



# City of Tacoma Economic Development Committee Minutes

747 Market Street Tacoma, WA 98402

Conference Room 248

October 22, 2019

10:00 AM

---

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 10:20 a.m.

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

**Absent:** 1 - Hunter

## Approval of Minutes

1. [19-1154](#) Approval of the minutes of the September 24, 2019 meeting

**MOTION:** Deputy Mayor McCarthy moved to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2019 meeting.

**SECONDED BY:** Council Member Ushka.

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

**Ayes:** 3 - McCarthy, Thoms and Ushka

**Absent:** 1 - Hunter

## Briefing Items

2. [19-1152](#) Commercial Office Incentive  
[Gloria Fletcher, Business Development Manager,  
Community and Economic Development]

At approximately 10:21 a.m., Gloria Fletcher, Business Development Manager, Community and Economic Development, made opening remarks; introduced Michael Transue, State Governmental Affairs Consultant,

Tacoma Pierce County Chamber of Commerce; and presented an overview of the Commercial Office Space Development Incentive. Mr. Transue outlined background information, noting legislation history and legislation elements; the sales and use tax remittance; and property tax reinvestment.

Discussion ensued regarding new or existing structures, clarification on the sales and use tax remittance and the property tax reinvestment funds, tax increment financing, application process criteria, property taxes, off-site improvement requirements, nexus and proportionality requirements, other impacts, foundation of the legislation, equity issues, marketing and outreach, and next steps.

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor McCarthy moved to recommend the commercial office incentive program forward with recommended revisions.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.**

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

**Ayes:** 3 - McCarthy, Thoms and Ushka

**Absent:** 1 - Hunter

## Topics for Upcoming Meetings

3. [19-1153](#) October 29, 2019 - Green Economy Policy Recommendations and Tacoma Public Utility Economic Development Strategic Plan

Chair Thoms stated the next meeting will be on October 29, 2019, and will include presentations on green economy policy recommendations and Tacoma Public Utilities' Economic Development Strategy.

## Other Items of Interest

Council Member Ushka requested information regarding the council member involved with the Tacoma Arts Commission.

Deputy Mayor McCarthy provided insights from Aspire Pittsburgh 2019, an annual intercity leadership conference.

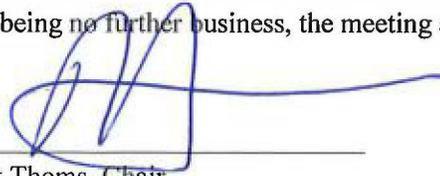
Discussion ensued regarding Pittsburgh and their economic improvements.

## Public Comment

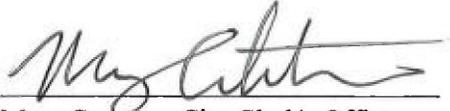
There was no Public Comment.

## Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:24 a.m.



Robert Thoms, Chair



Mary Crabtree, City Clerk's Office