



**New Brighton Economic Development Commission
Agenda
Upper Level Conference Room | Zoom
New Brighton City Hall 803 Old Hwy 8 NW, New Brighton , MN
7:30 AM April 2, 2025**

Members of the Economic Development Commission will attend the meeting in person unless eligible to attend remotely per MN Stat. 13D.02.

To participate in this meeting, members of the public may:

- **Attend the meeting in person.**
- **Watch the meeting electronically.** Tune into CTV Channel 8023 (CenturyLink) or Channel 16 (Comcast). To observe the meeting as a livestream or a webcast, visit www.newbrightonmn.gov and click on “I Want To View a Public Meeting.”

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

EDC Chair Brian Krohn	EDC Commissioner Paul Zisla
EDC Vice Chair Jacqui Sauter	EDC Commissioner Heidi Prasek
EDC Commissioner Bruce Howard	EDC Commissioner Victoria Prasek
EDC Commissioner Jonathan Dummer	EDC Commissioner Merhawi Yigzaw

II. Approval of Agenda

III. Approval of Past Minutes

1. February 5, 2025

IV. Report from City Council Liaison

V. Business Items

1. 2024/25 Year In Review
2. 2025/26 Work Plan Visioning
3. Proactive Commissioner Duties for 2025/26

VI. Adjournment



MINUTES
New Brighton Economic Development Commission
Regular Meeting – February 5, 2025
7:30 a.m.

I. Call to Order

Chair Krohn called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

II. Roll Call

Members Present.....Chair Brian Krohn, Commissioners Harry Carter, Jonathan Dummer, Ian Pirner, Merhawi Yigzaw, and Paul Zisla

Members Absent.....Commissioners Jacqui Sauter, Victoria Prasek, Taylor Hansen and Lynn Hilsgen

Also PresentBen Gozola-Assistant Director of Community Assets & Development, Carl Gillies-DCAD Technician

III. Approval of Agenda

Chair Krohn requested the agenda be amended adding Economic Development General Questions under General Updates.

Motion by Commissioner Zisla, seconded by Chair Krohn to approve the agenda as amended.

Approved 6-0

IV. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Zisla, seconded by Commissioner Dummer to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2025 meeting.

Approved 6-0

V. Report from Council Liaison

There was no report from the City Council.

VI. Business Items

A. Open to Business 2024 Year in Review

Gozola stated Luis Mendoza and Tyler Hilsabeck, the City's Open to Business (OTB) representatives, were in attendance to provide the EDC with an overview of their activities from 2024, discuss ways OTB has been helping businesses, and can answer any questions the Commission may have about the program moving forward.

Tyler Hilsabeck, Director of Small Business Development for OTB, discussed the history of OTB and explained the name has been changed to Minnesota Consortium to recognize some of the policy work his organization was doing statewide. He noted his organization opened in 2018 providing one-on-one technical advisory services to business clients at a confidential and no-cost basis, typically focused on business financing. In addition, the group advocates for policy dollars for low income housing and economic dollars. He stated OTB has a great relationship with Northeast Bank.

Luis Mendoza, OTB, reviewed the most recent quarterly report with the EDC. He explained he was available at once per month for two hours in New Brighton. He commented further on the technical and business plan development assistance he provided to local business owners. He noted he provided 141 hours of services to New Brighton businesses.

Discussion included:

- OTB spoke to where the financial assistance and loans came from.
- It was noted OTB was now funded by Ramsey County.
- OTB estimated each client averaged five to six hours of time.
- Further discussion ensued regarding how to promote the services offered by OTB.
- The Commission recommended OTB have a table or presence at Stockyard Days.
- Staff noted OTB was a great resource for the community.
- OTB thanked the City for their continued partnership.

B. Focus on Small Businesses

Gillies reported the EDC has previously provided direction on small business outreach techniques and suggested the creation of quarterly newsletter and a Business Landing Page on the City's website. It was noted a quarterly newsletter has been created and staff is in the process of developing its 10th issue. It was noted a draft of the Business Landing Page has been presented and discussed at previous meetings.

Discussion included:

- The Commission recommended the webpage have an email link or contact information for City staff.
- Staff reported 40 businesses currently received the quarterly newsletter.

C. Zoning Code Update – Final Look at Uses

Gozola reported with the zoning code update project coming to a close, staff wanted to take one last opportunity to present the EDC with the "Uses" section of the new code given its

importance to economic development. Commissioner feedback will be used to make final edits to Chapter 5 and Chapter 8 (Definitions).

Discussion included:

- The Commission recommended the farmers market language be reconsidered to include the sale of arts and crafts.
- The Commission appreciated staff's efforts and how the City's zoning code had not gotten in the way of doing business in New Brighton.
- Staff noted there was no intent to create non-conforming uses, but the City understood non-conformities may occur through the new zoning code.

D. General Updates

- 1) New Brighton Exchange Updates
- 2) Small Business Flyers
- 3) Commissioner Business Contact Updates (round robin)
- 4) Economic Development General Questions

Gozola provided the Commission with an update on the New Brighton Exchange property. He noted an applicant was working on detailed plans with Barr Engineering.

Gillies commented on the quarterly newsletter that was being drafted by City staff for local businesses.

Gozola asked if the Commissioners had made any contacts with local business owners.

Discussion included:

- Chair Krohn stated it was his personal goal to reach out to the businesses in the Silver Lake Road/Mississippi area.
- Chair Krohn reviewed the mission and goals of the EDC.
- Staff encouraged the Commission to consider work plan items for 2025, which will be discussed at the March meeting.

VII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:03 am

Respectfully submitted,



Ben Gozola
Assistant Director of Community Assets and Development



Agenda Section:	Business Items
Report Date:	03/26/2025
Meeting Date:	April 2, 2025

REQUEST FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ITEM DESCRIPTION: 2024/25 Year In Review

Action Requested:	
Public Hearing	Motion
Discussion	Informational
Form of Action:	
Resolution	Ordinance
Contract/Agreement	N/A or Other
Votes Needed:	
3 Votes	4 Votes
5 Votes	N/A

Summary Statement:	The final EDC meeting of the year is traditionally a meeting for commission members to examine what was accomplished over the previous year, acknowledge what remains to be done, and plan for the year ahead. Staff will present the Commission with an overview of where we’ve been over the past year which will then lead into a commission-led discussion on the 2025/26 Work Plan.
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Recommendations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Listen to staff set the stage for the day's discussion - Enjoy a donut and some coffee
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Applicable Deadlines:	None
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Community Impact:	None
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Legislative History:	On a yearly basis, staff will work with the Commission to prepare a generalized work plan for the coming service year (April through March). Prior to that discussion, we will give a brief overview of the current year’s accomplishments, identify any to-do items still on the table, and provide general updates on Council initiatives and/or recently approved projects.
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Strategic Priority:	Sustainable & Reliable Infrastructure	Operational Effectiveness
	Environment & Sustainability	Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
	Livable Community	N/A

Fiscal Impact:	Financial Impact: Is there a financial consideration?		No	Yes \$
	Financing Sources:	Budgeted	Budget Modification	
	New Revenue	Use of Reserves	Other	

COMMISSION'S OVERARCHING FOCAL POINTS (reaffirmed by Council on 4/4/23)

- A. Business Retention & Expansion
- B. Housing Programs
- C. Place-making Initiatives (*i.e., Establishing a sense of place within the community*)
- D. Physical Redevelopment Opportunities (*New Brighton Exchange, New Brighton Elementary, etc.*)

IDENTIFIED TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION DURING 2024-2025

Items to examine any time or as needed:

1. Status report(s) on the overall zoning code update progress
2. Work with the Twin Cities North Chamber of Commerce & their new manufacturing cohort / ID ways to complement each other's efforts
3. TIF educational session
4. Continue the Event/Identity Tourism discussion (i.e. festivals, races, night markets etc.). Brave the Burrrr re-do 2025.
5. Continue to refine the business outreach program and efforts
6. More meetings with business owners throughout the community/outings
7. New Housing initiatives
8. Continued work on entry monuments (find funds) & sense of place issues
9. Implement "what is the appeal" website updates
10. Consider ways to connect local businesses & schools to overcome labor shortages and expose students to career fields they may otherwise miss.
11. Promotion of transit options and expansion of services as opportunities arise
 - a. Specifically promote the Metro Transit Guaranteed ride program (CAP)
12. Encourage local businesses to enroll in energy efficiency programs (CAP)

2024/25 CALENDAR AS FOLLOWED

Meeting Date	Task/Project	Outcomes
April 3, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stockyard Days Guest Speakers & Discussion “What’s the Appeal” Draft Website Update review 2024/25 Work Plan finalization EDC Member Orientation / Yearly Training (off-line) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission learned how it can help promote Stockyard Days Commission provided feedback on draft website changes Commission finalized the work plan Via offline training, Commission members understands their role in City Government, and their role on the Commission
May 1, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year-round Event Promotion Discussion – Parks Presentation “What’s the Appeal” Draft Website Update review Metro sales tax for housing overview & discussion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission understands park programs and how they can assist with promotion. Commission understood the new source of housing revenue, and made recommendations on ways it could be utilized (housing maintenance fund, down payment & foreclosure assistance program, etc)
June 5, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TIF Overview with Baker Tilley Baker Tilley 2024 TIF Management Plan/Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioners up to speed on TIF as a tool and latest developments in State law Commission understood the current status of all active TIF districts
July 3, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Action Plan Implementation Items & Strategies Events Promotion Revisit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission identifies low hanging fruit, and devises long-term strategies for CAP items as needed Commissioners encouraged to follow through on requests from Stockyard Days representatives and Parks Department staff
August 7, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scheduled Summer Break – no meeting 	

Meeting Date	Task/Project	Proposed Action/Outcome
September 4, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quorum not achieved – <i>meeting topics postponed</i> 	
October 2, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cannabis Regulations Overview 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Commission provided feedback on the new proposed regulations to govern cannabis businesses in the City</i>
November 6, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting conflict with Presidential election – <i>topics postponed</i> 	
December 4, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scheduled Holiday Break – <i>no meeting</i> 	
January 8, 2025 (pushed as City Hall is closed on 1/1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Brighton Exchange Purchase & Sale Agreement Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Commission learned about the offer to buy Block B, and provided feedback to Council on public assistance requests</i>
February 5, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open To Business Year in Review Focus on Small Business Outreach Zoning Code Uses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Commission engaged in dialog about Open To Business, how it could be promoted by the Commission, and how it is helping our businesses & residents</i> <i>Final business website presented</i> <i>Commission provided feedback on the new uses chapter</i>
March 5, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of Year’s Accomplishments & Outstanding To-do Items 2025/2026 work plan visioning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Commission and staff will review the year’s accomplishments, and identify ways to improve moving forward</i> <i>Commission will provide direction on the coming year’s work plan.</i>

2025/2026 WORK PLAN BEGINS		
April 2, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EDC Member Orientation / Yearly Training Review final 2025/2026 work plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Commission understands their role in City Government</i> <i>Commission finalizes target items for the coming year</i>



Agenda Section:	Business Items
Report Date:	03/26/2025
Meeting Date:	April 2, 2025

REQUEST FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ITEM DESCRIPTION: 2025/26 Work Plan Visioning

Action Requested:	
Public Hearing	Motion
Discussion	Informational
Form of Action:	
Resolution	Ordinance
Contract/Agreement	N/A or Other
Votes Needed:	
3 Votes	4 Votes
5 Votes	N/A

Summary Statement:	<p>- The draft work plan (largely blank given this is the 1st draft) needs to identify potential topics of discussion for each meeting between May 2025 and March 2026. Proposed actions & outcomes should be identified for each meeting.</p> <p>- Pre-populated entries follow the traditional schedule for tasks at various points in the year (training/orientation in April, Baker Tilly TIF training and current TIF districts review, work plan setting in March, etc).</p>
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- Traditional breaks in summer and over the holidays are pre-populated in the draft schedule.
- Keep in mind that staff and the commission always have the right to deviate from this generalized work plan as circumstances in the community dictate. The work plan is only a guide and is not set in stone.
- Unlike other agenda topics where staff leads the discussion, this item should be led by Commissioners. Commissioners are encouraged to bring their own information to the meeting on 4/2/25 to share with your colleagues in support of items you'd like to focus on in the coming year.
- To assist in the discussion, staff has attached the NEW list of Strategic Priorities recently adopted by the City Council following their 2025 strategic planning session.
- Council will review the Commission's draft plan and will approve or amend whatever is proposed. This is your opportunity to set the stage for that discussion.

As always, we look forward to your thoughts!

Recommendations:

- Fill in the proposed work plan for the 2025/2026 EDC year
- Staff will bring a finalized work plan forward in April for review and approval following new Commissioner training.

Applicable Deadlines:

- Commission input on the work plan must be cataloged by the end of the meeting on April 2nd.

Community Impact:

- The EDC's work ensures community decisions factor in business and development perspectives.

Legislative History:

- On a yearly basis, staff will work with the Commission to prepare a generalized work plan for the coming service year (April through March).

Strategic Priority:	Sustainable & Reliable Infrastructure	Operational Effectiveness
	Environment & Sustainability	Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
	Livable Community	All of the above

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Fiscal Impact:	Financial Impact: Is there a financial consideration?		<u>No</u>	Yes \$
	Financing Sources:	Budgeted	Budget Modification	
	New Revenue	Use of Reserves	Other	

COMMISSION'S OVERARCHING FOCAL POINTS (reaffirmed by Council on 4/4/23)

- A. Business Retention & Expansion
- B. Housing Programs
- C. Place-making Initiatives (*i.e., Establishing a sense of place within the community*)
- D. Physical Redevelopment Opportunities (*New Brighton Exchange, New Brighton Elementary, etc.*)

IDENTIFIED TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION LAST YEAR

Items to examine any time or as needed:

1. Status report(s) on the overall zoning code update progress
2. Work with the Twin Cities North Chamber of Commerce & their new manufacturing cohort / ID ways to complement each other's efforts
3. TIF educational session
4. Continue the Event/Identity Tourism discussion (*i.e. festivals, races, night markets etc.*). Brave the Burrrr re-do 2025.
5. Continue to refine the business outreach program and efforts
6. More meetings with business owners throughout the community/outings
7. New Housing initiatives
8. Continued work on entry monuments (find funds) & sense of place issues
9. Implement "what is the appeal" website updates
10. Consider ways to connect local businesses & schools to overcome labor shortages and expose students to career fields they may otherwise miss.
11. Promotion of transit options and expansion of services as opportunities arise
 - a. Specifically promote the Metro Transit Guaranteed ride program (CAP)
12. Encourage local businesses to enroll in energy efficiency programs (CAP)

PROPOSED CALENDAR (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Meeting Date	Task/Project	Proposed Action/Outcome
April 2, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDC Member Orientation Directions • Yearly Training Directions • Previous Year Review • Work Plan development • Proactive Commissioner Duties Review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission meets all new members • Commission understands their role in City Government • Commission finalizes and adopts 2022/2023 work plan • Commission provides feedback on draft website changes
May 7, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stockyard Days Promotion? • Climate Action Plan Implementation Items & Strategies? • • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • •
June 4, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TIF Overview with Baker Tilley • Baker Tilly 2025 TIF Management Plan/Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refresher on TIF and latest developments • Commission understands current status of all active TIF districts
July 2, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • •
August 6, 2025	Summer Break – no meeting unless deemed necessary (TBD)	
September 3, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • •
October 1, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • •
November 5, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • •
December 3, 2025	Holiday Break – no meeting unless deemed necessary (TBD)	

Meeting Date	Task/Project	Proposed Action/Outcome
January 7, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open To Business 2024 Year-End Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission learns how successful Open to Business was in 2025
February 4, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow up on most pertinent/active topic(s) from 2025 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bringing on-going item(s) to conclusion and/or setting them up for continuation in 2026/27
March 4, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of Year's Accomplishments & Outstanding To-do Items 2026/2027 work plan visioning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission and staff review accomplishments, and identify ways to improve moving forward Commission provides direction on the coming year's tasks

2026/2027 WORK PLAN BEGINS		
April 1, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EDC Member Orientation / Yearly Training Review final 2026/2027 work plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission meets all new members and assigned Chair and Vice Chair roles Commission understands their role in City Government Commission agrees upon target items for the coming year

Strategic Priority	Outcome	Key Outcome Indicator	Target
ENHANCE FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY Ensure long-term financial health through responsible fiscal management	Adequately Funded Long-Range Plans	Capital replacement funding level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achieve minimum funding level of 10% for capital replacement funds by 12/27
	Minimal Tax Impact from Operations	Operating levy Tax rate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total tax levy will not impact tax rate by more than 3% annually
	Diverse Revenue Sources Fund Our Budget	Property tax to non-property tax ratio for revenues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 40% of general fund budget from non-tax revenues
ACCELERATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Attract businesses and promote growth and redevelopment opportunities	Successful development of City-Owned Properties	Block B development completion Jones Lake development completion Golf Course development completion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Block B developed by 12/28 Jones Lake developed by 12/28 Golf Course - PPP for clubhouse complex by 12/28
	Maximization of commercial property potential	# of commercial sites redeveloped	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 commercial sites redeveloped by 12/28
	A well-planned community	Comprehensive Plan completion Housing Policy completion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed Comprehensive Plan by 12/28 Completed Housing Policy by 12/25
STRENGTHEN CITY ASSETS Maintain and improve infrastructure, facilities, and public spaces for resilience	Clarity on Phase 2 park improvement	Phase 2 scope decision Phase 2 funding decision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 2 scope and funding in place by 8/26
	Meaningful progress on Climate Action Plan	Greenhouse gas reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Citywide reduction of greenhouse gases (50% of 2030 goal by 12/27)
	Improved resilience and adaptability of City-owned facilities to meet expanding needs	% of buildings ADA compliant % of buildings meeting functional and safety standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% of city-owned buildings brought into ADA compliance by 12/27 100% of city-owned buildings to meet functional and safety standards by 12/30
OPERATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS Ensure City functions, service delivery, and efficiency adequately meets resident and business needs	Demonstrated quality in service delivery	New Brighton-Benchmark cities' comparison rating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet or exceed quality rating of benchmark comparison cities in resident survey
	Adequate staff to meet approved service levels	Budget-Service Level-Human Capital ratio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual budget reflects resources at > 85% of approved service level human capital needs by 12/27

Strategic Priority	Outcome	Key Outcome Indicator	Target
OPTIMIZE STAFF CAPABILITIES Invest appropriately in staff development, retention, and organizational capacity	A workforce that reflects diverse life experiences	% of new hires from employment access initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 10% of new hires annually come from employment access initiatives by 12/28
	A fully trained and capable workforce	% of employees that rate at or above 'meets expectations' in annual performance reviews Training budget as a % of personnel costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 90% of employees receive a performance rating of 'meets expectations' or higher annually by 12/26 Allocate minimum 1% of departmental personnel budget to dedicated training program by 12/26
	A safe, healthy, and engaged workforce	Workers Comp. claims submitted Wellness platform utilization Employee engagement score	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decrease workers comp. claims by 20% by 12/26 30% increase in employees receiving full wellness benefit through City run wellness program Maintain 85% engagement score in employee engagement surveys
FOSTER COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & BELONGING Foster engagement, inclusivity, and community pride	Effective two-way communication	Feedback from underrepresented communities Public Information Services Ranking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase feedback from underrepresented communities in pertinent City engagement efforts and surveys by 20% by 12/26 Increase 'excellent' or 'good' rating in public information services to 75% on resident survey by 12/26
	Community Representation in City Functions	Participation by underrepresented communities in applicable programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase underrepresented community participation in City functions by 25% by 12/27
	Expanded Civic Engagement	City Commission or committee applications Resident Involvement Ranking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase number of first-time applicants for City Commissions or committees by 25% by 12/27 Increase applications for City Commissions or committees from underrepresented communities by 25% by 12/27 Increase % of residents who feel that the City of New Brighton does an 'excellent' or 'good' job at welcoming resident involvement to 60% on resident survey by 12/26



Agenda Section:	Business Items
Report Date:	03/26/2025
Meeting Date:	April 2, 2025

REQUEST FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ITEM DESCRIPTION: Proactive Commissioner Duties for 2025/26

Action Requested:	
Public Hearing	Motion
Discussion	Informational
Form of Action:	
Resolution	Ordinance
Contract/Agreement	N/A or Other
Votes Needed:	
3 Votes	4 Votes
5 Votes	N/A

Summary Statement:	<p>Each commissioner is asked to attend the monthly meeting at a minimum to maintain a place on the Commission. To truly maximize the Commission’s effectiveness though, each commissioner is also challenged to identify and make personal connections with at least one local business (preferably more) and become a business liaison to the City of New Brighton. This proactive effort will ensure Commissioners and staff learn about the issues facing our business community as they arise and, ideally, give us the best opportunity to recommend actions to the City Council as needed. Likewise, it will provide the City with one more avenue to share information relevant to our business community (see the attached Paid Leave flier).</p>
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	<p>In addition to being a business liaison, commissioners may also be periodically asked to assist the city in achieving its Climate Action Plan goals. This may involve sharing energy programs, plans, or rebates with local businesses; working with Partners in Energy on local climate initiatives; or helping to draft handouts for distribution to our small business network.</p> <p>Given this is the first meeting of the new Commission year, staff will spend just a few minutes going over these supplemental duties that are encouraged every year.</p>
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Recommendations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Commit to making a connection with and becoming a city liaison to at least one local small business. - Be ready to participate with Climate Action Plan items over the course of your commission tenure.
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Applicable Deadlines:	None
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Community Impact:	- These efforts will strengthen the City’s connections with the business community and help to ensure the city is making progress towards its Climate Plan goals.
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Legislative History:	- Climate Action Plan approved in October 2023.
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Strategic Priority:	Sustainable & Reliable Infrastructure	Operational Effectiveness
	Environment & Sustainability	Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
	Livable Community	N/A

Fiscal Impact:	Financial Impact: Is there a financial consideration?		No	Yes \$
	Financing Sources:	Budgeted		Budget Modification
	New Revenue	Use of Reserves	Other	

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Paid Leave is coming to Minnesota. Is your business ready?



Starting Jan. 1, 2026, Minnesota Paid Leave will provide payments and job protections to Minnesotans when they need time off for some of life's most important moments – like welcoming a child, recovering from a serious illness, or caring for a loved one. As an employer, you play an important role in helping your employees learn about and access the program.

JOIN AN EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT SESSION NEAR YOU

Minnesota Paid Leave staff are partnering with local chambers of commerce to hold a series of in-person engagement sessions for employers. At these sessions, we will provide an overview of the program, share recent updates, answer your questions, and help you prepare to meet your responsibilities under Paid Leave.

NORTHEAST METRO EMPLOYER SESSION



DATE
Wednesday, May 7, 2025



LOCATION
Shoreview Community Center
4580 Victoria St. N.
Shoreview, MN 55126



TIME
8:30 a.m. – 10 a.m.



All local employers are invited to attend. Advance registration is welcomed but not required. Light refreshments will be served.

REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT, AND FIND ALL OUR UPCOMING
EVENTS, AT [INFO.PAIDLEAVE.MN.GOV/ABOUT/EVENTS](https://info.paidleave.mn.gov/about/events)



July 2024 Minutes

VI. Business Items

A. Climate Action Plan Implementation Items

Gozola stated the Climate Action Plan (CAP), adopted by the City Council on January 9, 2024, includes over 250 strategies and actions for the City to consider implementing in the future under the categories of transportation, land use, buildings, energy, waste management, water and wastewater, food and agriculture, greenspace and trees, health and safety, and climate economy. Staff introduced the plan to the EDC in March of this year, but one third of the Commission has turned over, and for this reason staff would be providing another overview to initiating a discussion on EDC action steps. Staff asked if the Commission had any comments or questions on how to implement and achieve the CAP objectives.

Discussion included:

- The Commission appreciated the solar panel language within the plan.
- The Commission suggested additional agriculture and bio language be considered.
- The Commission supported further discussion on the EDC's role when it comes to energy efficiency with respect to housing.
- The Commission discussed how Xcel's renewable energy program would benefit businesses, residents and multi-family properties in the community.
- Staff discussed how the City and EDC Commissioners can partner with Partners in Energy (PIE).
- The Commission supported having a one page hand out to provide to New Brighton businesses.
- The Commission discussed setting goals for restaurants in order to move them away from the use of plastics.
- The Commission suggested the City sponsoring clothing and food donation tables at the farmers market in order to encourage donating versus more waste.
- The Commission commented on ways to address water usage for the City's highest users.
- The Commission discussed how to set energy goals or rankings for local businesses for motivational purposes.
- Staff commented on the benefits of right sized parking.
- Staff thanked the Commission for their feedback on the action items.

B. Events Promotion

Gillies reported on April 3, 2024, leaders from the Stockyard Days Committee met with the EDC to discuss their plans for this year's Stockyard Days event coming up in early August. Speakers stated it was important for this event to be family friendly, inclusive, and open to all members of the community. The committee works to plan events that are low or no cost and family friendly. Former Mayor Johnson discussed how important it was to have sponsorships from local businesses to make Stockyard Days possible, and she encouraged EDC members to speak with local business owners about sponsorship opportunities. In May, Jennifer Fink from the Parks Department spoke to the EDC about similar sponsorship needs

for City events like Brave the BRR. Staff encouraged Commissioners to reach out to local businesses in order to pursue more sponsorships.

C. General Updates

- 1. Economic Development Website**
- 2. Block B**
- 3. TUV SUD Phase III**
- 4. Restaurants: Alicia's Latin Cuisine, Leela on 8 & Lisbeth Café**

Gozola provided the Commission with an update on the City's Economic Development website, Block B, TUV SUD Phase III project and commented on the changes in restaurants that had occurred in the community.

VII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:44 am

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Gozola". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Ben Gozola
Assistant Director of Community Assets and Development