



Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC) Agenda

Date: February 11, 2026

Time: 12 p.m.

Location:

City Hall, Aspen Room, Fl 1
415 W. 6th Street
Vancouver, WA 98660

Virtual Viewing

To request the virtual meeting link, please call 360-487-7843 or email callie.taylor@cityofvancouver.us by 5 p.m. the day before the meeting.

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call** – Sarah Fox, Chair
 - a. **Roll Call**
 - b. **New Member Introductions**
 - c. **Excusal of Absence, if needed**
2. **Approval of 11/11/25 Minutes** – Sarah Fox, Chair
3. **Community Communication** – Sarah Fox, Chair

To provide public testimony, please see the Community Communication instructions below.
4. **New Member Welcome** – Sarah Fox, Chair
5. **Lodging Tax Advisory Updates** – Chris Harder, Deputy Director
6. **LTAC Role and Grant Process** – Andrew Westlund, Management Analyst
7. **2026 Goal Setting/Committee Priorities** – Andrew Westlund, Management Analyst
8. **Planning for 2026** – Andrew Westlund, Management Analyst

Lodging Tax Advisory Committee

Members

Sarah Fox
Committee Chair

Janet Kenefsky
Temple Lentz
Christie Rust
Mike Bomar
Keri Robinson
Kyle Byrd

9. Other Business – Sarah Fox, Chair

10. Adjournment – Sarah Fox, Chair

Community Communications Instructions

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA), the LTAC meeting will be open to in-person attendance. Options for viewing and/or participating in the meeting remotely will also be accommodated. For live virtual viewing, please call 360-487-7843 or email callie.taylor@cityofvancouver.us by 5 p.m. the day before the meeting.

The public is invited to speak regarding any matter on the agenda. Members of the public testifying are asked to limit testimony to three minutes. There are three ways to provide comments:

1. Writing: Public comments can be submitted in writing (name, address, contact information and comments) via email to callie.taylor@cityofvancouver.us by 5 p.m. the day before the meeting.
2. Remotely: Pre-register by phone at 360-487-7843 or email callie.taylor@cityofvancouver.us by 5 p.m. the day before the meeting.
3. In Person: Pre-register by phone at 360-487-7843 or email callie.taylor@cityofvancouver.us by 5 p.m. the day before the meeting or fill out a Public Comment form in person prior to the start of the Community Communications portion of the meeting.

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Date: November 14, 2025

Time: 12 – 3 p.m.

Location

City Hall – Aspen Room, Fl 1
415 W 6th Street
Vancouver, WA

Special Meeting (Convened in-person and via video conference)
The meeting agenda materials referenced in these minutes can be found [online](#). Link to Microsoft Teams meeting video: [25 11 14 LTAC Meeting Video](#).

Item 1: Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting of the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee was called to order at 12:01 p.m. by Sarah Fox, Interim Committee Chair.

Board Members Present: Carla Rise, Terry Goldman, Temple Lentz, Christie Rust, Ryan Hart, Janet Kenefsky (virtual), Steve Bowers (virtual), Jennifer Kenney (virtual), Sarah Fox

Board Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Chris Harder, Kimberly Kerlee, Andrew Westlund, Curtis Burns

Presenters: None

Item 2: Approval of Minutes

Motion by Goldman, seconded by Hart, and carried unanimously to approve the November 7, 2025, minutes.

Item 3: Community Communications

None.

Item 4: Event Scope Policy Discussion

Chris Harder opened the floor to discuss how the committee handles scenarios where an applicant’s scope of work changes or the applicant requests a rollover of funds to the following year due to unforeseen changes in their organization or event. Harder reviewed the scope of work as written in the grant agreement. Chair Fox requested that this agenda item be moved to a later meeting and recommended the

Members

Sarah Fox
Interim Chair

Steve Bowers
Temple Lentz
Janet Kenefsky
Jennifer Kenney
Christie Rust
Terry Goldman
Ryan Hart
Carla Rise

Economic Prosperity & Housing

415 W 6th Street
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Vancouver, WA 98668
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cityofvancouver.us

To request accommodation or other formats, please contact:

Economic Prosperity & Housing | 360-487-7846 | Relay 711 | Kimberly.Kerlee@cityofvancouver.us

discussion be centered around whether the changes are minor or major and how they impact the original grant award.

Chair Fox noted for the record that Temple Lentz joined the meeting in-person.

Item 5: Administrative Cost Proposal

Chris Harder provided an overview of the administrative cost proposal. Andrew Westlund shared the elements and cost allocations within the proposal for the Lodging Tax fund including staff time, grant management annual subscription and Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services staff time. Committee members Kenney asked how the 2026 costs compare to last year. Westlund and Harder responded.

Item 6: 2026 Lodging Tax Grant Recommendations

Chris Harder reviewed the full amount of funds available for grants and reminded the committee that they are not obligated to award the full amount. The award amount for WA Timbers will not be included in the available funds due to rolling over into 2026. Rust requested that if a rollover is offered to WA Timbers, they commit to hold the event the same weekend they initially committed to. The group overall agreed with Rust's request. Further discussion to occur at a later meeting.

The group recognized the committee members who will need to excuse themselves during discussions regarding applications with conflicts of interest. Harder informed the group that Committee members with conflicts of interest can remain in the room during voting and will abstain when a motion is made for those events. Kenefsky pointed out the importance of consistency during deliberation and when making final award recommendations. The group discussed what this looks like throughout the review and voting process. The lodging tax grant agreement components were discussed.

The LTAC reviewed and discussed the following 2026 grant applications:

Committee members Rise, Hart, Goldman and Bowers recused themselves due to a conflict of interest with Visit Vancouver.

1. Visit Vancouver – 2026 Sales & Marketing Programs

Committee members Rise, Hart, Goldman and Bowers rejoined the meeting.

Committee member Lentz recused himself due to a conflict of interest with The Historic Trust.

2. The Historic Trust – Heritage Tourism Marketing

Committee member Lentz rejoined the meeting.

Committee member Rust recused himself due to a conflict of interest with Vancouver's Downtown Association.

3. Vancouver's Downtown Association – Downtown Ambassador Program

Committee member Rust rejoined the meeting.

4. theARTScentered – Arts and Cultural Programming
5. Vancouver Rowing Club – Lake Spring Sprints
6. Vancouver Ballet Folklorico – Day of the Dead Luminarias

7. Ke Kukui Foundation – 4 Days of Aloha
8. ALS Northwest – Southwest WA Walk
9. Vancouver Farmers Market – Vancouver Holiday Market
10. Vancouver Arena – Go Fest
11. ACBL D20 Organization – The Oregon Trail Regional Bridge Tournament
12. Columbia Dance – Fort Vancouver Nutcracker
13. Vancouver Symphony Orchestra – Vancouver USA Arts & Music Festival
14. Queer Community Network – Pride Block Party
15. Pacific NW Golf Association – 40th Pacific NW Mid-Amateur Championship
16. Vancouver Bee Project – Pollinator Festival
17. Asset Fusion Events – Asset Fusion Forum

Committee member Hart recused themselves due to a conflict of interest with the Association of WA Business.

18. Association of WA Business – 2026 AWB Spring Summit

Committee member Hart rejoined the meeting.

19. Hough Foundation – Oktoberfest
20. WHY Community – Appletree Marathon
21. Bravo! – Freedom! Celebrating American Music 2026
22. WHY Community – Columbia River Triathlon
23. Cruise the Couve
24. Hough Foundation – Tacos, Taps and Tequila
25. WHY Community – Couve Clover Run and Girlfriends Run
26. Parks Foundation of Clark County - Hockinson Meadows Disc Golf Classic

The committee made motions to recommend funds to the following applications:

Motion by Rust, seconded by Lentz to approve and recommend the full 2026 Lodging Tax Grant funding request for Visit Vancouver as shown on the spreadsheet. Yes: Kenney, Fox, Rust, Lentz, Kenefsky. No: 0. Abstain: Rise, Hart, Goldman, Bowers

Motion by Hart, seconded by Rise to approve and recommend 2026 Lodging Tax Grant funding for The Historic Trust, Heritage Tourism Marketing, as shown on the spreadsheet. Yes: Bowers, Kenefsky, Rise, Hart, Goldman, Kenney, Rust, Fox. No: 0. Abstain: Lentz

Motion by Goldman, seconded by Lentz to approve and recommend 2026 Lodging Tax Grant funding for Vancouver’s Downtown Association’s Downtown Ambassador Program as shown on the spreadsheet. Yes: Lentz, Kenefsky, Bowers, Rise, Hart, Kenney, Fox. No: 0. Abstain: Goldman, Lentz

Motion by Goldman, seconded by Rise to approve and recommend 2026 Lodging Tax Grant funding for the Association of WA Business 2026 AWB Spring Summit as shown on the spreadsheet. Yay: Kenney, Fox, Rust, Lentz, Kenefsky, Rise, Goldman, Bowers. No: 0. Abstain: Hart

Motion by Goldman, seconded by Kenney and approved unanimously to approve the remaining award recommendations as listed on the spreadsheet.

Item 7: Other Business

Chris Harder recognized the following committee members who will not be joining the LTAC in 2026; Ryan Hart, Jennifer Kenney, Steve Bowers, Carla Rise and Terry Goldman and expressed his appreciation on behalf of the City for the time and work they have put into the program. Chair Fox also expressed appreciation on behalf of Council. Temple Lentz and Christie Rust offered to attend the December 15 City Council meeting to represent LTAC for the award recommendations. Goldman thanked chair Fox for stepping in as interim Chair.

Item 7: Adjournment

3:10 p.m.

Sarah Fox, Chair

Meetings of the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee are electronically recorded. The tapes are kept on file in the office of the City Clerk for a period of six years.



Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC)

Sarah Fox, Chair

Chris Harder, Deputy Director/City Liaison

chris.harder@cityofvancouver.us

February 11, 2026



Agenda Topics

- New Member Welcome
- Lodging Tax Advisory Updates
- LTAC Role and Grant Process
- 2026 Goal Setting/Committee Priorities
- Planning for 2026



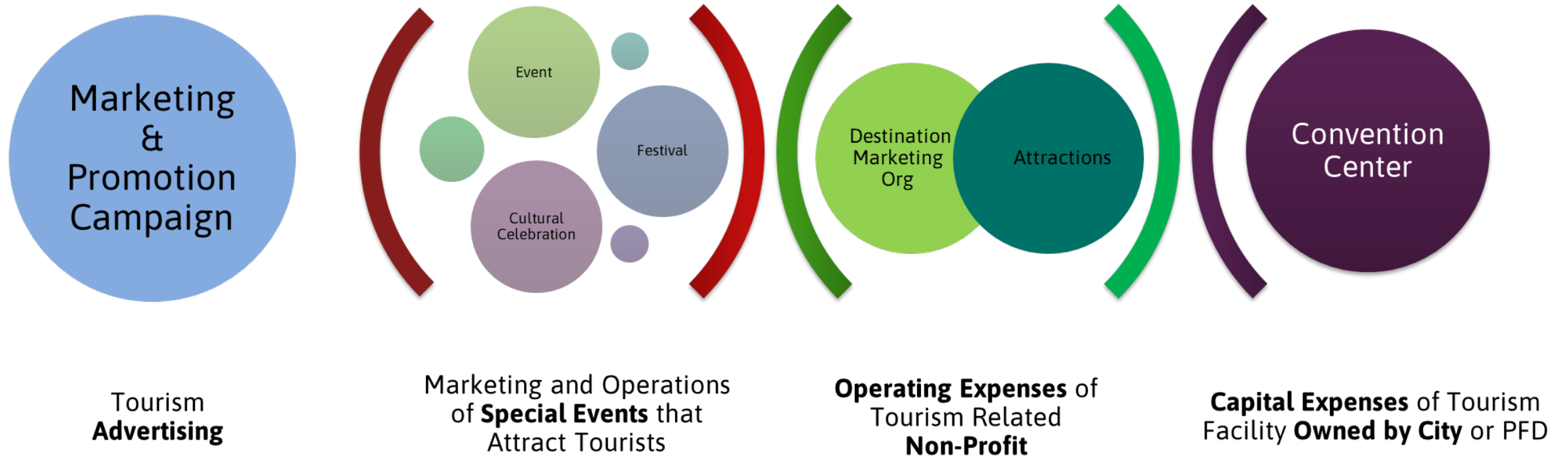
Lodging Tax Advisory Updates

- **City staffing**
- **2026 Grant Contracting Status**
- **Plan and process for filling vacant positions**



LTAC Role

How can funds be used? RCW 67.28.1816(1)



Grant Process



2026 Goal Setting/Committee Priorities

What would we like to accomplish? What information do we need to best use our resources and influence?

- **Goals:**
 - Increase number of applications by x?
- **Desired Information/Presentations**
 - Budget?



Planning for 2026

When would you like things to happen? What potential conflicts are there?

January-March	April-June	July-September	October-December
<ul style="list-style-type: none">All contracts for 2026 executed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Improve...	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Identify funds available for grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Review sessions require additional/longer meetings



Thank You

