Council Economic Development Committee

2nd Floor Conference Room
City Hall

March 22, 2018

1:30 p.m.

Members:	**Staff:**	**Others:**
Councilmember White	Ana Cortez, Assistant City Manager	Maria Rodriguez
Councilmember Cousens	Joseph Calhoun, Planning Manager	Verlynn Best
Councilmember Gutiérrez	Scott Schafer, Public Works Director	Jonathan Smith
	John Carney, Information Systems Manager	Andrew Holt
	Cally Price, Assistant to the City Manager	Jessica Camacho
		Nick Guy

Executive Minutes

Cousens called the meeting to order.

1. **Elect Chair:**
   Since the committee members changed, a new chair had to be elected. Gutiérrez nominated White as the Chair and Cousens seconded. White accepted the nomination and facilitated the meeting.

2. **Minute Approval**
   The February 22, 2018 meeting minutes were reviewed. Cousens motioned to accept the minutes as presented and Gutiérrez seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. **Discussions**
   a. Update on partnerships with YVC, Entrust, 100 Jobs and other work force development programs

      Cousens reported that she has been working with City staff to finalize an agreement between the college and the City allowing students an opportunity to work at the City (unpaid) in order to receive college credit. Students would work in areas in which they have experience. The Chamber has been using students and found the partnership to be very beneficial. The Committee members would like to see the final agreement before it goes to the full Council. The agreement will be reviewed at the April meeting.

   b. Economic Development updates

Cortez updated the group on the South Korea trip, upcoming events, land recycling opportunity and strategic plan. Gutiérrez requested that the South Korea deliverables be moved to the April agenda for discussion. Committee members unanimously agreed to add South Korea deliverable discussion to the April agenda. Committee members also agreed to have the recycling workshop discussion and strategic plan discussion moved to April.

Cortez distributed information on the Real Estate Convention that is in May. Committee members unanimously agreed that White should attend; however, it needs to go to the full Council for consideration. This will be added to the April 3 agenda under committee reports.

c. Dig once/WIFI

White gave some background information on why this was on the agenda for discussion. He would like to offer WIFI at all public facilities and possibly, city wide access for all residents. Schafer reported that City staff has been adding fiber and conduit into the City's infrastructure for future need. Carney added that information systems is creating an inventory of where fiber is located and will map it in the GIS system.

Nick Guy, Executive Director for Noel Communications, gave his background and discussed infrastructure needs and things the City should consider. There are some grants available to municipalities that should be explored.

Cortez stated that this item should be added to the strategic plan goals for the Committee.

White asked that staff research what is needed to provide wireless access in Kiwanis Park, Elks Park, Randall Park, Kissell Park, and Miller Park.

d. Creative District

White reported that he met with the Arts Commission about designating downtown Yakima as an Creative District and they were very supportive. White would like to see a team established to work on this. Committee members agreed to add this to the April agenda.

e. Farmers Market

Cortez reported that the Farmers Market application was awarded to DAY. Holt added that they are in the process of recruiting a manager, creating a vendor list and anticipates increasing the number of vendors and attendees to the market.

f. Truck Routes

Committee members agreed to move this item to the April meeting.

4. **Economic Development reference materials**
   Cortez stated that she will be providing economic development materials for informational purposes to the committee members. This month was the Yakima MSA – Labor Area Summary report from January.

5. **Future agenda items**
   a. Port District – Kittitas County vote
   b. Agreement between the City and YVC
   c. Identify deliverables for South Korea trip
   d. Center for Creative Land Recycling discussion
   e. Strategic plan – committee roles and responsibilities
   f. Truck routes
   g. Arts District – committee members

6. **Audience Participation**
   Holt distributed a copy of the 2017 Annual Report that the Field Group created for DAY and highlighted some of the projects they worked on in 2017.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 26 at 1:30 in the 2nd Floor Conference Room.

Jason White, Chair