

DOWNTOWN EVENTS AND THE PUBLIC ASSEMBLY PERMIT PROCESS



2015 Statistics

- o 137 Downtown Events
- o 77 events closed at least one street
- o 29 events closed streets at City Market Building and vicinity



modified 10/15/15

Downtown: 2007 – 2016

- o City Market Building
- o Center in the Square
- o Market Square
- o Taubman Museum of Art
- o Social Security Building
- o Elmwood Park
- o Hampton Inn & Suites
- o Carilion Riverside/Carilion-VA Tech Medical School
- o Bridges Development
- o Residences: 278 (in 2007) and 1,306+ (in 2016)
- o Thriving Business Community



Assembly Permit Process

- Public Assemblies - City Code Section 30 , Art. V.I
- Downtown Roanoke, Inc. (DRI)
 - Contract to Plan, Promote and Manage events for City
 - Downtown Event Support and Permit Services for Citizens
- Applications received and processed by both DRI and City Public Works Dept.



Behind the Scenes

- Evaluate routes and proposed street closures
- Coordination of Event Logistics (Traffic Control, Safety, Security)
- Fabrication and placement of signs & barricades
 - Parking restrictions
 - Street closures
- Maintenance and repairs of infrastructure within event space
- External coordination
 - Local - DRI, PARK Roanoke, Valley Metro, Carilion, Affected Businesses
 - Regional EMS Agencies and Hospitals
 - State and Federal Agencies (e.g. VDH, VDOT, State Police, NPS)



Support and Resources

- **Assembly Permit Application Process**
 - Multiple Departments review, approve and support
- **Additional Support as needed:**
 - Solid Waste
 - Stormwater (street sweeping)
 - Police
 - Traffic Control – Signs & barricades
 - Fire – EMS



Considerations

- Impacts on
 - Businesses
 - Residents
 - Traffic/ Transit
- Time and Day of Week
- Public Safety
- Suitability of Venue
- Parking
- Solid Waste
- Feasibility of Routes (Parades, Runs, Walks)



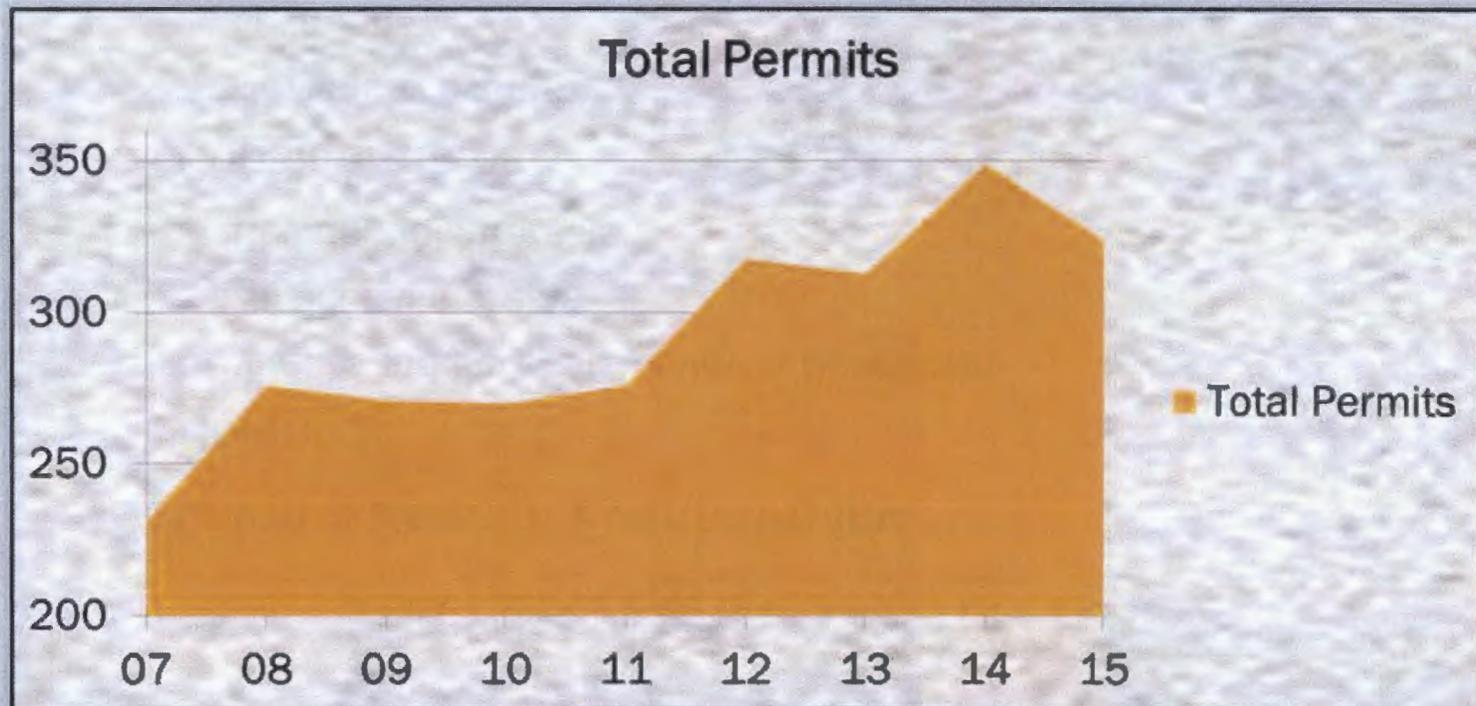
Recent Challenges

- o Frequency of street closures
- o Impeding vehicular access to Central Business District, tourist destinations, and health care facilities
- o Residential population is growing



Recent Challenges

- o Level of City resources required to support events
- o Number of events continues to increase:



Finding a Balance

➤ Develop a Special Events Policy

☐ Balance

- Vitality and Level of Activity in Downtown
- Business Interests
- Residential Interests

☐ Considerations

- How many events?
- Locations?
- Street Closures?
- Day of week?
- Time of day?
- Others?



Questions?

