



CITY OF West Linn

22500 Salamo Road
West Linn, Oregon 97068
<http://westlinnoregon.gov>

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE Draft MEETING NOTES – October 2, 2025

Members Present: Jared Dean, Russel Williams, Shannon Ilas, Shannen Knight, Christi Lanz, Sheri Wahrgren
Member Absent: Alyssa Cruz
Public Present: Lance Weinerd, Megan
Council Liaison: Kevin Bonnington
Staff Present: Chris Myers, Associate Planner and Steve Koper Community Development Director

Staff Liaison: Chris Myers cmyers@westlinnoregon.gov

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Public Comment: Non-Agenda items - 3 minutes per speaker
3. Vision Statement – Keep or Change Discussion
4. Q & A W/Rebecca Hollenbeck (Exec Director, Historic Willamette Main Street)
5. Q & A W/Victoria (Exec Director, Chamber of Commerce)
6. EDC Secretary Role (Discussion & Request for Volunteer)
7. EDC Attendance Expectations/Logistics
8. EDC December Homework
9. Items of Interest from Staff
10. Items of Interest from EDC Members
11. Adjourn

Notes

The meeting focused on discussing the mission of the EDC, collaboration with the Main Street organization, and plans for future initiatives to support local businesses in Westland.

- Meeting participants discussed the mission and vision statements of the EDC.
- Chris Myers proposed keeping a broad mission statement for flexibility.
- Members expressed support for a broad focus to encompass various projects.
- Rebecca outlined the Main Street organization's goals and structure.
- The committee aims to strengthen existing businesses in West Linn.
- Collaboration between the Main Street organization and the chamber is encouraged.
- Members discussed the need for a comprehensive business directory in West Linn.
- Chris Myers is finalizing a resource guide for new businesses in Willamette, with interest from other main streets.
- The committee emphasizes the importance of making their efforts meaningful and impactful.
- They plan to conduct a SWAT analysis to guide future work and discussions on economic development.
- The next meetings will focus on gathering ideas for 2026 initiatives and improving community

inclusivity.

Action items

- Committee members to bring ideas for short-term goals and vision for 2026 in December.
- Chris Myers to check with Victoria about the business directory and discuss its potential for all businesses in West Linn.
- Chris Myers to follow up on the business resource guide and review it before publication.
- Chris Myers to finalize the resource guide for new businesses in Willamette and share it with the committee for feedback.
- Lynn to manage the minutes from meetings and ensure they are accurate before approval at subsequent meetings.
- Committee members to come prepared with ideas for the agenda in December regarding economic development and improvements.
- Chris Myers to prepare a document outlining ideas for economic development in 2026 to be discussed in December.
- Chris Myers to coordinate with Darren, the project manager for the Waterfront project, to provide an update during the next meeting.
- Ensure that meeting invites are sent out along with agendas for better attendance tracking and quorum management.
- Update the EDC webpage with current information, including an open position announcement.