



# City of Tacoma Economic Development Committee Minutes

747 Market Street Tacoma, WA 98402

Conference Room 248

September 24, 2019

10:00 AM

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Chair Robert Thoms, Vice Chair Conor McCarthy, Lillian Hunter,  
Catherine Ushka, Chris Beale (alternate)

## Call To Order

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

**Present:** 3 - Hunter, Thoms and Ushka

**Absent:** 1 - McCarthy

## Approval of Minutes

1. [19-1027](#) Approval of the minutes of the September 10, 2019 meeting

**MOTION:** Council Member Hunter moved to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2019 meeting.

**SECONDED BY:** Council Member Ushka.

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

**Ayes:** 3 - Hunter, Thoms and Ushka

**Absent:** 1 - McCarthy

## Briefing Items

2. [19-1028](#) Tacoma Public Utilities Economic Development Strategic Plan  
[Michael Catsi, Economic Development Manager, Tacoma Public Utilities]

At approximately 10:02 a.m., Michael Catsi, Economic Development Manager, Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU), made opening remarks and presented the Economic Development Strategic Plan for TPU, including an overview; background; an economic development definition; why utilities get

involved in economic development; utility-City alignment; TPU partners; equity and economic mobility; plan priorities, noting internal cohesiveness and external partnerships; and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding the draft plan document, eight initiatives, action plan and measurable goals, having a follow-up meeting, list of top utilities users for comparison, getting big users and expanding community, incentives and rebates, and economic development definition.

Public Comment was heard from:

1. Mitchell Shook, Advanced Stream, speaking on Click! Network.

3. [19-1029](#)

Sidewalk Cafes

[Jana Magoon, Planning Manager, Planning and Development Services]

At approximately 10:39 a.m., Chair Thoms made opening remarks and introduced Jana Magoon, Planning Manager, Planning and Development Services. Ms. Magoon introduced Jennifer Kammerzell, Principal Engineer, Public Works, and presented an update regarding the McMenamins Sidewalk Cafe Pilot program, including an overview; background; issues, noting complaints and key issues; and recommendations. Ms. Kammerzell reviewed intentions of compliancy and accessibility for all users and policies. Ms. Magoon concluded by reviewing next steps.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding complaints, investments, right of way issues, accessibility, permitting fees, public cafe space opportunities, perspective of complaints, temporary versus affixed cafes, steps going forward, and event cafes.

## Topics for Upcoming Meetings

4. [19-1030](#) October 8, 2019 - Green Economy Policy Recommendations

Chair Thoms stated the next meeting will be on October 8, 2019, and will include Green Economy policy recommendations.

## Other Items of Interest

Council Member Ushka requested that the pending list of topics to be scheduled for the Economic Development Committee (EDC) be included with the Committee calendar.

Council Member Hunter requested that Mr. Catsi return to an upcoming EDC meeting for follow-up.


## Public Comment

Public Comment was heard from:

1. Matt Osborne, McMenamins, Sidewalk Cafes.

## Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:09 a.m.

  
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Robert Thomas, Chair  
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Mary Crabtree, City Clerk's Office