

City of Weslaco

"The City on the Grow"



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Press Release

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Weslaco Seeks Applicants to Hotel Tax Committee *New Volunteer Board Will Review, Recommend Dedicated Tax Funds*

Weslaco—The Weslaco City Commission recently created the Hotel Occupancy Tax Advisory Committee and now encourages qualified applicants to serve on this volunteer board.

“The City collects a Hotel Occupancy Tax from hotels, motels, inns, even bed and breakfasts and other lodging establishments,” said Mayor David Suarez. “The Tax Code outlines specifically how those tax funds may be spent in support of activities throughout the City.”

By ordinance, the Weslaco City Commission established an Advisory Committee to review applications from organizations throughout the community requesting funds and to recommend to the Commission allocations. Recently, the Weslaco Area Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development Corporation applied some funds toward advertising, an eligible expense, to recruit tourists here; other local organizations, such as the Valley Nature Center and Weslaco Museum received these funds to develop programs.

“The Committee will consist of seven members, appointed by the City Commission to a three year term,” said Suarez. “As this board gets started, I expect they will develop a planning calendar and evaluation criteria to be used when recommending agencies and projects for hotel occupancy tax funds. Also, I am excited to hear their recommendations for advertising and marketing strategies for the City Commission to consider.”

Unlike other City boards, members named to this committee may live outside of the city limits when representing a business or organization located within the city limits. Additionally, a member may serve in a non-voting capacity as a representative of any entity eligible to receive a disbursement from the Hotel Occupancy Tax Fund.

To obtain an application for this or any board, visit the City Secretary’s Office at City Hall or online, <http://www.weslacotx.gov/BoardCommission.htm> Appointments may be named at the next regular meeting of the City Commission on April 7, 2015.

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