

## **ORDINANCE NO. 853**

### **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TROUTDALE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTIONS 3.08.020 (B) AND (C) RELATING TO THE DISBURSMENT OF THE COLLECTED NINETY FIVE ONE HUNDREDTHS OF ONE PERCENT OF THE TAXABLE TRANSIENT LODGING RENT FOR TOURISM PROMOTION**

#### **THE TROUTDALE CITY COUNCIL FINDS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. That, the City Council recognizes the value in tourism promotion, paying for tourism-related facilities, or being able to finance or refinance debt for tourism-related facilities.
2. That, in 1999 the City passed an ordinance increasing the Transient Lodging Tax 0.95% and dedicating the increase in the Transient Lodging Tax to the Troutdale Chamber of Commerce to provide a Visitor's Center in Troutdale, to promote certain events in Troutdale and to promote tourism.
3. That, in 2006 the City passed Ordinance No. 772 modifying the Ordinance to name the Troutdale Chamber of Commerce's successor organization, the West Columbia Gorge Chamber of Commerce, as the recipient of the 0.95%.
4. That, the Council previously, in 2004, had entered into a new agreement with the West Columbia Chamber of Commerce ("Chamber") committing them to continue to promote certain events.
5. That, the City appreciates its long partnership with the Chamber to use the tax to promote tourism in Troutdale and promote events in the City. The City and the Chamber working together to promote tourism in the future is a benefit to the City.
6. That, in the last 15 years the number and nature of City events has changed. And the tourism promotion environment in which the City operates has also changed.
7. That the City believes that it is best for the promotion of tourism in the City that the City have flexibility in how it uses the 0.95% for tourism promotion, paying for tourism-related facilities, or being able to finance or refinance debt for tourism-related facilities. It is in the best interest of the citizens, and the promotion of tourism in the City, that the City not be restricted to paying the 0.95% to only the Chamber.

#### **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TROUTDALE:**

Sections 3.08.020 (B) and (C) of the Troutdale Municipal Code are hereby amended to read as follows:

Section B. The City shall dedicate ninety-five one hundredths of one percent of the taxable rent to tourism promotion, paying for tourism-related facilities, or to being able to finance or refinance debt for tourism-related facilities. The city council, by resolution, shall determine the distribution of the ninety-five one hundredths of one percent of the tax beginning on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019.

Section C. Should funds under Section B be paid to the West Columbia Gorge Chamber of Commerce, or any other third party provider, the provider shall submit annually without cost to the city of Troutdale: (1) a financial statement using a comprehensive method of accounting; and (2) a review of tourism and business related activities. Such submissions shall be presented at a regular meeting of the Troutdale city council no later than March 1st following the calendar year for which the reviews are required. The city council can accept, reject or require remedial action after such review by majority vote of the city council. The West Columbia Gorge Chamber of Commerce, and any other recipient of funds hereunder (other than a City department) shall make all of its books, records and accounts, which in any manner relate to the expenditure of transient lodging tax moneys available to the city for examination or audit upon reasonable notice and upon request of the city council.

**YEAS: 7**  
**NAYS: 0**  
**ABSTAINED: 0**



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**Casey Ryan, Mayor**  
**Date: May 30, 2019**



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**Sarah Skroch, City Recorder**  
**Adopted: May 28, 2019**