

April 17th, 2025

Attention City Councilmembers,

Union Park District Council (UPDC) is very disappointed in the process that granted a Sound Level Variance Application for the Breakaway Music Festival this afternoon. We were informed via the City's Early Notification System that an application for a sound variance was submitted in October 2024 and were promised: "Further details on this event will be forthcoming." The City did release further details but, as far as we can tell, only to those living in a narrow radius of the center of the event. It is unclear whether or not proper mailing to those in the neighborhood within the notification area was conducted. UPDC was unaware of the volume levels requested by the applicant and recommended by staff until it appeared on the City Council Agenda this week, which did not permit UPDC an actionable amount of time to provide input. As widely covered in the press, the sound from this event last year reached far outside the radius the City used for detailed notification this year. No adequate notice was provided to allow public input on this request.

Due to the lack of proper notice, UPDC requests the City Council reconsider the approval and grant a hearing to allow additional public input.

Thank you,
Union Park District Council