

RESOLUTION NO. 16-160

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO DE ROBLES
SETTING FIELD RENTAL RATES FOR CITY-OWNED SPORTS FIELDS

WHEREAS, on October 18, 2016, City Council mandated adjustments to rental fees for City-owned sports fields and directed staff to re-evaluate its proposal for adjusting tournament fees; and

WHEREAS, Paso Robles tournament organizers determine their own per-team participation fee: adult tournament organizers generally charge between \$100-\$300 per team and youth tournament organizers generally charge between \$500-\$550 per team; and

WHEREAS, the City of Paso Robles currently charges adult tournament organizers 20% of gross revenues for tournaments of fewer than 35 teams, and 15% for larger tournaments. In 2015, the average payment to the City for an adult tournament was \$675; and

WHEREAS, the City of Paso Robles currently charges youth tournament organizers 12% of gross revenues for tournaments of fewer than 35 teams and 10% for larger tournaments. In 2015, the average payment to the City for a youth tournament was \$1,237; and

WHEREAS, the City's current approach to charging has a number of key disadvantages, including:

- a. The vast majority of our sports field costs are fixed, as they are not dependent on the number of teams in a given tournament or the amounts they pay to play. Charging a percentage of gross misaligns costs and revenues.
- b. There is no incentive for tournament organizers to set per-team rates at a level to achieve only cost recovery.
- c. Charging a percentage of gross puts the City in the position of being – or at least being perceived as – unofficial partners of the organizers: the better they do, the better we do.
- d. City staff are placed in the position of having to monitor and virtually audit the organizers. This sends an unfortunate message and, in addition, is difficult to accomplish given the absence of full-time weekend staff to monitor participation.
- e. The current rates, being higher for youth tournaments than for adult tournaments, are the reverse of the City's philosophy in charging, and have unintended negative consequences; and

WHEREAS, inquiries to surrounding cities -- including Atascadero, Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo, Santa Maria, Fresno, Hanford and Visalia – indicate that there is great variability in the methods by which cities set fees for tournament play, making it difficult to make direct comparisons; and

WHEREAS, assuming that a typical tournament involves the use of at least 2-6 fields over 2 days for a total of 25 hours per field, tournament organizers in surrounding cities can expect to pay between \$600-\$3,750. The average cost is between \$1,000-\$1,500 plus a light fee depending on the time of year.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of El Paso de Robles, that tournament organizers will be charged a flat fee of \$1,200 for adult and \$1,000 for youth tournaments, starting January 1, 2017, with fees to be adjusted annually thereafter, starting July 1, 2018, based on market conditions.

APPROVED by the City Council of the City of El Paso de Robles this 6th day of December, 2016 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Hamon, Gregory, Strong, Reed, Martin

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:



Steven W. Martin, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kristen L. Buxkemper, Deputy City Clerk