



City of Tacoma

Economic Development

Committee Minutes

747 Market Street Tacoma, WA 98402

Conference Room 243

May 23, 2017

10:00 AM

**Chair Marty Campbell, Ryan Mello,
Marilyn Strickland, Robert Thoms, Conor McCarthy (alternate)**

Call To Order

Chair Campbell called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Present: 3 - Campbell, Mello and Thoms

Absent: 1 - Strickland

Briefing Items

1. [17-0523](#) Update on the Happenings at Point Ruston [Ricardo Noguera, Director, Community and Economic Development]

At approximately 10:06 a.m., Loren McBride Cohen, Managing Director, Point Ruston LLC, provided an update on the phased development plan, completed development, and current development. He stated there is still clean up to be done as well as working out permitting issues, however; shops, condominiums, urgent care, Silver Cloud Hotel, assisted living, resort timeshare, retail space, and The Public Market, and Asia Pacific Cultural Center will be coming soon as well as 40 units of affordable housing.

Discussion ensued regarding the local artists incorporated at Point Ruston and matters involving the interlocal agreement with the City of Ruston.

2. [17-0526](#) Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) Business Center Program Grant
[Linda Lee Womack, MBDA Program Director, Community and Economic Development]

Linda Lee Womack, Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) Business Center Program Director, Community and Economic Development, presented an overview of the MBDA, which has been fully operational since September 2016 providing technical and strategic business consulting to

established minority-owned firms enabling growth.

Discussion ensued regarding the accomplishments of MBDA and the projected goal for performance balanced with assisting small to medium businesses.

3. [17-0522](#) City of Tacoma Economic Indicators Summary - Q4 2016 and Q1 2017 Report
[Debbie Bingham, Program Development Specialist, Community and Economic Development]

Debbie Bingham, Program Development Specialist, Community and Economic Development, provided an update on the economic indicators from Quarter 4 2016 and Quarter 1 2017. She stated the local economy experienced positive growth, and the amount of businesses and tax revenue has increased while unemployment is down. She explained the number of building permits issued decreased but the value has increased as well as the construction and Port of Tacoma container volume.

Discussion ensued regarding where the health care from the public sector and marijuana production fall in numbers represented.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

4. [17-0524](#) June 13, 2017 - Annual Update On Economic Framework Strategy; Update on Biotech Incubators

Brad Forbes, Committee Liaison, stated the next meeting will be on June 13, 2017, and will include an annual update on Economic Framework Strategy and an update on Biotech Incubators.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

Marty Campbell, Chair

Lauren Young, City Clerk's Office