



**CITY OF SALINAS**  
**LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION**

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**DATE: JUNE 12, 2024**  
**FROM: KRISTAN LUNDQUIST, LCS DIRECTOR**  
**TITLE: STATUS OF FILM PERMIT SUB-COMMITTEE**

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive report and provide input.

BACKGROUND:

On January 11, 2023, staff presented an update to Chapter 30 of the Municipal Code which included language establishing a film permit process (Article I-A). During the meeting, several members of the local film, photography and production industries spoke out in opposition of the language in Article I-A. The Commission voted to table the item and establish a sub-committee to work with staff and the stakeholders to address the concerns and recommendations for updates to the language of Article I-A. Commissioners De La Rosa and Martinez were selected as the sub-committee.

On February 2, 2023, LCS staff, the City Attorney and the LCS sub-committee members held a meeting with stakeholders of the film, photography, production, and real estate industries to review the draft language in Article I-A. As a result of the discussion, staff made a commitment to the stakeholders to revise the language to provide clarity as to who Article I-A applies to and to ensure the local film/photography industry would be exempt unless their work involves things like closing a street, etc. On February 24, 2023, a revised draft of Article I-A was distributed to the stakeholders for their review and comment. The revised language seemed to have address the issues originally raised by the stakeholders.

On March 8, 2023, the LCS Commission received an update from the February stakeholder meeting and staff recommended to the Commission that they recommend the City Council adopt an Ordinance amending Article I-C of Chapter 30 of the Salinas Municipal Code related to the revision of the Special Event Process. During this meeting, the Commission received written and in person public comment from the Monterey County Film Commission, the Salinas Valley Chamber of Commerce and one of the local stakeholders recommending that the Commission again table this item. Ultimately, the LCS Commission voted 5-1 to table Article I-A, but move Article I-C of Chapter 30 of the Municipal Code forward to the City Council for adoption. In addition, the Commission wanted to add a member to the previously established sub-committee to continue to work on Article I-A relating to the Film Permit Process

On April 12, 2023, the LCS Commission re-established a sub-committee to review draft language establishing a film permit process as part of Chapter 30 of the Salinas Municipal Code. At this time, Commissioner Gutierrez was added to the previous sub-committee made up of Commissioner Martinez and former Commissioner De La Rosa. Several attempts were made to schedule a meeting with the sub-committee to discuss how to move forward with a film permit process. Unfortunately, due to scheduling conflicts, no meeting was ever held. The item was tabled due to other competing priorities and the ability to continue to use the main special event process to issue film permits.

At the May 8, 2024 LCS Commission meeting, Commissioner Tafoya recommended that the sub-committee be disbanded and the remaining Film Permit work be returned to the staff level. As a result, this report provides a recap of the work that has been done thus far.

#### CEQA CONSIDERATION:

**Not a Project.** The City of Salinas has determined that the proposed action is not a project as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (CEQA Guidelines Section 15378).

#### STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVE:

The update of the special event ordinance supports the following strategic goals:

- Effective and Culturally Responsive Government
- Public Safety

#### DEPARTMENTAL COORDINATION

Staff from Library & Community Services coordinated with the City Attorney and all Department representatives to the Special Events Committee reviewed the draft revised Ordinance back in 2022 & 2023.

#### FISCAL AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

None