



Parks & Recreation

To: Mayor and City Council Members
Doug Faseler, City Manager

From: Jack Jones, Director of Parks and Recreation

Through: Rick Cortes, Assistant City Manager

Date: July 15, 2014

Subject: **Proposed road closure of Nelda Street requested by the Guadalupe County Agriculture & Livestock Fair Association replacing an approved street closure date.**

In November of 2013, City Council approved the closure of Nelda Street for three Guadalupe County Agricultural & Livestock Fair Association related events for the month of January 2014. On March 18, 2014, City Council approved the closure of Nelda Street for eight additional dates for Fair Association related events for the remainder of the 2014 calendar year bringing the total approved road closures to 11 for the year. According to the Lease Agreement between the Fair Association and the City, the City agreed to approve a maximum of 10 street closures per calendar year.

The following approved closure of Nelda Street is no longer needed as the event cancelled:

- Running with the Bulls – Thursday, September 18 at 3 p.m. through Sunday, September 21 reopening at approximately 5 p.m.

The following is a request by the Fair Association to replace the approved September closure of Nelda Street with the following closure of Nelda Street:

- National Barrel Horse Association (NBHA) – Friday, August 8 at 3 p.m. through Sunday, August 10 reopening at approximately 5 p.m.

As per City Ordinances, the closure of Nelda Street requires City Council action. If approved, there would still be 11 street closures for the 2014 calendar year.

Of the 11 officially approved Nelda Street closures for this year, seven of them are these small barrel racing only type events (NBHA and BBRA). These types of events do not need a street closure for public safety purposes (children crossing Nelda Street to see the animals at the swine barn, etc.), with the exception that the horses do start and finish their barrel runs on Nelda Street.

Staff has suggested to the Fair Association to consider reconfiguring the south end of the rodeo arena so the horses can start/finish their runs to the south instead of to the north onto Nelda Street. This reconfiguration would allow the Fair Association to facilitate more barrel racing events annually without impacting public roadways and needing City Council approval for the closure of Nelda Street.

The Fair Association has committed to submitting a plan for City approval to reconfigure the rodeo arena so that Nelda Street would not have to be closed for these barrel racing rentals/events. If the plan is approved, any work would be done by March 31, 2015.

Staff recommends approval of the proposed road closure of Nelda Street as presented.