



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at 8:00 AM

Snoqualmie City Hall, 38624 SE River Street & Zoom

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Commissioners: Vasudha Sharma, Kristina Hudson, Joelle Gibson, Adrian Webb, Nichole Pas, Paula Shively, and Nick Postiglione.

This meeting will be conducted in person at Snoqualmie City Hall and remotely using Zoom.

Join by Telephone: To listen to the meeting via telephone, please call **253.215.8782** and enter

Webinar ID **818 3767 3145** and Password **0800200121** if prompted.

Press *9 to raise your hand to speak. Raising your hand signals the meeting moderator that you have a comment.

Press *6 to mute and unmute.

Join by Internet: To watch the meeting over the internet via your computer, follow these steps:

- 1) Click this [link](#)
- 2) If the Zoom app is not installed on your computer, you will be prompted to download it.
- 3) If prompted for Webinar ID, enter **818 3767 3145**; Enter Password **0800200121**
- 4) Please confirm that your audio works prior to participating.

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENT - *Public comment will be accepted by in-person attendees. Remote attendees may submit written comments to the staff liaison.*

AGENDA APPROVAL

MINUTES

- [1.](#) Approval of the minutes dated January 15, 2025, and February 19, 2025.

LIAISON REPORTS

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- [2.](#) 2024-2025 Roundtable Recap

ITEMS OF COMMISSIONER INTEREST

3. Impacts to local businesses with minimum wage increases in unincorporated King County

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

- [4.](#) 2025 Proposed Work Plan

ADJOURNMENT



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 15, 2025

This meeting was conducted in person at Snoqualmie City Hall and remotely using Zoom.

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL: Chair Kristina Hudson called the meeting to order at 8:04 am.

Commissioners: Kristina Hudson, Joelle Gibson (remote), Paula Shively, and Nichole Pas (remote) were present.

Commissioners Nick Postiglione and Vasudha Sharma were not present.

Commissioner Adrian Webb arrived at 8:15 am.

Councilmember Wotton was present.

City Staff: Mike Chambless, City Administrator; Emily Arteché, Community Development Director; Mona Davis, Senior Planner; Nicole Wiebe, Community Liaison; Gretchen Garrett, Deputy City Clerk/Legal Assistant; and Andrew Jongekryg, IT Support.

PUBLIC COMMENT — There was no public comment.

MINUTES

1. The minutes of October 16, 2024, were approved as presented.

AGENDA APPROVAL — The agenda was approved as presented.

LIAISON REPORTS

Community Liaison Nicole Wiebe spoke about:

- Tourism website launched at the end of August 2024. Still building out website.
- Troll update. Following up with artist Thomas Dambo.
- Contacted *Visit Bellevue*. Where do people who are visiting Bellevue want to go?
- Holiday lighting program. Snoqualmie has become a lighting destination which is important to local businesses. Lights will remain on until February 2025. Future focus will be on “winter lights,” not Christmas lights.

Commissioner comments and questions were:

- Enjoyed the lights, especially the train lights which are unique to Snoqualmie.
- Pursue funding for lights from local businesses?
- Status of wayfinding signs?

Councilmember Wotton spoke about:

- Appreciation for broad community representation on Commission and their different business perspectives.
- Encouraged Commission to focus on establishing priorities. Mentioned past priorities such as affordable housing, SR 18, and business recovery after COVID. Affordable housing priority moved on to Council and is moving forward. SR 18 is an ongoing project, and it moved from the Commission on to Council and is now a state priority.

SPECIAL BUSINESS – ADD ON

Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Commissioner Hudson was nominated by Commissioner Shively. No further nominations.

Commissioner Hudson stated that she is happy to be the chair and wants Snoqualmie to be the best it can be.

Appoint Commissioner Hudson as Chair for 2025.

PASSED 4-0 (Hudson, Gibson, Shively, Pas)

Commissioner Hudson nominated Commissioner Shively for Vice Chair. No further nominations.

Commissioner Shively wants to be the best it can be as well.

Appoint Commissioner Shively as Vice-Chair for 2025.

PASSED 4-0 (Hudson, Gibson, Shively, Pas)

OLD BUSINESS

Next roundtable meeting will be in February 2025. Commissioners were encouraged to reach out and promote attendance at roundtable meetings by email or phone or maybe even in-person.

NEW BUSINESS

2. Council Priority Tracker. Community Development Director Emily Arteché spoke to this item. Council Priority Tracker shows what Council is looking at, its priorities. Commission to align its priorities with Council's. Commissioners were encouraged to review Council priorities and see what might be missing, such as being proactive with an emergency response. What do businesses need? What can the City do to help? This will help Council with their priorities too.
3. Roundtable Review and Summary. Community Development Director Emily Arteché spoke to this item. What did we learn from the three roundtable meetings last year? What topics were raised? What does Commission want to do with these topics?

Commissioner comments and questions were:

- *Visit Bellevue* connection will bring more tourists to the area.
- What can we do to bring in more foot traffic?
- Commission takes each topic, one at a time, and brainstorm possibilities.
- Prioritize topics.

- What local businesses were impacted by bomb cyclone? Small Business Administration (SBA) is offering low interest loans and there is funding available for businesses and residences from State and King County.

ITEMS OF COMMISSIONER INTEREST

4. How will the increase in minimum wage in unincorporated King County impact Snoqualmie? This item needs to be on the next agenda in "Items of Commissioner Interest."

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

5. Draft 2025 Work Program. The Draft 2025 Work Program identifies what the Commission can work on each year. Discussion about vacancy rate in business park and recruiting businesses. Vacancy rate is small but will peak in 2026. Commissioners encouraged to have conversations with business owners in business park about their plans for next year, ask them if they are in the right location, and if they want additional space. Commissioners can help City identify opportunities and develop a work a plan around these opportunities.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 am.

*Minutes by Gretchen Garrett, Deputy City Clerk/Legal Assistant.
Recorded meeting audio is available on the City website after the meeting.
Minutes approved at the _____ Economic Development Commission Meeting.*



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION ROUNDTABLE MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 19, 2025

This meeting was conducted in-person at Snoqualmie City Hall.

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL: Chair Kristina Hudson called the meeting to order at 8:00 am.

Commissioners Present: Kristina Hudson, Paula Shively, Joelle Gibson, and Nick Postiglione. Commissioners Vasudha Sharma, Adrian Webb, and Nichole Pas were not present.

Mayor Katherine Ross and Councilmember Wotton were present.

Other parties present:

- Janie Sacco from the U.S. Small Business Administration
- Alice Friedel, Down to Earth
- Ashley Grammer, June & Gem Ceramics
- Cathy Gregory, Carousel
- Dave Storm, Buckshot Honey
- Dorie Ross, Chickadee Bakeshop
- Emma Hinterberger, Carousel
- Erica Morin, Provocatix
- Heather Dean, Snoqualmie Trading Co. & Snoqualmie Ice Cream
- Katie Podschwit, Chickadee Bakeshop
- Michelle Chaney, Snoqualmie Valley School District
- Wendy Thomas, Carmichaels Hardware & Variety

City Staff: Mike Chambless, City Administrator; Mona Davis, Senior Planner; Danna McCall, Communications Coordinator, Nicole Wiebe, Community Liaison; and Gretchen Garrett, Deputy City Clerk/Legal Assistant.

PUBLIC COMMENT – There was no public comment.

AGENDA APPROVAL – The agenda was approved as amended, moving item #2 before item #1.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

1. **Economic Development Roundtable.** Guided discussion with local business owners about economic development followed by open dialogue.

2. **U.S. Small Business Administration.** This item was stricken from the agenda due to lack of time.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 am.

*Minutes by Gretchen Garrett, Deputy City Clerk/Legal Assistant.
Minutes approved at the _____ Economic Development Commission Meeting.*



Economic Development Commission 2024-2025 Roundtable Recap

The Economic Development Commission (EDC) conducted three roundtable meetings in 2024 and early 2025. The goal of these roundtables was to engage the three districts, Business Park, Ridge, and Downtown, and seek insights, experiences, concerns, and successes.

The roundtables hosted 20 business owners, representing all three districts. The outcomes of the three meetings, identified the following issues:

Location Specific Infrastructure Enhancements – Historic Downtown Color Palette updates, signage, vacant space recruitment, disabled parking options, lighting issues, public bathrooms and public safety.

Supporting Vibrant Local and Tourism Economy – Marketing Snoqualmie as a destination to visitors, foster a sense of community for residents, increase foot traffic, promote shop local, wayfinding signage, and WSDOT signage.

Workforce Needs/Housing/Transportation – Minimum wage requirements, lack of affordable housing, transportation desert, and construction on Highway 19 and I90.

The overall theme of the roundtables indicates the objective to support local businesses, entrepreneurial spirits and endeavors, support tourism, and work at the local, county and state levels to address concerns.

Throughout 2024 and early 2025 City staff has been working to address the following:

- Wayfinding Signage throughout Snoqualmie and at entry points. **Completion expected May 2025**
- WSDOT Signage. Identified and communicated improvements to WSDOT. **Completion TBD**
- Downtown Business Directory installation in Downtown Snoqualmie Kiosk **Completion May 2025**
- Historic Downtown Color Palette. Community Development and Planning Commission working on expanding streamlining process. **Completion June 2025**
- Downtown Parking Map identified 350+ free public parking spaces **Completed January 2025**



Economic Development Commission Work Plan Update

2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS	
Business Roundtables	July & September
Wayfinding Signage (analysis and production)	Completed
Business Park Recruitment	On-going
Visit Snoqualmie Website/Branding (Community Development & Communications)	Completed August

2025 WORK PLAN	
Key Focus Areas: Business Support and Retention, Tourism Development, Strategic Projects, and Policy Alignment	
Downtown District Roundtable	Completed Feb 2025
Business Visitation	Ongoing
Wayfinding Signage (installation)	Completed May 2025
WSDOT Signage (identify and communicate improvements)	On-going
Creative District	TBD
Downtown Business Directory Boardwalk Kiosk	Completed May 2025
Historic Downtown Color Palette (analysis and improvements)	Completed June 2025
Business Retail Development Standards/Retail District Overlay Amendments	Completed May 2025
Downtown Parking Map	Completed Jan 2025
Development Projects (Mill Site, Model Train Museum, NW Railway Roundhouse, and Snoqualmie Valley Health expansion)	Ongoing

2026 WORK PLAN	
Doors Open King County	TBD
World Cup	TBD