



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

January 26, 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 10:05 a.m.

Roll Call

Present: 4 - Blocker, McCarthy, Thoms and Ushka

Briefing Items

1. [21-0081](#) Election of the Committee Chair and Vice Chair

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to re-elect Council Member Thoms as Chair of the Economic Development Committee.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

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

Ayes: 4 - Blocker, McCarthy, Thoms and Ushka

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to re-elect Council Member McCarthy as Vice Chair of the Economic Development Committee.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

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

Ayes: 4 - Blocker, McCarthy, Thoms and Ushka

2. [21-0082](#) Training and Employment Program Updates
[Clifford Armstrong III, Workforce Development Program Manager,
Community and Economic Development]

At approximately 10:11 a.m., Clifford Armstrong III, Workforce Development Program Manager, Community and Economic Development, presented an update on the Training and Employment Program, including background, noting Resolution No. 39492 and the purpose, components, and budget of the program; issues; outreach; equity analysis; proposed enhancements; aligning the target population; noting the proposed focus on all of the City of Tacoma and economically distressed areas of the Tacoma Public Utilities service area; and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding broadening the scope of the program; employment opportunities; community access; gentrification; opportunity zones; what receiving opportunities means; prioritizing Tacoma residents; partnerships; Tacoma Public Schools workforce planning; inclusion; ways to make the program the State's most successful; the number of people that go through the program per year; and Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act funding.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

3. [21-0084](#) February 9, 2021 - To be determined

Lynda Foster, Committee Liaison, stated the next meeting will be on February 9, 2021, and will include an informational briefing on current and future WorkForce Central initiatives and programs.

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 10:59 a.m.

Robert Thoms, Chair

Jered Lobban, City Clerk's Office