

RESOLUTION NO. R-2021 -

A RESOLUTION relating to business regulation; stating the intent of the City Council to set the date of June 15, 2021 for a public hearing to consider modification of YMC 5.99 of the City of Yakima Municipal Code (hereafter "Tourism Promotion Area" or "TPA").

WHEREAS, the Yakima City Council approved, by Ordinance 2004-17, the establishment of a Tourism Promotion Area pursuant to RCW Chapter 35.101 for the purpose of funding the promotion of tourism and convention business within the TPA; and

WHEREAS, the tourism and convention industries in the TPA have suffered significantly as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the increase in funds from an additional TPA charge could be used to bolster efforts to market tourism and convention opportunities within the TPA and support the recovery of those industries; and

WHEREAS, RCW 35.101.057, which is set to expire on July 1, 2027, authorizes the Yakima City Council to "impose an additional charge of up to three dollars per night of stay on the furnishing of lodging by a lodging business located in the [Tourism Promotion Area]"; and

WHEREAS, the Yakima City Council may impose the additional charge authorized by RCW 35.101.057 under the condition that "signatures of the persons who operate lodging businesses who would pay sixty percent or more of the proposed charges must be provided together with the proposed uses and projects to which the proposed revenue from the additional charge shall be put, [and] the total estimate costs"; and

WHEREAS, the signatures of authorized representatives from lodging properties whose collective room capacity comprises 78% of those rooms subject to the additional TPA lodging charge have been provided as well as the proposed uses and projects to which the proposed revenue from the additional charge shall be put, the total estimated costs, and the estimated rate for the charge as required by RCW 35.101.057; and

WHEREAS, the city Council finds that the petition requesting an additional charge of two dollars per night of lodging within the TPA meets the requirements of RCW 35.101.057, and that it is therefore appropriate to adopt this resolution in accord with YMC 5.99.070(A) and set a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at the City Hall Council Chambers for consideration of an ordinance amending YMC 5.99.040 to impose such additional TPA charge; now, therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YAKIMA:

The City Council hereby adopts this Resolution of Intent to modify Chapter 5.99 of the Yakima Municipal Code to impose an additional two-dollar charge per night of lodging furnished by a lodging business located in the TPA. The Council further sets a public hearing for consideration of the amended ordinance to be held at 6:00 p.m. on June 15, 2021 in the City Council Chambers at 129 N. 2nd St, Yakima, Washington. If approved after the public hearing, the effective date of said ordinance, as attached and incorporated herein, shall be in full force and effect 30 days after its passage, approval, and publication as provided by law and by the City Charter.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this 1st day of June, 2021.

Patricia Byers, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sonya Claar Tee, City Clerk