



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Jeff Robinson, Director, Community & Economic Development (CED)
COPY: Economic Development Committee; Cathy Sims; Jeff Robinson
PRESENTER: Jeff Robinson, Community & Economic Development & Andrea Reay, President
Tacoma Pierce County Chamber of Commerce
SUBJECT: Chamber of Commerce Business & Industry Panel / 2023 Business Climate Survey
DATE: May 9, 2023

PRESENTATION TYPE:
Informational Briefing

SUMMARY:

The Tacoma Pierce County Chamber of Commerce will participate, and assist in facilitating a discussion with a panel of business and industry representatives related to community involvement and a 2023 Business Survey as directed in Substitute Ordinance 28838 and Resolution 41069.

BACKGROUND:

Resolution 41069 directs the EDC to review how the City can improve communications, better support local businesses, conduct community outreach as well as how it could use existing revenues to support community services that also meet the particular needs of the business community, and ensuring the City is prioritizing anti-racism in the evaluation of new policies and programs. As a part of the community engagement efforts the EDC will hear from a diverse group of business and industry representatives including, but not limited to:

- Umi Wagoner, eTc
- Adrienne Wicks, Birdloft
- Christian Faltenberger, Tacoma Mall
- Bruce Martin, Westrock
- Umpqua Bank

ISSUE:

The City Council is seeking recommendations on how to establish and maintain better communication with the business community and to receive input on the types of services that will best support the overall health and success of the Tacoma economy.

ALTERNATIVES:

This is an information briefing only. There are no alternatives presented.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This is an information briefing only.

RECOMMENDATION:

CED staff recommends 3 distinct presentations to the EDC on the following dates to address each of the 3 elements directed by the Ordinance and Resolution.

- April 25th: Business Climate Survey
- May 9th: Chamber of Commerce facilitated Business & Industry Stakeholder Panel



- TBD: Presentation by Finance on Business License Fee recommendations for 2025 and future biennia