

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

AGENDA

October 22, 2020
4:00-4:50 p.m.

VIA ZOOM

NOTE: The City of Des Moines is currently operating under a Proclamation of Emergency issued on March 5, 2020 and Governor Inslee's Stay-at-Home order issued March 23, 2020 in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Accordingly, this meeting will be held virtually using Zoom.

**The public is welcome to attend the Economic Development Committee meeting via Zoom. Please follow this link to get instructions on how to participate:
<https://www.desmoineswa.gov/FormCenter/City-Forms-3/Council-Meeting-Comments-49>.**

Please note that Zoom attendees do not interact with one another; they join in listen-only mode.

1. Approval of September 24, 2020 minutes
2. Marina Re-Development
Staff will update the committee on the progress of this project
3. Buildable Lands Analysis
Staff will update the committee on this process

DRAFT MINUTES

**Economic Development Committee Meeting
Thursday September 24, 2020
4:00 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.
Via Zoom Meeting**

Council Members	City Staff
Chair Jeremy Nutting	Michael Matthias – City Manager (CM)
Co-Chair Traci Buxton	Dan Brewer – Chief Operating Officer (COO)
Mayor Matt Pina	Susan Cezar – Chief Strategic Officer (CSO)
	Beth Anne Wroe – Finance Director
	Denise Lathrop – Planning & Development Svcs Manager
	Tim George – City Attorney
	Scott Wilkins - Harbormaster
	Eric Lane – Planner II
	Jodi Grager – Community Development Assistant

Guests: Councilmembers Matt Mahoney and J.C.Harris

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. Approval of the July 16, 2020 Minutes

Minutes approved as submitted.

3. G.R.O. (Business Assistances) Program Update

City Manager Michael Matthias began by requesting the Committee's approval to give a brief overview of the G.R.O Program at this meeting and a more thorough presentation of this topic to be presented at tonight's Council Meeting, The Committee approved. CM Matthias summarized the G.R.O. program. The Federal Government provided local municipalities with funding to combat the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The City has used the CARES Act funding (about 1.4 million) in various efforts to assist citizens and businesses and preserve the City budget. (See Agenda Item #3 Attachment). The G.R.O. Program is specifically aimed at assisting local businesses by providing grants for Adaption/Remodel of their physical space or in General Relief grants that support other business needs not to include replacing lost revenue. Eric Lane, Planner II described the process of developing the G.R.O. program. Staff studied how other nearby municipalities provided assistance to their businesses. Through this review, it was discovered it was vital to establish grants that provided enough money to make a difference and not be limited to a maximum of \$1200 to \$1500 per business. The City connected with Rich Shockley, Executive Director Small Business Development Center at Highline College to assist with referring business owners to this program. The program was advertised through various published notices and social media sites. The great news is that all businesses that applied for G.R.O. grants were awarded funds. More specifics regarding the businesses and amounts awarded will be forthcoming once the data has been compiled.

Business owners have been extremely appreciative of this opportunity. The Committee members responded with enthusiasm for the work of staff and look forward to hearing more details at tonight's Council Meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 21st.

Adjourned at 4:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jodi Grager, Public Works Administrative Assistant