

September 1, 2021

To: Board, Financial Committees, et al.

From: Hilary Anthony and Lynda Gingerich, Co-Treasurers

Re: Proposal to set parameters for 2022 OCF budget and event size

Update Sept 1, 2021. After meeting with the budget committee, I want to let you know that they prefer keeping our regular schedule: Late January for operating budgets coming to board. I think we may need to look at how we are timing our capital projects.

So this is revised:

Proposed motion: Move to set overall limit of people per day at 3-day event at 35K—including internal and public attendance. Direct treasurers to return by December board meeting a revised revenue projection, any recommendations on price changes, revised attendance cap recommendation. (end of motion)

Anticipated schedule:

September: this motion is old business

November or December: Treasurers present revised revenue projection, proposed attendance cap and revised back pages.

November or December, Possible: start 2022 booth registration or ticket sales or crew registration.

Possible: approve capital projects that are associated with start-up for 2022 event and/or high priority for maintenance/safety.

Late January: Treasurers present proposed revised operating budgets for 2022 based on revisions of the previously passed 2020 budgets and to comply with person per day limits (if passed by board).

Prior memo:

Date: 23 July 2021

Proposal:

For the Budget Committee and ED to prepare a proposed 2022 OCF budget that is based on no more than 35K people on site on any one day.

Background:

1. For 2016, 2017 and 2018, the combined camping, day pass and public admissions population, averaged over 3 days, has been about 35K. In 2019, both the public and internal populations increased so that the average, per day was about 41K.
2. The budget that the board approved for 2020 had increases to the internal population. The admission caps currently in place (21K/day) would also allow for a public population that could equal or exceed the 58K in admissions (or average to about 19.3K/day) we had in 2019.
3. These dramatic increases strain recycling crew, parking and camping capacity, and the provision of services such as water, toilets, busses, entertainment and food. To remain at the increased size, would precipitate increases to crews such as recycling and water that have direct responsibility for accommodating the wellbeing of the population.
4. This proposal is for the board to set parameters on growth and capacity, and to keep our overall site population at the approximate level it was at for 2016-2018.

Why now?

5. There are historic reasons the board has not before deal directly with the overall population: from having siloed systems of accounting for various groups, to operations handling some functions outside of the budget process. At this time, we can construct very good historic information. For the Board to fulfill its governance role and get a handle on planning---the organization must develop the processes for the Board to set the goals related to growth, capacity and infrastructure. I propose that the Board is the correct body to set the goals and limits of population, and that the Budget Committee and ED implement the overall goals and policies within the budget processes.
6. The Board approved the 2020 Budget Committee recommended budget which did not decrease the pass numbers or attendance caps from the all time high of 2019. The 2020 budget can be the starting point for the 2022 budget planning.

Steps:

Asking to put on new business for August: Board to set capacity policy for 2022 3 day event and budget planning.

Possible motion: Move to set overall limit of people per day at 3 day event at 35K—including internal and public attendance and direct budget committee to return by October with a revised revenue projection, any recommendations on price changes, revised attendance cap recommendation, and revised camping and day pass numbers. By December, the Budget Committee is to present a revised spending budget for approval.

September: the motion is old business

October: BC presents revised revenue projection, proposed attendance cap and revised back pages.

November: Possible: start 2022 booth registration or ticket sales or crew registration. Possible: approve capital projects that are associated with start up for 2022 event and/or high priority for maintenance/safety.

December: BC presents revised (from 2020 numbers) spending budgets for approval.

Policy Follow up:

This proposal addresses the near-term need to begin to plan for the 2022 event/year. The board should expect proposals for policy level changes to address some particular programs and practices that have affected growth.