



City of Tacoma

Economic Development

Committee Minutes

747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402, Conference Room 248

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 882 2753 9908

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/88227539908 Passcode: 614650

June 27, 2023

10:00 AM

**Chair Keith Blocker, Vice Chair Kiara Daniels, Joe Bushnell,
Olgy Diaz, Sarah Rumbaugh (alternate)**

Call To Order

Chair Blocker called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

Roll Call

Present: 4 - Blocker, Bushnell, Diaz and Rumbaugh

Absent: 1 - Daniels

Council Member Diaz arrived at 10:10 a.m.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Briefing Items

1. [23-0672](#) Federal and State Business Funding Update
[Shari Hart, Economic Development Specialist; Dierdre Patterson, Contract and Program Auditor, Business and Economic Development Analyst, Community and Economic Development]

At approximately 10:02 a.m., Shari Hart, Economic Development Specialist, and Dierdre Patterson, Contract and Program Auditor, Community and Economic Development, presented updates on federal and state funding for small business pandemic assistance related to American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for restoration and market enhancement purposes. Hart continued by reviewing the 2020-2023 COVID-19 funding overview, noting the amounts dispersed to small businesses in the form of both grants and loans.

Council Member Diaz arrived here, at 10:10 a.m.

Hart continued by reviewed the 2022-2023 COVID-19 funding overview with distribution between grants and technical assistance; 2021-2022 Nonprofit Recovery Grant; 2021-2023 Small Business Recovery Grants, noting funding

by ethnicity, woman-owned, Council District, and Equity Index rating. Patterson provided further details of small business recovery grants, noting that 184 businesses were awarded a total of \$2.4 million in the form of \$5,000 or \$15,000 grants; findings of small business grants; the Restaurant Retrofit Rebate for eligible businesses; and the permit process for business owners. Hart presented window replacement grants, security enhancement, fund, and Small Business Innovation Fund (SBIF) restoration grants. Patterson concluded by outlining next steps including the SBIF technical assistance, Economic Development Administration, and business retention visits, noting that the Committee will receive a presentation on the BIPOC Chamber feasibility study in August 2023.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding the pilot program and permit process for business owners; having technical assistance support broken down into a variety of languages to aid the businesses; tracking for the need of window replacement grants; funding for digital readiness and financial literacy programs; and grants for a workshop for business owners.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

2. [23-0673](#)
 - July 11, 2023 - Small Business Technical Assistance Funding Outcomes
 - July 25, 2023 - Farmers Market 2022 Annual Report and Business Incubation Impact, Business Improvement Area Expansion Update
 - August 8, 2023 - Business License Update

Cathy Satava, Committee Liaison, stated the next meeting will be on July 11, 2023, and will include a presentation on small business technical assistance funding outcomes; the July 25, 2023, meeting will include updates on the farmers market 2022 annual report, the business incubation impact, and the business improvement area expansion update; the August 8, 2023, meeting will include a business license update.

Other Items of Interest

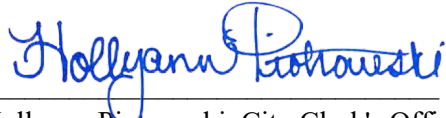
There were no other items of interest.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m.



Keith Blocker, Chair



Hollyann Piotrowski, City Clerk's Office