



Corporate Report

Report from Transportation and Environmental Services, Operations

Date of Report: March 25, 2015

Date of Meeting: April 13, 2015

Report Number: TES-094-2015

File: 77.44.99 & 56.2.3

Subject: Special Event / Road Closure Request: "In the Soil" Arts Festival

Recommendation

That Council approve the request by Suitcase in Point Arts Performances for the "In the Soil" Arts Festival in the downtown; and

That the public be notified that the Director of Transportation and Environmental Services will temporarily close James Street between St. Paul Street and King Street and a portion of Summer Street (as shown in Appendix 1) on Friday, April 24, 2015, at 7:00 am to Sunday, April 26, 2015, at 9:00 pm, to permit a community event; and

That Council authorize Suitcase in Point Arts Performances to license a portion of the closed area of James Street between St. Paul Street and King Street and a portion of Summer Street (as shown in Appendix 1) in order to provide a community event; and

That Suitcase in Point Arts Performances enter into a License Agreement detailing the conditions and requirements for the provision of a three day community event as generally described in this report and to the satisfaction of the Director of Transportation and Environmental Services; and

Further, that the City Solicitor be directed to prepare the necessary agreement documents and by-laws. FORTHWITH

Background

Staff are in receipt of a request from Suitcase in Point Arts Performances to temporarily close down and utilize James Street between King Street and St. Paul Street and a portion of Summer Street (as shown in Appendix 1) to provide a three day ticketed / non-ticketed "In the Soil" Arts Festival from April 24 - 26, 2015. A similar event was held in April 2014.

Report

The “In the Soil” Arts Festival is seeking permission to close James Street from King Street to St. Paul Street. This is the seventh year for the festival, and the second year involving road closures. Suitcase in Point Arts Performances, festival partners from Centre for the Arts at Brock University and Niagara Artists Centre will be programming a festival of 100 acts / installations in theatre, music, dance, media, and streetscape art. The overall aim is to create a festival that promotes the cultural scene and efforts for downtown revitalization. It should be noted that the City is a supporting partner of this festival. Staff have met with representatives of the Suitcase in Point Arts Performances and are satisfied with the approach and experience of the event organizer.

Suitcase in Point Arts Performances will be applying to the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) for a temporary liquor license for the area on the public highway, and the Clerk will circulate the application and process the request for a Municipal Letter of Non-Objection in accordance with the City’s usual procedures for such requests. Upon their review of the temporary liquor license, the AGCO may require policing, and therefore, a service agreement with NRPS may be required.

The road closures will affect James Street between King Street and St. Paul Street and a portion of Summer Street on Friday, April 24, 2015, at 7:00 am to Sunday, April 26, 2015, at 8:00 pm. The road closure on Friday is to facilitate set up of the venue as the festival does not officially commence until 5:00 pm on Friday, April 24. The road closure itself will be completed by City staff. There will be some inconvenience to local residents and businesses during the community event due to potential noise and traffic disruptions. In order to facilitate this event, staff recommend that an agreement be developed that clearly defines respective expectations, obligations and responsibilities.

Staff recommend an agreement generally be in accordance with the following terms:

- maintain public sidewalk access along both sides of James Street
- provision of additional washrooms
- provision of security, fencing and oversight
- manning / marshaling of road closure points
- set-up, maintenance and clean up for the event
- provide any event-day decorating and design for the “In the Soil” Arts Festival
- compliance with the City Zoning, Fire and Noise By-Laws (no extension of hours needed)
- compliance with Niagara Region Public Health requirements
- public and business notification in advance of the event
- additional insured documentation naming the City in the amount of \$5,000,000
- security deposit in the amount of \$1,000

Financial Implications

Event organizers will be responsible for road closure costs incurred by the City, estimated to be approximately \$350.

Notification

It is in order to notify Deanna Jones and Annie Wilson of Suitcase in Point Arts Performances, 346 St. Paul Street, St. Catharines, Ontario, L2R 3N2.

Prepared by:

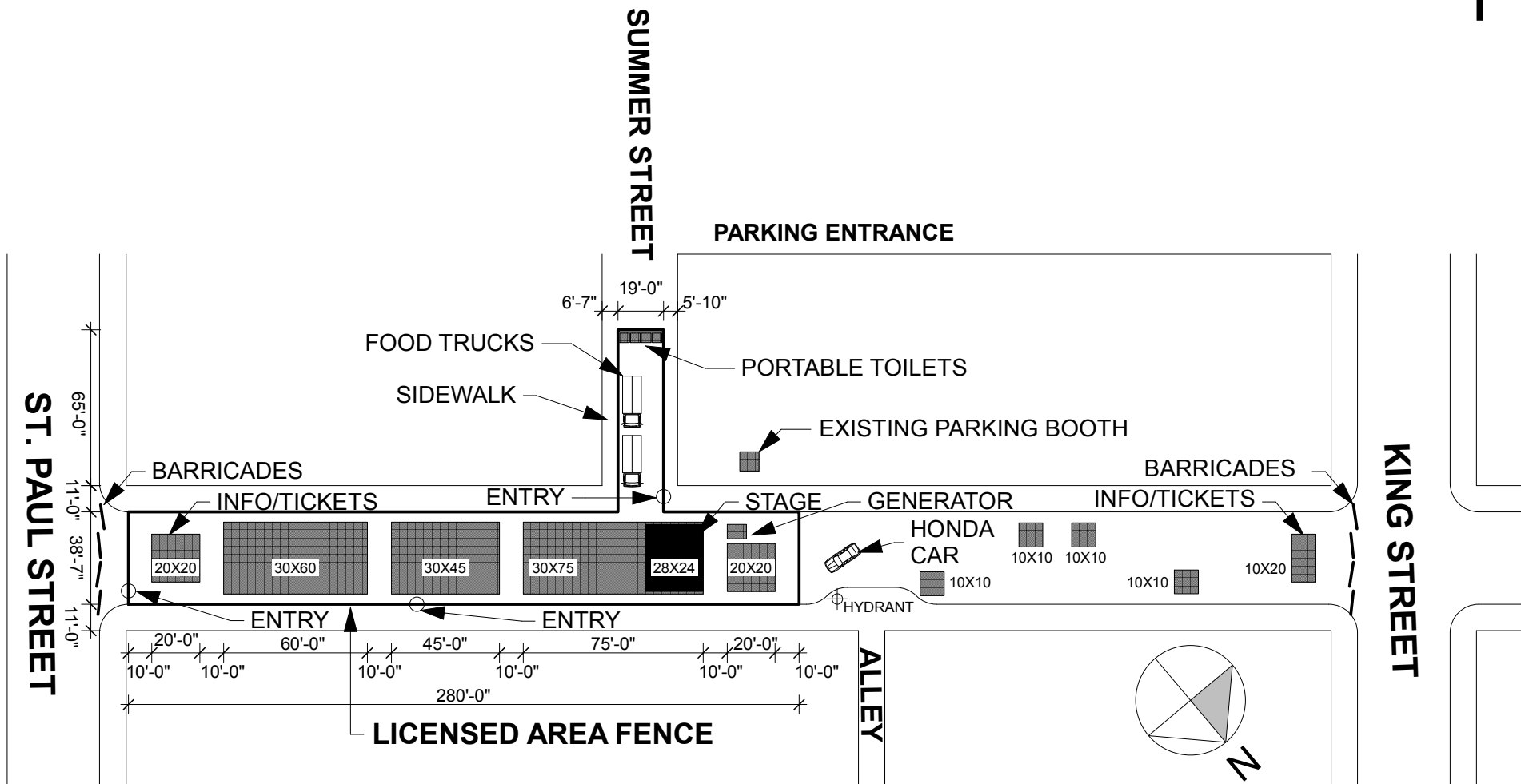
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Approved by:

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Director, Transportation and Environmental Services



project title

IN THE SOIL
ARTS FESTIVAL

drawing title

JAMES STREET
STREET CLOSING

drawn by

NS

designed by

scale

1/64" = 1'-0"

date

26 MAR 2015

job number

issue

D

drawing number

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