

City Hall Plaza Improvements for Special Events

Business & Commerce Committee

April 4, 2005

Background

- On December 6, 2004 during a Special Events briefing the Business & Commerce Committee requested that the Office of Special Events, Equipment & Building Services, and Park & Recreation Department identify improvements/repairs to City Hall Plaza that would make this location more conducive to special event activity.

City Hall Plaza Improvements

- The improvements are broken into three basic categories for ease of review.
 - Utilities/ 'Hardscape'
 - Landscape
 - General Maintenance

City Hall Plaza Improvements

- Utilities/ 'Hardscape' Improvements- \$441,000
 - Complete analysis of existing power sources and repair. (\$20,000)
 - Identify and repair all existing water leak locations.
 - Replace missing plates and repair bollards (\$21,000).
 - Install new light fixtures or globes for existing lighting (\$300,000)
 - Identify and install new gates (Marilla) that compliment the surrounding architecture (\$100,000)

City Hall Plaza Improvements (cont.)

- Landscape Improvements -\$13,442
 - Re-seed turf areas in northeast quadrant of plaza with perennial rye grass- (\$3,000 -7 day mowing cycle currently, no change)
 - Replace all dead trees- (\$6,650.00)
 - Add 'twinkle' lights to all smaller live oaks located on plaza- (\$3,792.00)
 - Add 'landscape lights' in larger trees (shining down) in turf area.

City Hall Plaza Improvements (cont.)

- **General Maintenance- \$50,000**
 - Develop power washing schedule for all hardscape areas (monthly) approximately \$50,000 equipment one time cost and \$35,000 FTE salary
 - Develop utility preventative maintenance schedule for all lighting (ambient or architectural).

Next Steps

- Create a task force comprised of event planners that have used the Plaza in the past to assess interest in using in the future.
- Prioritize improvements and develop timeline for completion of each project.
- Complete and update schematic of Plaza that will include all utility improvements in a PDF format for distribution to event planners.
- Develop a policy on the use of City Hall Plaza and implement fees to offset some of the capital expenses identified.

Summary

- Staff believes that these improvements will improve the overall aesthetics of the space but can not assume a definite link between general aesthetic improvements and increased usage for special events without further research.
- Funding sources presently not identified.