

# Tourism Advisory Committee

## July 19, 2016

# Agenda

- Chair's Report
- Horse Drawn Carriage Ordinance
  - Heat Policy
  - Ordinance Revisions
  - Equine Sanitation
- Follow-up on Residential Complaints
- Other Business

**Tourism Advisory Committee (TAC)  
Meeting Summary  
July 19, 2016**

- TAC Attendees:** Charlie Brazil, Mark Dana, Vaughnette Goode-Walker, Austin Hill, David Jones, Bill Lovett, Eric Meyerhoff, DeAnne Mitchell, Michael Owens, Adam Wilkins
- TAC Absence:** Sandra Baxter, Jamie Caskey, Joe Marinelli
- Guests:** Mickey Minick, Eric Curl, Bill Durrence, Elli Donoghue, Robert Edgerly, Stacy Hill, Angela Lynn, Tammi Sabo, Dee Thompson, Jennifer Thompson, Taylor Watts, Ginger Wilkins.
- City Staff:** Bridget Lidy, Marija Bumgarner, Cynthia Pelote

**Chair's Report**

Chair Goode-Walker opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. She explained that the focus of today's meeting would be the horse and carriage ordinance. Chair Goode-Walker shared that she joined staff in a meeting with the horse and carriage companies and another one with animal advocates. She added the meetings were interesting, and she learned a lot. At yesterday's meeting with the carriage companies, the equine sanitation company brought a urine sample and three chemicals to test their effectiveness in addressing the odor on the street. We do not have revisions to the horse drawn carriage ordinance to show to the TAC because the City's Attorney's Office is reviewing the document along with the City vet.

**Horse Drawn Carriage Ordinance**

Bridget Lidy reviewed the presentation on the revisions to the horse drawn carriage ordinance. Please refer to the attached slide presentation.

During the TAC meeting, Bridget reviewed the attached PowerPoint presentation outlining the ordinance and heat policy revisions. Mark Dana indicated that if the purpose of the policy changes is to protect the animals, than that is great. He added on the other hand, the changes can be viewed as placating the animal advocates.

Michael Owens asked why was the City looking to change the policy from last year—and wanted to know why staff got it so wrong. Bridget indicated that it had been a year since the policy was adopted. Based on data and the needed revisions to the overall ordinance, we have a chance to evaluate it. She also reported that in the



meeting with the TAC chair present all companies had agreed to reduce the temperature thresholds to “exceeding 95°”.

TAC member Adam Wilkins asked how that would affect the companies. Bridget responded that lowering to “exceeding 95°” would have resulted in removing the carriages from the street four additional days in 2016. TAC member Austin Hill suggested contacting a large animal veterinarian in the area about the revisions. He also asked how other communities handled the heat. Bridget referred to the slide comparing heat thresholds for other municipalities. It was explained that Charleston indicated they were getting push back on their standards and are looking to make changes to their ordinance.

Michael said that the horses are an investment for the companies, and it is financially beneficial for them to take care of the animals. He added it is also smart for the companies to cooperate with the City since they are the ones enforcing the regulations. Compliance is always better than enforcement.

Alderman Bill Durrence asked if there was a maximum number of carriages that can be on the streets at any specific time and the reasoning for carriages not operating from 4:30pm – 6pm. Staff said that there is no specific limit, however they are limited by the number of stands that each company leases. The 4:30pm – 6pm rule was not originally instituted due to traffic concerns, but traffic is the reason why the rule remains. Chair Good-Walker indicated that a few years ago, the City allowed carriages to operate from 4:30pm – 6pm during a trial period and Traffic Engineering indicated that traffic was impeded by the carriages during those times.

A motion was made by Charlie Brazil to adopt the revised heat policy with a 60-day trial period. After which, the policy can be reviewed and recommended for ordinance if appropriate. Prior to a vote, the Chair Goode-Walker asked the two carriage company owners in attendance if they still agreed the proposed heat policy that was discussed in the meeting she attended. Jennifer Thompson, the new owner of Plantation Carriage, indicated that the City veterinarian was comfortable with the policy changes made last year, and lowering the temperature to exceeding 95° would take them off the streets additional days. She stated that perhaps the changes were being made to appease the animal advocacy groups. Dee Madison, owner of Madison Carriage Company, agreed with Ms. Thompson.

Charlie withdrew his motion due to the comments made by the two carriage companies in attendance. Chair Goode-Walker called for discussion, and it was



agreed by the TAC to secure recommendations from multiple large animal veterinarians with no association to the companies by the next meeting and determine an appropriate course of action.

### **Residential Complaints**

Bridget reviewed Sec 6-1502 of the restricted areas of the Tour Service For Hire Ordinance and related enforcement activities. Please refer to the attached slide presentation.

Enforcement monitored the area but did not notice any issues, and no citations were issued for the area. No residential complaints were received for Warren Square..

Several citations were issued for Calhoun Ward. Citations were issued for encroaching on private property and touring in restricted areas after 12midnight.

Alderman Bill Durrence brought up the complaints about bell ringing on trollies. Bridget indicated that we worked directly with the trolley companies to reduce ringing of the bells. Complaints are coming from one family on Monterey Square. At this time, there is no prohibition of bell ringing in the ordinance. Trollies are voluntarily not ringing the bell in the area of Monterey Square to address the complaints.

### **Next Meeting**

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The next meeting will be held on September 20. All meetings are at 8:30AM in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Media Room of City Hall.

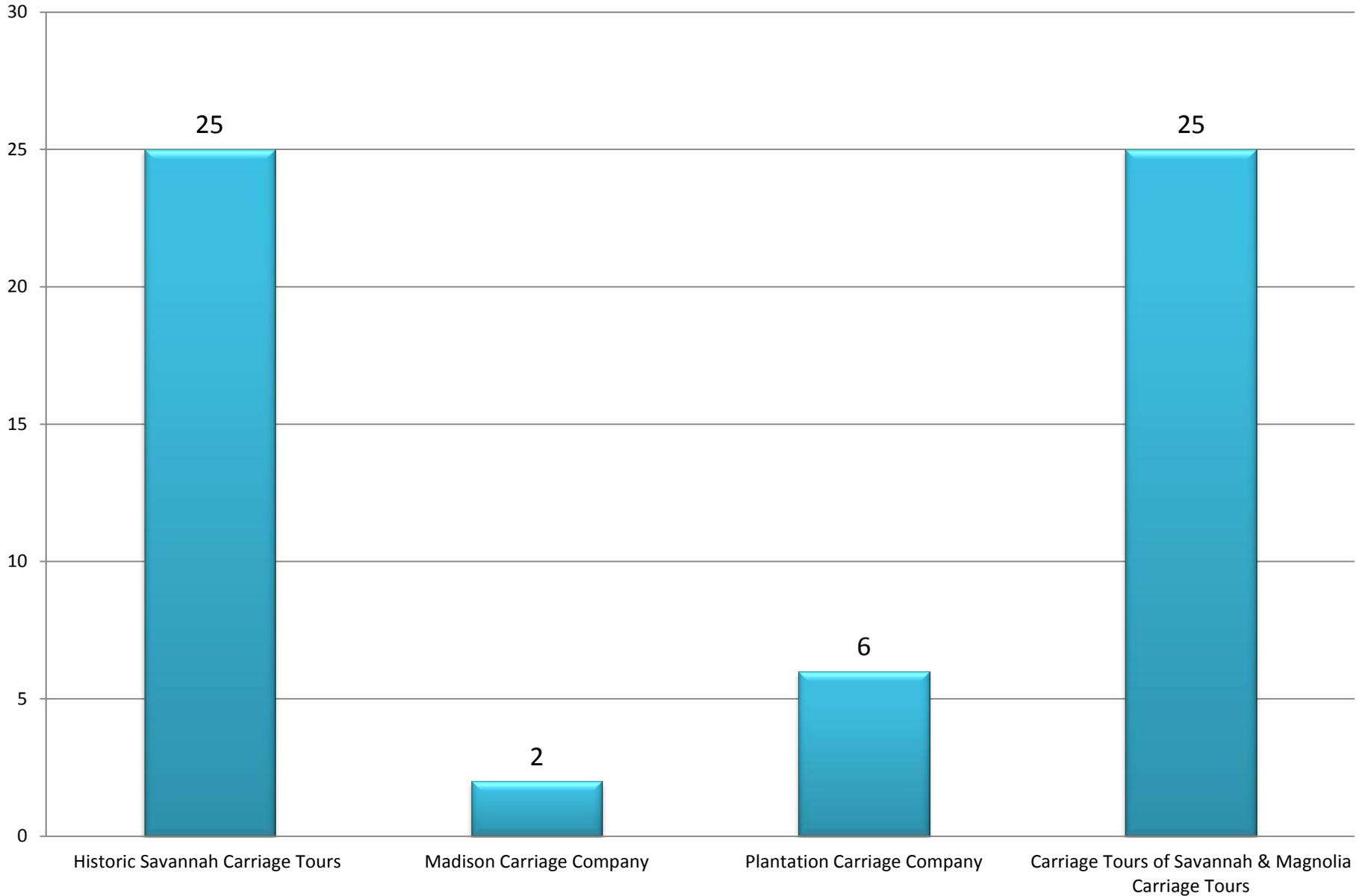
# Horse-Drawn Carriage Ordinance

- Enacted in 1977
- Revisions/Amendments:
  - 1981: Permit carriages on certain streets [6-1586]
  - 1986: Operating regulations [6-1562]; insurance requirements [6-1563]; hours and areas of operation [6-1585 & 6-1586];
  - April 1990: Insurance [6-1563]; applications for stands [6-1584]; safety equipment required [6-1589]; impeding the flow of traffic [6-5-1589]; loading and spacing [6-1590]; hearing and appeals [6-1591]

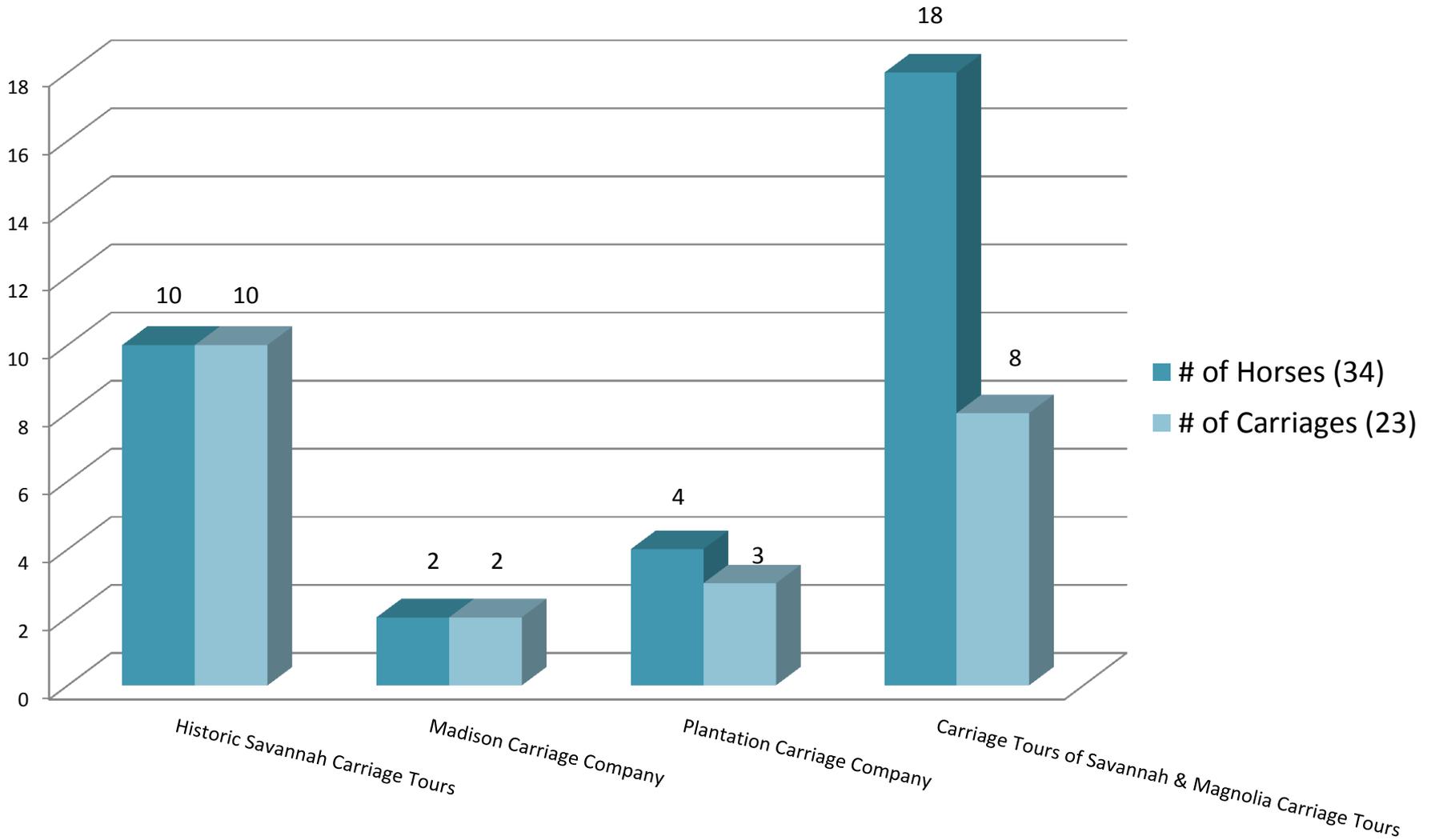
- May & October 1990: Exclusive carriage stands [6-1575]
- November 1990: Type of carriage [6-1593]; color schemes [6-1565]
- 2002: Change to the Revenue ordinance



# Number of Employees (62)



# Inventory of Carriage Companies



***Please note, not all the horse-drawn carriages are on the streets at one time.***

# Heat Policy

- Established in 2011; Revised in July 2015
- Changes included:
  - Heat Index of 110 degrees or higher OR 98 degrees or higher
    - Horses will not be allowed to operate on city streets
    - Horses currently on the street have the option of staying at their stand to keep cool. This prevents the horse from potentially being put into a dangerous situation being sent back to the stables which may be a mile or more away.
- Sgt. Gene Lawhorn, SCMPD Mounted Police Patrol, and the veterinarian treating the City's horses were consulted during this process and agreed to the changes
- May 2016, City Assistance Providers participated in equine training for law enforcement and animal control officers sponsored by the GA Equine Rescue League and GA Dept of Agriculture

CITY	TEMPERATURE	HEAT INDEX
Savannah(Old Policy)	99	120
Savannah(New Policy)	98	110
Austin	96	-
Beaufort	91	-
Charleston	98	125
Chicago	90	-
New Orleans	95	-
New York City	90	85
Philadelphia	92	-
San Antonio	96	-
St. Augustine	95	105
St. Louis	-	100

# www.weather.gov

Verizon LTE 6:32 PM 76%

forecast.weather.gov

### News Headlines

- [Oppressive Heat and Humidity through Late in the Week - Heat Safety Tips](#)
- [Storm Courier - Check Out the Spring/Summer 2016 Edition of Our Office Newsletter](#)

En Español  Share |     

#### Current conditions at Hunter U. S. Army Airfield (KSVN)

Lat: 32.02°N Lon: 81.15°W Elev: 43ft.



Fair  
**95°F**  
35°C

Humidity 58%  
Wind Speed SW 12 mph  
Barometer 30.01 in (1016.5 mb)  
Dewpoint 78°F (26°C)  
Visibility 10.00 mi  
**Heat Index 111°F (44°C)**  
Last update 5 Jul 3:38 pm EDT

[More Local Wx](#) | [3 Day History](#) | [Hourly Forecast](#)

#### Extended Forecast for Savannah

[View in Desktop Mode](#)

Verizon LTE 7:20 PM 51%

forecast.weather.gov

### Hunter U. S. Army Airfield (KSVN)

Lat: 32.02°N Lon: 81.15°W Elev: 43ft.



Fair  
**96°F**  
36°C

Humidity 55%  
Wind Speed SW 10 G 17 mph  
Barometer 29.93 in (1013.8 mb)  
Dewpoint 77°F (25°C)  
Visibility 10.00 mi  
**Heat Index 112°F (44°C)**  
Last update 8 Jul 6:58 pm EDT

[More Local Wx](#) | [3 Day History](#) | [Hourly Forecast](#)

#### Extended Forecast for Savannah GA

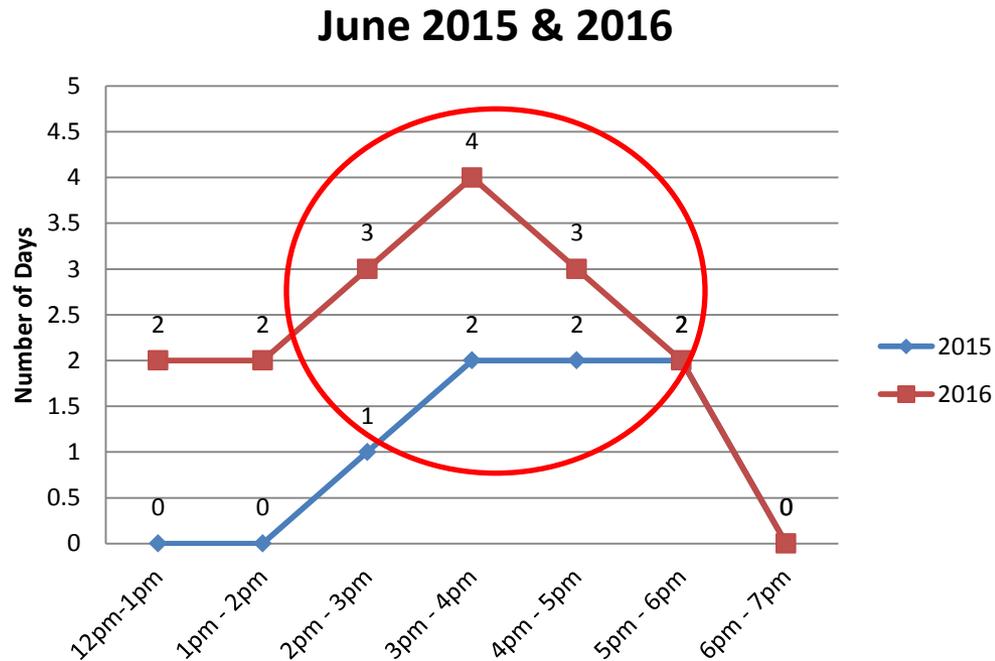
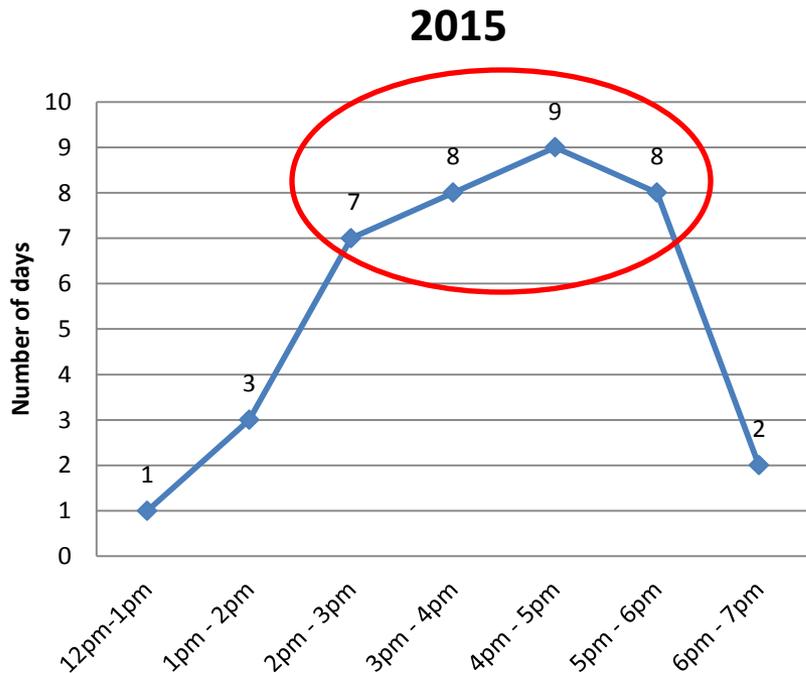
 [Click here for hazard details](#)

**NOW until 8:00pm Fri** | **Tonight**

[View in Desktop Mode](#)

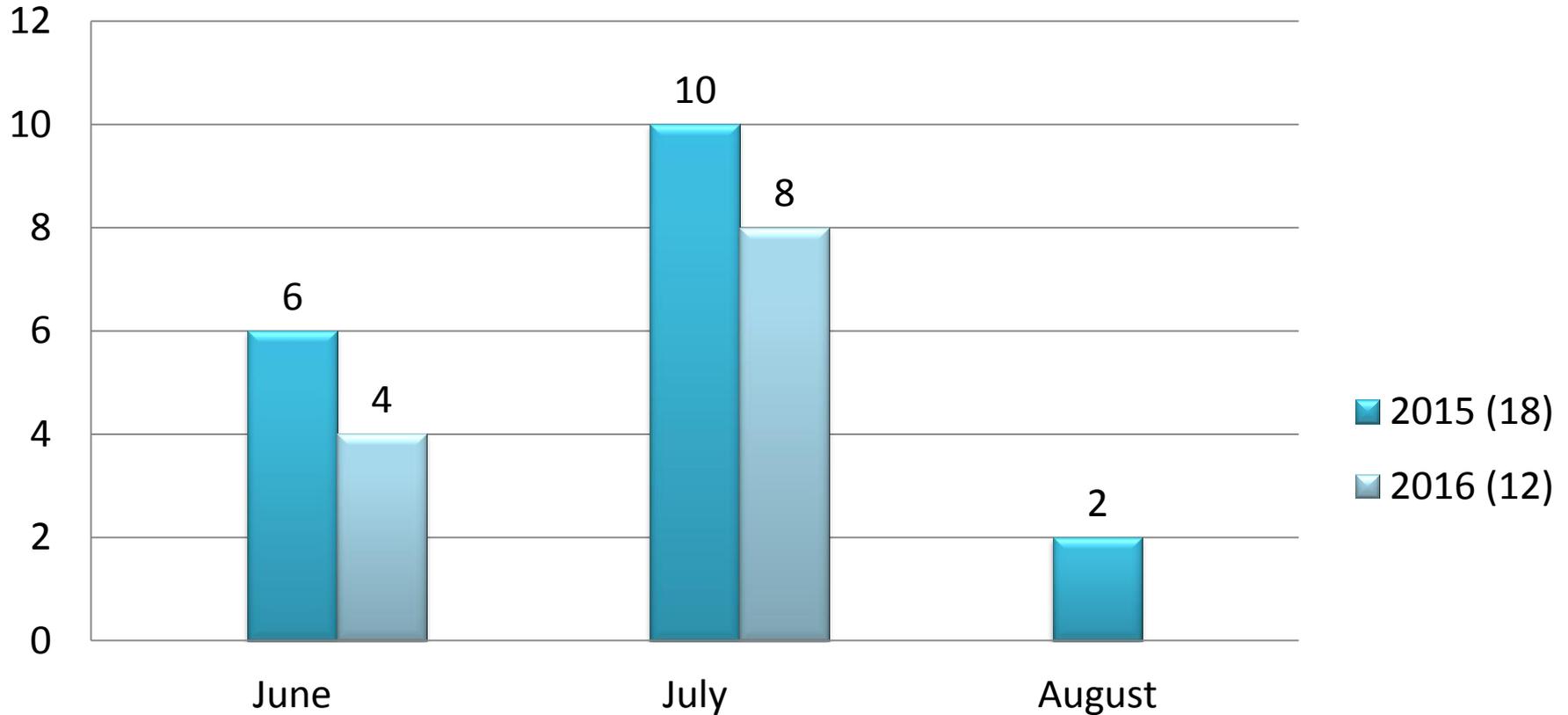
# Heat Data

Hours of the Day Horses were unable to operate due reaching a Temperature of 98 degrees or higher OR Heat Index of 110 or higher



- In 2015, the heat thresholds were most frequently reached from 2:00PM–6:00PM. This is consistent with June of 2015 & 2016
- The Carriage companies do not operate between the hours of 4:30PM-6:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on holidays

## Number of days Horse and Carriage Companies unable to operate due to heat policy



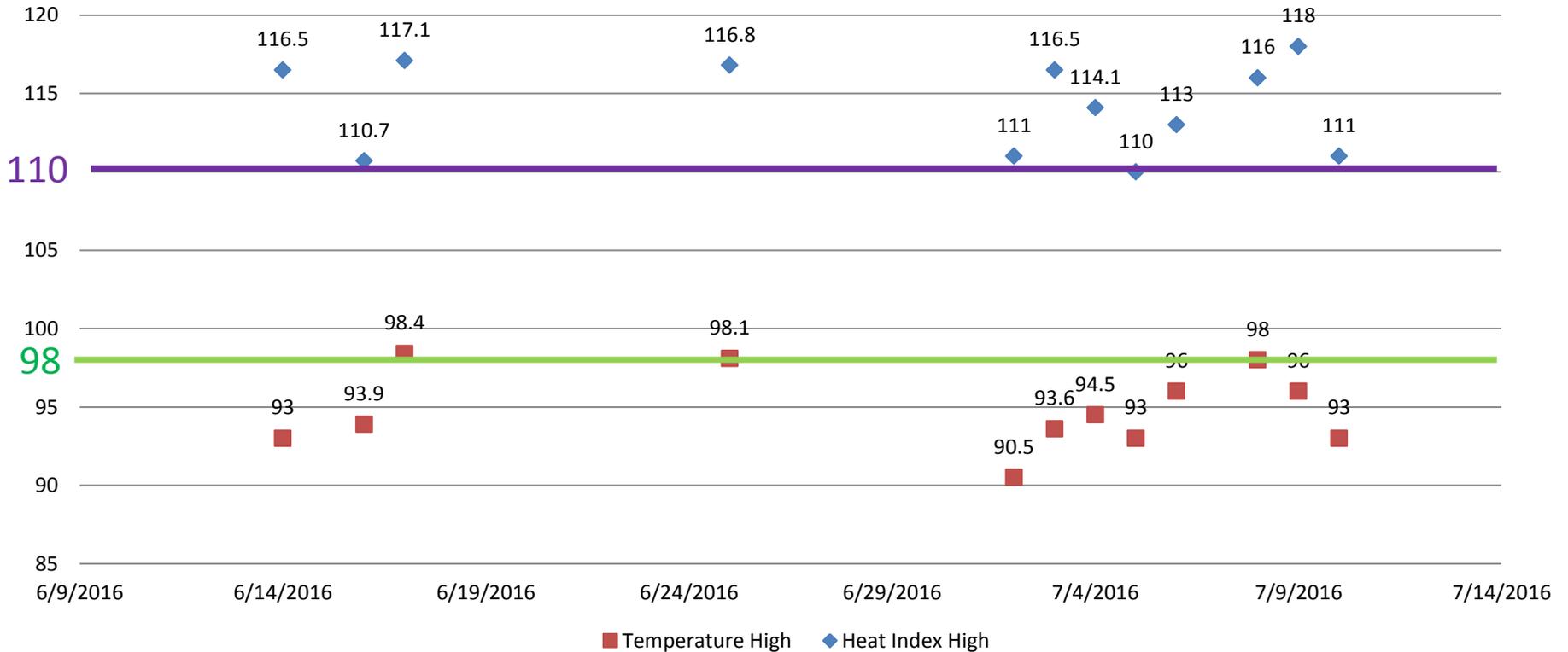
- **2015** - 98+ degrees: 3 times
  - Heat index: 110+ degrees: 14 times
  - Both the heat index and temperature: 1 time
- **2016** - Reached heat index of 110+ degrees: 12 times

# Heat Data

Day	Date	Temperature High	Heat Index High
Day 1	6/14/2016	93	116.5
Day 2	6/16/2016	93.9	110.7
Day 3	6/17/2016	98.4	117.1
Day 4	6/25/2016	98.1	116.8
Day 5	7/2/2016	90.5	111
Day 6	7/3/2016	93.6	116.5
Day 7	7/4/2016	94.5	114.1
Day 8	7/5/2016	93	110
Day 9	7/6/2016	96	113
Day 10	7/8/2016	98	116
Day 11	7/9/2016	96	118
Day 12	7/10/2016	93	111

- Reached 110+ Heat Index 12 days
- Reached temperature of 98 degrees 3 days. During those days, a heat index of 110+ was reached prior to reaching a temperature of 98 degrees.

# Days Horse & Carriages Stopped Operating Due to Heat 2016



# Proposed Revisions

- Temperature of 85 degrees or higher
  - Horse temperature readings shall be taken at the end of every circuit of the tour route prior to hosing down the horse. Information shall be recorded and kept on the carriage or carriage stand for the tourism director to review.
  - Visual inspection of the horses shall be made by the tourism director to detect stress.

- Heat index of 100 up to 110 degrees OR temperature of 95 90 up to 98 95 degrees
  - ~~Temperature readings shall be taken at the end of every circuit of the tour route prior to hosing down the horse. Information shall be recorded and kept on the carriage for the tourism director to review.~~ Horses shall be hosed down with cold water at the end of their tour route.
  - Water stations shall contain fresh water. Electrolytes are recommended as needed.
  - Signs of heat exhaustion shall immediately be addressed and the horse returned to their stable.
  - Horses shall have a minimum of 10 minutes rest between back to back tours.

- Heat Index of 110 degrees or higher or temperature exceeding 95 degrees ~~of 98~~ degrees or higher
  - Horse-drawn carriage tours shall not be allowed to operate on city streets
  - Horses currently on the street shall have the option of staying at their stand to keep cool to prevent the horse from being put into a dangerous situation by being sent back to the stables.

- **Horse Stand Inspections.** The tourism director shall reserve the right to ask for temperature readings on all horses currently in circulation when the Heat Index is 100 ~~110~~ degrees or higher or air temperature is 90 95 degrees or higher. Temperature records shall be available for inspection by the tourism director. Horse drawn carriage tour service companies unable or willing to provide proof that temperatures are being taken shall be subject to being removed from operation on city streets. The tourism director shall reserve the right to have temperatures taken in their presence.

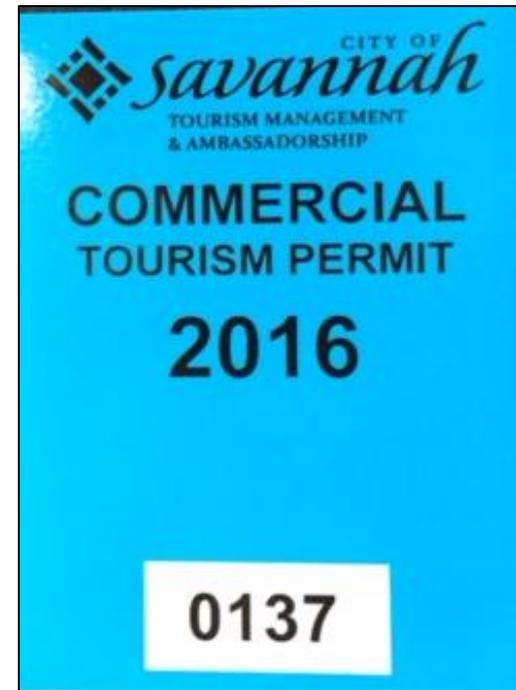
# Consistency with Tour Service for Hire Ordinance

- Redefine “tour guide”
- Eliminate testing, qualifications and permitting requirements
- Require tour companies to obtain a business tax certificate and register tour guides with the City
- Require tour guides to display identification
- Strike taxicab inspector to tourism director
- Add restricted residential areas to include:
  - The 400 and 500 blocks of East St. Julian Street and Washington Square from 8 p.m. to 10 a.m. (Nov.1st through Feb. 28th) and 9:30 p.m. to 10a.m. (March 1st through October 31st)
  - The area of the city which is south of Liberty Street and east of Lincoln Street, from 12:00 a.m. to 8 a.m. year-round
- Include penalties for violation, issuance of citations penalties for multiple violations and suspension/appeals



# Commercial Decal for Carriage

- Inspection once a year and as needed
- Equipment safety program to include first aid kit, lead rope, fire extinguisher and halter
- 2-way communication system
- Reflective material on side and rear of carriage [and on front legs of animals]
- Equine supplies



# Animal Health Certificate

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICEABILITY

### RESULTS:

- Serviceable
- Serviceable with Reservations
- Not Serviceable

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company Veterinarian

- Licensed vet certifies good health of each animal
- Vaccinated and de-wormed [if needed]
- Keep records for a year on medications, treatments, Dept of Agricultural inspections, deworming, rectal temp logs and work schedules
- Tourism director may inspect records

# Horse Care

- Water provided to each animal after completing a tour at least once per hour
- Electrolyte supplements as needed
- Within 24-hr period, animals shall not engage in touring more than seven (7) without 1 ½ hour break being disconnected from the carriage
- Animals shall not engage in touring for more than 6 days in a 7-day period. Request may be submitted to tourism director.



# Harnesses



- Animals shall not engage in work with harnesses or bits that harm or are unsafe to the animal
- No bitless bridles shall be used
- Properly fitted, kept clean and in good working order
- Free of makeshifts like rope and wire—exceptions in emergency situations

# Incidents and Accidents

- Companies designate an employee to be trained in basic equine first aid and to deploy as first responder
- First aid training records made available for inspection
- Company equipped with equine triage kit to administer first aid until company vet arrives
- Report accidents to tourism director within 24 hrs



# Other points

- Training program for both animals and tour guides on how to operate on the right-of-way
- Make program and records available for inspection



# Equine Sanitation

- Concerns about smell in summer months
- Tested 3 chemicals with carriage companies
  - Biozyne
  - Odor Medic\*
  - Odor Lock
- Coordinated with City's Water Resources Environmental Administrator



# Next Steps

- Review by:
  - City Attorney's Office
  - City veterinarian
- Provide copy of revisions to Tourism Advisory Committee by first week in August
- Convene a special call meeting to discuss and approve revisions
- Forward to City Manager and City Council consideration

# Residential Complaints

*Sec 6-1502: Restricted areas.* Sections of the city designated by ordinance in which all tour guides and tour service companies shall not operate at certain times or under certain conditions. Restricted areas include:

- (1) The 400 and 500 blocks of East St. Julian Street and Washington Square from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 a.m. (November 1st through February 28th) and 9:30 p.m. to 10:00 a.m. (March 1st through October 31st); and
- (2) South of Liberty Street and east of the western-most curb line of Lincoln Street from 12:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. year-round.



# Enforcement Report

## Warren Ward:

- No citations issued
- No issues witnessed by enforcement staff
- No complaints

## Calhoun Ward [July 7 after-hours]:

- Encroaching on private property
- Touring in restricted areas after 12midnight [2 citations one to tour guide and one to company]