



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Parks
Department No.: 052
For Agenda Of: April 3, 2007
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Daniel C. Hernandez *DCH*
Director(s) X2461
Contact Info: Coleen Lund, x2470

SUBJECT: Santa Barbara Bowl Foundation Request for Additional Mid-week Variances;
First Supervisorial District

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: Select_Other

As to form: No

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors approve the Santa Barbara Bowl Foundation's request for an additional twelve (12) mid-week variance requests for the 2007 concert season at the Santa Barbara Bowl.

Summary Text:

The current 45- year lease agreement between the County and the Bowl Foundation requires adherence to the existing Sound Control Plan for the Bowl. This Sound Control Plan allows for six (6) mid-week variances, defined as concert events that occur Sunday night through Thursday night and that end no later than 10:00 p.m. No variances are required if mid-week concerts conclude by 8:00 p.m. The Sound Control Plan requires any mid-week variances, in excess of the six (6) allowed under the plan, to be approved by the Board of Supervisors. The attached letter from the Santa Barbara Bowl Foundation requests twelve (12) additional mid-week variances for a total of eighteen (18) during the 2007 season.

Background:

The Santa Barbara Bowl Foundation, in past seasons, has successfully held a similar number of mid-week concerts, working with local Santa Barbara City Police to address traffic parking and security to reduce impacts to the surrounding residential area. In addition, the Bowl relies on a cooperative partnership with the Santa Barbara High School for parking during events at the Bowl, provided that priority for parking is given to the high school in the event of Friday night home games. This requirement then necessitates that the Foundation, while normally providing concert dates on Fridays, to schedule these venues during the variance periods described.

Given the Foundation's success with concerts performed during these variance periods as explained in the attached letter, County Parks recommends that your Board grant the additional twelve (12) mid-week variances for the scheduled concerts as outlined in the Bowl Foundation's request and allow the flexibility for the additional mid-week concerts through the end of the 2007 season.

Performance Measure:

N/A

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No - Not Applicable

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Narrative: No Fiscal Impact with this action.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:

N/A

FTEs:

Special Instructions:

Clerk of the Board to provide a copy of the minute order to County Parks; attn. Coleen Lund.

Attachments:

March 8, 2007 letter from Santa Barbara Bowl Foundation

Authored by: Coleen Lund, P.E., Project Manager, 568-2470



SANTA BARBARA BOWL FOUNDATION

March 8, 2007

Ms Coleen Lund
Santa Barbara Park Department
610 Mission Canyon Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Dear Ms Lund,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Santa Barbara Bowl Foundation to request twelve (12) additional variance dates for mid-week events at the Santa Barbara Bowl. Due to what appears at this stage to be another great year at the Bowl it is necessary to make this request to accommodate the artists who have expressed interest in playing our facility but are unable to give us a Friday or Saturday.

The experience of the last ten seasons has revealed the annual necessity of additional dates. The only exception was 2001 when the Bowl closed early (the end of August) to allow access for our contractor to begin the renovation of the stage prior to the rains that thankfully never came. At present the Bowl is undergoing further renovation but will be opening in June for events.

Therefore, it is prudent to request the additional variances in advance. This action gives the Bowl Foundation the ability to book shows with the confidence of pre-approved variances rather than to play catch-up in mid-season with shows pending. As you know the music industry generally wants answers immediately and cannot wait weeks for approvals.

In years past I regularly requested six at a time requiring a second request sometime during the season. The last two years year I have requested twelve variances in order to save time and attention for both the Board of Supervisors and the Bowl Foundation. These were granted and indeed most of those variances were utilized. Therefore, I would like to request the twelve initially in order to avoid coming back again. This is proving to be a more efficient practice.

This request is important to both the Bowl itself as well as the community. This season will typically produce a number of shows by great artists that include events presented in order to benefit local non-profit organizations. During the last nine years benefits at the Bowl have raised over a million dollars for such organizations.

In addition, the traffic, parking and security mitigation strategies dealing with neighborhood impact continue to work very well. Also, the Bowl staff and the Santa Barbara Police Department work closely together to ensure safety for all at every performance.

Lastly, the type of artists for whom I request the variances is reasonably non-obtrusive in nature. By this I mean that they have either previously performed at the Bowl without incurring any sound fines or that the information I have suggests that they are not likely to incur said fines. I would point out that although the Foundation is requesting twelve additional variances the actual number used may be less. I simply ask for a block of twelve to avoid this process one more time this season. I would also work with County staff on an individual case by case basis for each of the variances.

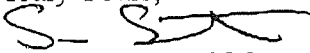
Thank you for your attention regarding this request. I believe dealing with this issue early in the season will alleviate the need for the kind of prompt action that I have had to request in the past due to pressing contractual obligations. I stand ready to aid this process in any way possible. In keeping with the variance policy regarding the Santa Barbara Bowl as set by the County of Santa Barbara I am informing you of the shows for which I anticipate using some of these variances.

Gwen Stefani

June 26 and 27

This list is not complete but history tells us that more artists will become available as the season progresses. Again, for this reason I am requesting the additional variances in advance.

Very Truly Yours,



Sam Scranton, General Manager