers (*see Fort Worth City Code, Chapter 23-8*)
- Insurance (add CFW as additionally insured)

Generally, the PARD conducts a compliance review based on the information submitted via the park reservation application to determine if amplified noise is reasonable for the proposed event. For approved events, if the PARD receives loud noise complaints PARD staff will contact the Event Holder directly to resolve the issue and/or contact the Police Department to assist.

For questions, please contact Richard Zavala, Director of Park & Recreation, via e-mail to [richard.zavala@fortworthtexas.gov](mailto:richard.zavala@fortworthtexas.gov).

**David Cooke**  
**City Manager**