

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-652

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WACO, TEXAS, APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE UPDATED SERVICE PLAN FOR THE WACO TOURISM PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (“TPID”) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027; LEVYING SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS ON PROPERTIES IN THE WACO TPID TO PAY THE COSTS OF SERVICES PROVIDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE UPDATED SERVICE PLAN; SETTING CHARGES AND LIENS AGAINST PROPERTY IN THE TPID AND AGAINST THE OWNERS THEREOF; PROVIDING FOR THE COLLECTION OF THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS; PROVIDING FOR A SAVINGS CLAUSE; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FINDING AND DETERMINING THAT THE MEETING AT WHICH THIS ORDINANCE IS PASSED IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AS REQUIRED BY LAW.

WHEREAS, on August 4, 2020, the City Council passed and approved Resolution No. 2020-513, establishing the Waco Tourism Public Improvement District (the “**TPID**”) in accordance with the Public Improvement District Assessment Act, Chapter 372, Texas Local Government Code, as amended (“the Act”), requesting the creation of a tourism public improvement district to be known as the Waco Tourism Improvement District (“the TPID”); and

WHEREAS, on August 18, 2020, the City Council passed and approved Resolution No. 2020-576, the Final Service and Assessment Plan and Assessment Roll approving a service plan outlining proposed improvements and assessments to be provided for the special benefit of the properties located in the TPID and the estimated costs of such services; and

WHEREAS, under Section 372.013, Texas Local Government Code, the City Council must annually review and approve the annual budget for special, supplemental services to be provided in the TPID (the “**Services**”) and to determine the amount of assessment that is to be levied against property in the TPID in order to pay for the costs of such services; and

WHEREAS, on July 15, 2026, the Board for the Waco TPID met and prepared a Service and Assessment Plan for Fiscal Year 2026-2027; and

WHEREAS, the TPID working with the McLennan Central Appraisal District has prepared the proposed Assessment Roll used for the Service and Assessment Plan listing the proposed assessments to be levied against each qualifying hotel in the District, and filed such roll with the City Secretary as required by the Act, and the said proposed Assessment Roll is open for public inspection; and

WHEREAS, the Services to be provided in Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and their estimated costs are as follows:

Marketing (45%)	\$810,000.00
Sales (40%)	\$720,000.00
Tourism Research (8%)	\$144,000.00
Administration (7%)	\$126,000.00
Total Expenses	\$1,800,000.00

WHEREAS, the total budgeted cost of the Services is \$1,800,000.00, the entirety of which will be funded from assessments levied on and collected from properties located in the TPID that contain hotels with seventy-five (75) or more guest rooms and that are subject to payment of City hotel occupancy taxes pursuant to Chapter 24, Article V. of the City of Waco Code of Ordinances; and

WHEREAS, as set forth in the Service and Assessment Plan for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 attached as **Exhibit A**, it is proposed that qualifying hotels located in the TPID be assessed at a rate of two percent (2%) of the consideration paid for occupancy of any sleeping room furnished by the qualifying hotels listed in **Exhibit B**, the TPID Assessment Roll, which assessments shall be collected in the same manner and in accordance with the same procedures as those established for collection of the City's hotel occupancy tax, as set forth in Chapter 24, Article V. of the City of Waco Code of Ordinances; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 372.016, Texas Local Government Code, the Service and Assessment Plan for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 was presented in a public hearing conducted by the City Council on September 1, 2026 (the "**Public Hearing**") and has been on file in the office of the City Secretary for public inspection; and

WHEREAS, notice of the Public Hearing was published on July 25, 2026 in the Waco Tribune-Herald, a newspaper of general circulation in the City, and was also mailed on July 17, 2026 to all record owners of property in the TPID, and all persons desiring to be heard were given a full and fair opportunity to be heard at the Public Hearing,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WACO, TEXAS:

Section 1. That the recitals and findings in the preamble of this Ordinance are hereby found and determined to be true and correct.

Section 2. The Public Hearing is hereby closed and any and all protests and objections, whether herein enumerated or not, are hereby overruled.

Section 3. The City Council, from all evidence before it, including all information provided to it and considered in the Public Hearing, finds that the assessments described in the Service and Assessment Plan for Fiscal Year 2026-2027, incorporated as **Exhibit A**, should be made and levied in a manner which results in imposing the costs of the Services on qualifying hotels that are similarly benefitted from the provision of the Plan. The apportionment of those costs will be based on the special benefits accruing to the qualifying hotels on account of the Services provided. As a result, those

qualifying hotels that sell more guest rooms will pay a greater portion of the costs of the Services because those properties will have received a greater benefit from the promotions and marketing comprising the Services. The City Council further finds that this method of assessment is fair and equitable, and results in an apportionment of the costs of the Services that complies with applicable law.

Section 4. In accordance with Section 372.017, Texas Local Government Code, in order to pay the costs of the Services provided by the Service and Assessment Plan for Fiscal Year 2026-2027, the City hereby levies a special assessment against qualifying hotels in the amount of two percent (2%) of the consideration paid for occupancy of any sleeping room furnished by qualifying hotels located thereon, which assessments shall be collected in the same manner and in accordance with the same procedures as those established for collection of the City's hotel occupancy tax, as set forth in Chapter 24, Article V. of the City of Waco Code of Ordinances. The first collection of assessments hereunder shall be made at the same time hotel occupancy taxes are collected on and after October 1, 2026.

Section 5. The sums assessed against the qualifying hotels shall become due at the same time that hotel occupancy taxes on the qualifying hotels located thereon become due and shall become delinquent if not paid by the applicable deadlines established by Chapter 24, Article V. of the City of Waco Code of Ordinances. The entire amount assessed against each qualifying hotel shall bear penalty and interest, from and after the respective due date at the same rate as prescribed by Chapter 24, Article V. of the City of Waco Code of Ordinances.

Section 6. The assessments levied hereunder, together with reasonable attorney's fees and cost of collection, if incurred, are hereby declared to be and are made a lien upon the qualifying hotels and are a personal liability and charge against the real and true owners of such properties, whether such owners are correctly named herein or not. Such liens shall be and constitute the first enforceable lien and claim against the qualifying hotels, superior to all other liens and claims, except state, county, school district, and city ad valorem taxes. A copy of this Ordinance may be filed with the County Clerk of the county in which the qualifying hotels are located, and when so filed shall constitute complete and adequate legal notice to the public concerning the liens hereby assessed against the respective parcels of property and the owners thereof.

Section 7. If default shall be made in the payment of any assessments, collection thereof shall be enforced by suit in any court of competent jurisdiction and said City shall exercise all of its lawful powers to aid in the enforcement and collection of said assessments.

Section 8. The total amount assessed against the respective parcels of property and the owners thereof is in accordance with the proceedings of the City hereto and is permitted by applicable law.

Section 9. Full power to make and levy reassessments and to correct mistakes, errors, invalidities, or irregularities in the assessments are, in accordance with the law in force in this City, vested in the City.

Section 10. In any suit upon any assessment or reassessment, it shall be sufficient to allege the substance of the provision recited in this Ordinance and that the recitals hereto are in fact true, and further allegations with reference to the proceedings relating to such assessment and reassessment shall not be necessary.

Section 11. Should any portion, section, or part of a section of this Ordinance be declared invalid, inoperative, or void for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision, opinion, or judgment shall in no way impair the remaining portions, sections, or parts of sections of this Ordinance, which shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 12. This Ordinance shall be cumulative of all other ordinances and appropriations amending the same except in those instances where the provisions of this Ordinance are in direct conflict with such other ordinances and appropriations, in which instance said conflicting provisions of said prior ordinances and appropriations are hereby expressly repealed.

Section 13. This Ordinance shall take effect and be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage and it is so ordained.

Section 14. That it is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this ordinance is passed is open to the public and that public notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting was given as required by law.

PASSED AND APPROVED:

First Reading: This 1st day of September 2026.

Second Reading: This 15th day of September 2026.

Signed by:

Jim Holmes

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Jim Holmes, Mayor
City of Waco, Texas

DS

ATTEST.

DocuSigned by:

Michelle Hicks

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Michelle Hicks, City Secretary



APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

DocuSigned by:

William Conrad

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Kristen L. Hamilton-Karam, City Attorney

EXHIBIT A
Waco Tourism Public Improvement District (WTPID)
Service & Assessment Plan for 2026-27

PROJECTED EXPENDITURES

The WTPID budget will be allocated on a percentage basis as shown in the table below.

Marketing Allocation (45%)	\$810,000.00
Sales (40%)	\$720,000.00
Tourism Research (8%)	\$144,000.00
Administration (7%)	\$126,000.00
Total	\$1,800,000.00

PROJECTED WACO TOURISM PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT SERVICES

Increased Marketing (Advertising and Promotion) Initiatives: 45% - \$810,000.00

Forty-five percent (45%) of the annual budget shall be targeted for increased marketing (advertising and promotion) initiatives to drive more hotel activity to Waco. Up to 10% variance can be allowed in the amount to be allocated under this category. Amounts within this category that are not used by the end of the fiscal year may be rolled over within the same budget category in the following year's budget.

The Marketing (Advertising and Promotion) program will promote hotel activity within the District for increased business travel, leisure, meeting, and event business at District hotels. The program will set out to increase room night sales and may include, but is not limited to, the following activities.

- Increased internet marketing (advertising and promotion) efforts such as email blasts, digital ads, programmatic placements, to grow awareness and drive higher overnight visitation and room sales to assessed hotels within the District;
- Additional print ads in magazines and newspapers targeted at potential visitors to drive increased overnight visitation to assessed hotels within the District;
- Increased television ads targeted at potential visitors to drive greater overnight visitation to assessed hotels within the District;
- Additional radio ads targeted at potential visitors to drive increased overnight visitation and room sales to assessed hotel properties within the District;
- Preparation and production of new collateral and promotional materials such as brochures, flyers and maps to increase room night activity;
- Development and implementation of an enhanced and new public relations and communications strategy, designed to increase overnight visitation at assessed hotels within the District;
- Development and implementation of an enhanced travel writer/social media influencer program designed to increase overnight visitation at assessed hotels within the District;

- Implementation of new economic development partnerships to increase overnight visitation at assessed hotels within the District.
- Marketing (Advertising and Promotion) fees for listings on various websites to drive increased hotel revenue production.

Increased Sales Initiatives: 40% - \$ 720,000.00

Forty percent (40%) of the annual budget shall be targeted for increased Sales (Business Recruitment) initiatives. Up to 10% variance can be allowed in the amount to be allocated under this category. Amounts not used within this category by the end of the fiscal year may be rolled over into the same budget category in the following year's budget. The Sales (Business Recruitment) initiatives will be designed to increase room night sales for assessed hotel properties within the District and may include but are not limited to the following activities:

- Provide additional sales (business recruitment) incentives to maintain and attract new meetings, conventions, events and business travel that will have a significant impact on demand for hotel activity for assessed hotels within the District;
 - Requests for incentives from individuals or groups should be presented to Destination Waco for inclusion in an upcoming Board meeting;
 - Requests for "rebates," defined as a set dollar payment per room night generated, should be presented as an incentive request for a single dollar amount and presented to Destination Waco for inclusion in an upcoming Board meeting;
- Increased sales and services (business recruitment) staff deployed in key regions to supplement the selling of Waco as a premier destination;
- Increased attendance at professional industry conferences and events to promote increased business for assessed hotels within the District;
- Additional lead generation activities designed to attract increased tourist and group business to assessed hotels within the District;
- Attendance of additional trade shows to promote increased leads for assessed hotels within the District;
- Additional sales (business recruitment) blitzes featuring assessed hotels within the District;
- Additional familiarization tours showcasing assessed hotels within the District.
- Sales (Business Recruitment) initiatives must meet an ROI threshold of 7:1, based on expected room revenues. The ROI for all Sales (Business Recruitment) initiatives will be measured based on increased room revenue production. With input and approval from the WTPID Board, individual exceptions may be made to the 7:1 ROI.
- Sales (Business Recruitment) efforts may include programs such as an individual hotel incentive program, with approval of the WTPID Board and within limits and criteria set by the WTPID Board.

Tourism Research: 8% - \$ 144,000.00

Research costs may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Conduct tourism research using industry tools which may include economic impact calculators, software to gauge the effectiveness of advertising and/or sales (business recruitment) efforts.
- Development of Return on Investment (ROI) analysis on the effectiveness of WTPID expenditures and programs to increase overnight visitation at assessed hotels within the District.
- If dollars are left unspent in the Research/Administration budget at the end of the year, they may be divided among Marketing (Advertising and Promotion) and Sales (Business Recruitment) using the following ratios: 53% to Marketing (Advertising and Promotion), 47% to Sales (Business Recruitment).

Administration: 7% - \$ 126,000.00

Administration costs may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Incremental costs for collection of the assessment via online software.
- Administrative fees such as bank fees, fees charged by the City of Waco for hotel tax collection and administration, bookkeeping, auditing, financial reporting, legal fees, etc.
- If dollars are left unspent in the Administration budget at the end of the year, they may be divided among Marketing (Advertising and Promotion) and Sales (Business Recruitment) using the following ratios: 53% to Marketing (Advertising and Promotion), 47% to Sales (Business Recruitment).

EXHIBIT B

WACO TOURISM PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT ASSESSMENT ROLL

Hotel Name	Hotel Address	City	Zip	No of Rooms
A C HOTEL by MARRIOTT	301 S 06TH ST	Waco	76701	182
ALOFT HOTEL	900 S 11TH ST	Waco	76706	115
CAMBRIA HOTEL	110 S MARTIN LUTHER KINGJR BLVD A & B	Waco	76704	132
CAMP FIMFO	1000 CHICKADEE LANE	Waco	76708	77
CANDLEWOOD SUITES	2700 S NEW ROAD	Waco	76706	99
COMFORT SUITES	810 N IH 35	Waco	76705	94
DAYS INN BY WYNDHAM	3120 JACK KULTGEN EXPWY	Waco	76706	110
ELEMENT HOTEL	2200 ROBINSON DR -2308	Waco	76706	105
EMBASSY SUITES (PROPOSED)	301 S 02ND ST	Waco	76701	168
EVEN Hotel	110 S MARTIN LUTHER KINGJR BLVD A & B	Waco	76704	128
EVERHOME SUITES	4301 S JACK KULTGEN EXPWY	Waco	76711	122
HAMPTON INN & SUITES	2501 MARKETPLACE DR	Waco	76711	123
HILTON GARDEN INN	5800 LEGENDLAKE PKWY	Waco	76712	111
HILTON HOTEL	113 S UNIVERSITY PARKS DR	Waco	76701	195
HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES WACO SOUTH	5701 LEGENDLAKE PKWY	Woodway	76712	120
HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS	101 TAYLOR AVE ST	Waco	76704	101
HOME2 SUITES WACO	2500 BAGBY AVE	Waco	76711	105
HOMEWOOD SUITES WACO	5620 LEGENDLAKE PKWY	Woodway	76712	88
HYATT PLACE WACO SOUTH	5400 BAGBY AVE	Waco	76711	125
HYATT PLACE DOWNTOWN	301 S 03RD ST	Waco	76701	110
INDIGO HOTEL	211 CLAY AVE	Waco	76706	111
LA QUINTA INN & SUITES WACO DOWNTOWN	911 S 10TH ST	Waco	76706	118
MARRIOTT COURTYARD	101 WASHINGTON AVE	Waco	76701	153
RESIDENCE INN BY MARRIOTT	501 S UNIVERSITY PARKS DR	Waco	76706	78
RESIDENCE INN SOUTH	2424 MARKETPLACE DR	Waco	76711	104
SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT WACO	115 S JACK KULTGEN EXPWY	Waco	76706	125
STAYAPT SUITES	2340 CREEKVIEW DRIVE	Waco	76711	87
TOWNEPLACE SUITES MARRIOTT	5621 LEGENDLAKE PKWY	Woodway	76712	93
TRU BY HILTON	2408 MARKETPLACE DR	Waco	76711	98
WACO SUPER 8	1320 S JACK KULTGENEXPWY	Waco	76706	78
WOODSPRING SUITES	705 N I-35	Waco	76705	105



Enterprise GIS | Map Date: 6/25/2026

Disclaimer: This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. It does not represent an on-the-ground survey and represents only the approximate relative location of property boundaries.