



STAFF REPORT

Meeting Type: City Council
Meeting Date: April 20, 2026
From: Patrick Depa, Senior Planner
Subject: Noise Exception: 4th Annual Sandy Invitational Chainsaw Carving (SICC)

DECISION TO BE MADE:

Whether to approve or deny a noise exception for the 4th Annual Sandy Invitational Chainsaw Carving (SICC) three-day event.

APPLICABLE COUNCIL GOAL:

n/a

BACKGROUND / CONTEXT:

The noise exception related to this request is for a three-day wood carving art event being held on Friday June 5 through Sunday June 7, 2026, from 8:00 am to 7:00 pm in the field directly behind (to the south) the Dick Hannah Dealership at 37000 Hwy 26. The existing field is 8.77 acres in size and is entirely vacant. Staff received a temporary land use application and other related materials on April 9, 2026, requesting approval for a three-day "chainsaw carving" event to be located for the second consecutive year on the vacant lot, behind the Dick Hannah Dealership.

The noise exemption request is identical to last year's request, with two minor modifications. The first modification is that this year's event will be for three days instead of two days like last year's event. The second modification is that there is an individual that has been pre-approved with official paperwork that allows him to attempt to break the Guinness Book of World Records for the longest continuous chainsaw carving. The organizers of the event are requesting for this one individual to continuously carve throughout one night. The organizers have informed us that they plan to erect sound barriers and/or use electric devices during the evening/night.

The proposed event location is zoned General Commercial (C-2). The property to the north and east is zoned General Commercial (C-2). The property to the south and west is zoned Single Family Residential (SFR) and High Density Residential (R-3).

The event will have the following activities, attractions, and exhibitions:

- Twenty plus active carvers, each creating and carving a piece for auction
- A demonstration of skills by competitive foresters from OSU
- Mechanical Demo Field: Heavy machinery for public viewing and explanation
- Oregon Mass Timber Manufacturing information on the "Timber Lab" and construction future
- Public participation in forestry related activities (signed waivers will be required)

- Secondary site run by AntFarm to ascent into a guided trip on Tickle Creek Trail
- Auction of carver's art at the end of the event
- Vendors selling arts and crafts
- Food Carts

The event organizer's application, site plan, narrative, and event schedule are provided as exhibits.

The applicant will secure a new insurance policy which will be scheduled to start prior to the event. The Insurance and "Hold Harmless" clause for the City will be conditions in the final temporary use order and the policy will be verified by the Planning Division prior to the event.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS / ANALYSIS:

Noise Exception: Section 8.20.020 (A) states: "No person may make, assist in making, continue or cause to be made any loud, disturbing or unnecessary noise which either annoys, disturbs, injures or endangers the comfort, repose, health, safety or peace of others."

Section 8.20.020 (B) states: "Loud, disturbing and unnecessary noises in violation of this section include, but are not limited to the following:"

Section 8.20.020 (B)(10) goes on to state: "The discharge in the open air of the exhaust of a steam engine, internal combustion engine, motorboat or motor vehicle except through a muffler or other device which will effectively prevent loud or explosive noises and the emission of annoying smoke."

There are no criteria in the Sandy Municipal Code to apply when approving noise exceptions.

BUDGET IMPACT:

None

RECOMMENDATION:

Generally, this application meets the general requirements of the Development Code Section 17.74.60 (A) (Temporary Uses) and promotes a unique art event in the City of Sandy. The Council will need to weigh whether the all-night continuous carving record attempt should receive a noise exception in addition to an exception for the main event.

SUGGESTED MOTION LANGUAGE:

"I move to approve the noise exception at 37000 Hwy 26 for the event cited under File No. 26-014 TEMP, to be held Friday June 5th through Sunday June 7th 2026, from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; with an additional exception to allow for one individual to undertake carving throughout the night of June 5th to June 6th for the purpose of breaking a Guinness World Record for continuous chainsaw carving."

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS / EXHIBITS:

- Exhibit A. Land Use Application / Site Plan
- Exhibit B. Special Event Permit Application
- Exhibit C. Narrative and Event Schedule