During 2015, the Economic Development Committee discussed and made recommendations on a number of policy matters related to business climate policies and processes, disposition of City-owned property, business and workforce development, and the Thea Foss Waterway. The Economic Development Committee work summary for the year 2015 is outlined below under the Committee's suggested issue areas in the Council Standing Committee Process Manual.

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Percentage of Total Briefings 89.7% 10.3% 100%

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# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
## 2015 YEAR-END REPORT

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- Economic Indicators Report for Fourth Quarter, 2014
- Downtown Food Truck Event
- First Quarter Economic Indicators Report, 2015
- Sidewalk Café Process Improvements
- Food Truck Pilot Program & Future Food Truck Policy
- Findings and Desired Policy Outcomes of the Food Truck Policy Work Group
- The Arts & Culture Coalition of Tacoma Update

### Development Services
- Destination Point Defiance Development Regulation Agreement Recommendation

### Economic Development Opportunities
- Addition of Hvar, Croatia As a Sister City
- Spaceworks Update
- RockTenn Introduction
- Catalytic Project Program
- Business Attraction, Retention, and Expansion Efforts in Tacoma-Pierce County
- Small Business Loan Programs and Loan Portfolio Presentation
- Office and Industrial Real Estate Market Strengths and Opportunities
- Go Local Update

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- Informational Update on Special Events Program

### Foss Waterway
- Foss Waterway Development Update, February 24
- Foss Waterway Development Update, March 24

### Neighborhood Business Districts
- Neighborhood Business Districts Program Review Check-in
- Neighborhood Business District Activity Update, August 25
- Neighborhood Business District Activity Update, December 8

### Port of Tacoma Issues
- Port of Tacoma & Seattle Alliance - What Does It Mean for Tacoma?

### Tacoma Dome & Convention Center
- GTCTC and Tacoma Dome 2014 End of Year Marketing and Financial Closing and Q1/2 Update

### Technology
- The Growing Tech Industry in Tacoma: Opportunities and Challenges

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
2015 YEAR-END REPORT

BUSINESS CLIMATE POLICIES AND PROCESSES

ECONOMIC INDICATORS REPORT FOR FOURTH QUARTER, 2014
On February 24th, Debbie Bingham from Community and Economic Development presented the committee with an economic indicators update, stating that indicators point to a slightly stronger economy than the end of 2013 in Sales and Business and Occupation tax revenue.

DOWNTOWN FOOD TRUCK EVENT
On April 14th, Pat Beard from Community and Economic Development reviewed the downtown food truck pilot program. Food trucks would be allowed along Market St between 9th St. and 11th St. for a three month trial.

FIRST QUARTER ECONOMIC INDICATORS REPORT, 2015
On May 26th, Debbie Bingham of the Community and Economic Development Department stated that Sales and Business and Occupation tax revenues have increased and that unemployment has decreased. Ms. Bingham also discussed the economy’s performance by cluster, business start-ups and closures, the number of new business licenses, and workforce development.

SIDEWALK CAFÉ PROCESS IMPROVEMENTS
On June 23rd, Peter Huffman, Director of Planning and Development Services, updated the Committee on the sidewalk café program, which adds vibrancy to neighborhoods and promotes economic development. Mr. Huffman discussed ways in which to improve the program, such as providing temporary permits with over-the-counter permit review. Deputy Mayor Boe made a motion recommending the application fee be removed and a fee study be conducted.

FOOD TRUCK PILOT PROGRAM & FUTURE FOOD TRUCK POLICY
On June 23rd, Kala Dralle and Ricardo Noguera from Community and Economic Development presented an update on the City’s food truck pilot. Ms. Dralle and Mr. Noguera provided background on early results of the program and upcoming outreach to the business community.

FINDINGS AND DESIRED POLICY OUTCOMES OF THE FOOD TRUCK POLICY WORK GROUP
On September 22nd, Kala Dralle, Economic Development Specialist with Community and Economic Development, provided a review of the Food Truck Policy development, including desired outcomes, background information, and challenges that food truck policies face.

THE ARTS & CULTURE COALITION OF TACOMA UPDATE
On November 10th, Amy McBride, the Tacoma Arts Administrator, and Jennifer Kilmer from the Washington State Historical Society provided an update on the Arts and Culture Coalition of Pierce County, including membership, investors, advocacy, and increasing youth access.
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

DESTINATION POINT DEFIANCE DEVELOPMENT REGULATION AGREEMENT RECOMMENDATION
On October 27th, Ian Munce, Special Assistant to the Director of Planning and Development Services, provided an overview of the Point Defiance Development Regulations Agreement and asked that it be recommended to the full council.

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<th>Issue Area</th>
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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

ADDITION OF HVAR, CROATIA AS A SISTER CITY
On January 27th, Debbie Bingham from the Community and Economic Development Department joined several community members in presenting about the history of the Sister City program, and ways in which Hvar and Tacoma are similar and would make good sister cities. The committee passed a motion to recommend to the full Council that Hvar, Croatia be added to our list of Sister Cities.

SPACEWORKS UPDATE
On April 14th, Amy McBride from Community and Economic Development gave an update on the Spaceworks program. She presented alongside David Schroedel of the Tacoma-Pierce County chamber. The two report that the program has successfully utilized storefronts, helping to revitalize depressed areas. Over the next five years, the program will scale up to help better serve alumni and creative businesses, and continue to activate and transform spaces.

ROCKTENN INTRODUCTION
On April 28th, Elly Walkowiak from Community and Economic Development introduced John Brandt and Steve Devlin from RockTenn. RockTenn is in the location of the former Simpson mill and is the largest manufacturing employer in Tacoma, focusing on the packaging industry.

CATALYTIC PROJECT PROGRAM
On April 28th, Elly Walkowiak from Community and Economic Development discussed the Catalytic Project Program and its purpose of enabling development that may not otherwise occur because of inadequate or antiquated infrastructure.

BUSINESS ATTRACTION, RETENTION, AND EXPANSION EFFORTS IN TACOMA-PIERCE COUNTY
On May 26th, Community and Economic Development Director Ricardo Noguera and Susan Seuss of the Economic Development Board (EDB) reviewed several successful business retentions that took place over the past year. Mr. Noguera also listed several local companies that have expanded. Ms. Seuss discussed her role within the EDB as primarily being business attraction, working with potential new businesses to fit in to the market.
SMALL BUSINESS LOAN PROGRAMS AND LOAN PORTFOLIO PRESENTATION
On July 28th, Cary Jenkins, Housing Division Manager with Community and Economic Development, reviewed the City's current loan programs, including the Business Façade Improvement Loan Program, Historical Rehabilitation and Repair Loan Program, and the Fire Safety Loan Program.

OFFICE AND INDUSTRIAL REAL ESTATE MARKET STRENGTHS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN TACOMA/PIERCE COUNTY; BUSINESS RETENTION, EXPANSION, AND RECRUITMENT STRATEGY
On September 29th, Ely Walkowiak, Business Development Manager in Community and Economic Development (CED), Pat Beard, Project Manager for CED, and Chris Green from the Economic Development Board, presented on the strengths, opportunities, and the comprehensive strategy used to strengthen the Tacoma economy.

GO LOCAL UPDATE
On October 13th, Carol Wolfe, Program Development Specialist with Community and Economic Development, and Judy Hyman and Patricia Lecy from Go Local, presented to the committee on the Go Local Program. Committee members heard about new membership opportunities, new partnerships, and business outreach and education on the program.

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EVENTS, FESTIVALS, AND SPECIAL EVENTS

INFORMATIONAL UPDATE ON SPECIAL EVENTS PROGRAM
On July 14th, Kale Drale, Economic Development Specialist with Community and Economic Development, presented an update on the Special Events Program. Current priorities of the program include increasing neighborhood business district activity, increasing special event attendance, and using special events to embrace Tacoma’s diversity.

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FOSS WATERWAY

FOSS WATERWAY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE
On February 24th, Su Dowie, the Foss Waterway Development Authority Executive Director, was joined by consultants Matt Anderson and Kevin Cook. The group discussed development at the south end of the waterway, including the construction of The Henry. The panel had dialogue with the Committee Members about the feasibility of high-rise development for sites 8 and 9 on the waterfront. High-rise and mid-rise developments are not feasible for those sites.
FOSS WATERWAY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY UPDATE
On March 24th, Su Dowie, the Foss Waterway Development Authority Executive Director, was joined by Board Member Bill Driscoll to discuss the possibility of allowing lower-density uses for some of the sites.

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NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS DISTRICTS

NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS DISTRICT PROGRAM REVIEW CHECK-IN
On June 9th, Shari Hart from Community and Economic Development (CED) presented on the Department's outreach regarding the Neighborhood Business District Program. CED learned that respondents tended to be engaged in their business district, would like the program to have clearer goals and for City services to businesses to improve.

NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS DISTRICT ACTIVITY UPDATE
On August 25th, Shari Hart, Program Development Specialist with Community and Economic Development, provided a status update on the Neighborhood Business District program, which promotes livable, walkable business districts to attract people and businesses.

NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS DISTRICT ACTIVITY UPDATE
On December 8th, Shari Hart, Program Development Specialist with Community and Economic Development, provided a status update on the Neighborhood Business District program. Ms. Hart presented on the economic health and trends of neighborhood business districts and what development is currently in the works.

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PORT OF TACOMA ISSUES

PORT OF TACOMA & SEATTLE ALLIANCE – WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR TACOMA?
On September 22nd, Martha Anderson, Assistant Director of Community and Economic Development and John Wolfe, CEO of the Port of Tacoma, provided an overview of the alliance between the Ports of Seattle and Tacoma and what impact that will have on the Puget Sound region.

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TACOMA DOME & CONVENTION CENTER

GREATER TACOMA CONVENTION AND TRADE CENTER AND TACOMA DOME 2014 END OF YEAR MARKETING AND FINANCIAL CLOSING AND Q1/Q2 2015 UPDATE

On August 11th, Kim Bedier, Director of Public Assembly Facilities, and Bennish Brown, President and CEO of Tacoma Regional Convention and Visitor Bureau, presented an update on recent results of Tacoma Dome and Convention Center business. The Tacoma Dome and Convention Center both saw an increase in revenues, even though the actual numbers of events were slightly down. Mr. Brown discussed economic impact goals for the Tacoma Regional Convention and Visitor Bureau in 2015.

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TECHNOLOGY

THE GROWING TECH INDUSTRY IN TACOMA: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

On September 22nd Elly Walkowiak, Business Development Manager in Community and Economic Development, Jeanne Terrano, CEO of Topia Technology, and Brian Forth, President of SiteCrafting, presented on the growing technology sector in Tacoma, including growth through startups, business expansions, and educational programs.

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WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

SEMI-ANNUAL STATUS REPORT ON L.E.A.P. & S.B.E. PROGRAMS

On August 25th, Peter Guzman, LEAP Program Manager, and Charles Wilson, Small Business Enterprise Coordinator, both with Community and Economic Development, presented. Mr. Guzman presented a summary of the 2015 accomplishments of the Local Employment Apprenticeship Training Program, or LEAP, a program designed to provide for the development of a trained workforce with the skills necessary to be successful in the local economy. Mr. Wilson presented the Small Business Enterprise semi-annual report. He discussed the current status of the program’s goal and objectives, as well as establishing new standards and goals going forward.

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CITIZEN COMMITTEES, BOARDS, AND COMMISSIONS

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ISSUE AREAS NOT REVIEWED IN DETAIL

- Downtown Parking
- Historic Preservation
- International Affairs, Trade, and Development
- Military and Veterans affairs
- Mixed-Use Development
- Regional Educational Institution Plans
- Retail
- Tourism and Hospitality
- Utility Policies and Development Coordination

POTENTIAL TOPICS FOR 2016

- Review of high-tech incubators in Tacoma
- South Tacoma Auto-Dealers update
- International Trade
- Updates on Foreign Direct Investment

Council Member Marty Campbell, Chair
Deputy Mayor Ryan Mello
Council Member Robert Thoms