



# Memorandum

**TO:** BLUE RIBBON TASK FORCE

**FROM:** Lee Price, CMC  
City Clerk

**SUBJECT: OUTSTANDING ISSUES  
RELATING TO THE PROHIBITION  
OF SPECIAL EVENTS ACCOUNTS**

**DATE:** 02-08-05

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## **RECOMMENDATION**

Provide direction to staff, as appropriate.

## **BACKGROUND**

On February 1<sup>st</sup>, the City Council adopted Resolution No.72517 prohibiting special events accounts, which receive donations for Council District and Citywide special events. In addition, the Council gave the following directions:

- Directed that the City Clerk transfer remaining balances in existing special events accounts to the General Fund or Gift Trust Fund and designate those funds for the purpose for which they are donated, as appropriate.
- That before the funds can be disbursed, Council Members must submit a memorandum to the Rules Committee, describing the event and detailing the proposed uses of the funds.
- Referred to the Blue Ribbon Task Force:
  - 1) Outstanding procedural issues raised in the City Clerk's memorandum dated 1/28/05:
    - Should there be a process for allowing corporate sponsorships and individual donations for these types of special events?
    - How will funds (donations or grants) be received and how will expenses be tracked?
    - If the balance in an account includes other City money, such as Council District Budget funding or grants from the Arena Community Fund, should they be returned or transferred to the General Fund?
    - How will in-kind donations and contributions be monitored and disclosed?
  - 2) Concerns expressed about how the events and the resources they provided to the community can continue without increasing Officeholder account limits
  - 3) Disclosure by Council Members of the receipt of "Big Ticket" in-kind contributions.

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Although not part of the formal action on February 1<sup>st</sup>, Council Member LeZotte raised a question about whether or not Council District funds dedicated to a special events account be transferred back to the Council Office. The Task Force may also want to provide some direction on this additional issue.

LEE PRICE, CMC  
CITY CLERK

