

METROPOLITAN EXPOSITION RECREATION COMMISSION

Resolution No. 15-20

For the Purpose of Delegating Authority to the Metro Chief Operating Officer or Her Designee To Waive User Fees.

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission (MERC) has the authority to set User Fees at the MERC Visitor Venues under Metro Code Section 6.01.040(a);

WHEREAS, MERC may delegate this power to the Metro COO;

WHEREAS, MERC set the User Fee at 6% for all commercial and non-profit users and set a schedule of fees for Resident Companies at the Portland'5 Centers for the Arts (Portland'5) under Resolution ~~07-14~~;

09-06

WHEREAS, the minimum User Fee has been set at \$2.25 per ticket;

WHEREAS, certain non-resident company ticket prices or ticketing programs require a lower User Fee or waiver of the User Fee depending on the event;

WHEREAS, staff believes it is in the best interest of the Portland'5 for the COO or her designee to have the authority to waive or lower the User Fees for certain events with ticket prices below twenty dollars or if the waiver is in the public interest.

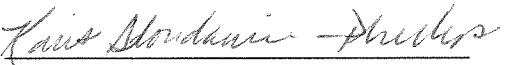
BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

MERC delegates authority to the Metro Chief Operating Officer or her designee to waive or lower User Fees for events with ticket prices below twenty dollars or if the User Fee waiver is in the public interest. MERC confirms that the User Fees set by Resolution ~~07-14~~ remain in effect and that the minimum User Fee remains \$2.25 per ticket if not waived or lowered by the Metro COO or her designee.


09-06

Passed by the Commission on November 4, 2015.


Chair


Secretary/Treasurer

Approved As to Form:
Alison R. Kean, Metro Attorney

By: 
Nathan A. S. Sykes
Deputy Metro Attorney

MERC STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item: For the Purpose of Delegating Authority to the Metro Chief Operating Officer or Her Designee To Waive User Fees.

Resolution No.: 15-20

Date: November 4, 2015

Presented by: Robyn Williams

Background/Analysis:

The Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission (MERC) has the authority to set User fees. Currently the user fee is 6% for commercial and not for profit clients. The minimum user fee is \$2.25 per ticket. (User fee for resident companies is a flat fee schedule established under Resolution 07-14 and remains unchanged.)

Some arts companies are offering deeply discounted tickets for seniors, students, the military and-most recently-for people holding Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) cards. One company is offering tickets for \$5.00, for example, in order to allow disadvantaged families to attend shows at the lowest possible cost. Portland's wishes to encourage and support these deep discounts by eliminating or dramatically lowering the user fees on these tickets.

Portland's desires to have the ability to waive or lower the user fees for certain events with ticket prices below twenty dollars or if the waiver is in the public interest.

User fees set by Resolution 07-14 remains in effect and the minimum user fee remains \$2.25 per ticket if not waived or lowered by the Metro COO or her designee.

Fiscal Impact:

Lowering or eliminating the user fee on low priced tickets will have minimal fiscal impact as this does not affect a high volume of tickets.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of Resolution 15- 20: For the Purpose of Delegating Authority to the Metro Chief Operating Officer or Her Designee To Waive User Fees.