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**CITY OF PORT LAVACA**

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**MEETING: MARCH 10, 2025**

**DATE:** 03/03/2025

**TO:** MANDY GRANT

**FROM:** TANIA FRENCH

**SUBJECT:** Consider temporary waiver of permits and fees for the “35 On or Sorta Near 35” during the “*Christmas in July*” theme and take place over three days from July 24 to 26, 2025, with the main event scheduled for Saturday, July 26, 2025.

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**BACKGROUND:**

Recently, a group of community members approached us with an idea to create a new event in Port Lavaca that blends elements of the successful Shop the Town event with 90 Miles on 90, a popular annual event in RoundTop. Here is a link to the RoundTop event: <https://roundtop.com/events/90-miles-on-90/>

The proposed event, 35 On Or Sorta Near 35, would have a Christmas in July theme and take place over three days, from July 24-26, 2025, with the main event scheduled for Saturday, July 26, 2025. The event would feature 35 designated stops around Port Lavaca, beginning at Red Barn and concluding at the Bauer Community Center. Participants will have the opportunity to collect puzzle pieces at each stop, ultimately forming a Port Lavaca keepsake puzzle.

The event aims to support local businesses by incorporating brick-and-mortar establishments along with designated parking areas for pop-up antique dealers and vendors. The weekend will culminate at Bayfront Beats on July 26, where attendees who complete the puzzle will be eligible for prizes and drawings.

To facilitate the success of this inaugural event, we respectfully request the following considerations from the City of Port Lavaca:

1. Waiver of peddler permits for participating vendors.
2. Waiver of garage sale permits for temporary sales locations.
3. Waiver of Bauer Community Center rental fees for event activities, which will include use of the parking lot and inside for vendors.
4. A \$35.00 discount (total) on Lighthouse Beach RV Park stays of three days or longer during the event week.

We believe 35 On Or Sorta Near 35 has the potential to bring visitors to town, engage locals, and become a signature annual event benefiting the community and local hotels businesses.