

**Tourism Advisory Committee (TAC)
November 5, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

Date: December 2, 2025, 8:30AM

Location: Ralph Mark Gilbert Civil Rights Museum

TAC Attendees: Nancy Beskar, Vaughnette-Goode Walker, Mitch Linder, Joe Marinelli, Michael Owens, Charlie Brazil, Nancy Radke, Jason Combs, Collier Neeley, David McDonald (substituting for Marysue McCarthy)

City Staff: Elizabeth Clark, Jason Pagliaro, Danny Henderson, Will Gillison, Donna Cooper

Guest Attendees: Hamp Murphy (TLC), Brian Ford (Street Performer), Beau Frail (Street Performer), Cathryn Johnston Floyd (Street Performer) Paul Cobet (DNA), Mike Austin

Call to order: 8:31AM

Summary:

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- M. Linder called the meeting to order at 8:31AM. A motion to approve the November 2025 TAC meeting minutes was made and unanimously approved.

B. Staff Changes Update & TAC Leadership

- J. Pagliaro gave an update on the Tourism Supervisor position noting that the decision has been made to combine the vacant Tourism Supervisor position and the Vacant Film Supervisor position to create a Film & Tourism Supervisor. A Film & Tourism Coordinator position will fall under the Supervisor.
 - Interviews for the Supervisor position will be 12/2/25 in the afternoon and should be filled soon.
 - The Coordinator position will be posted in January once hiring restrictions lift for the new calendar year.
- J. Pagliaro thanked Mitch Linder and Marysue McCarthy for serving as 2025 TAC Chair and Vice Chair.
 - M. Linder noted early challenges but strong progress throughout the year and expressed optimism for continued momentum in 2026.
- J. Pagliaro welcomed Nancy Beskar and Vaughnette Goode-Walker as 2026 Chair and Vice Char.
 - N. Beskar and V. Goode-Walker expressed enthusiasm for the upcoming year.

C. Staff Report – Street Performs Ordinance Updates & Discussion

- E. Clark distributed the latest draft of the updated Street Performers Ordinance and opened the discussion. This version incorporates both previous TAC feedback and insights gathered during a recent City-hosted focus group with street performers. Two performers from the focus group, Beau Frail and Brian Ford, were invited to share three-minute statements to provide perspective on current conditions, concerns, and recommendations.
- B. Frail presented a detailed packet analyzing the ordinance from a First Amendment standpoint, particularly regarding visual art protections. His remarks included:
 - Legal distinctions between types of artistic expression and their levels of constitutional protection.
 - Observations about congestion in Forsyth Park, especially Saturdays between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.
 - Analysis of Zone A and Zone B pedestrian flow, sidewalk widths, natural bottlenecks, and potential layout options.
 - He recommended:
 - Preserving a 15-foot right-of-way on major walkways.
 - Limiting setup to certain sides of paths to maintain safe pedestrian circulation.
 - Allowing grass-side setups west of the playground, similar to the Farmer’s Market configuration.
 - Considering weekday vs. weekend distinctions, since participation varies dramatically.
 - TAC Member Questions:
 - Why the number of artists drops after 1 p.m.
 - Whether performers coordinate space cooperatively
 - Frequency of territorial disputes or conflicts
 - Experiences with late arrivals trying to squeeze into limited space
 - B. Frail emphasized that cooperation is the norm and that problematic behavior occurs in only about 1% of cases.
- B. Ford, a long-time performer, highlighted the contrast between authentic street performance and art-market vending. Key points included:
 - Street performance involves live creation with voluntary donations.
 - Art markets involve the sale of pre-made goods with larger display setups.
 - He expressed concern that Forsyth Park on Saturdays has shifted heavily toward vendor-style setups, creating overcrowding and overshadowing traditional performers.
 - He also shared that he avoids Saturdays due to congestion and noted that some performers have decreased participation due to crowding.

- J. Pagliaro explained that the City currently operates under a policy, not a formal ordinance. This limits the enforcement authority of TCOs. Challenges include:
 - Displays in pedestrian areas
 - Unauthorized table setups
 - Unpermitted vending activity
 - Difficulty managing crowds of 60–100 participants
 - He noted that staff aim to present the ordinance to Council in January and welcome TAC feedback.
- TAC members discussed the following topics:
 - Whether congestion is limited to Saturdays
 - The shift from street performance toward vending
 - Maintaining artistic vibrancy
 - Treating Saturdays as a structured event
 - Distinguishing performance vs. vending
 - Ensuring pedestrian safety
 - Providing enforcement authority through a codified ordinance
- Next Steps
 - TAC members will review the ordinance draft.
 - Staff will refine ordinance language.

D. Staff Report – Tour Services for Hire Ordinance Updates

- J. Pagliaro noted that he and E. Clark are reviewing R. Buck’s drafts of this ordinance and will host a focus group of impacted businesses in the industry and that staff is aiming for a draft ordinance to be presented at the beginning of Q2.
- M. Owens requested that the draft ordinances for this go out well in advance of the TAC meeting where it will be reviewed to give members time to review and prepare comments.

E. Happy Holidays!!

Meeting adjourned: 9:30 AM