

Economic Vitality Commission
7-19-17

**CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Economic Vitality Commission
SUMMARY MINUTES**

July 19th, 2017

City Administrative Offices
Pickering Room

1775 12th Avenue NW
Issaquah, WA 98027

<p>MEMBERS PRESENT Ethan Stiles, Chair Jeff Howlett, Vice-Chair Kristi Tripple Therese Garcia Saikat Sen Kathy McCorry</p>	<p>STAFF PRESENT Jen Davis Hayes, Economic Development Manager Candy Baer, Economic Development Specialist Tim Dutter, Economic Development Manager</p>
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CALL TO ORDER

STILES, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY HOWLETT, SECONDED BY GARCIA that minutes of the Economic Vitality Commission meeting on June 21st, 2017 be approved as presented. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

Tim Dutter, introduced himself to the Commission as the new Economic Development Manager for the City, replacing Andrea Snyder.

MORATORIUM ITEM UPDATES: Topics Updates/Status

Davis Hayes discussed the five topics identified by Council to be examined during the moratorium (architectural review/urban design, vertical mixed use, affordable housing, parking, and district visions).

Housing Strategy: At Council Committee of the Whole (COW) on July 25th to review strategies and timeline. Final adoption is scheduled for September 18th.

Architectural Review & Urban Design: At Council Committee of the Whole (COW) on July 25th to review draft manual. Final adoption is scheduled for October 15th.

Parking: At City Council August 7th for a Public Hearing for adoption. Final proposal is that 50% of required parking must be in structured parking for office, residential, and retail new development. Note: Anything below 25,000 sq. ft. of retail is exempt. This does not count if a new business moves into an existing structure.

Vertical Mixed-Use (VMU): At City Council Work Session on August 14th to review recommendations. Final adoption is scheduled for October 15th.

Economic Vitality Commission
7-19-17

Vision: Staff provided an update to the City Council at July 10th Work Session. Final adoption is scheduled for November 20th.

STILES MOTIONED that the Commission write a letter to City Council supporting the lift of the Moratorium no later than the end of the year. LEIGH SECONDED. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COMMISSION WORK PLAN

Jen Davis-Hayes used a PowerPoint to start the discussion on the EVC's Work Plan for 2018.

<p style="text-align: center;">2018 EVC Work Plan Discussion</p> <p style="text-align: right;">July 19, 2017 EVC Meeting</p>	<p>EVC Objective (IMC 2.89.010)</p> <p>The objective of the Economic Vitality Commission (EVC) is to make available to the Mayor and the City Council additional expertise necessary to enhance and facilitate economic development within the City and to act as a catalyst between the City, developers, residents and the business community to expand and improve the economic climate of Issaquah within the context of the City's commitment to social and environmental objectives.</p> <p><i>(emphasis added)</i></p>				
<p>Purpose</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better understanding of Strategic Plan and other potential economic vitality work plan items • Create 2018 Work Plan items for EVC • Other? 	<p>Suggested Criteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important to improving economic vitality • Ability for our commission to have substantial impact • Not highly overlapped with the scope of another commission • Alignment with Economic Vitality Strategic Plan • Others?? 				
<p>Topics – Economic Development leads</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p><u>Existing Business Assistance</u></p> <p>Business Partnerships (Chamber/DIA/Highlands)</p> <p>Business Retention & Expansion Startup425</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p><u>New Business & Development</u></p> <p>Brokers Forum</p> <p>Business Recruitment</p> <p>Sports Medicine IPZ</p> <p><u>Workforce Development</u></p> <p>Job Fair</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p><u>Existing Business Assistance</u></p> <p>Business Partnerships (Chamber/DIA/Highlands)</p> <p>Business Retention & Expansion Startup425</p>	<p><u>New Business & Development</u></p> <p>Brokers Forum</p> <p>Business Recruitment</p> <p>Sports Medicine IPZ</p> <p><u>Workforce Development</u></p> <p>Job Fair</p>	<p>Topics – Economic Development supports</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p><u>Regional Efforts</u></p> <p>Regional Eco Dev</p> <p>Sound Transit Growth</p> <p><u>City Efforts</u></p> <p>Transportation</p> <p>Branding</p> <p>Tourism</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p><u>Zoning & Code</u></p> <p>Comprehensive Plan</p> <p>Moratorium 2.0 - completion, impacts</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p><u>Regional Efforts</u></p> <p>Regional Eco Dev</p> <p>Sound Transit Growth</p> <p><u>City Efforts</u></p> <p>Transportation</p> <p>Branding</p> <p>Tourism</p>	<p><u>Zoning & Code</u></p> <p>Comprehensive Plan</p> <p>Moratorium 2.0 - completion, impacts</p>
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Commissioners discussed these and other topic ideas. It was suggested to group the topics into Business, Market, and Build categories to discuss.

LEIGH stated that the past years EVC has spent a lot of time and effort creating the Strategic Plan and would like us not to reinvent it, however, maybe we have an update for the new commissioners on how that work evolved.

Economic Vitality Commission
7-19-17

PUBLIC COMMENT

Arjun Malhotra asked what an IPZ is and does it stop other cities from taking the same identity, and can Issaquah have more than one. Davis-Hayes answered that an IPZ (Innovation Partnership Zone) is an economic development partnership that involves targets existing or emerging industry sectors that are of statewide importance, and each represents a specific geographic area. Other cities cannot be a designated IPZ for the topic, but other cities can brand themselves using the same topic focus.

Arjun asked if a consulting firm would be a third-party facilitator to the City's Branding efforts. Davis-Hayes answered yes, more than likely.

OTHER/NEXT MEETING/ADJOURNMENT

The next EVC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 16th, 2017. With no further business to conduct, STILES adjourned the meeting at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Candy Baer
Recording Secretary

These minutes are a brief summary of the Economic Vitality Commission meeting. For more information or clarification, please contact the Economic Development Department at 425-837-3444.