

DECEMBER 9, 2003

Date:

To: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Dona Spring

Subject: FUNDING FOR WALNUT SQUARE MUSICAL EVENTS

RECOMMENDATION: that the City Council allow \$2500 of unspent funds from the North Shattuck Walnut Square music events 2002--2003 last year's allocation to be rolled over to the 2003--2004 budget this year's allocation.

BACKGROUND: The 2002-2003 City of Berkeley budget had a \$5,000 budget allocation for musical events in Walnut Square and only \$2500 of this allocation was spent. The previous City Manager had agreed to roll the remaining funding over to the current fiscal year and the Walnut Square merchants were told that they could count on this funding in the coming year. The current situation now is that Council must approve any rollover funds from the last fiscal year to this one. The Walnut Square merchants and the Berkeley residents have greatly enjoyed classical and jazz musical events in Walnut Square. The merchants have produced a newsletter advertising their businesses and fun events (such as musical concerts) and distributed this newsletter in the North Berkeley area. \$2500 will pay for six to eight musical events. The funding is distributed to the Walnut Merchant Association through the city's Office of Economic Development.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: \$2500 from unspent funds in the 2002 through 2003 fiscal budget.

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