

**CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: March 2, 2009

Reviewed by: BP

SUBJECT: Request for Encroachment Fee Waiver for Sidewalk Celebration in the 1300 Block of Solano Avenue, co-sponsored by Cafeina and the Solano Avenue Association

REPORT BY: Ann Chaney, Community Development Director

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve an Encroachment Permit Fee Waiver in the amount of \$131.09 to allow a sidewalk celebration in the 1300 Block of Solano Avenue.

BACKGROUND

The owner of Cafeina, located at 1389 Solano Avenue, wishes to hold a post-St. Patrick's Day celebration on Saturday, March 21 between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. in the 1300 Block of Solano Avenue. The celebration will include a local musical group, which will play Irish music, and include sidewalk displays from Cafeina, Harmony Beauty Spa, Toy Go Round, Flower Power, and possibly a few others. All activities will be confined to the sidewalk area.

DISCUSSION

On Tuesday, February 24, the Solano Avenue Association Board voted to serve as a co-sponsor for this event as a means of support for Cafeina and other merchants, as well as providing the necessary insurance through its SAA policy. The remaining permitting cost to the applicant is the City's Encroachment Permit fee of \$131.09, as adopted in the City's Master Fee Schedule. Fee waivers can only be approved by the City Council.

ANALYSIS

Staff recommends that the fee be waived in that this activity is consistent with economic development goals of the City, and will be confined to the sidewalk area, thereby not requiring Police Department or Public Works staff time.

Special Permit Conditions include the following:

1. Provide adequate sidewalk access for disabled persons at all time.
2. Clean the area of any trash after the event.
3. Provide copy of insurance form (Note: City has a copy on file).

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT

This event is not expected to contribute to carbon emissions or other aspects of climate change. This event promotes social equity and is sensitive to environmental quality.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The fee proposed to be waived is \$131.09 to cover staff time in processing the permit.

Attachments

None