

RESOLUTION of assurances of support for the 2020 Democratic National Convention
Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What are you asking Council to approve?

A: Council is asked to approve a resolution showing the City's commitment to provide services necessary for a successful Democratic National Convention in Houston.

Q: When did the City last host a Democratic or Republican Convention?

A: Houston hosted the Democratic National Convention in 1928 and the Republican National Convention in 1992.

Q: If it's been so long, why are we doing this now?

A: While the City has seldom gone after these events in the past, we have greatly enhanced our capacity to host events of this magnitude. Facilities built (and expanded) prior to the 2017 Super Bowl placed Houston on a trajectory to host large national and international conventions.

Q: Will the City also bid to host the Republican National Convention?

A: Yes, the intention is to bid to host the RNC in 2024. Further, with political conventions typically taking place in late summer, we have hopes that Houston will be looked at favorably for all future conventions.

Q: When and where will the 2020 DNC be held?

A: The event will take place in the late summer of 2020 and will be held in the Toyota Center and the GRB.

Q: How will the City benefit?

A: The average total economic impact from the 2016 Convention in Philadelphia was estimated to be \$230.9 Million. In addition, over 54,000 visitors attended, resulting in 87,000 room nights. The convention media coverage resulted in 26.2 million national and international media impressions for the host city.

Q: What will it cost the City?

A: This event will be cost neutral to the City.

Q: How will the City be reimbursed for costs incurred before, during, and after the event?

A: There are several funding avenues the City will pursue including application to the State of Texas major events reimbursement program, a Department of Justice grant (through the DNC) and through private fundraising.

Q: Who will be responsible for the private fundraising?

A: The Mayor will appoint a Host Committee who will be tasked to fundraise for the event. In addition, we will contract with an individual whose strengths are raising funds for national political conventions paying specific attention to national funding.

Q: What are the next steps?

A: This bid is due to the DNC offices on 6/15/2018. Later this month we will have a presentation to the DNC regarding the Houston bid. The DNC will short-list cities and perform site visits throughout the summer and fall. The top 2 or 3 cities will be announced in the fall and the DNC will make the host city announcement in late January or February 2019.

Q: What other local support does the City have for the event?

A: Well known successful businessman Tillman Fertitta has agreed to support the City and its endeavor to secure this event. In addition, we will include dozens of support letters from a broad spectrum of organizations, individuals, security agencies, dignitaries and community partners.