



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

August 22, 2023

10:00 AM

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

Call To Order

Vice Chair Daniels called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Bushnell, Daniels and Rumbaugh

Absent: 2 - Blocker and Diaz

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes

1. [23-0822](#) Minutes of the Economic Development Committee of the February 14, 2023, meeting.
2. [23-0823](#) Minutes of the Economic Development Committee of the February 28, 2023, meeting.
3. [23-0824](#) Minutes of the Economic Development Committee of the March 14, 2023, meeting.
4. [23-0825](#) Minutes of the Economic Development Committee of the April 11, 2023, meeting.

MOTION: Council Member Bushnell moved to approve the minutes of the February 14, and 28, 2023; March 14, 2023; and April 11, 2023, meetings.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Rumbaugh.

ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.

Ayes: 3 - Bushnell, Daniels and Rumbaugh

Absent: 2 - Blocker and Diaz

Briefing Items

5. [23-0816](#)

Equity in Contracting Code Update

[Kacee Woods, Program Manager, Community and Economic Development]

At approximately 10:02 a.m., Kacee Woods, Program Manager, Community and Economic Development, presented Equity in Contracting program regulations including an agenda, how we got here, overview of program history, offerings and regulations, the waiver request process and request form, proposed code revisions, and next steps.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding what may be preventing businesses from applying to the program, struggles for small businesses, limited number of certified firms can prevent building capacity and work with the smaller businesses, suggestions for improvements, building capacity for larger contracts and subcontracts, suggestions for outreach and partnership with other jurisdictions, current partnerships, disparity studies, local and citywide goals, options for City staff to delegate authority and have direct negotiations for contracts, additional discussion at study session, how the certification process works, companies that are not required to be certified, support staff, and upcoming expiration of the current code.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

6. [23-0817](#) August 29, 2023 - Equity in Contracting Advisory Committee Interviews
September 12, 2023 - Minority Business Development Agency Update
September 26, 2023 - Neighborhood Business District Update, Business License Fee Update

Cathy Satava, Committee Liaison, stated the August 29, 2023, meeting will include Equity in Contracting Advisory Committee interviews; the September 12, 2023, meeting will include an update on the Minority Business Development agency; and the meeting of September 26, 2023, will include updates on the Neighborhood Business Districts and Business License fees.

Other Items of Interest

Vice Chair Daniels requested information on if the Office of Minority and Women's Business Enterprises has outreach events and meetings for statewide access.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

Keith Blocker, Chair

Hollyann Piotrowski, City Clerk's Office