



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

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
Draft MEETING NOTES – November 6, 2025

Members Present: Shannon Ilas, Russel Williams, Jared Dean, Christi Lanz, and Shannon Knight, Heather Jones
Member Absent: Alyssa Cruz
Public Present: Rebecca Hollenbeck
Council Liaison: Kevin Bonnington
Staff Present: Chris Myers, Associate Planner, and Community Development Director Steve Koper, Darren Weiss

Staff Liaison: Chris Myers cmyers@westlinnoregon.gov

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Public Comment: Non-Agenda items
3. Approve Meeting Minutes (January, April, May, August, September 2025)
4. Waterfront Vision Project Presentation
5. Homework Review
6. Items of Interest from Staff
7. Items of Interest from EDC Members
8. Adjourn

Notes

The meeting focused on community-driven development plans, economic support for small businesses, and addressing traffic and environmental concerns in West Linn.

- Meeting commenced at 6:01 PM with no public comments received.
- Committee members introduced themselves, highlighting their roles and experience.
- Rebecca Hollenbeck shared insights from recent economic development conferences attended.
- The Waterfront Vision Plan is nearing adoption, focusing on community-driven development.
- Three planning districts identified for future development: Historic City Hall, Cultural Heritage, and Pond Districts.
- Community feedback on the vision plan remains overwhelmingly positive, with 70% support from a recent survey.
- Concerns exist regarding environmental protection, particularly around wetlands and development regulations.
- Traffic issues persist, with community support for roundabouts as a solution to congestion problems.
- The Economic Development Committee (EDC) aims to enhance support for small businesses through training workshops and streamlined licensing processes.
- Partnerships with local organizations, like the chamber, are vital for better business support and resource sharing.

- Exploring innovative uses of the riverfront could promote tourism and local engagement in West Linn.
- Proposed development may convert valuable commercial space into residential units, impacting local business opportunities.
- Traffic concerns arise around schools, affecting nearby businesses and necessitating better planning for new construction.

Action items

- Rebecca Hollenbeck to compile and share information from the Oregon Economic Development Association conference and the Main Street conference.
- Committee members to consider attending the Heritage Conference in April and discuss participation in future Main Street conferences.
- Chris Myers to discuss the possibility of utilizing church facilities for meetings and events with Rebecca Hollenbeck.
- Chris Myers to prepare for the public hearing on the Waterfront Vision Plan scheduled for November 18th.
- Victoria to connect with Rebecca regarding the use of church facilities for business events.
- Chris Myers to follow up with the chamber about supporting small businesses and their needs for training and workshops.
- The group to brainstorm ways to increase revenue and facilitate partnerships between organizations in future meetings.
- Russell to reapply for his position on the committee, while Heather will not be reapplying.