

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. A(4)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: June 26, 2007

TITLE: Request to Modify the Farmers' Market Contract with the Town of Carrboro

DEPARTMENT: Community and Economic Development	PUBLIC HEARING: YES ___ NO <u>x</u>
ATTACHMENTS: A. Resolution B. Amendment to Farmers' Market Contract C. Town Code Amendment	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: James Harris 918-7319

PURPOSE

The purpose of this item is to request an amendment to the contract between the Town of Carrboro and the Farmers' Market to allow the farmers an additional hour for operation and additional half-hour after the market to clean up the facility before the next function moves on site. Parking restrictions in Section 6-19 of Article IV of the Town Code would also need to be amended to reflect this change.

INFORMATION

Currently the Carrboro Farmers' Market setup on Saturday mornings starts at 5:30 am. The market opens at 7 am, closes at Noon, and tries to be off-site by 1 pm. Over the past few years, market members have noticed that their busy times are later in the day: 10am-noon rather than 8am-10am. Because of this change, the Farmers' Market is considering changing its operating hours to 8am-1pm and is also asking the Board of Aldermen for a needed additional half-hour for clean-up. The change in operating time has to be approved by their membership.

In sum, the Farmers' Market is asking the town to extend the time that the Town Commons is reserved for them from 1pm to 2:30pm on Saturdays to give the market vendors enough time to clean up prior to the next event moving onto the Town Commons.

This change in hours of reservation for the Farmers' Market conflicts with existing Really Really Free Market reservations (1:30 – 5:30 p.m.) on the first Saturdays of July, August and September. It will require the Farmers' Market and representatives of the Really Really Free Market to work especially carefully on those Saturdays to find a reasonable accommodation.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Market contract be amended to allow the Farmers' Market operation and clean-up to extend to 2:30pm on those Saturdays when it takes place. Staff also recommends approval of the associated Town Code change related to parking.