



City of Apache Junction

Home of the Superstition Mountains

DATE: October 22, 2025
TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS
THROUGH: BRYANT POWELL, CITY MANAGER
FROM: LIZ LANGENBACH, DIRECTOR PARKS & RECREATION
SUBJECT: RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO SPECIAL EVENT ORDINANCES WITH CHAPTER 8 OF THE CITY CODE

In May of 2025, staff shared market research on neighboring cities' special event policies and shared sections of the city code that have been identified for updates/additions. Council gave Direction to Staff to review the existing code and bring back recommended changes for consideration.

At this time, staff recommend the following:

Repeal Article 8-8 “Requirements for Community and Civic Events” and Replace with Article 8-8 “Special Events” in its entirety.

The most significant changes include:

1. Shifts focus from business licensing to all aspects of special events
2. Simplifies and combines all processes for Community Events and Civic Events
3. Clarifies event definitions and exclusions
4. Eliminates some fees
5. Clarifies requirements for an event permit, and reinforces consequences for hosting an event that impacts city resources without permission

Make changes to Article 8-10 “Mobile and Temporary Food and Beverage Vendors” that reflect current state statutes and city practices.

The most significant changes include:

1. Allows for either a Pinal County or Maricopa County health permit
2. Removes all reference to a separate required “permit”
3. Establishes locations on public property that are now allowed per state statute; including public parking spaces
4. Updates appeals and penalties to match other chapter 8 sections

Staff will present these changes for discussion. If a decision is made to move forward in updating these two sections of the city code, these would be posted for 30 days and then voted on in a Public Hearing.