

Economic Development Commission
January 13th, 2020
Minutes

Chair Downing called a regular monthly meeting of the Economic Development Commission to order at 5:32 pm. Commissioners present included Harville Small, Audra Ruffennach, Phyllis Baez.

Also in attendance: Economic Development Manager (EDM) Kimberly Bailey, and Economic Development Specialist (EDS) Corbin Hart.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Downing presented for approval the December 9th, 2019 meeting minutes. Ruffennach motioned for approval, seconded by Baez, and passed unanimously by the board.

NEW ITEMS

Work Plan

- EDM Bailey presented a draft of the 2020 work plan for general discussion. She pointed out the four different channels of economic development feed into and compliment that each one other's goals. The founding intent of the EDC is being a business advocacy voice for council. The EDC seeks to branch out its servitude in relation to the summer mural program, business development, and community perception awareness.
 - EDM Bailey asked the board for input on the work plan.
 - Small asked what sort of control the City and EDC have over what new businesses come to Fountain.
 - EDM Bailey responded that private property rights give property owners broad jurisdiction over their asset; with zoning code, incentives and other tools allowing the City to guide development.
 - Chair Downing asked for an increased amount of communication between meetings as monthly meeting to drive engagement among the board.
 - Small asked for clarification as to who the board is guiding and helping.
 - EDM Bailey responded that through commissioner commentary time, SCBP membership, the small business guide, and community advocacy the board drove business development in the City.
 - Small asked if there was a strategic plan for the City Department. EDM Bailey responded that the last plan was dated 2008, and is an action item to update in 2020; referring back to the draft work plan under disc.

Board Tenure

- The agenda item was pushed to next month as the majority of renewing members were not present. However, Chair Downing did ask the board to consider "What is your why", and spoke briefly on his passion for developing connections within the community.

UPDATES

Placemaking Grant

- EDS Hart presented an update on the Placemaking grant. He shared a working list of the purposed advisory to the project. He and stated that the process would take a couple months, stating in late February/early March. EDS Hart stressed that a member of the EDC should be a part of this group . The board nominated Thomas for consideration.

Woodman Hall

- EDM Bailey presented FURA's statement on the naming of Woodmen Hall vs. Woodman Hall. She additionally stated that the architect is progressing through generating recommendations for improvements, and that FURA be availing a courtesy presentation to council about the future investment toward re-use adaption of the property asset.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTARY TIME

Olde Town

- Thomas was not present.

Small Business Advocacy

- Ruffennach spoke about the perception issues Fountain has and her efforts to change them in various professional contexts, specifically at the Natl. Association of Property Management.

Business Development Policy

- Vice Chair Osinski was not present. However, the board did talk about Shipleys Doughnut's success.

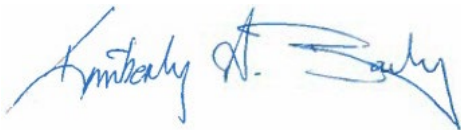
Real Estate Market

- Chair Downing stated that inventory was limited and buyers were backed up.

Military

- Baez stated that disabled veterans can now use the Commissary on base at Fort Carson.

Chair Downing asked if there was further business. No further topics were brought forth by subsequent board members; therefore Ruffennach motioned to adjourn, seconded by Small, passed unanimously at 6:23pm.



Kimberly Bailey

2-12-20

Date

Economic Development Commission
February 10, 2019
Minutes

Chair Downing called a regular monthly meeting of the Economic Development Commission to order at 5:33 pm. Commissioners present included Vice Chair Dan Osinski, Darlene Cruz, Harville Small, Phyllis Baez, and Wandaleen Thomas.

Also in attendance: Economic Development Manager (EDM) Kimberly Bailey, and Economic Development Specialist (EDS) Corbin Hart.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Downing presented for approval the January 13, 2019 meeting minutes. Osinski motioned for approval, seconded by Small, and passed unanimously by the board.

UPDATES

Work Plan

- EDM Bailey presented a draft of the 2020 work plan for general discussion again. She pointed out the four different channels of economic development feed into and compliment that each one other's goals. The founding intent of the EDC is being a business advocacy voice for council. The EDC seeks to branch out its servitude in relation to the summer mural program, business development, and community perception awareness.
 - EDM Bailey asked the board for input on the work plan, Chair Downing mentioned he liked it the first time it was presented, and still had no concerns.

Purpose/ Engagement

EDM Bailey presented a document listing potential areas of additional engagement for the board.

- This included City Council advocacy, communication of project status, regional tourism, business support and City representation. Vice Chair Osinski mentioned he appreciated the effort and would like to revisit this document to reinforce it.

Board Tenure

- EDM Bailey distributed board applications to renewing members. She mentioned she was looking to ratify members at the Feb. 25th meeting at 6pm, and the Board members due for renewal had indicated their desire to continue.

Broadband Feasibility

- EDM Bailey spoke to a document emailed to the board which described the potential economic benefits of a municipal broadband system. She mentioned that this document was informational on business voice on behalf of Council's decision-making process, and that biz economic benefit was not the sole aspect

being taken into account in this process. Chair Downing expressed that this project would be very beneficial to the business community.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTARY TIME

Olde Town

- Thomas has nothing to present.

Small Business Advocacy

- Ruffennach was absent.

Business Development Policy

- Vice Chair Osinski had nothing to present.

Real Estate Market

- Chair Downing stated that inventory was limited and mentioned an example of a house in Widefield that had 76 showings and 14 offers. He also mentioned inventory was down to around 600 homes.

Military

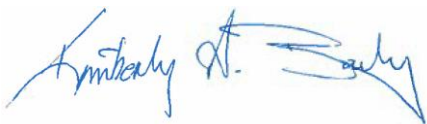
- Baez stated that Fort Carson was contingency site for Corona virus quarantine, not a primary site. Additionally, she passed out information related to military oriented job fairs happening soon.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Colorado Springs Conservatory Benefit

- Vice Chair Osinski mentioned the Colorado Springs Conservatory Benefit wine tasting in April, and encouraged board members find more details.

Chair Downing asked if there was further business. No further topics were brought forth by subsequent board members; therefore Baez motioned to adjourn, seconded by Thomas, passed unanimously at 6:10pm.



Kimberly Bailey

Date 4.13.20

Economic Development Commission
April 13, 2020
Minutes

Chair Downing called a regular monthly meeting of the Economic Development Commission to order at 5:30 pm. Commissioners present included Vice Chair Dan Osinski, Darlene Cruz, Harville Small, and Phyllis Baez.

Also in attendance: Economic Development Manager (EDM) Kimberly Bailey.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Downing presented for approval the February 10, 2020 meeting minutes. Osinski motioned for approval, seconded by Small, and passed unanimously by the board.

Chair Downing acknowledged there were not minutes for March 9, 2020 meeting for approval, due to lack of quorum the March meeting had been cancelled.

NEW ITEMS

COVID-19 Response Policy

EDM Bailey reviewed the newly implemented response policy which was now in effect for the EDC, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This policy included how meetings would transpire in a remote access call-in basis, notifications for Public postings, and motions/approvals by the EDC as recorded under the bylaws of the EDC.

Chair Downing inquired about City Council meetings as to Public Access and security parameters due to hacking of virtual meetings in the wave of COVID-19. EDM Bailey expressed the city implemented a heightened security platform "Microsoft Teams" on behalf of security aspects that is monitored by an IT administrator to assist with Public access and Public commentary with City Council. In addition, alert notifications for Public awareness and engagement with City Council has been pushed content via the city's Facebook social media platform. EDM Bailey provided the link to EDC to attend City Council meetings, if interested.

Business Awareness + Support Outreach

Chair Downing shared that the Fountain Valley Chamber of Commerce has been active in its outreach mission with its approx. 150 business memberships of the Chamber. Chamber board members have been making personal touch base calls to strengthen relationships during this COVID wave. In addition, Chamber board members have done drive-bys in the community to keep a pulse of business opening and closures.

EDM Bailey shared that the economic development department has focused on its Primary Employers, Tier 1 businesses, which comprise approx. 20 companies with high wage jobs, as well as; the Olde Town business district which comprise approx. 30 eclectic service-oriented businesses. Bailey also referenced the department's Business Retention, Expansion, Attraction collateral which identifies the industry tracks of the Tier 1 businesses. Lastly, she referenced the Small Business Relief Awareness weekly recap publication that is distributed to both of these businesses segments. The weekly recap summaries the latest movement in programs and resources to aid small business resiliency during the economic disruptions of COVID.

Together, the Fountain Valley Chamber of Commerce and the City's Economic Development department are collaborating in sharing content and outreach to aid in the resiliency and recovery for small business.

Olde Town Design + Aesthetics Incentive

EDM Bailey referenced that latest draft of the Olde Town district's Design + Aesthetics Incentive Program being positioned for an approval recommendation with City Council. The program is a direct byproduct of the THK Town Design and Aesthetics Guidelines project, championed in 2018 by the Fountain Urban Renewal Authority (FURA) and its findings were presented to City Council in late 2019. The mission of the Incentive program is to offer a partnership approach towards encouraging design standards which will lend itself towards the cultivation of a unique sense of place for the community's Olde Town district. The design attribute standards as well as the tiered brackets of eligibility are applicable to both 1) existing property renovations and 2) new development construction. EDM Bailey then addressed the following from EDC:

- How is this program envisioned to be promoted and awareness of its availability?
 - o When a project comes through the city's Planning department, it will be part of the materials provided through that customary process. In addition, FURA is one of several agencies that are notified when a project is interested in the Olde Town district.
- How is the Review Committee expected to function?
 - o The Rating Scale Template (page 4 of the document) has been created to guide the Committee and review a project's eligibility unilaterally.
 - o The Committee will be comprised of the following representative mix: 3 Business Ownership within the district; 1 Planning Technical Expert; 1 Economic Development Commissioner
 - These representatives will be recruited upon time of project interest inquiry into the Olde Town district, not in advance due to fluxuations of the district.
- What is the realistic expectations of the program?
 - o This program is being proposed to have an initial duration of 1-5 years as a kick starter motivation tool to 1) elicit new private investment and 2) inspire current property ownership to invest in properties in the District.
 - Upon which time, the program will be evaluated as to its progress over its initial duration and to-be assessed as to it's continue offering and purpose.

EDM Bailey requested a motion by the board for the Chair to sign an EDC LOS on behalf of the program for City Council recommendation. Osinski motioned for approval, seconded by Cruz, and passed unanimously by the board.

UPDATES

Board Renewal Tenure

EDM Bailey confirmed the following EDC board members had been renewed by City Council; Tom Downing, Wandaleen Thomas, Darlene Cruz, and Dan Osinski. Their terms were effective March 1, 2020 with a 2022 expiration. Bailey thanked them for their continued service to the EDC and community.

- o As part of this renewal term process, EDC Bios and Contacts information had been updated and confirmed for publishing to the city's Boards + Commissions website.

UCCS Economic Dashboard

EDM Bailey provided the latest (January 2020) economics tracking report derived through the EDC's membership with UCCS. This dashboard will be a handy copy to retain as it represents positive economic trends before the onset of COVID-19 impacts.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTARY TIME

Olde Town

- Cruz has nothing to present. Thomas was not in attendance.

Small Business Advocacy

- Small shared he has recently attended the SoCO Business Partnership meetings as Fountain representative and looks forward to bringing back content to share with the EDC.

Business Development Policy

- Vice Chair Osinski had nothing to present.

Real Estate Market

- Chair Downing stated no house showings are taking place under Gov. Polis "Stay at Home" order. RE profession is focused on facilitating contractual deliverables for housing stock already under contract.

Military

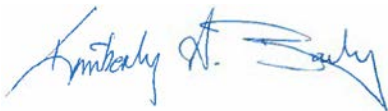
- Baez stated that Fort Carson is under an Executive Order by the military that PSC transitions are on hold and non-travel ban in effect due to COVID. She will continue to inform the EDC on any changes to these military orders in effect.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commercial Real Estate and Financial Markets

EDM Bailey shared that through her engagements in these mediums, that these sectors are not being stalled by COVID. Development forecasting is in the positive realm of healthy activity with continued strength through economic disruption economies; which are dependent upon the COVID duration.

Chair Downing asked if there was further business. No further topics were brought forth by subsequent board members; therefore Small motioned to adjourn, seconded by Osinski, passed unanimously at 6:24pm.



Kimberly Bailey

5.11.20

Date

Economic Development Commission
May 11, 2020
Minutes

Chair Downing called a regular monthly meeting of the Economic Development Commission to order at 5:30 pm. Commissioners present included Vice Chair Dan Osinski, Darlene Cruz, Wandaleen Thomas, Harville Small, and Phyllis Baez.

Also in attendance: Economic Development Manager (EDM) Kimberly Bailey.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Downing presented for approval the April 13, 2020 meeting minutes. Cruz motioned for approval, seconded by Thomas, and passed unanimously by the board.

UPDATES *(COVID-19)*

City Facilities + EDM Meetings

EDM Bailey informed the EDC of the policy measures in place as to city facilities and a re-opening to the public. At this time, it is foreseen that all city facilities will remain closed to the public until mid-June. Each day and week, this re-opening policy will be assessed based on COVID trends in the region and state. City staff will remain operating within city facilities at 50% capacity with the implementation of health screening stations. These stations record an employees' temperature and symptoms check boxes for an accurate recording of personal traffic and tracing measures in place on behalf of COVID.

EDM Bailey then polled the EDC members as to their preferences with convening meetings at < 10 person criteria per the State of CO COVID guidelines. EDC members were in majority in favor of person-to-person meetings if no symptoms were prevalent. However, EDC members did formally request a meeting location that may not necessitate health screening station protocols. EDM Bailey will reflect upon this feedback as we move through the summer months and COVID shifts in relation to EDM monthly meeting facilitation.

Community Events

Due to continuing social distancing measures in effect and public safety awareness of those at risk in the population to COVID-19, the following events' statuses were shared with the EDC.

EDM Bailey shared that the annual Thunder in the Valley Car Show + Cruise was cancelled. This annual event is typically hosted the second weekend of July and is a prime traffic generator for the Olde Town district.

Chair Downing shared the Fountain Valley Chamber of Commerce has held meetings with Mayor Ortega and City Public Safety divisions, as to consideration for this year's Labor Day Parade and Festival. This annual event is symbolic of the city's heritage, integrates a lot of public entities, and is a prime traffic generator for the Olde Town district; hosted over Labor Day weekend. At this time, an official GO or NO GO decision has not been made. Chair Downing will keep the EDC informed of any shifts to this event. EDM Bailey mentioned the Farmer's Market that takes place within the courtyard of City Hall (WED) and Metcalfe Park (SAT) has not officially made any announcement. The Market is working with City

Administration and City Public Safety divisions as to operational guidelines for the event. The Market typically runs Memorial Day through Labor Day. EDM Bailey will keep the EDC informed of any shifts to this event.

Chair Downing mentioned the Fountain Valley Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament and Scholars for Dollars fundraisers have been officially cancelled due to COVID-19.

Vice Chair Osinski shared that the Colorado Springs Chamber + EDC, to which he serves as an Ambassador, has rescheduled the following events: 1) Wine Festival @ Broadmoor and 2) Space Symposium @ Broadmoor; both of these events have been rescheduled to now take place pre/post of Halloween weekend in 2020.

Economic Forecast

EDM Bailey referenced the State of City Economic Forecast prepared for the City Manager. The forecast relayed that upon the onset of COVID-19, the City of Fountain economic base was comprised of necessity services with limited big box footprints, as well as, the city was not in a mature stage with enclave social districts; these variables are critical to our community's forecast recovery measures. As extracts of the forecast, there were some key awareness items for an EDC member to be attune:

- Business will learn to adopt new standards for operations; which may require zoning code adaptations
- Focus on cultivating a healthy networked business environment; District – City – Valley - Region
- Recovery marketplace reassurances to coax consumer confidence; Discretionary Expenditures bolsters Business – City – County – State Revenues

EDM Bailey provided the latest (February 2020) Economic Dashboard tracking report derived through the EDC's membership with UCCS. This dashboard reflects the first signals of economic trends with the onset of COVID-19 impact; unemployment, housing, and performance metrics.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTARY TIME

Olde Town

- Thomas expressed property improvements were underway and that the District's appearance is looking good for supporting business and private investment.

Small Business Advocacy

- Small shared through his SoCO Business Partnership engagement as a Fountain representative that the FAMLA bill is now dead upon arrival in State Legislature due to the costly burden to small business.

Business Development Policy

- Vice Chair Osinski expressed the real estate market will stabilize after a foreseen wave of heightened vacancies and bankruptcies in the marketplace; impact is anticipated to be softer than 2008 recession.

Real Estate Market

- Chair Downing stated house showings are once again taking place, with PPE measures, health screenings, and cleanliness wipe downs implemented.

Military

- Baez stated the Executive Order by the military is still in effect and she will continue to inform the EDC of any changes to these military orders in effect.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Development Activity Awareness

EDM Bailey shared a punch list of development activities occurring within the City:

Location	Project
South Bandlely Drive	Dog Kennel facility has installed footers and beginning early stages of vertical construction
Link and C+S Intersection	Utilities are being relocated for a new signalized intersection to be installed by end of 2020
Link and Squirrel Creek	PH II of a three phased Link Road improvement project is gearing up to start construction
Markshuffle Road <i>(near Lorson Ranch)</i>	Widefield Water and Sanitation District service line extension is under construction
North U.S. 85	River Bend Crossing, a new construction lifestyle retail services project, has completed 100% site demolition, 99% complete with final plat, and in final steps with securing utilities' service agreements.
Olde Town	Ventana South located along Old Pueblo Road is hosting a residential survey as to its light-industrial land designated within the site plan

Chair Downing requested Vice Chair Osinski to keep a pulse of grand openings of the Amazon Distribution Facility (COS Airport), Olympic Museum and Switchbacks Stadium (COS downtown) projects for an EDC tour inclusion.

Chair Downing asked if there was further business. No further topics were brought forth by subsequent board members; therefore Osinski motioned to adjourn, seconded by Thomas, passed unanimously at 6:26pm.

Kimberly Bailey

6.8.20

Date

Economic Development Commission

June 8, 2020

Minutes

Chair Downing called a regular monthly meeting of the Economic Development Commission to order at 5:35 pm. Commissioners present included Darlene Cruz, Wandaleen Thomas, Harville Small, and Phyllis Baez (*COVID meeting policy in effect*).

Also in attendance: Economic Development Manager (EDM) Kimberly Bailey and Xofficio Nichole Reinhardt.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Downing presented for approval the May 11, 2020 meeting minutes. Thomas motioned for approval, seconded by Small, and passed unanimously by the board.

NEW ITEMS

Business Impact Assistance Program (BIAP)

EDM Bailey provided an introductory overview of a new program developed to assist small businesses financially impacted by COVID. The Business Impact Assistance Program, BIAP, was developed under the leadership of City of Fountain City Manager Trainor and El Paso County Administrator Folsom, by directing CARES ACT federal funds under eligibility criteria and within a program specifically designed to aid small businesses.

BIAP eligibility criteria for business include the following:

- Small Businesses with < 20 employees with residency ownership
- Locally owned and operated Small Businesses and Franchisees
- Sales Tax Revenue Generation Small Business Operations

BIAP eligibility criteria for business use of funds include the following:

- Loss of revenue due to State of CO Executive Order restrictions/closures to business operations
- Retain and/or rehire of workforce impacted by lay-offs or furlonged (ie: payroll)
- Additional operational costs through personal protection equipment (PPE) and/or workplace sanitation expenditures due to State of CO Executive Order for business reopening compliance

Small businesses can participate in BIAP in addition to also participating in the Payroll Protection Program (PPP) and the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) programs currently available. However, BIAP businesses that are awarded funding will be cross checked with the El Paso County Pikes Peak Enterprise Zone grant program to ensure businesses are not receiving double reimbursement for similar COVID claims.

A BIAP application will be submitted through the City Manager Trainor office. The application will go through a first screening of eligibility criteria and those that qualify will then be released to a Review Panel for evaluation and awardance of funds determination. The BIAP Review Panel will be comprised by the Economic Development Commission (3 volunteers) of the City of Fountain. Those volunteers who chose to the serve the program included: Harville Small, Phyllis Baez, and Nichole Reinhardt. The first EDC Review Panel will meet on June 12th at 2:00pm at Woodman Hall.

Re-Opening Activities Roundtable

- Chair Downing lead the roundtable discussion as to sharing insights of community re-opening activities and awareness. He informed that Lazy Dog and Frankie’s restaurants are operating in limited capacities with a number (#) reservation system in place, along with the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo.
- Baez commented that Fort Carson is open at FPC status as of this week. She also provided a hand out notice as to “Army Special Ops Aviation Command conducting noise-generating exercises”.
- Reinhardt shared that for the month of May rental leases were 93% paid by commercial operations within El Paso County.
- Thomas shared salons were being routinely visited by the El Paso County Health Department for COVID public safety compliancy and several had been fined.

Chair Downing, and President of the Fountain Valley Chamber of Commerce, announced that the Chamber of Commerce is re-evaluating how it would facilitate its bi-monthly Friday Business Networking sessions; due to the fact IHOP is no longer operating its business meeting room due to COVID. He expressed the Chamber is seeking input and ideas from the business community for means to continue the “touch point effectiveness” of its bi-monthly Friday sessions; as well as, advisory aid services in need as to how to navigate recovery and reemerging business operations within a continual COVID environment. He encouraged EDC to branch out, divide and conquer in cross-pollination efforts among our small businesses and to bring back insights and info sharing throughout the summer COVID environment.

UPDATES

Design+Aesthetics Incentive Program

EDM Bailey provided a draft Letter of Support for EDC signature in relation to the Design+Aesthetics Incentive Program that was being presented and recommended for adoption at the June 23, 2020 City Council meeting. Thomas motioned for approval, seconded by Small, and passed unanimously by the board. Chair Downing signed the official Letter of Support on behalf of the program designed to attract private development to aid with small business fulfillment within the Olde Town district of the City of Fountain.

UCCS Economic Dashboard

EDM Bailey provided the latest (May 2020) Economic Dashboard tracking report derived through the EDC’s membership with UCCS. This dashboard reflects the continual impacts upon economic trends with the onset of COVID-19 pandemic; unemployment, housing, and under-performing metrics.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTARY TIME

Olde Town

- No updates were shared by Thomas or Cruz.

Small Business Advocacy

- Small shared through his SoCO Business Partnership engagement as a Fountain representative that the PPP program has been extended to help small businesses impacted by COVID, as well as, the CO Lawyers Committee was availing pro-bono legal support to small businesses impacted by COVID.

Business Development Policy

- Vice Chair Osinski was not in attendance.

Real Estate Market

- Chair Downing stated the Springs’ real estate market is #3 in the Nation for the third month in a row. As well as, military spouses were traveling in advance of PCS release orders to secure housing due to impending military base re-assignments. In general, house pricing < \$400,000 is extremely competitive and a HOT real estate market.

Military

- Baez re-stated that between the dates of June 10-12th the noise generating exercise will be taking place at Fort Carson.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Placemaking Grant

EDM Bailey shared the city’s grant awarded by the State of CO OEDIT and DOLA divisions is gearing up for late summer/ early fall work sessions around Placemaking within the Olde Town district. As such, she was requesting one volunteer by EDC to be a part of the working group. Thomas re-confirmed her commitment to be an EDC representative as a small business owner within the District. Bailey thanked her for being a part of the Placemaking initiative for Olde Town.

Chair Downing asked if there was further business. No further topics were brought forth by subsequent board members; therefore Thomas motioned to adjourn, seconded by Small, passed unanimously at 6:31 pm.



Kimberly Bailey

____ 7.13.20 _____
Date

Economic Development Commission
July 13, 2020
Minutes

Chair Downing called a regular monthly meeting of the Economic Development Commission to order at 5:35 pm. Commissioners present included Harville Small, Darlene Cruz, and Phyllis Baez (*COVID meeting policy in effect*).

Also in attendance: Economic Development Manager (EDM) Kimberly Bailey.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Downing presented for approval the June 8, 2020 meeting minutes. Baez motioned for approval, seconded by Small, and passed unanimously by the board.

NEW ITEMS

Defense Communities Infrastructure Pilot Program (DCIP)

EDM Bailey provided an introductory overview of the program, DCIP, a pilot program launched this year with a mandate to award its funding on or before Sept 30, 2020. The Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP) is intend to support off-base projects within communities where base operations reside; which strengthen DoD community partnership missions. Projects awarded will be fully funded through military appropriations that must be expensed within a 5-year window of funds awarded.

The City of Fountain has officially submitted a DCIP proposal for consideration by the DoD/OEA for the Fort Carson rail spur component of the overall rail park initiative. The DCIP proposal submitted is ONLY for the mainline spur component to serve on behalf of Fort Carson resiliency in our region and state. The Proposal is titled: "City of Fountain Lead Rail Track to Fort Carson"; and only one submitted to the DoD program within the State of CO.

DCIP timeline includes with details [online](#):

- **August 8, 2020** selected proposals by the OEA/DoD will be requested to formally submit Application
 - **September 30, 2020** notification by OEA/DoD as to those Applications formally approved funding
- [Update: August 10, 2020 project was non-awarded by DCIP](#)

EPA Brownfields Coalition Partners Grant

EDM Bailey provided a 101 Introduction to Brownfields and the city as a coalition partner with City of Colorado Springs under the awardance of a \$600,000.00 grant by EPA to study properties within Shooks Run corridor and downstream community of City of Fountain. EPA Brownfield funding can be applied towards site remediation studies, which include: Asbestos, Lead Based Paint, PH I and/or PH II soil testing protocols. The EPA Brownfield Coalition partners grant project is forecasting to begin Public Awareness/Engagement efforts in late summer/ early fall 2020 timeframe. Within the City of Fountain, approx. 47 properties have been identified as possible fits under the voluntary participation to receive free grant funds towards property assessments. The EDC was asked to staring thinking about properties that may be perceived in a condition that

could benefit from the program. A Site Nomination form will be forthcoming for distribution as part of the Public outreach process.

FREE Business Thermometers Availability

Chair Downing announced the Fountain Valley Chamber of Commerce was distributing its supply of Thermometers next week and advised those folks interested to contact the Chamber office or go to its [website](#) for more information.

UPDATES

UCCS Economic Forum and Dashboard

EDM Bailey provided the latest (June 2020) Economic Dashboard tracking report derived through the EDC's membership with UCCS. This dashboard reflects the continual impacts upon economic trends with the onset of COVID-19 pandemic; unemployment, housing, and under-performing metrics. The board expressed great appreciation of this data and continued advocacy for budget funding to participate in the Partner Program with UCCS.

EDM Bailey shared the UCCS annual Economic Forum will take place virtually this year with a Save the Date announcement forthcoming. The guest speaker this year is a Futurist in topic, quite apropos with COVID lifestyle influential 2020. [UPDATE: October 1, 2020 Save the Date announced.](#)

Southmoor Road

EDM Bailey shared Southmoor Road is still closed and will be into the foreseeable future, due to the continual erosion of Fountain Creek bank and no quick solutions. She also advised City Council Member Lauer is leading the discussions with the Fountain Creek Watershed District and El Paso County agencies on behalf of public safety and creek erosion awareness.

EDM Bailey shared Fountain Creek is a natural element within the city's business corridors and that maybe the EDC could find value in a presentation by the FCWD at an upcoming EDC fall 2020 meeting. The board expressed interest to hear from FCWD and encouraged other ideas to the table in the future as to relevancy for business development for the city.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTARY TIME

Olde Town

- Thomas shared her re-opening is doing great and businesses are encouraged by the customers showing up and creating jobs once again.

Small Business Advocacy

- Small referenced an EPC health chart that summaries the current business variance in affect and that the CARES \$ programs to support small business needs are reopening for applications by a business. Small will provide further detail materials in email. [Update: Content was distributed to the EDC electronically.](#)

Business Development Policy

- Vice Chair Osinski was not in attendance.
- Chair Downing shared the FVCC will be hosting an in person “voluntary” business breakfast at IHOP in Fountain on July 17th @ 7am. It will be a smaller group with virtual participation still available.
- Chair Downing relayed that Mayor Ortega has made a recent announcement about the cancellation of the annual Fall Festival+Parade hosted by FVCC +City, due to COVID. In turn, the FVCC will partner with the City to facilitate a smaller community gathering function during Labor Day at Metcalfe Park; food truck, city services, and food options have been the initial topics. Downing will share more details as they become available.

Real Estate Market

- Chair Downing stated the Springs’ real estate market, specifically Fountain, remains extremely competitive and a HOT real estate market.

Military

- Baez provided a change of command has taken place among the bases recently. Details are available through Media articles:
 - **1st Space Brigade Change of Command:** <https://www.fortcarsonmountaineer.com/2020/07/38731/>
 - **Garrison Change of Command:** https://gazette.com/military/fort-carson-welcomes-springer-as-new-mayor/article_bbcba48-c2d1-11ea-ae00-7765bcf1263e.html
- Baez announced the Fort Carson Commissary will be closed July 21-22
- Baez referenced a Fort Carson COVID Information Sheet that she would share with the EDC. **Update:** The hand out was distributed to the EDC electronically.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIAP Volunteer Team

Chair Downing and EDM Bailey shared kudos of appreciation to the three EDC volunteers which serve as a review panel for the City’s BIAP program. EDC volunteers are Small, Baez, and xOfficio Reinhardt with approximately 30 small businesses receiving funding due to COVID operational impacts.

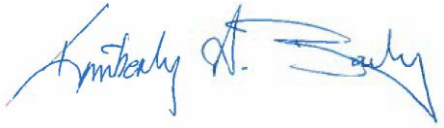
ED Vacant Position

Chair Downing inquired about the vacant position in Economic Development department and resources. EDM Bailey stated city departments have been under budget restrictions and hiring freezes due to COVID. With the first Q2 finances reporting healthy and hopeful months reporting ahead, the vacant position should move forth for recruitment to address the resource shortages/needs within the department. Bailey thanked Chair Downing for expressing the concern for staff.

August EDC

EDM Bailey inquired about availability for the EDC August 10th meeting due to last minute summer vacation planning and/or School District start-ups in a COVID status. Several members expressed concerns they would not be available to meet with limited reschedule options in August. Therefore, Chair Downing motioned to cancel August EDC meeting due to lack of a quorum, seconded by Baez, passed unanimously at 6:27pm.

Chair Downing asked if there was further business. No further topics were brought forth by subsequent board members; therefore Baez motioned to adjourn, seconded by Small, passed unanimously at 6:28 pm.

Handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kimberly Bailey".

Kimberly Bailey

7.14.20

Date

Economic Development Commission
October 12, 2020 *(COVID meeting policy in effect)*
Minutes

Chair Downing called a regular monthly meeting of the Economic Development Commission to order at 5:32 pm. Commissioners present included Phyllis Baez, Darlene Cruz, and Harville Small. Also in attendance: Economic Development Manager (EDM) Kimberly Bailey and Xofficio Nicole Reinhart.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Downing presented for approval the September 14, 2020 meeting minutes. Small motioned for approval, seconded by Baez, and passed unanimously by the board.

NEW ITEMS

Woodman Hall Vision

EDM Bailey recited the Woodman Hall Vision courtesy presentation that was provided to City Council by FURA Chairman Aragon on September 22, 2022. The historic era property has great potential but EDM Bailey emphasized it will take a hearty community support effort to see its potential fully realized and FURA to continue investment upgrades to the property. Chairman Downing echoed “It’s a beautiful vision for the property with potential to support new Small Business entry in the district.”

Winter Bundle Up Campaign

EDM Bailey shared the City has joined with regional economic development partners to develop a Small Business “Winter Bundle Up Campaign” as a toolkit to navigate COVID-19 in the cooler climate season. The toolkit has two parts, 1) Small Business Support Kit and 2) Public Confidence Encouraging Small Business Support Messaging; slated for release around end of October.

2021 Budget and Work Plan

EDM Bailey provided an update on the 2021 Economic Budget and Personnel Staff. As currently presented to City Council, the Economic Development department is maintaining its budgetary funding levels of 2020, as well as, forecasting grant funding initiatives that could require matching funds by the department. In regards to personnel staff, the currently vacant EDS position will remain vacant into 2021 for the foreseeable future due to COVID with reconsideration in late 2021 as to department staff needs, affecting 2022 budget planning. However, the current PT Admin Assistant position is being promoted to a FT Admin Assistant position in 2021 to help with overflows forecasted in the department.

EDm Bailey gently reminded the board that as we turn the New Year of 2021, we will begin to look at our prior accomplishments, our focused initiatives ahead, and to define the EDC Mission. EDm Bailey and Chairman Downing highly encouraged the board to start thinking about such now and be prepared to bring forth productive discussions for its 2021 Work Plan efforts.

UPDATES

Front Range Dual Service Rail Park

EDM Bailey announced that the project was unsuccessful in being awarded the USDOT BUILD grant funding. During this same cycle, the Navajo Tribal lands of New Mexico had an exact project proposed which was awarded funding under the Rural category by the USDOT. It was a bitter, sweet testament of the Rail Park initiative. At this time, the Rail Park is completing its third of 3 grant applications as slated for 2021; an EDA Technical Assistance grant application. The project has been working closely with the EDA on the scope of work to be performed, to which we've received green light feedback by the EDA as to its potential of funding awardance. The final EDA application is slated for submittal by end of November with a 30-day review /approval process.

EcoDev Monthly Activity Report

EDM Bailey shared the department's monthly activity report for commentary. There were no questions by EDC.

UCCS Economic Forum and Dashboard

EDM Bailey provided the latest (August 2020) Economic Dashboard tracking report derived through the EDC's membership with UCCS. This dashboard reflects the continual impacts upon economic trends with the onset of COVID-19 pandemic; unemployment, housing, and under-performing metrics.

EDM Bailey also mentioned the UCCS annual Economic Forum which took place virtually this year and was free to attend, launched virtually on October 1, 2020. [UPDATE: October 1, 2020 Forum website recording.](#)

COMMISSIONER COMMENTARY TIME

Olde Town

- Cruz had no update to share at this time

Small Business Advocacy

- Small referenced the closure of the Business Impact Assistance Program with the September 25, 2020 city deadline. There were approximately \$400,000 in grant funds awarded to the Small Business community in light of COVID-19 impacts. Chairman Downing thanked the three EDC volunteers that served on the review panel of the program.

Business Development Policy

- Vice Chair Osinski was not in attendance.

Real Estate Market

- Chair Downing stated the really low interest rates for home buyer/ home owner is forecasted to remain low and attractive for buyers / refinancing in the housing market. He also shared there are big rumors about the escalating concerns in the commercial market; particularly in Retail – Office – Downtown; due to lingering affects with COVID-19.

Military

- Baez shared the Fort Carson wildfire has consumed 500 acres and was 10% contained.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

October “Arts Month” and Placemaking Campaign

EDM Bailey encouraged participation in both these programs slated to transpire with the Public during the week of Oct 19-23 in the lawn of City Hall Courtyard during the dusk hours of 6-8pm.

[UPDATE: 83 attendees came out to support the artist performers in this inaugural hosting.](#)

Trunk-or-Treat

EDM Bailey shared that this year’s Trunk-or-Treat will not take place at City Hall due to COVID public health. In turn, the event will transpire at Metcalfe Park as a procession drive-thru function on October 30th @ 6:00pm. She encouraged board members/ businesses to consider participation in the event for the Public and to connect with staff for booth space reservations.

Chair Downing asked if there was further business. No further topics were brought forth by subsequent board members; therefore Small motioned to adjourn, seconded by Cruz, passed unanimously at 6:13pm.



Kimberly Bailey

____11.18.20_____
Date

Economic Development Commission
November 9, 2020

General Meeting Minutes
(COVID meeting policy in effect)

Chair Downing called a regular monthly meeting of the Economic Development Commission to order at 5:31 pm. Commissioners present included Phyllis Baez, Darlene Cruz, Wandaleen Thomas, and Harville Small. Also in attendance: Economic Development Director (EDD) Kimberly Bailey.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Downing presented for approval the October 12, 2020 meeting minutes. Thomas motioned for approval, seconded by Baez, and passed unanimously by the board.

NEW ITEMS

2021 Development Pipeline

EDD Bailey shared a city map which highlighted residential and commercial development concentration areas going into 2021 for the board. The discussion comments included:

- YMCA moving to the DFAC facility located in Olde Town district
- Fountain Utilities and Fleet HQ nearing move in readiness located in Gateway district (Charter Oak Road/Rail Park vicinity)
- Lorraine Center repurpose assessment underway and a EPA Brownfields site nomination participant
- Active Senior Lifestyle development located behind Safeway at Mesa Ridge
- Habitat for Humanity units located in Olde Town district
- EPC Public Health and Shared Services Facility at former Beckett Events Center of N. US85
- Hearty commercial development vetting is occurring within INFILL and Rail Park areas
- 11 housing development projects equating to ~14,548 new stock in early development phase

2021 EDC Meeting Schedule

EDD Bailey shared a draft calendar for 2021 EDC meeting dates. The month of October was discussed due to semi-holiday conflict. The board selected October 4, 2021 as the designated date of the month to meet and approved overall meeting schedule.

[UPDATE: The 2021 meeting schedule has been finalized and distributed to City Clerk office for public publication.](#)

UPDATES

EcoDev Monthly Activity Report

EDD Bailey shared the department's monthly activity report for commentary. There were no questions by EDC.

UCCS Economic Dashboard

EDD Bailey mentioned the monthly dashboard report was not issued due to the UCCS Economic Forum, which was held on October 1, 2020. She encouraged the board to visit Forum [website](#) recording online if haven't done so already to absorb the content.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTARY TIME

Olde Town

- Thomas shared the district is looking good (well-kept properties) and business activity continuing.

Small Business Advocacy

- Small referenced the election policy impacts to Small Business and encouraged the board to be educated on such as we head into New Year efforts.

Business Development Policy

- Vice Chair Osinski was not in attendance (*4th month of absence*).
UPDATE: Effective November 9th, board member Osinski submitted his letter of resignation from the EDC due to personal upheavals and business impacts as a direct result of COVID. EDD Bailey expressed great appreciation of his servitude and that he will be missed due to his vast network of relations helping to keep Fountain's EDC knowledgeable about regional business engagement/activity. Once normalcy comes back into our day to day lives, (post COVID) the EDC would welcome him to rejoin if he expressed an interest. Therefore, the EDC will start the New Year with five seated EDC members.

Real Estate Market

- Chair Downing expressed a very strong and healthy housing market is foreseen to continue; yet new home buyer affordability/entry is a heightened concern in the marketplace; as we head into the New Year.

Military

- Baez had no new information to share. EDD Bailey mentioned a meeting is being coordinated with new Garrison Commander Springer around January 2021 to discuss city Economic Development initiatives.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fountain Valley Chamber of Commerce

Chair Downing mentioned the Chamber of Commerce is hosting its membership meetings virtually, as well as, Chair Downing will be providing a Chamber status update during a December 2020 City Council meeting.

EPA Brownfield Site Nomination Form

EDD Bailey mentioned form is open and nominations can be made anonymous, please visit online: <https://coloradosprings.gov/project/colorado-springs-fountain-coalition-brownfield-initiative>

Winter “Bundle Up” Campaign (COVID)

EDD Bailey mentioned this campaign has moved forth as a soft-launch due to recent escalation of COVID public health regulations. To learn more about the campaign, please visit online:

<https://pikespeaksbdc.org/what-we-do/programs/bundle-up-for-small-businesses/>

2021 EDC Fiscal New Year and Work Plan

Chair Downing inquired as to seated members and renewal appointments for EDC in 2021. EDD Bailey replied that only one member is due for renewal appointment and she will work with board member as to their re-appointment interest and new board recruitment efforts by the EDC fiscal year effective March 1, 2021.

EDD Bailey gently reminded the board that as we turn the New Year of 2021, we will begin to look at our prior accomplishments, our focused initiatives ahead, and to define the EDC Mission. Chair Downing and EDD Bailey highly encouraged the board to start thinking about such now and be prepared to bring forth productive discussions for its 2021 Work Plan efforts.

December 14th Board Meeting

Due to Lack of Quorum, the board has cancelled its December general board meeting. The next EDC meeting will take place on January 11, 2021 per the approved 2021 EDC meeting schedule.

Chair Downing asked if there was further business. No further topics were brought forth by subsequent board members; therefore Small motioned to adjourn, seconded by Thomas, passed unanimously at 6:02 pm.



Kimberly Bailey

1-11-21
Date