



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Jeff Robinson, Director, Community & Economic Development
COPY: Economic Development Committee
PRESENTER: Shari Hart, Business Program Specialist Lead, CED & Timothy Marlowe, President, Cross District Association
SUBJECT: Neighborhood Business District Program Overview
DATE: June 14, 2022

PRESENTATION TYPE:
Informational Briefing

SUMMARY:

Lead staff from the Department of Community & Economic Development, in partnership with the president of the Cross District Association, will provide an overview of the City’s Neighborhood Business District (NBD) Program; including how NBD Associations are formed, what the NBD Associations do, and how staff supports the NBDs, with and without associations.

BACKGROUND:

The six original Business District were recognized by the City in 1991. Ordinance No. 27737 codified the NBD Program with Tacoma Municipal Code 1.47. Today there are fifteen recognized Neighborhood Business Districts (NBDs); nine have active associations, with two in the process of re-engaging stakeholders to reform their nonprofit. Four CED staff provide liaison support to address issues and work on revitalization.

City’s Economic Development Strategic Plan was completed in December 2019 after extensive internal and external stakeholder engagement, (including the Economic Development Committee) and aligns City actions with economic development goals. Strategy 4 is Neighborhood Business District Revitalization, with Actions to build increasingly vibrant neighborhoods.

Staff is reviewing the impacts of the pandemic on our Neighborhood Business Districts and considering upgrades to the program with a focus on equity and meeting the changing needs of the NBD Associations, NBDs without formal associations, and tools for other commercial areas.

ISSUE:

This presentation will provide a summary of the NBD Program and status of the Districts.

ALTERNATIVES:

This is an information briefing only. There are no alternatives presented.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This is an information briefing only. There is no fiscal impact.

RECOMMENDATION:

This is an information briefing only. There is no recommendation.