



MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 15, 2023

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers
Dave Perrault, City Administrator

FROM: Jessica Jagoe, Community Development Director

SUBJECT: Economic Development Commission Discussion

Budgeted Amount:	Actual Amount:	Funding Source:
N/A	N/A	N/A

Council Should Consider

Council should discuss and provide direction on resuming the Economic Development Commission.

Background

At the December 20, 2021 Work Session meeting, the City Council suspended the Economic Development Commission (EDC) due to inactivity of projects for the commission and limited resources of staff in the Community Development Department to facilitate the group. The EDC in 2021 had three active members. Council indicated the EDC could be resumed when there were projects identified and a Senior Planner onboard.

With the hiring of a Senior Planner, Staff is seeking direction from the Council to resume the EDC and begin solicitation to recruit new members. In 2022, two of the three members opted not to be reappointed to the EDC due to conflicting commitments. Rob Williams was reappointed in 2022 to a three year term until 2025. Staff has confirmed that Commissioner Williams is still interested in participating in the EDC. City code states “the EDC shall be comprised of nine members and membership may be open to any resident or non-resident affiliated with an Arden Hills business who is interested in the business climate and economic development direction of the City. There shall be at least four (4) Arden Hills residents represented on the Commission.” The City Council should also discuss appointment of a Council Liaison for 2023. Meetings have been scheduled for the 4th Wednesday on Even Months at 7:30 AM. Based on the Council direction, Staff would plan on potentially holding a

meeting in August since this would allow time for recruitment and appointment of new members in June and July.

The role of the Economic Development Commission is to facilitate positive interaction with the business community and advise the City Council and the Economic Development Authority on economic development, redevelopment and related community development issues. For discussion, the following are a few of the tasks that have been previously identified for the EDC work plan:

- Review of the Sign Code
- Partnership with TCN's Manufacturing Cohort
- Involvement with Gateway Visitors Bureau

Discussion

Staff is looking for direction from the City Council on resuming the EDC.

Budget Impact

N/A

Attachments

N/A