



City of Denton

City Hall
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Denton, Texas
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AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET – Economic Development Partnership Board

DEPARTMENT: Economic Development

CM/ DCM/ ACM: Bryan Langley

DATE: June 14, 2017

SUBJECT

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the role and duties of the Economic Development Partnership Board.

BACKGROUND

The City of Denton and Denton Chamber of Commerce first entered into an economic development partnership agreement in 1986. At that time, the City created its Office of Economic Development, and the Denton Chamber created the position of Vice President for Economic Development. Since then, the City has funded the operating budget of the Chamber's economic development program from both the General Fund and Utility Funds, and the Chamber solicits private sector funding to support other activities.

In 2003, an economic development retreat was held. It was facilitated by TIP Strategies and included representatives from the City, Chamber, University of North Texas, Texas Woman's University, North Central Texas College, Denton Independent School District, and Denton County. A commitment to proactive economic development and a financial partnership resulted from that retreat, and one of TIP's recommendations was forming a board to oversee economic development activities - thus the creation of the Economic Development Partnership (EDP) Board. TIP's recommendations were reported to City Council in May 2003. The Council adopted the ordinance creating the EDP Board in August 2003 and appointed its charter members in September 2003. The first meeting of the EDP Board took place in October 2003.

Ordinance No. 2003-258 Sec. 2-254 outlines the duties and responsibilities of the Board:

“The role of the Board is to provide economic development policy guidance. The Board may make recommendations to the City Council and Chamber. The Board's duties include:

A. The Board will implement Denton's Economic Development Action Plan which includes the implementation of specific projects. The Board may create committees or task forces consisting of Board members and/or non Board members to assist with the implementation of projects or activities. Committee task force chairpersons shall be appointed by the Board and will serve at the pleasure of the Board.

B. Board will be responsible for designing economic development incentive policies and recommending those policies to the City Council for adoption. These policies may include tax abatement, Chapter 380 agreements, infrastructure assistance, etc. In making any recommendations the Board shall comply with applicable law. It will be the Board's

responsibility to review policies of other cities and to be informed as to legislative changes affecting state and local incentive programs.

C. The Board shall act as the recommending body to the City Council for specific project economic development incentives authorized by law, including without limitation tax abatements and incentives authorized under Chapter 312 of the Tax Code, economic development agreements authorized under Chapter 380 of the Local Government Code, and public improvement districts authorized under Chapter 372 of the Local Government Code. However, utility incentives based on thresholds, such as the Electric Utility Industrial Development Rider and the Water/Wastewater Plan Line Extension may be made without Board review or recommendation. Nothing herein shall be construed so as to invalidate an economic development incentive authorized by the City Council or Chamber that did not receive a recommendation from the Board.

D. The Board will review and recommend both the City and Chamber annual economic development budgets. These recommendations will be made to the City Manager and Chamber President for inclusion in the overall City and Chamber budgets.

E. The Board will review and recommend the annual work plans for the City and Chamber economic development programs. Work plans must be consistent with the annual budgets.”

The original ordinance established the EDP Board with seven voting members (two City Council members, two Chamber Board of Directors members, two members from the top 20 City of Denton ad valorem or sales tax payers, and the President of UNT) and the Denton City Manager and Chamber President as ex-officio members. It has been amended four times:

- 2011-042 - added two members, one with general aviation knowledge or experience and an at-large position with specific knowledge, skills, and abilities to assist in the functions and responsibilities of the board; expanded the duties of the board to include branding and marketing for the Denton Municipal Airport and to include duties related to Airport economic development incentives;
- 2014-009 - added the Denton Independent School District Superintendent as an ad-hoc non-voting member;
- 2015-074 - added two members, one nominated by the Denton Black Chamber of Commerce and one nominated by the Denton Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.
- 2016-249 – added one member, the Texas Woman’s University President and Chancellor

The EDP Board now has 12 voting and three non-voting members. All voting members except the presidents of UNT and TWU can serve up to three two-year terms; the presidents can serve unlimited terms but must be re-nominated upon the expiration of each two-year term.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELATIONSHIP

The City of Denton’s Strategic Plan is an action-oriented road map that will help the City achieve its vision. The foundation for the plan is the five long-term Key Focus Areas (KFA): Organizational Excellence; Public Infrastructure; Economic Development; Safe, Livable, and Family-Friendly Community; and Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship. While individual items may support multiple KFAs, this specific City Council agenda item contributes most directly to the following KFA and goal:

Related Key Focus Area: Economic Development

Related Goal: 3.4 Encourage development, redevelopment, recruitment, and retention

EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1 – EDP17-029 Agenda Information Sheet

Exhibit 2 - Ordinance No. 2003-258

Exhibit 3 - Ordinance No. 2011-042

Exhibit 4 - Ordinance No. 2014-009

Exhibit 5 - Ordinance No. 2015-074

Exhibit 6 - Ordinance No. 2016-249

Exhibit 7 - Presentation

Respectfully submitted:

Caroline Booth

Director of Economic Development