



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

September 26, 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 10:05 a.m.

Roll Call

Present: 4 - Blocker, Daniels, Diaz and Rumbaugh

Absent: 1 - Bushnell

Vice Chair Daniels participated virtually.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Briefing Items

1. [23-0919](#) Business License Fees Update
[Danielle Larson, Tax and License Division Manager, Finance]

At approximately 10:06 a.m., Danielle Larson, Tax and License Division Manager, Finance, provided opening remarks and presented an update on the business license fees, including background, noting Substitute Ordinance No. 28838 passed in December 2022, which established license fees and created a five tier structure, and gross income of the 2022, 2023, and 2024 fees; stakeholder outreach and feedback, noting public safety, homelessness, permitting and zoning, economic development, housing for their workforce, communication, customer service, support for business, and stability and predictability; and staff's recommendations, noting the Committee needs to make a recommendation to the City Council by September 30, 2023, no changes to the 2023 or the 2026 license fees, and tier changes, and that staff will return in about one-year to make recommendations for fee changes in the 2027-2028 biennium.

Discussion ensued regarding the fees for gross income amounts, clarification

on what the bottom tier total and how business license fees affect real estate brokers, Committee support for the recommendations that have been included in the presentation, and a consultant will be selected to create a draft questionnaire for creating surveys that contributes to the gross income and the raise in the business tax and license fees.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

2. [23-0920](#)
- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| October 10, 2023 - | To Be Determined |
| October 24, 2023 - | BIPOC Business Alliance Study |
| October 31, 2023 - | Combined Committees, Boards, and
Commissions Report Out |
| November 14, 2023 - | Tacoma Arts Commission Interviews |

Cathy Satava, Committee Liaison, stated no items are scheduled for the next meeting on October 10, 2023; the October 24, 2023, meeting will include a presentation on the BIPOC Business Alliance study; and the meeting on October 31, 2023, will include the combined committees, boards, and commissions report out, which will be held in Chambers.

Other Items of Interest


Discussion ensued on future meeting topics regarding connecting funds and programs with community response on public safety, as well as changes to the tier structure.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.



Keith Blocker, Chair



Hollyann Plotrowski, City Clerk's Office