

MINUTES

**CITY OF CARSON
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

**Carson City Hall
701 E. Carson Street
Carson, CA 90745**

July 7, 2022 – 8:00 AM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Aldridge called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Economic Development Commissioners Present: Aldridge, Apodaca, Embry, Jimenez, Kelley, Pandolfo Sparrow, Wallace

Economic Development Commissioners Absent: Childers, Harris, Cordova, Watar

Staff Present: John Raymond, Assistant City Manager of Economic Development; Saied Naaseh, Director of Community Development; LaToya Butler, Business Development Liaison

Let the record show there was four people from the public in attendance.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR

Vice-Chairperson Wallace moved to approve the May 5, 2022, regular minutes, seconded by Commissioner Kelley and unanimously carried.

IV. INTRODUCTIONS/PRESNTATIONS

None

V. PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATIONS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

VI. NEW BUSINESS

a. Industrial C.U.P

Director of Community Development Saied Naaseh gave a presentation on the current process for approving warehouse and logistics facilities. The Urgency Ordinance (No. 22-2223U) will

give the City more control and add a CEQA review. The presentation also included comments from Watson Land, Prologis, and the Carson Chamber of Commerce.

Commissioners asked questions regarding the timing of the ordinance, if the current issues be resolved during the general plan process, will it add time to the already lengthy process or opening a business, and if existing buildings will be roped into this process?

Discussion ensued.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Small Business Grant Funds

Assistant City Manager of Economic Development John Raymond reported staff is finishing up the guidelines of the new grant program Council created as part of the ARPA funds. The grants will be up to \$25,000 based on several different criteria. Participants of the loan program will not be eligible for the grant program.

Discussion ensued.

b. Small Business Loan Program

Assistant City Manager of Economic Development John Raymond reported the City recreated a Small Business Loan Program. Thirty-five businesses took out loans totaling \$530K with a six-month grace period for repayment. In May 2022, the Council voted to forgive all of the loans. As part of the forgiveness, a refund of loan payments for businesses may have been made during that time. The ARPA funds are going to be used to be able to do this.

c. Façade Improvement Program

Assistant City Manager John Raymond reported the current program has historically funded by the CDBG program, with only certain areas of the community with low-income census tracts were eligible. The new program will be citywide no matter what census tract the business is in. Each business can receive up to \$30,000. It will also be available to multi-tenant shopping center owners to apply collectively on behalf of the shopping center for up to \$250,000 with a match requirement.

Discussion ensued.

d. Major Task Force Update

Vice Chairperson Wallace reported the taskforce heard from Tom Hazinski of HVS advises state and local governments on different types of public assembly facilities. HVS noted they are looking at information sources including reviewing artificial intelligence to assist with some of the data needed to analyze major events. Commissioner Pandolfo will assist with EIR information for ticketed events. In April, the group heard from CIVITAS, lead by Commissioner Apodaca. CIVITAS submitted a proposal for services to form a Tourism Improvement District. They would provide expert advice and guidance throughout the project.

VIII. PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FOR MATTERS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

None

IX. COMMISSION MEMBERS ORAL COMMUNICATIONS / ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Chairperson Aldridge requested to add the Brown Act and Economic Development Commission Bylaws to the agenda for discussion.

X. STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Director of Community Development Saied Naaseh reported In and Out Burger was approved by the Planning Commission and another supermarket will replace the closing Albertson's.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned to the August 4, 2022 meeting.

Chairperson

Secretary