



City of Tacoma Economic Development Committee Minutes

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 868 2412 7684

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/86824127684 Passcode: 614650

July 27, 2021

10:00 AM

Chair Robert Thoms, Vice Chair Conor McCarthy, Keith Blocker,
Catherine Ushka, Chris Beale (alternate)

Call To Order

Chair Thoms called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - McCarthy, Thoms and Ushka

Absent: 1 - Blocker

Deputy Mayor Blocker arrived here, at 10:03 a.m.

All Council Members participated virtually.

Approval of Minutes

1. [21-0728](#) Approval of the minutes of the March 9, 2021 meeting
2. [21-0729](#) Approval of the minutes of the March 23, 2021 meeting
3. [21-0730](#) Approval of the minutes of the March 30, 2021 meeting

MOTION: Council Member McCarthy moved to approve the minutes of the March 9, 23, and 30, 2021, meetings.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

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

Ayes: 4 - Blocker, McCarthy, Thoms and Ushka

Briefing Items

4. [21-0731](#)

Outdoor Dining Update

[Jennifer Kammerzell, Principal Engineer, Public Works;
Jana Magoon, Planning Manager, Planning & Development Services]

At approximately 10:05 a.m., Jennifer Kammerzell, Principal Engineer, Public Works, and Jana Magoon, Planning Manager, Planning and Development Services, gave an update on outdoor dining, including an overview; background information; program considerations, noting barriers, mission and approach, parklet design siting, and funding; community engagement; a timeline; and contact information.

Discussion ensued regarding reaching out to businesses currently utilizing outdoor dining, inspiring further outdoor dining by other businesses, reduction of barriers for implementing outdoor dining, City funding, whether the City would provide a grant or stipend to businesses for outdoor dining, the cost of the City of Puyallup's parklets, the City of Puyallup's outdoor dining program, buying parklets from the City of Puyallup, potentially working with the City's labor partners or Bates College for constructing parklets, parking capacity versus business capacity, simplifying outdoor dining implementation for businesses, and the cost for Street Operations to build a parklet.

5. [21-0732](#)

American Rescue Plan Act Discussion

[Reid Bennion, Lead Analyst, Office of Management and Budget]

At approximately 10:33 a.m., Reid Bennion, Lead Budget Analyst, Office of Management and Budget, lead a discussion on American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, including an overview, background, 2021 ARPA distributions, purpose, projects up for consideration, and livable wage jobs.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding a list of non-profit funding allocations; whether non-profits were eligible for small business assistance; after school care; Committee feedback; projects up for consideration; the green economy study; the Center for Strong Families; looking at ARPA funding as a whole versus just as individual buckets; future City Council input; the proposed Black, Indigenous, and People of Color Chamber of Commerce; youth programs and the "access" bucket; and workforce development.

Tadd Willie, Executive Liaison, summarized the Committee's feedback.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

6. [21-0733](#) August 10, 2021 - Tacoma Creates Advisory Board Interviews

Lynda Foster, Committee Liaison, stated the next meeting will be on August 10, 2021, and will include interviews for the Tacoma Creates Advisory Board.

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 11:27 a.m.

Robert Thoms, Chair

Jered Lobban, City Clerk's Office