



TO: Hyun Kim, Interim City Manager
FROM: Debbie Bingham, Business & Economic Development Manager, Community and Economic Development
Tanja Carter, Director, Community and Economic Development
COPY: City Council and Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Request for resolution– December 16, 2025
DATE: December 1, 2025

SUMMARY:

A resolution adopting the 2026-2030 Economic Development Strategic Plan which outlines the strategies that will be implemented to support more businesses, expand quality jobs, increase housing, grow creative enterprise, and activate Tacoma's spaces for cultural and economic life.

COUNCIL SPONSORS: Deputy Mayor Kiara Daniels.

BACKGROUND

This document is an update to, and borrows extensively from, the 2020 Community and Economic Development Strategic Plan, which was developed through a coordinated effort between department staff, the City Council's Economic Development Committee, input from various community advocacy groups, and business district representatives, with consulting services by Community Attributes, Inc.

This update builds on the progress made towards the original objectives while deploying lessons learned to address shortcomings and course-correct towards impactful, equitable economic growth.

The revised edition incorporates feedback from the Economic Development Committee members-- Chair Kiara Daniels, Vice Chair Olgy Diaz, and Council members Jamika Scott, Joe Bushnell, and Sarah Rumbaugh with contributions from department staff, partner organizations, and community members

This update takes place in conjunction with revisions to the One Tacoma Comprehensive Plan, the Tideflats Subarea Plan, the Climate Action Plan, Green Economic Development Strategy, and other City planning documents, drawing from the data, analysis, and community outreach that shaped each of these documents. The revision process was directed by the City Council's Economic Development Committee with contributions from department staff, partner organizations, and community members.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ (CUSTOMER RESEARCH): The previous plan was reviewed through a year long process led by the Economic Development Committee. Input derived through this process as well as outreach to our community partners were incorporated into this update.



2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility:

Community and Economic Development Department has a foundational commitment to equitable growth, sustainability, access to opportunity, and cultural vitality. These attributes are seen throughout this plan.

Economy/Workforce: *High Opportunity*

Increase the number of diverse living wage jobs.

Decreases the number of vacant properties in the downtown and business districts

Increase the availability of industry specific education programs to support identified growth sectors.

Livability: *Moderate Opportunity*

Increase the number of complete compact communities 20 minutes neighborhoods throughout the City.

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP: The Community and Economic Development Strategic Plan includes success measures and differentiates between what is owned, influenced and monitored. Periodic updates will be given to the Economic Development Committee.

STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

We recommend immediate adoption of the 2026-2030 Community and Economic Development Strategic Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact related to the adoption of the 2026-2030 Community and Economic Development Strategic Plan. The Plan does recommend specific projects and actions which may have fiscal impacts. These impacts would be studied and considered as part of those future decision-making processes.

ATTACHMENTS:

Draft 2026-2030 Community and Economic Development Strategic Plan.