

To the Mayor and Members of the City Council**June 6, 2023**

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**SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF UBBI-DUBBI FESTIVAL, APRIL 22-23, 2023, AT PANTHER ISLAND PAVILION**

The purpose of this Informal Report is to provide the City Council with a review of the Ubbi Dubbi electronic dance music festival, held at Panther Island Pavilion on April 22 and 23, 2023.

This is the third time that Panther Island Pavilion has hosted this particular concert. Attendance at this year's concert was estimated at 20,000. Previous Ubbi Dubbi concerts were held at Panther Island Pavilion in 2019 and 2022.

While previous Ubbi Dubbi concerts generated citizen complaints, this year's event generated an exceptional volume of complaints. To date, the City has received approximately 89 complaints concerning this event via phone calls and emails. Citizens also voiced their concerns on social media. Complaints have focused on the vibration and noise attributed to this event, in particular, the fireworks display that marked the conclusion of the show at midnight on April 23.

Panther Island Pavilion is managed by the Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD). Outdoor events occurring on TRWD property are not required to obtain a special event permit from the City. Other City ordinances, like the Fire Code, are applicable to Panther Island Pavilion events.

For this event, TRWD licensed the use of the Pavilion to DDP Worldwide, Inc. as the promoter of the event.

DDP Worldwide did request and was granted a permit for a fireworks display from Fort Worth Fire.

Per the City's Noise Ordinance, noise generated on public property, including TRWD property, is exempt from the regulations of the ordinance, as is noise for venues having a capacity of 1,000 or more on Panther Island. While events at Panther Island Pavilion are exempt from the Noise Ordinance, TRWD did require the event to meet the decibel standards described in the ordinance. Fort Worth Police officers working in an off-duty capacity at the event reported that decibel levels generated by the concert did not exceed the limits for outdoor events.

City staff learned about the concert when public promotion of the event began. The City departments involved in supporting outdoor events then met to develop a plan to provide first responder coverage to both the Ubbi Dubbi and Main Street Arts Festival. This plan was successfully executed on the dates in question.

Through the Office of Outdoor Events, the City reached out to TRWD to express concern about noise and vibration from the event. TRWD responded that they had worked with the show promoter to address this concern.

Due to the feedback generated by the Ubbi Dubbi concert, TRWD Staff discussed the event with the TRWD Board during the Board's May 16 meeting. TRWD shared that they are making the following changes:

Adopt the Downtown sound ordinance limitations and establish operating hours:
Panther Island Pavilion – Operating Hours:

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- Sunday-Wednesday 7am-10pm*+
- Thursday-Saturday 7am-12pm*
- Notes:
 - *-Setup for runs can begin at 5am, but no amplified sound before 7am
 - + -May extend to 11pm on festivals celebrating National Holidays

If you have any questions or concerns related to this report, please contact Michael Crum, Director of Public Events, at 817-392-2501.

David Cooke
City Manager