

## **METROPOLITAN EXPOSITION RECREATION COMMISSION**

### **Resolution No. 25-06**

For the purpose of increasing income thresholds for Metro's First Opportunity Target Area (FOTA) hiring program.

**WHEREAS**, in 2013, the Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission (MERC) directed staff to engage independent consultants to review and update the First Opportunity Target Area (FOTA) program, and;

**WHEREAS**, after conducting thorough program review; historical, legislative and best practices research; and stakeholder engagement, a set of FOTA policy and program recommendations were presented to and accepted by MERC and Metro Council in a joint work session on February 13, 2015, and;

**WHEREAS**, one of such recommendations was for staff to convene a community task force to review and provide to the General Manager of Visitor Venues recommended updates to income eligibility thresholds, and;

**WHEREAS**, MERC appointed a FOTA Task Force in June 2015 that developed recommendations to update the income eligibility thresholds for consideration by the General Manager of Visitor Venues, including a requirement that Metro increase the income eligibility thresholds annually, and;

**WHEREAS**, the income thresholds have not been updated since the initial recommendations in 2015, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Metro Auditor audited the FOTA program in 2025 and recommended that Metro follow the FOTA Task Force recommendations to increase the income thresholds on an annual basis.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**, that the Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission approves the following updates to the FOTA program income eligibility thresholds, effective upon passage of this Resolution:

1. The income eligibility threshold for households of up to two is increased from \$47,000 to \$81,660;
2. The income eligibility threshold for households of three or greater is increased from \$65,000 to \$104,660;
3. MERC delegates authority to the General Manager of Visitor Venues to update the income thresholds on an annual basis using the University of Washington, Oregon Self-Sufficiency Index for years the index is published and for years that the index is

not published by inflating the then current thresholds using the annualized December Consumer Price Index for West – Size Class A increased by 60% as soon as practicable after publishing of the December inflation factor.

Passed by the Commission on September 3, 2025.

Approved as to form:

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Chair

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Nathan Sykes, Deputy Metro Attorney

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Secretary/Treasurer