



## ECONOMIC VITALITY COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**February 19, 2026  
7:30 a.m.  
200 Old Bernal Avenue, Council Chambers**

### **CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Meeting called to order at 7:33 a.m. by EVC Chair Ken Benhamou followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Chair Ken Benhamou, Vice Chair Josh Chanin, Steve McCoy-Thompson, Paresh Hule, Pravin Venketsamy, Gavin Shea, Igor Leonov, Steve McCoy-Thompson, Brian Wilson

**Absent:** None

**City staff:** Deputy Director of Community and Economic Development, Melinda Denis  
Economic Development Manager, Abraham Salinas

### **AGENDA AMENDMENTS**

None were noted.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Approval of December 18, 2025, meeting minutes were approved as presented on motion by Shea and second by Wilson. The motion passed unanimously.

### **MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Chair Benhamou opened public comment. There were no public comments. Chair Benhamou closed public comment.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OTHER MATTERS**

2. Receive update on potential Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) Measure.

Melinda Denis, Deputy Director of Community and Economic Development, provided an overview of the potential Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) Measure.

Chair Benhamou opened public comment. There were no public comments. Chair Benhamou closed public comment.

The committee provided feedback on the information presented and asked for clarifying questions related to use of the funds, timing of the measure, and message to business community.

Vice Chair Chanin recommended a motion for a single increase from 8% to 12%, effective July 1, 2027, rather than the phased increase as proposed by staff. Second by Wilson. The motion passed unanimously.

### **3. Receive Economic Development Information/Updates**

Melinda Denis, Deputy Director of Community and Economic Development, provided the Economic Development information and updates.

### **MATTERS INITIATED BY ECONOMIC VITALITY COMMITTEE**

Chair Benhamou requested staff provide an update on the upcoming budget discussions or share City Council memorandums or agenda reports as they are published.

Vice Chair Chanin encouraged committee members to share the upcoming city board, commission and committee recruitment with friends.

### **MEETING ADJOURNED**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 a.m.