

Hospitality Roundtable Chat Log – April 7, 2022

Taylor Payne: This is Joanna Yorke, by the way, my computer just logs in under my husband's account :-)
Hi!

Summary Notes: Lyndsey Banks, regional compliance manager: Consultation division (free of charge), bulk of work is complaint based and workplace related injuries.

Ini.wa.gov - Safety and Health Consultation: help and provide assistance to develop safety program. Correct deficiencies in a certain amount of time or they can defer you for inspection. Find industry requirements, training videos, safety rules, etc. on the website.

Q: How often do random inspections occur?

A: Depends how busy they are with complaints, more likely to get inspected due to a complaint. But complaints are slowing down a bit. In last year, 600 inspections (only 1 hotel and 6 restaurants). If new business, suggest a consultation and download templates.

Mark from Beaches: Got a consultation during Covid -- very helpful and informative. Very positive experience.

Steve Valenta: I find these brief written summations done by Erica very helpful. Thank you for doing them!

Summary Notes: Mayor Anne McEnerny-Ogle and Teresa Brum: Council extended refund fees until end of December 2022. Avg. refund: \$810 (\$90 per employee)

Contact Teresa Brum, City of Vancouver, for help with your business license surcharge refund at Teresa.brum@cityofvancouver.us

Steve Valenta: Here's the CoV link for the refund:

<https://www.cityofvancouver.us/fms/webform/business-license-fee-surcharge-refund-request-form>

Alex Luna (she/her): Thank you, Steve!

Anthony Pena - U.S. Senator Patty Murray SWWA Outreach: anthony_pena@murray.senate.gov, 360-903-9116

Summary Notes: John Lane, WHA: Restaurant Revitalization Fund -- bill moving to Senate after Easter break. Need more Republican support but moving forward.

Anthony Anton, WHA: \$3M grants to come this summer, like the odds for most small businesses. Available early June. \$15M for hotels available mid-July. Get to know Gretchen Fritz!

Qualifying for one grant may disqualify you for another -- so make sure you talk to Gretchen to make sure you apply for the one that will help you the most.

Hospitality's Session Review Podcast: <https://mysoundwise.com/episodes/16492850012735488e>

Gretchen Fritz - Territory Manager for Southwest WA - gretchenf@wahospitality.org, 360-956-7279 ext. 209

Summary Notes: Cliff, Visit Vancouver WA: Hotels are doing well despite labor shortages. Moving forward on Tourism Master Plan in conjunction with City of Vancouver -- just selected vendor. Event funding: \$125K. AC Hotel by Marriott at the waterfront is looking great! Opening in June along with Vancouver Landing project.

Teresa Brum, City of Vancouver: Here's where we'll post the grant application for event funding when available (in a few months): <https://www.cityofvancouver.us/ltac/page/lodging-tax-grant-program>

Summary Notes: John, Chamber: Grow the 360 still going strong, in top 10, 7 are restaurants. Can still join!

Q: When will LTAC event funding be available?

A: LTAC committee meets next week and will iron out details. Public meeting over Zoom.

Q: Waterfront group discounts for parking?

A: Yes, discounted hourly employee pass ("the purple pass"). Contact Teresa Brum for more info: 360-356-0250

City of Vancouver hourly wage employee permit here

https://www.cityofvancouver.us/sites/default/files/fileattachments/community_and_economic_development/page/36843/vdaon-streethourlywageappform.pdf

Erica Lindemann -- Visit Vancouver WA: I will post chat log on this page if you need to go back and reference! <https://www.visitvancouverwa.com/hospitality-roundtable/>

Jenni Sandstrom WSUV: Jennifer.sandstrom@wsu.edu – Many of Jenni's students have already been hired by hospitality businesses in Clark County, and they are great! Contact her to inquire.