



# City of Tacoma Economic Development Committee Minutes

747 Market Street Tacoma, WA 98402

Conference Room 248

**March 26, 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 10:03 a.m.

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

**Absent:** 1 - McCarthy

Deputy Mayor McCarthy arrived at 10:12 a.m.

## Approval of Minutes

1. [19-0277](#) Approval of the Minutes of the February 12, 2019 meeting

**MOTION:** Council Member Hunter moved to approve the minutes of the February 12, 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

2. [19-0278](#) Approval of the Minutes of the February 26, 2019 meeting

**MOTION: Council Member Hunter moved to approve the minutes of the February 26, 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

3. [19-0273](#) South Sound Military and Communities Partnership Update  
[William Adamson, Program Director, South Sound Military and Communities Partnership]

At approximately 10:04 a.m., William Adamson, Program Director, South Sound Military and Communities Partnership (SSMCP) made opening remarks and presented the update on the SSMCP, including partnerships and how Tacoma contributes to the SSMCP both historically and presently.

Deputy Mayor McCarthy arrived here, at 10:12 a.m.

Mr. Adamson continued by reviewing ways to improve involvement in SSMCP initiatives; how Tacoma can make better connections with the military community, including the Army Community Partnership Program, its objectives, outcomes, and criteria for partnerships; the Procurement Technical Assistance Center, noting it helps local businesses receive federal contracts on Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM); and shared points of intersection between local governments and the military community.

Discussion ensued regarding projects taken to the House of Representatives for voting, Pierce County job development and transitioning of jobs between JBLM and the greater Tacoma area, and future expansion.

4. [19-0274](#) Fire Department Namatad Pilot  
[James P. Duggan, Fire Chief, Tacoma Fire Department, and Pat Beard, Business Development Manager, Community and Economic Development Department]

At approximately 10:38 a.m., James Duggan, Fire Chief,

Tacoma Fire Department (TFD), made opening remarks and introduced Bruce Bouyer, Battalion Fire Chief, TFD, who will be replacing him as contact for the Namatad project. Mr. Duggan provided an update on the Namatad project, including the progression of the technology; the relationship transitioning from the University of Washington to the private company Namatad; and the next steps of implementation, including a realistic demonstration and the necessary training needed for personnel.

Discussion ensued regarding previous presentations, requests made of the TFD budget, how the department is rolling out the program, provision of examples that have already happened, how to share the technology with the community, the request for funding coming to the Council, and the time frame of the project.

5. [19-0275](#)

Sound Outreach

[Jeff Klein, Executive Director, Sound Outreach]

At approximately 10:49 a.m., Jeff Klein, Executive Director, Sound Outreach, made opening remarks and presented on the Sound Outreach Financial Empowerment Program, including history of the agency; the development into a hub of financial empowerment; strengths of the agency; financial resiliency, noting the main goal of the agency; what financial counselors do; the Sound Outreach Triangle, which consists of the financial counselor, a loan guarantee fund, and a financial institution; products that are available and how they can help; how utilizing the Triangle has transformed Sound Outreach; the levels of outreach; and how the agency is a driving force in the community's economy, including helping clients find higher wage jobs, hiring people at livable wages, creating entrepreneurship incubators, helping low-income groups create more housing around JBLM, and securing the first Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) grant in Pierce County to be used for projects such as small business incubation or building low-income housing.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding the allocation of CDFI funds, public transportation inaccessibility, and the impact of predatory loans on the community.

## Topics for Upcoming Meetings

6. [19-0276](#)

April 9, 2019 - Economic Development Strategic Plan Update

This item was not addressed.

## **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 11:38 a.m.

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Robert Thoms, Chair

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Katie Foster, City Clerk's Office