

**From:** Aaron Powell

**Subject:**

**Date:** September 7, 2022 at 1:03 PM

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AP

All,

I am a five time participant at Two Day Town. In each case it was the highlight of my year. I've always been extremely impressed by how well the event is managed and how family and environmentally friendly the event is with no behavioral issues or incidents of which I'm aware.

I find your letter of August 29th inflexible and almost militant regarding several points. It is most important to keep in mind that we are talking about one weekend out of the entire year! My major concerns:

- Actions 1-3 and 9 and 13: the main concern here seems to be access to the park by the rest of the public. For only 2 days, Wed. evening, Thurs., and Mon. morning? An event that serves thousands of people vs a few naturalists? A single school field trip? Seriously? Such programming can't be scheduled around Two Day Town? Who is impacted more by this mandate? Some common sense please!
- Action 10: This one, hard stop of acoustic music at 10pm is an event killer. It completely changes the character of the event, and I suspect it would dramatically reduce attendance. I'm a drummer. My first year of participation was fantastic, playing hand drums with other musicians around the campfires well into the night. My next year I was told I couldn't play after 10. I was very disappointed by this, but I complied. I understood drums carried over the most to the campground. Still I got to play a tambourine, shakers, or cajon and enjoy tremendously the great music! But to eliminate this feature altogether seems arbitrary, even cruel. The impact on non-participants is minimal if any at all. The impact on participants is devastating.

I hope you will reconsider these actions. Rather than killing the event, you should be embracing it, supporting it. I suspect it has done a lot for the park over the years, and if you were smart about it, could do a LOT more. Think outside the box, for ways you can accommodate the event as it has existed for many years, and for ways you could actually take advantage of it, benefit from it, and others like it. It is our park too after all! I think you are extremely foolish to risk losing it.

Sincerely,  
Aaron Powell, PhD