

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND 4601 Padre Blvd. South Padre Island, TX 78597 (956) 761-8106 * (956) 761-3888 fax

> Contact: Angelique "Nikki" Soto NSoto@myspi.org (956) 761-8106

Lantern Fest cancellation reminder

South Padre Island, TX, Sept. 21, 2017: The City of South Padre Island is reminding the public that the Lantern Fest will not be held on South Padre Island. On Aug. 2, the City Council denied the permit for Lantern Fest to take place in the City of South Padre Island due to concerns regarding fire risks and environmental impacts.

Lantern Fest received payments from the public for the tickets purchased; so, ticket holders should contact Lantern Fest directly to request a refund.

"The City has heard from the public that the Lanternfest emailed an event reminder to those who had purchased tickets as late as this week," said Keith Arnold, CVB director. "This prompted us to issue this reminder."

Over the summer, the Shoreline Department conducted a nine week experiment on the biodegradation of the lanterns that would be used for this event. Click here to view weekly results of the experiment. Based upon these outcomes and information from fire professionals, the event permit was denied.

In June, the Lantern Fest provided the following instructions to request a refund:

"Participants seeking a refund can contact the event promoter by visiting www.thelanternfest.com/contact-us/ and using the Subject Line, "SPI Refund". Kindly include the EventBrite ticketing confirmation number and your purchase date in the Comments section. Event staff will contact you within 24 hours, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. "

Out of concern for participants who may still have plans to visit the Island this weekend, the South Padre Island Convention Centre has planned the following:

- Starlight Quartet will be performing a free concert on the Green this Friday evening starting at 6 p.m. The Green is located at Amberjack and Laguna Boulevard, next to Jim's Pier.
- On Saturday, those who show a ticket for the Lanternfest will be given free admission to Schlitterbahn <u>Indoor</u> Waterpark.