

City of Tacoma

TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager

FROM: Tanja Carter, Director, Community and Economic Development

COPY: Economic Development Committee

PRESENTER: Rebecca Solverson, Arts and Cultural Vitality Division Manager

Debbie Bingham, Business and Economic Development Manager

SUBJECT: Update to Economic Development Strategic Plan

DATE: June 24, 2025

PRESENTATION TYPE:

Other: Strategic Planning.

SUMMARY:

In 2019, the City Council adopted an Economic Development Strategic Plan, in effect for the years 2020-2025. The Economic Development Committee will focus a series of its meetings on considering possible updates and revisions to the Plan for the anticipated period 2026-2031.

BACKGROUND:

The City's Economic Development Strategic Plan guides staff efforts to sustain and grow the city's economy and provide guidance to the City Council and staff regarding allocation of resources.

ISSUE:

At this meeting we will review the accomplishments made through the existing Strategy, and revisions related to the department's inclusion of Arts & Cultural Vitality since the plan was published. The Committee will discuss needed revisions to Goal 8: Placemaking & City Image.

Questions for Committee consideration include:

- Should Focus Area 8 be aligned with an updated version of ArtFull Tacoma?
- Of the existing strategies in Focus Area 8, do any of the goals need to be relocated to other Focus Areas?
- Of the existing ArtFull Tacoma strategies, which ones should be included in the plan?
- How should affordability and access to space be considered?
- Is there anything else that should be included in the plan?

Staff will be available to provide information on existing efforts and respond to Council member questions.

ALTERNATIVES:

There are no alternatives. Following complete review of the Strategy, the Committee will decide whether to forward revisions to the overall Plan to the City Council for consideration.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.

RECOMMENDATION:

There is no recommendation.