

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE April 17, 2026

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Recommendation to Designate 2026 FIFA World Cup as a Special Event**

Agenda Item 6, number 26-1281A on the April 22, 2026, City Council agenda recommends the city's designation of the 2026 FIFA World Cup as a special event.

The recommended designation of FIFA as a recognized citywide special event allows city leadership and staff to address the multiple events that will take place by utilizing the existing Special Events Ordinance (Chapter 42A) currently administered by the Convention and Event Services Department's Office of Special Events (CES-OSE). The one-stop shop nature of CES-OSE allows for a streamlined process of event permitting based on specific event parameters and anticipated event attendance.

The existing permitting process includes strategic partnerships with partner departments such as Transportation and Public Works, Code Enforcement, Dallas Fire-Rescue, Dallas Police Department, Planning and Development, and the City Attorney's Office which collectively ensure continuity of enforcement and engagement citywide.

City leadership and staff have participated in the planning and logistics processes with the FIFA organizing committee, Downtown Dallas Inc., and other participating cities in preparation for the Fan Festival at Fair Park, open streets events, and various planned activities across the city. In working with these partners, staff recommends the designation of FIFA as a special event to alleviate concerns that may arise related to parking, crowd control, event planning and event ownership, and other issues that occur when large numbers of people are anticipated.

CES and CES-OSE, along with partner departments, have been working collaboratively with FIFA representatives, the FIFA organizing committee, stakeholders, and partner municipalities since the onset of the Dallas's designation as a host city. All partners agree that the recommended designation, should it be approved by City Council, is another step in ensuring Dallas's safety and readiness as a host city.

Should you have additional questions, or require further information, please contact Rosa Fleming, Director, Convention and Event Services.

DATE April 17, 2026
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PAGE **2 of 2**

Service First, Now!



Kimberly Bizer Tolbert
City Manager

c: Tammy Palomino, City Attorney
Mamatha Sparks, City Auditor (I)
Billerae Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Baron Eliason, Inspector General (I)
Dominique Artis, Chief of Public Safety
Dev Rastogi, Assistant City Manager

M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager
Alina Ciocan, Assistant City Manager
Donzell Gipson, Assistant City Manager
Robin Bentley, Assistant City Manager
Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer
Ahmad Goree, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Directors and Assistant Directors