



Las Vegas

Agenda Item No.: 4.

AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE

RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF: FEBRUARY 1, 2011

DEPARTMENT: CITY ATTORNEY
DIRECTOR: BRADFORD R. JERBIC

☐ Consent ☒ Discussion

SUBJECT:

Bill No. 2011-4 Continues to authorize, on a temporary basis, the waiver of the origination charge for new urban lounge and tavern-limited licenses. Sponsored by: Mayor Oscar B. Goodman

Fiscal Impact

☐

No Impact

☐ Augmentation Required

☐

Budget Funds Available

Amount:

Funding Source:

Dept./Division:

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND:

Last February the City Council adopted an ordinance to authorize, on a temporary basis, the waiver of the origination charge for new urban lounge and tavern-limited licenses. The intent was to encourage the establishment of new urban lounge and tavern-limited licenses within the districts to which they pertain. It has been proposed to extend the effects of that ordinance for new applications for another year. This bill will accomplish that extension.

RECOMMENDATION:

This bill should be submitted to a Recommending Committee for review, hearing and recommendation to the City Council for final action.

BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

1. Bill No. 2011-4
2. Business Impact Statement
3. Submitted at Meeting Concern Letter by Charleston Neighborhood Preservation

Motion made by STAVROS S. ANTHONY to Approve as Do Pass

Passed For: 2; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 0

RICKI Y. BARLOW, STAVROS S. ANTHONY; (Against-None); (Abstain-None); (Did Not Vote-None); (Excused-None)

Minutes:

COUNCILMAN BARLOW declared the Public Hearing open.

CHIEF DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY VAL STEED indicated that a year ago the City Council authorized a one-year waiver of the origination charge for urban lounge and tavern-limited licenses for the downtown area. Due to its success and to encourage businesses to locate

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downtown, the proposal is to extend the waiver for an additional year. Staff recommended approval.

MARK VINCENT, Chief Financial Officer, indicated that last year eight businesses came into this area spending \$2.5 million in improvements, generating over 60 full-time positions and 30 to 40 part-time positions. The waiver of the origination fee was a success and it is expected that these businesses will continue to flourish. He verified for COUNCILMAN BARLOW that the origination fee for the tavern-limited license is approximately \$20,000 and approximately \$15,000 for the urban lounge license. There were special categories created in these areas to restrict the gaming aspect.

JUANITA CLARK, Charleston Neighborhood Preservation, expressed concern with the vague phrase "within the districts to which they pertain." COUNCILMAN BARLOW explained that this is within the boundaries of the Entertainment District. MR. VINCENT added that the boundaries of the Entertainment District are from Las Vegas Boulevard down to Eight Street. He clarified that the tavern-limited lounge is a unique category in the Entertainment District and the urban lounge is a unique category in the Arts District.

COUNCILMAN BARLOW asked that the boundaries be clarified at City Council.

CHIEF DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY STEED remarked that the boundaries are not being changed, but he will provide those boundaries. MR. VINCENT explained for MS. CLARK that the change refers only to the extension of the waiver of the origination fee. CHIEF DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY STEED indicated that any boundary changes will have to be done through an ordinance.

MARCUS KREWSON, KEITH PORTER and ANTHONY MUNIZ, 18b Revitalization Group, appeared in support of the bill. They thanked the Committee for extending the waiver of the origination fee because it has been successful and it is a tool that has helped many business owners in the downtown area. MR. KREWSON explained for COUNCILMAN BARLOW that the 18b Revitalization Group began as a grass root effort to compliment other associations in the neighborhood by cleaning graffiti, vacant lots, clean up alleys, installing lighting, trash cans and port-o-potties. MR. PORTER added that he has spoken to the Arts Commission about what can and cannot be done with businesses' facades. COUNCILMAN ANTHONY appreciated their comments and added that without these incentives, many businesses would not be able to open in the 18b District.

MR. MUNIZ stated that this particular area needs revitalization and the extension of the waiver will help to make the City a better place.

MR. VINCENT stated that it could be costly for business owners to make the types of improvements required in the Entertainment and Arts Districts.

COUNCILMAN BARLOW declared the Public Hearing closed.