



The City of Lee's Summit
Action Letter - Draft
Community and Economic Development Committee

Wednesday, December 10, 2025

4:00 PM

City Council Chambers
and Via Video Conference
220 SE Green Street
Lee's Summit, MO 64063

Notice is hereby given that the Community and Economic Development Committee for the City of Lee's Summit will meet in Regular Session on Wednesday, December 10, 2025 at 4:00 pm via video conference as provided by Section 2-50 of Ordinance No. 9172. Persons wishing to comment on any item of business on the agenda, including public testimony during a Public Hearing, via video conference may do so by sending a request prior to 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, to the City Clerk at clerk@cityofls.net to attend the meeting on the video conferencing platform. The meeting may be viewed on the City's website at WatchLS.net, or Spectrum Channel 2, AT&T U-Verse Channel 99 and Comcast Channel 7.

1. Call to Order

Chair Hodges called the December 10, 2025 Community and Economic Development Committee Meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: 5 - Chairperson Faith Hodges
Vice Chair Trish Carlyle
Councilmember Donnie Funk
Councilmember Mia Prier
Planning Commissioner Terry Trafton

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Councilmember Funk, seconded by Vice Chair Carlyle, to approve the December 10, 2025 Community and Economic Development Committee Agenda.

Aye: 4 - Chairperson Hodges
Vice Chair Carlyle
Councilmember Funk
Councilmember Prier

4. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

5. Business

A. 2025-7315 Approval of the November 12, 2025 Community and Economic Development Committee Action Letter

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A motion was made by Councilmember Prier, seconded by Councilmember Funk, to approve the November 12, 2025 Community and Economic Development Committee Action Letter. The motion passed by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Chairperson Hodges
Vice Chair Carlyle
Councilmember Funk
Councilmember Prier

B. 2025-7335 Discussion: Carnival Regulations

Police Chief Travis Forbes, defined the environmental challenges to outdoor festivals which include trends, routine activities theory, behavioral risks and statistics. He added the main issues arise from un-chaperoned minors looking for things to do.

He reviewed statistics and pointed out the calls for service stats don't capture every interaction the police encounter so it doesn't convey all the increasing safety concerns. He noted police staffing hours and cost increases each year at both Downtown Days and Oktoberfest events and stated staff is at a critical mass point, whereby, there are no additional officers available to work these events. Currently, they have to schedule shifts requiring some officers to work on their scheduled days off. He added they have tried to get other agencies to assist at these events, but have been unsuccessful.

Cheif Forbes affirmed meridian barricades have been very helpful in deterring vehicle intrusions and staff has also increased the use of drones to boost surveillance. Both community partners have assisted by hiring private security to screen entry points and look for backpacks and more lighting has been added as an improvement to the environmental conditions. Also, the use of camera trailers has been added and downtown cameras to assist in surveillance at these event.

Actions taken by other communities include enhancing chaperone policies. One study stated this policy made a 70-90% drop in disruptions in amusement parks. However, our challenge is having multiple entry points at these festivals and would require moving the event off-site in order to have one entry point. Another option is to shift the attractions by replacing the "thrill rides" with family friendly rides, and adjusting the timing of the festivals by closing earlier when daylight ends.

In addition to Chief Forges recommendations, Tracy Albers, Director of Development Services, reviewed possible legislative changes to the UDO to modify the festival environment by establishing guidelines and requirements to regulate carnival rides and games for twelve and under patrons. She added these changes may not curb the behavior of un-chaperoned minors and may also deter carnival providers in timing their events due to having to schedule

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months ahead.

Following discussion, the Committee requested additional information and a detailed plan with guidelines. They also asked the community partners to contact their carnival vendor for input and to reach out to other carnivals for additional options. They acknowledge there needs to be compromise with gradual changes that will be evaluated after the events. Donnie Rodgers, with Downtown Lee's Summit Main Street said they are happy to have these discussions, but due to the timing of their event in June, they will need to make a decision in January on any changes. He added with the opening of Green Street they are planning to change the layout of the event to prevent additional loitering, etc.

6. Roundtable

Ryan Elam, Assistant City Manager, thanked the committee for their hard work the past year and reviewed the topics discussed which included housing, World Cup issues, panhandling, and loitering to name a few. Many of these topics require more time for review and decisions. He is looking forward to another great year working together.

7. Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Chair Hodges adjourned the December 10, 2025 Community and Economic Development Committee meeting at 5:23 p.m.

For your convenience, City Council agendas, as well as videos of City Council and Council Committee meetings, may be viewed on the City's Legislative Information Center website at "lsmo.legistar.com"