



City of Maple Ridge
Economic Development Committee
MEETING MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Economic Development Committee (EDC)
held via Zoom teleconference on June 3, 2021 at 4:00 pm.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillor Ahmed Yousef	Council Liaison
Al Hogarth	Chamber of Commerce Representative
Camilla Brown	Member at Large
Chrislana Gregory	Member at Large
Dominic Kotarski	Member at Large
Tom Meier	Business Improvement Association Representative
Mehdi Vezvaei	Member at Large

STAFF PRESENT

Wendy Dupley	Director of Economic Development
Bruce Livingstone	Business Retention and Expansion Officer
Sabina Chand	Committee Clerk, Legal and Legislative Services

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

R/2021-012

It was moved and seconded

That the June 3, 2021 Economic Development Committee meeting agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

R/2021-013

It was moved and seconded

That the minutes of the Maple Ridge Economic Development Committee meeting dated April 8, 2021 be adopted.

CARRIED

Note: Al Hogarth and Camilla Brown joined at 4:05 pm

4. DELEGATIONS

4.1 Economic Development Strategy – Chris Fields, Principal, Rynic

Chris Fields, Consultant for the Maple Ridge Economic Development Strategy project, provided a detailed update on what will be happening with the Strategy in the next few weeks:

- EDC Committee and community engagement - plenty of time to provide input
- Goal: actively implement a plan that pursues ambitious directional strategy to help elevate Maple Ridge
- Discovery now through July: public surveys, leadership forum and data analysis
- Timeline: implement in October 2021

The Committee engaged in discussion about public engagement and how the consultant will reach out to the community. C. Fields advised that community engagement will be promoted from all channels available from the City's Communication department.

The Staff Liaison noted that C. Fields will be looking for further input from members on June 16, 2021 to help develop a brand new strategy for the community which has not been developed since 2004.

Note: Chris Fields left at 5:03 pm

5. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS – NIL

6. LIAISON UPDATES

6.1 Staff Liaison

The Staff Liaison provided updates on the following items:

- Business Friendly Task Force report has been forwarded to the consultant for information purposes;
- GIS site selector tool scheduled to go live July 2021;
- Upcoming engagement opportunities for the Economic Development Strategy: focus group meetings, surveys, Leadership Forum on June 17, 2021 and one on one conversations with the consultant;
- Innovation challenge Maple Ridge: [Innovation Challenge Maple Ridge](#);
- Update on 30 patio operations in Maple Ridge;
- Update on current investment inquiries in Maple Ridge.

Members discussed the Business Friendly Task Force report from the previous meeting and inquired to the recommendation of a closed meeting with Council. The Staff Liaison advised that the request was circulated to the Corporate Management Team and it was decided that the report will be forward to the Consultant for information purposes. The Staff Liaison thanked the members for their valuable feedback on the project and clarified their advisory role on the committee and advised that reports reviewed at a public meeting are not considered confidential. The Chair noted that the Committee's work is constructed within the guidance and focus of the City's Strategic Plan and objectives should align with the Terms of Reference.

6.2 Council Liaison - NIL

7. QUESTION PERIOD - NIL

8. ROUNDTABLE

Discussion engaged around feedback from the Committee in regards to the Economic Development Strategy and the Strategic Transportation Plan project survey.

R/2021-014

It was moved and seconded

That the Economic Development Committee hold a special meeting in July 2021 to debrief on the Economic Development Strategy Discovery Workshop and to discuss the Strategic Transportation Plan community survey.

CARRIED

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Economic Development Committee will be held on Thursday, September 16, 2021 at 4:00 pm.



Coucillor A. Yousef, Chair

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