



Follow-up on City Council's request to evaluate Nonprofit Use of City Facilities and waiver of Development Fees

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April 22, 2019

Purpose

- The City Council requested information about Allowing Nonprofits to use City Facilities at no cost
- The City Council requested information about waiving development fees for Nonprofits
- Determine City Council's desired outcome to ensure staff can create draft policy in alignment with City Council's expectations

Purpose

Staff identified some key questions to further this proposal and respond to City Council's request:

- What nonprofits?
- What Facilities?
- What uses?
- What fees?

Background

The City owns a number of facilities that could be rented for use by the public, including:

- Bison Grill
- Buffalo Run Golf Course
- Bison Ridge Recreation Center
- Eagle Pointe Recreation Center
- Civic Center
- Paradise Island Pool
- 20 Parks
- 20 Athletic Fields
- Conter Heritage & Cultural Center
- Small Business Resource Center (Derby)



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Development Fees

On March 4, 2019 City Council approved resolution 2019-29 waiving development fees for new full service restaurants.

- Resolution 2019-29 included in the City Council packet for reference
- Does this schedule of fees meet City Council's goal related to waving fees for Nonprofit development?
- Any modifications desired to the fee schedule?

Definition of Nonprofits

A nonprofit is a tax exempt entity that serves a public interest.

- There are 29 types of organizations tax exempt under Section 501(c)
- There are 29,560 nonprofits within the State of Colorado
- Nonprofits can be incorporate or unincorporated (unincorporated nonprofits cannot receive federal tax exempt status)

Definition of Nonprofits

A common form of incorporated nonprofits are organized under Section 501(c)(3)

- Categorized into 10 major areas and 600 subcategories
 - Arts, culture and humanities
 - Education
 - Environment and animals
 - Health
 - Human Services
 - International, forging affairs
 - Public, societal benefit
 - Religion
 - Mutual/membership benefit
 - Unknown, unclassified



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Definition of Nonprofits

What type of nonprofits does the City Council wish to benefit from no cost use of facilities?

- All 501(c)(3)?
- Commerce City based 501(c)(3), defined by the location of their corporate head quarters?
- 501(c)(3) appointed by City Council?
- 501(c)(3) operating in Commerce City, defined by demonstration of operation within the community?
- Should nonprofits be in good standing with the Secretary of State to obtain benefit?



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How?

- Staff recommends that the applicant be responsible for submitting documentation proving their nonprofit qualifications and status?
- Should the fee be waived prior to collection or charged and collected and then rebated after verification of qualification or after event/build?



Alternatives

Which facilities should be available at no cost to nonprofit entities?

- All of them, some of them, parts of them?
- Depending on use?
- Additional considerations
 - Compatibility with City Vision, Mission, Council Goals
 - Alignment with City nondiscrimination policies
 - Consistency with State and Federal law
 - Facility use prioritization
 - <https://recreation.c3gov.com/rent-or-reserve>

Alternatives

We could develop some other alternatives related to facility use, such as:

- Drafting policy that would allow for staff to have discretion to waive fees for nonprofits, as we do now for city sponsored events
- Develop a tiered system of users and associated fees
 - See DPS Facility Use Policy –
<https://facilities.dpsk12.org/communityuse/>

Next Steps

Staff will draft policy in alignment with City Council's feedback

- Bring back additional information for further City Council consideration including:
- Draft policy
- Estimated revenue impacts
- Costs
- Implementation schedule



Questions and City Council Feedback