



Staff Report

TO: City Council
FROM: Elizabeth Gibbs, City Manager
DATE June 3, 2025
SUBJECT: Donation of \$30,000 to the Beaumont Chamber of Commerce

Description In lieu of planning and hosting the 2025 State of the City.

Background and Analysis:

The Beaumont Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) has historically taken the lead in organizing and hosting the City's annual State of the City address. The event provides an important opportunity to inform residents, businesses, and stakeholders about recent accomplishments, future priorities, and City leadership's strategic vision.

For 2025's event, City staff is proposing to assume full responsibility for the planning and hosting of the State of the City. This transition will allow the City to manage all aspects of the event-from messaging and presentation to logistics and execution-while also recognizing the Chamber's past efforts through a one-time financial contribution.

The proposed approach offers several advantages to the City while still honoring its partnership with the Chamber, including:

- Full control over event content and messaging, ensuring consistency with City priorities and branding
- Direct engagement with residents and businesses, enhancing transparency and civic pride
- Strengthened visibility of City leadership and accomplishments to a broad audience
- Potential cost recovery through sponsorships and ticket sales
- Improved coordination among City departments, increasing efficiency and event quality

Potential revenue sources include:

- Sponsorship = \$40,000
- Ticket Sales = \$10,000

Potential expenditures include:

- Chamber donation = \$30,000 (\$5,800 is included in FY 25/26 budget)
- Venue = \$120 (cleaning fee only)
- Decorations = \$6,000
- Stationary (invitations, programs, etc.) = \$1,200
- Photo/AV = \$33,000 (included in FY 25/26 budget)
- Advertising = \$500 (included in FY 25/26 budget)
- Table rentals = \$600
- Catering/Food = \$16,000

Total cost = \$87,420

Net cost after potential revenue = \$37,420, all of which is already included in the FY 25/26 budget.

Transitioning the State of the City event to a City-led model enhances control, coordination, and community engagement. At the same time, the one-time donation to the Chamber acknowledges their years of service and continued role as a valued partner in promoting local business and civic pride.

Fiscal Impact:

The one-time \$30,000 donation will be funded through FY 25/26 100-1050-7034. Event revenue may offset some budgeted expenses depending on sponsorship and ticket sales success.

Recommended Action:

Approve a one-time donation of \$30,000 to the Beaumont Chamber of Commerce in recognition of their past efforts and support of economic development; and

Authorize staff to plan and host the 2025 State of the City event.