



City of Tacoma

Economic Development

Committee Minutes

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

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/88227539908 Passcode: 614650

May 10, 2022

10:00 AM

Chair Keith Blocker, Vice Chair Kiara Daniels, Joe Bushnell,
Sarah Rumbaugh (alternate)

Call To Order

Chair Blocker called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Due to a technical issue, the live remote meeting was unavailable to members of the public until 10:34 a.m.

Roll Call

Present: 4 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels and McCarthy

All Council Members attended virtually.

Briefing Items

1. [22-0536](#) Economic Development Strategic Plan Update
[Elly Walkowiak, Assistant Director; Carol Wolfe, Division Manager, Community and Economic Development]

At approximately 10:01 a.m., Elly Walkowiak, Assistant Director, Community and Economic Development (CED), presented an overview and agenda on the Economic Development Strategic Plan update, including overview, background, and issue. Walkowiak further outlined the primary economic objectives and actions for each element of the Plan, including business retention, expansion, and recruitment; small business and entrepreneurship; workforce development and human capital; Neighborhood Business District revitalization; Downtown Tacoma; and commercial and industrial property activation.

The Economic Development (ED) Committee meeting recessed at 10:29 a.m.

The ED Committee meeting reconvened at 10:37 a.m.

Walkowiak continued presenting objectives and actions related to business and development climate, placemaking and City image, and the current and future focus.

Discussion ensued regarding economic development in the City, opportunities to work with Joint Base Lewis-McChord and minority business owners, the City's request for proposals (RFP) for developing the green economy in Tacoma, how the RFP fits into the greater green economy strategy, and opportunity zones and how they help with housing investments.

3. [22-0552](#)

Equity in Contracting Update

[Carol Wolfe, Division Manager, Community and Economic Development]

At approximately 11:07 a.m., Carol Wolfe, Division Manager, CED, presented an update on equity in contracting (EIC), including the establishment of the EIC Advisory Committee, recruitment plans, and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding recruitment and who could be contacted to regarding contracting rules.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

2. [22-0537](#)

May 24, 2022 - City Events and Recognition Committee Interviews

May 31, 2022 - Cancelled

June 14, 2022 - New Chamber Executive Director Introduction;
Neighborhood Business District Update

Cathy Sims, Committee Liaison, stated that the next meeting will be on May 24, 2022, and will include interviews for the City Events and Recognition Committee; the May 31, 2022, meeting is cancelled; and the June 14, 2022, meeting will include an introduction to the new Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber Executive Director and an update on the Neighborhood Business Districts.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Public Comment

No public comment was given.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:17 a.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Keith Blocker", written over a horizontal line.

Keith Blocker, Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kiaira Thomas", written over a horizontal line.

Kiaira Thomas, City Clerk's Office