



Sandy City Council Office

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MEMORANDUM

May 20, 2025

To: The Sandy City Council

From: Cyndi Sharkey, Council Member At-large
Brooke D'Sousa, Council Member At-large
Alison Stroud, Council Member District 2

Subject: Proposed Amendments to Policies and Procedures Governing Equitable Participation in Events by City Officials

Background

On December 19, 2023, the City Council adopted Ordinance 23-23, thereby creating Section 3-1-9 of the Sandy City Legislative Code entitled *Equitable Participation in Events by City Officials*. Pursuant to that enactment, the Council subsequently adopted a corresponding policy document, *Policies and Procedures for Participation in Events by City Officials*, to guide the fair distribution and appropriate use of invitations and tickets received by the City in connection with events hosted by third parties or contracted entities.

While the ordinance remains sufficient in its current form and does not require amendment at this time, certain practical challenges and legal ambiguities within the policy itself have emerged. To preserve the integrity of the original policy framework, these matters merit resolution through precise and deliberate amendment.

Policy Amendments Recommended

- Subsection B(4) – Subsection B(4) and the Preservation of Policy Integrity**
Subsection B(4) of the existing policy has been determined to be unnecessary for the policy's function and legal sufficiency. Its language is redundant and, more concerningly, introduces a discretionary gap that may unintentionally permit circumvention of the core requirement for equitable distribution between branches. Though not stated explicitly, this provision has been associated with patterns of application inconsistent with the policy's purpose. Its removal, therefore, is not merely a cleanup measure but a necessary clarification to reinforce the binding nature of the policy, close interpretive gaps, and uphold the foundational principles established by Section 3-1-9 of the Sandy City Code.
- Administrative Adjustment for Ticket Processing**
Operational experience has shown that City staff, particularly those tasked with executing the policy, face procedural burdens in processing and allocating tickets. Staff have indicated that the existing language requires disproportionate time and resources for routine administration. The proposed amendments include administrative adjustments to enable reasonable flexibility, reduce inefficiencies, and preserve policy intent while accommodating workflow realities.

Conclusion

These amendments are prudent and necessary to ensure continued compliance with Ordinance 23-23, eliminate potential interpretive conflicts, and facilitate practical implementation by City staff. Adoption of these changes will preserve the integrity of the policy and better align it with the legislative directive and the daily realities of City administration.