



## Special Events Task Force Meeting-Minutes January 8, 2026 Tempe Transportation Center & Virtual Meeting MS Teams

### Meeting convened at 9:30 am

**City Staff Present:** Sydney McKinney (Fire), Annette Betancourt (Fire), Anthony Butch (Fire), Monique Rodriguez (Fire), Matt Burns (Fire), Tim Bulson (PD), Joseph Cardella (PD), Aaron Levi (PD), Michelle Heermans (PD), Chad Holmes (Special Events), Matt Peterson (Special Events), Jenny Leon Hagstrom (Special Events), Mary Keane (Special Events), Elizabeth Thomas (Neighborhood Svcs), Chris Hansen (Risk Mgmt), Allan VanVleet (Solid Waste), Alex Bosworth (Planning), Jerry Hall Jr (Diablo Stadium), Chris Jasper (Planning), Shawn Wagner (Community Svcs).

**Guests Present:** Tim Miller (COT-Zero Waste), Astyn Quander (COT-Unity Walk), Jill Brenner (COT-FanCon), Nora Spaulding (COT-Library), Kimberly McGoldrick (COT-Arts & Culture), Kristina Watts (Walk the Fight), Patricia Barcelo (Tackle Trauma), Sam Benson (Culdesac), Carrie Meng (Dirt Circus), Sandra McNally (Jeremyah Walk), Ann DeGarmo (Soles for SOLR), Ryan Tomita (Bondfire), Ryan Eland (Mill Music Session), Jane Ho (Phoenix Food Fair), Matthew Whitaker, Fify Juliana (OLMC), Krista Salazar, James Patrick (SWIHA),

Chad Holmes made a call to the audience asking if there was anyone not on the agenda who would like to address the committee.

### I. Events for Initial Review

- A. Bondfire, January 23, February 7 & 21 (1338 E Curry)
  - a. Motion to approve: Matt Peterson
  - b. Second: Sydney McKinney
  - c. Motion carries
  
- B. Phoenix Food Fair Lunar New Year, Saturday-Sunday, January 24-25 (Kiwamis Park)
  - a. Motion to approve: Matt Peterson
  - b. Second: Michelle Heermans
  - c. Motion carries

- C. Soles for SOLR, Saturday, January 31 (Kiwanis Park)
  - a. Motion to approve: Matt Peterson
  - b. Second: Michelle Heermans
  - c. Motion carries
  
- D. Dirt Circus, Saturday, January 31 (N Linear/Papago Park)
  - a. Motion to approve: Matt Peterson
  - b. Second: Joseph Cardella
  - c. Motion carries
  
- E. Peak Performance Conference & Firewalk, Saturday, January 31 (1538 E Southern)
  - a. Motion to approve: Matt Peterson
  - b. Second: Joseph Cardella
  - c. Motion carries
  
- F. OLMC School Casino Night, Saturday, January 31 (2121 S Rural)
  - a. Liquor license in the name of Our Lady of Mt Carmel Catholic Church
    - i. Motion to approve: Joseph Cardella
    - ii. Second: Matt Peterson
    - iii. Motion carries
  
- G. Knights of Columbus Ultrasound Dinner, Saturday, February 7 (2121 S Rural)
  - a. Liquor license in the name of Our Lady of Mt Carmel Catholic Church
    - i. Motion to approve: Joseph Cardella
    - ii. Second: Matt Peterson
    - iii. Motion carries
  
- H. OLMC Parish School Festival, Sunday, February 15 (2121 S Rural)
  - a. Liquor license in the name of Our Lady of Mt Carmel Catholic Church
    - i. Motion to approve: Joseph Cardella
    - ii. Second: Matt Peterson
    - iii. Motion carries
  
- I. Jeremyah Memorial Walk, Saturday, February 7 (Kiwanis-Ruben Romero)
  - a. Motion to approve: Matt Peterson
  - b. Second: Joseph Cardella
  - c. Motion carries. Note: no longer a 5K event
  
- J. Walk the Fight, Saturday, February 7 (Tempe Beach Park)
  - a. Motion to approve: Matt Peterson
  - b. Second: Matt Burns
  - c. Motion carries

- K. Tackle Trauma 5K Run/Walk, Sunday, February 8 (Kiwanis Park)
  - a. Motion to approve: Matt Burns
  - b. Second: Matt Peterson
  - c. Motion carries
  
- L. Mill Music Session, Saturday, January 31 (Hayden Flour Mill)
  - a. Liquor license in the name of Tempe Sister City Corporation
    - i. Motion to approve: Matt Peterson
    - ii. Second: Matt Burns
    - iii. Motion carries
  
- M. Little Cholla Night Market, February 12-August 16 (2025 E Apache)
  - a. Motion to approve: Matt Peterson
  - b. Second: Jenny Hagstrom
  - c. Motion carries
  
- N. Unity Walk, Saturday, January 24 (Tempe Beach Park)
  - a. Motion to approve: Matt Peterson
  - b. Second: Jenny Hagstrom
  - c. Motion carries
  
- O. Spring Training Extension of Left Patio, February 15-March 31 (Diablo Stadium)
  - a. Liquor extension of premises
    - i. Motion to approve: Joseph Cardella
    - ii. Second: Matt Peterson
    - iii. Motion carries
  
- P. Tempe FanCon, Saturday, January 31 (Library Complex)
  - a. Motion to approve: Matt Burns
  - b. Second: Annette Betancourt
  - c. Motion carries
  
- Q. Zero Waste Day, Saturday, January 31 (Kiwanis Park)
  - a. Motion to approve: Matt Burns
  - b. Second: Jenny Hagstrom
  - c. Motion carries

**II. Events for Post-Review**

- A. TEKSystems Holiday Party, 12/12 No problems reported
- B. Bondfire, 12/12 No problems reported
- C. FOL Boat Parade, 12/13 Late start noted, follow up with DTA

- D. School of Quintessence North Pole Experience, 12/13 No problems reported
- E. Michael J Fox Foundation Run/Walk Arizona, 12/14 No problems reported
- F. Menorah Lighting, 12/16 No problems reported
- G. Caribbean Christmas, 12/20 No problems reported
- H. Midnight Madness, 12/31 No problems reported
- I. World of Illumination, 11/14/25-1/4/26 No problems reported

*Public Meeting adjourned at 9:59 a.m.* Prepared by: Mary Keane, Special Events

### **III. Internal Review & Discussion**

The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, January 22**, Tempe Transportation Center