VISIULSA



CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU





2014/15 Regional Tourism Annual Report

VISITTULSA 2.0 INVESTORS

Ambassador Hotel Tulsa

Anish Hotels Group

Anonymous

Services, Inc.

Arvest Bank

Corporation

Foundation Commerce Bank

Cubic, Inc.

Expo Square

Hall Estill

Conner & Winters, LLP

Doerner, Saunders, Daniel

Frederic Dorwart, Lawyers

GH2 ARCHITECTS, LLC

Grand River Dam Authority

The Hille Foundation

& Anderson, L.L.P.

Embassy Suites Hotel

Cox Communications Crowne Plaza Hotel

Bama Companies

Ameristar Perimeter Security USA Inc.

Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management

Arts & Humanities Council of Tulsa

Bill Knight Automotive Group

BlueCross BlueShield of Oklahoma

Broken Arrow Economic Development

Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family

DoubleTree by Hilton Tulsa Downtown

Anheuser Busch Sales of Oklahoma

OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

INVESTORS

BANK OF OKLAHOMA



GEORGE KAISER FAMILY FOUNDATION

MATRIX SERVICE COMPANY





RIVER SPIRIT





TULSA REGIONAL CHAMBER



Hyatt Regency Tulsa J.D. Young Jim Norton Toyota John Christner Trucking Inc. Juniper Restaurant & Martini Lounge Mabrey Bank Magellan Midstream Partners, L.P. Mahogany Prime Steakhouse Mariner Wealth Advisors – Oklahoma Mazzio's LLC Michael T. Peyton Trust Oklahoma Aquarium Omni Air International, Inc. ONB Bank & Trust Co. The Philbrook Museum of Art, Inc. Public Service Company of Oklahoma Promise Hotels Regent Bank Rogers State University Saint Francis Health System SJS Hospitality The McNellie's Group The Polo Grill The Ross Group Tulsa Airports Improvement Trust Tulsa Drillers Tulsa Federal Credit Union Unifirst Corp. University of Tulsa

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LEADERSHIP **FINANC MAJOR WINS**



Visit Tulsa Mission: Regional Tourism will enhance the Tulsa region's economy through tourism to position and sell our region worldwide, in partnership with the public and private sector, as a premier destination for conventions, trade shows, corporate meetings, multi-cultural groups, sporting events, and top-tier equestrian competitions.

FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

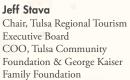
It is an exciting time for regional tourism in our great community. We are gaining new ground in the industry and finding our place among the region's niche areas for premier events, conferences and sports.

As an investor and stakeholder, you are supporting our mission to serve as the region's premier sales and marketing organization with high-performance goals to promote the Tulsa region's world-class facilities and assets.

VisitTulsa and the Tulsa Sports Commission have recently hosted events that have been monumental "wins" for the Tulsa region and have continued to make us more competitive among peer cities. The staff has also expanded in number and scope to keep us proactive and innovative in our pursuit of new events and maintenance of existing ones.

With large events like the Phillips 66 Big 12 Baseball Championship, the United States Youth Soccer National Championship, the Pinto Horse Association's 50th annual World Championship and USA Wresting National Championship, we were







able to meet and exceed the 132,500-room night goal set for this fiscal year by 16,301 rooms, 112.3 percent of the goal.

We are also excited to announce the recent brand launch of the Tulsa Office of Film, Music, Arts & Culture. Formally known as the Tulsa Mayor's Film and Music Office, the office was transitioned under VisitTulsa's program of work in 2014. Tulsa FMAC is proud to establish a new governing board that will help guide the direction of the office promoting Tulsa as a thriving hub for creative industries in film, music, art and culture.

On behalf of VisitTulsa, the Tulsa Sports Commission and the VisitTulsa 2.0 Oversight Committee, we thank you for your continued support and contributions to making a difference for regional tourism in the Tulsa region.



Robert D. McGrew 2015 Chair, VisitTulsa 2.0 Oversight Committee President and CEO T. D. Williamson, Inc.



Ray Hoyt President VisitTulsa & Tulsa Sports Commission

VISITTULSA 2.0 CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

There was a significant lack of knowledge around Tulsa's incredible assets. No one knew about the museums, the arts scene, the booming downtown nightlife or even Route 66. Without proper funding to the Tulsa market the Tulsa region would continue to be beige to the visitor.

That's when 40 private investors pledged, in VisitTulsa's 1.0 Capital Campaign, \$3.6 million over three years with one unified vision: position our region's assets to attract visitors and capitalized on economic gains in the tourism industries.

While we successfully positioned ourselves within the market, we now had to become competitive.

Tulsa has the second-lowest budget in its competitive set and ranks below average in marketing dollars spent per room to promote the region to prospective visitors. Through the VisitTulsa 1.0 effort, the region increased its marketing dollars per room from \$149 in 2011 to \$238 in 2014.

We needed a plan that fit our city. A comprehensive plan that achieves a \$5 million competitive budget and provides the critical dollars needed to continue our forward momentum and build new opportunities for increased economic impact. Thus, the VisitTulsa 2.0 Capital Campaign was developed.

The Investment

Private investments were needed to augment public support and fully realize the \$5 million total budget identified by Randall Travel Marketing and Zeitgeist Consulting. These funds were necessary to position VisitTulsa as a key competitor working to retain, recruit, develop and enhance the region's tourism opportunities for optimal return.

VT 2.0 OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

The VisitTulsa 2.0 Campaign Oversight Committee serves to ratify and approve the VisitTulsa 2.0 program of work and annual budget, overseeing implementation of initiatives and assisting the staff, as needed, with specific convention and tourism opportunities.





ROBERT D. MCGREW 2015 Chair, VisitTulsa 2.0 President and CEO T. D. Williamson, Inc.





JOHN HEWITT President & CEO

Matrix Service Company

JERRY FLOYD General Manager River Spirit Casino



JEFF NICKLER General Manager SMG Tulsa



SHAWN SLATON Chief Executive Officer Cherokee Nation Entertainment, LLC



STEVEN G. BRADSHAW President & CEO Bank of Oklahoma



JENNIFER CARTHEL Advertising Director Tulsa World Media Company



ROBERT MAREBURGER Senior Vice President ONEOK, Inc.



MICHAEL S. NEAL President & CEO Tulsa Regional Chamber



JEFF STAVA Chief Operating Officer Tulsa Community Foundation & George Kaiser Family Foundation



RAY HOYT President VisitTulsa & Tulsa Sports Commission



BOARD CONSOLIDATION

The VisitTulsa Executive Committee and the Tulsa Sports Commission Board of Directors merged in 2015 into one leadership entity named the VisitTulsa Regional Tourism Executive Board.

This consolidation will better position us to focus on our region as a vibrant hub for tourism and sports. This board consolidation allows the VisitTulsa Regional Tourism Executive Board to act as a governing body that will focus on streamlining efforts to leverage opportunities and resources to make the Tulsa region a vibrant destination for tourism and sports.

The remaining members of the two former executive boards are now combined into one advisory board, which makes up the second tier of our regional tourism leadership structure. This board will hone in on strategy and future projection; while leading ROI focused discussions on how we win competitive events over other cities. The advisory board will work hands on with members of the VisitTulsa and Tulsa Sports Commission staff and event organizers during the execution of competitive events like Big XII and the Bassmaster Classic. Members of this board will lend their expertise, business connections and resources to ensure we are utilizing our best local talent while these events are in town. Advisory board members will also make up the pool of candidates who will be recruited to serve on the executive board.

Together, these two dynamic leadership groups will function cooperatively to strengthen our brand and streamline our work in this competitive industry.



TULSA REGIONAL TOURISM EXECUTIVE BOARD

2015 CHAIR Jeff Stava Tulsa Community Foundation

CHAIR, VISITTULSA 2.0 OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE Robert D. McGrew T.D. Williamson, Inc.

TREASURER, VISITTULSA Kirk Hays Arvest Bank

CHAIR, METRO TULSA HOTEL & LODGING ASSOCIATION Ken Morgan Embassy Suites Tulsa

CHAIR, TULSA SPORTS COMMISSION/CHAIR ELECT John Hewitt Matrix Service Company

IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR, TULSA SPORTS COMMISSION **Jesse Boudiette** Propeller Communications

TREASURER, TULSA SPORTS COMMISSION David Jeter Bank of Oklahoma

CHAIR, TULSA'S YOUNG PROFESSIONALS **Evan Tipton** Scott McCoy Agency

THE UNIVERSITY OF TULSA REPRESENTATIVE **Kevan Buck** University of Tulsa

GENERAL MANAGER, EXPO SQUARE **Mark Andrus** Expo Square

GENERAL MANAGER, SMG TULSA Jeff Nickler SMG Tulsa

MAYOR DEWEY F. BARTLETT, JR. **CITY OF TULSA** Represented by Jim Coles City of Tulsa

TULSA COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE Karen Keith Tulsa County

PRESIDENT & CEO, TULSA REGIONAL CHAMBER Mike Neal Tulsa Regional Chamber

EX OFFICIO Dick Dutton Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department

PRESIDENT, VISITTULSA & TULSA SPORTS COMMISSION Ray Hoyt VisitTulsa

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, TULSA SPORTS COMMISSION Vince Trinidad Tulsa Sports Commission

VICE PRESIDENT, VISITTULSA Vanesa Masucci VisitTulsa

MEMBERS AT LARGE **Pete Patel** Promise Hotels

Tom Bloomfield Don Thornton Cadillac

Pat Cavanagh **Enovation Controls**

Paula Marshall Bama Companies, Inc.

Mike Mears Magellan Midstream Partners, LLP

ADVISORY BOARD

Jack Allen, Jr. Chandler-Frates & Reitz

Jessica Barr

Utica Square

Greg Gallant Tulsa Federal Credit Union

Brad Beasley Boesche McDermott, LLP

> Laurie Graves Bama Companies, Inc.

> > **Tony Heaberlin**

Tulsa Tech

Roger Hess

Steve Hobbs

Darrell Horn

Security Bank

Robert Irwin

Tulsa County

Edward Keller

Summit Bank

Dan Kirby

Billy Kulkin

Cubic, Inc.

Oklahoma State Legislature

Cox Communications

Southwestern Payroll Services, Inc.

Bank of Oklahoma

Scott Grauer

Jerry Floyd

River Spirit Casino

Dave Bennett Community Volunteer

Byron Bighorse Osage Casinos

John Benjamin

Community Volunteer

Adrien Bouchet The University of Tulsa

Greg Boudreau Regent Bank

John Bowen Cox Communications

Ryan Bradley Rogers State University

Karen Keith

Grand Bank

Mike Carter Oral Roberts University

Lucy Dolman City of Tulsa

Austin Buerge

Doug Eaton HR Consulting

> **Rick Engles** Community Volunteer

Lew Erickson First Oklahoma Bank Susan Meeker Flintco, LLC

Bob Mareburger

ONEOK, Inc

Lynn Jones Community Volunteer Mike Melega Tulsa Drillers / Tulsa Roughnecks

Matt Meyer River Parks Authority

Josh Miller George Kaiser Family Foundation

Charles Monroe Monroe & Company

Elliot Nelson The McNellie's Group

John Peters **Cintas** Corporation

Robert R. Peters, II Heroux Helton PLLC

Mike Peyton Attorney

John Priest Crossland Construction

Daniel Regan Kanbar Properties

Will Richardson Citizens Bank of Oklahoma

Stacey Roggendorff Propeller Communications

Chuck Rygiel BlueCross BlueShield of Oklahoma

Nick Salis The University of Tulsa

Pat Selcer Lamar Outdoor Advertising

Dave Shults JD Young Company Shawn Slaton Cherokee Nation Entertainment, LLC

Cheif Geoffrey Standing Bear Osage Nation

Doug Stuart JD Young Company

Rand Suffolk Philbrook Museum of Art, Inc.

Steve Swetoha Tulsa Shock

Ben Thomas State Farm Insurance Group

Steve Turnbo Schnake Turnbo Frank

Kirk Turner Newton, O'Connor, Turner & Ketchum

Fred Utter Community Volunteer

Steve Walton Frederic Dorwart, Lawyers

Tom Wedding Oklahoma Soccer Association

Vince Westbrook The University of Tulsa

Matthias Wicks **Tulsa Public Schools**

Jerry Wilkins Emerge Diagnostics

Mike Willis Tulsa County

John Wiscaver GlobalHealth, Inc.

Farmers Insurance Group

FINANCIAL REVIEW

	Total Actual	Budget
REVENUE		
VisitTulsa/TSC	\$1,992,636.00	\$2,411,954.64
Lodging Tax Revenue	3,638,442.00	3,031,771.26
Chamber Contribution	250,000.00	250,000.00
Total Revenue EXPENSES	\$5,881,078.00	\$5,693,725.90
Compensation	\$1,299,665.00	\$1,177,845.56
Office Expenses	203,149.12	187,977.34
Professional Fees	217,569.51	98,100.00
Research and Training	287,169.27	108,160.00
Meeting Services	1,895,687.79	1,878,864.00
Travel and Hosting	388,247.00	431,309.00
Marketing	780,194.35	1,069,419.00
Publications and Brochures	75,331.00	81,400.00
Support Costs	663,184.00	659,937.00
Total Expenses	5,810,197.04	5,693,011.90
NET REVENUE	\$70,880.96	\$714.00

July 2014 - June 2015

VISITTULSA 2.0 PILLAR FUNDING

The four pillars of the VisitTulsa strategy impact every facility and attraction in the Tulsa region. These pillars were put in place to fully take advantage of the return on the significant investments made in developing these tourism assets through the retention, recruitment, development and enhancement of exciting events that increase the region's attributes as a premier destination.

RETAIN •

Reinvest in groups and partnerships that have selected Tulsa as their destination for long-term events. Continue to establish core events for 3-10 years to create a strong foundation.

40% VT 2.0 FUNDING



PR DEVELOP

Partner with the community to develop new opportunities to support use of our facilities and enhance current assets. Create owned and operated events that stay in Tulsa.

RECRUIT

25% VT 2.0 Funding

Strategically align the Tulsa region to be on a level playing field within our core markets as well as new markets that have potential business opportunities. Provide rights fees to secure new opportunities through aggressive negotiations in a competitive market place.





Utilize tourism-centric resources, such as Route 66, existing museums and iconic assets, through digital media and print to enhance brand awareness.

VISITTULSA SECURES MAJOR PARTNERSHIP RENEWALS



VENTION

The VisitTulsa team successfully secured two large partnerships for upcoming years, continuing to advance one of its four-pillar focuses, retention. The Bassmaster Classic will return in March 2016 and the Breeder's Invitational horse show renewed its contract through 2018.

The Bassmaster Classic is returning for its second year in Tulsa after a very successful 2013 Classic. The 2013 Classic recorded the second highest attendance in history, providing an economic impact of \$22.7 million, and event organizers hope bringing the event back to the Tulsa region and Grand Lake O' the Cherokees for a second time will bring even larger crowds of bass fishing fans from across the nation.

The Breeders Invitational, a non-profit corporation promoting and enhancing the cutting horse industry, will also return to Tulsa, renewing the partnership for an additional three years. The event will be hosted at Expo Square through 2018, which will mark its tenth year in Tulsa. The extension of the contract will continue to benefit the community with past events bringing an economic impact in excess of \$22 million for a total economic impact over the course of the three-year contract estimated to be \$70 million.

Both renewals are considered huge wins for the VisitTulsa and Tulsa Sports Commission team and will continue to bring money and exposure to the Tulsa region.



VisitTulsa was proud to support the Center of the Universe (COU) Music Festival and The Hop Jam Beer and Music Festival this year by allocating financial support and staff participation to strengthen the marketing and branding of these two local events. Both festivals align with the Tulsa Office of Film, Music, Arts & Culture's mission to promote Tulsa as a creative hub and cultural destination.

VisitTulsa made an impression during both events by deploying the Mobile Visitor's Center and "pop-up" park to attract visitors and local residents.









TULSA HOSTS PHILLIPS 66 BIG 12 BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

The month of May 2015 brought the Phillips 66 Big 12 Baseball Championship to Tulsa's ONEOK Field. Despite the weather, the tournament touted over 30,000 in attendance and a nearly \$6 million economic impact to the community. The event was considered a win for Tulsa community.

ONEOK Field was the crown jewel of the event, looking beautiful and functioning flawlessly for coaches, players, fans and staff. The field received countless compliments from coaches, the Big 12 and even The Rocket himself, Roger Clemens. This was the first year Tulsa had the opportunity to host the Big 12 Tournament, taking it from Oklahoma City, who has hosted in the past. The event will return to OKC in 2016, but the Tulsa Sports Commission hopes to bring Big 12 baseball back in the future.

Outside the tournament, the ONEOK Fan Fest was a great opportunity for area residents and the many visitors to enjoy a party in the park, hosted by Guthrie Green. Attendees were entertained by live music, kids' activities, a double-header outdoor movie night, and much more.

The economic impact of the event was widely felt. The hospitality industry was heavily impacted by the over 1,300 hotel room nights generated by the tournament. The media coverage of the event was also overwhelming. In Tulsa alone, the tournament received nearly 250 earned publicity stories on broadcast, print and online and impacted an audience of 87,655,873. The total earned media value was nearly \$2 million, reaching a total audience of 1,315,439,608 throughout Oklahoma.



ONEOK

FIE

HOME OF THE TULSA DRILLERS

WELCOME TO ONEOK FIELD , HOM





WINNING BIG WITH TWO NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



The Tulsa Sports Commission hosted two national championship tournaments in Tulsa during the third week of July. Bringing a combined total economic impact of \$6.6 million, the United States Golf Association's Junior Girls' Golf Championship and US Youth Soccer National Championships brought big money and big crowds to the Tulsa region.

The USGA Junior Girls' Golf was hosted in conjunction with the Tulsa Country Club and welcomed 156 players from all over the nation to play for the title of National Champion. The event lasted eight days until only two golfers remained on the course. Eun Jeong Seong, 2015 champion, praised the course and the city of Tulsa in her acceptance speech during the awards ceremony on July 25.

The new Mohawk Sports Complex made its grand debut for the USYS National Championship, hosting 96 youth soccer teams representing states from around the U.S. Each team brought members, coaches, parents and spectators, providing Tulsa and the new soccer complex an opportunity to shine as a competitive soccer venue.

Kicking off the tournament, a player luncheon was held at the Cox Business Center where each team was recognized. The hashtag #ROADtoOK was used throughout the nationwide tournament and was highlighted at the luncheon, showing players' social media posts including the hashtag. Social media coverage before, during and after the tournament was monumental.



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arch-key tote bag Bille Bottle. Photo booth fattooed raft beer slow-carb artisen occupy paleo finde YOLO. e, tousled guiden-tree VHS cronut gentrify. Selfes ings. Meh street art jocavore narwhal shabby chic

Shabby chic squid puer lift goth. Fingerstache church key shabby chic artisan slow-carb yr polarold real made, quinca direct trade forage.

Helvetion asymmetrical post-ironic Neutra, High Life art party pug citche disrupt American Apparei. Gastiopub citche tottu, Marta taxidermy jean strotts before thay sold out aesthetic listicle 8-bit keytar fanny pack Thundercats 90's ethical. Vegan kitsch ennut mixtape tilde, mumplecore chiliwave tote beg beard fachton.



JONATHAN GATES 624 S. BOSTON AVE., SUITE 450 TULSA, OK 74119

High Life irony mikshk Etsy Kickstarter banjo. Fingerstache seltan fashion ave occupy glubin-free swag.







FMAC LAUNCHES NEW BRAND

A new brand design and video for The Tulsa Office of Film, Music, Arts & Culture, formally the Tulsa Mayor's Film and Music Office, launched in August 2013 and was moved under VisitTulsa in the fall of 2014 igniting its exciting presence in the Tulsa region.

The mission of the Tulsa Office of Film, Music, Arts & Culture is to develop and connect resources to further grow and enhance the Region's creative industries including film, music, and arts, all while promoting Tulsa as a creative hub and cultural destination.

The Tulsa Office of Film, Music, Arts & Culture is also thrilled to announce its membership with the Association of Film Commissioners International (AFCI). Tulsa is the only city film commission in Oklahoma, and joins the AFCI network of more than 300 film commissions worldwide.

While the Tulsa Office of Film, Music, Arts & Culture is independent from the Oklahoma Film + Music Office (OF+MO), the state film commission, the two offices collaborate and partner often. Tulsa FMAC also joined OF+MO as a partner at their filmmakers reception at the Sundance Film Festival in addition to supporting an important networking event in Los Angeles this past spring to point expatriate crew and talent back to Oklahoma, where things are booming.







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Staff Notebook

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se triangles are the basis for the entire TFMAC brand.

his patten never changes. It is the base grid for all layouts. It is the only t or all visuals. It is subtle but still the springboard for excitement. It is neve lement on a page or frame because it never is displayed by itself.

MUSIC LOG

PRIMARY



IMAGINE THE **POSSIBILITIES**

Tulsa's Regional Tourism industry is growing and increasingly evolving.

Tulsa's leaders in tourism and branding have to think ahead and stay ahead in order to remain competitive. Implementing bold visionary concepts like the Gathering Place and breaking ground to develop new hotels and casinos keeps Tulsa's brand image relevant and progressive.

OUTDOOR PERFORMANCE CENTER (OPC)

- The OPC would be designed to offer state of the art amenities to host major » musical acts, festivals, national championships and community events.
- Potential \$61 million economic impact. »

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS FOR USA BMX / ABA

- Create a national home for BMX and host site for elite training for the » world's best BMX racers.
- Estimated \$11 million economic impact over five years in market, in addition to BMX Grand Nationals and Sooner Nationals.

MOHAWK SPORTS COMPLEX

- » Complete Phase II of the city's master plan to upgrade the Mohawk Sports Complex to allow for the MSC to compete with other regional facilities.
- » Since 2013, Mohawk has brought an estimated \$29 million in economic impact.

TOURISM IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (TID)

- continues to provide support of downtown services, maintenance, and promotions.
- direct benefits to the properties included in the district and withstand legal scrutiny.

ARENA DISTRICT

downtown federal building to create a thriving retail, hotel and restaurant district.



» Improvement Districts allow those who benefit the most to assess themselves to pay for improvement. Tulsa's most prominent example is the Downtown Stadium Improvement District, which funded ONEOK Field and

» Currently working with several law firms both in Oklahoma and nationally to identify a path forward in existing state statute, and develop a structure for the tourism-based Improvement District that will both confer

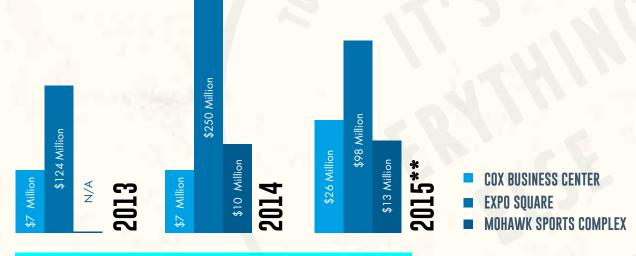
» Remodel the Cox Business Center arena to create 95,000 sq ft of newly renovated space and acquire the

A MAP OF PROGRESS

ROOM NIGHTS IN TULSA

Each fiscal year VisitTulsa is given a goal of filling a set number of hotel room nights. The fulfillment of this goal is not just a success for the VisitTulsa team but for the Tulsa community, bringing dollars and visitors to the region.





FACILITY IMPACT

Tulsa is home to world-class facilities that host conferences, sporting and agricultural events that bring millions of dollars to the region. The numbers represented are the total dollars from events the VisitTulsa and Tulsa Sports Commission teams have brought to Tulsa. These facilities are an integral part of bringing large events to Tulsa.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Visitor dollars are highly important to the Tulsa region. This new money brought in to the local economy boosts the region in all aspects without an impact to infrastructure. Visitor dollars help local businesses, hotels, restaurants and keeps costs lower for local residents.



** Starting January 1, 2015, VisitTulsa acquired the industry standard calculation system from Destination Marketing Association International (DMAI). This has refined VisitTulsa's procedures and calculation resulting in a more accurate number. The number for 2015 is shown to be less in economic impact from years preceding, but with a new system, comes new predictions and estimates. DMAI's calculations are on the conservative side, but offer the most accurate estimates, as it does not over inflate the metrics on events that are in market, as the old calculation of VisitTulsa's did, which would include shoulder dates causing a significant oversight in the groups actual impact.

OCCUPANCY RATE INCREASE

Occupancy percentage increase is the percentage amount of increase in occupancy of hotel room nights from last year. Each year we must meet a percentage goal of 4.0 percent.

REGIONAL TOURISM STAFF

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Heath Aucoin

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A Division of the Tulsa Regional Chamber

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