



# Lodging Tax Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

**Date:** November 14, 2025

**Time:** 12 – 3 p.m.

**Location**

City Hall – Aspen Room, Fl 1  
415 W 6<sup>th</sup> 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

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TTY: 711  
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**To request accommodation or other formats, please contact:**

Economic Prosperity & Housing | 360-487-7846 | Relay 711 | [Kimberly.Kerlee@cityofvancouver.us](mailto: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 – 40<sup>th</sup> 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

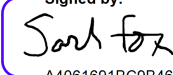
**Motion** by Goldman, seconded by Kenney and approved unanimously to approve the remaining award recommendations as listed on the spreadsheet.

**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.

Signed by:  
  
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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.