



December 2024 Economic Collaborative Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 11, 2024

7:45- 9:00am

Economic Development Collaborative

141 Stony Circle Suite #110

Santa Rosa, CA, 95401

For special accommodations please contact: juanita.fong@sonoma-county.org

EDC Meeting Agenda

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

II. CONSENT ITEMS

A. October 23 2024 EDB Minutes - 3

III. POLICY/PROGRAM UPDATES

A. Board Feedback/Questions on Information Items

i. Executive Director Update

ii. Creative Sonoma - 5

iii. Broadband - 7

iv. Business Services & Research - 19

v. SMEDD - 30

IV. BOARD BUSINESS

A. Guest Speaker: Margaret Flores McCabe,
Executive Director of Secure Families Collaborative

B. Local Immigrant Integration and Inclusion Grant
(LIIG) Outreach and discussion

C. Board Reports on district updates and challenges
(15 mins)

D. Action Items for next meeting (5 mins)

V. NEW BUSINESS

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA BUT WITHIN THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE BOARD

Comments are restricted to matters within the Board's jurisdiction. Each person is usually granted time to speak at the discretion of the Chair. Any additional public comments will be heard at the conclusion of the meeting. While members of the public are welcome to address the Board, under the brown Act, Board members may not deliberate or take action on items not on the agenda.

VII. ADJORN - NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING - Wednesday, January 22, 2025

**Economic Development Board
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 23, 2024**

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLLCALL

Kathryn Philip, Chair called to order the Economic Development Board (EDB) at 8:00 am on September 25, 2024

The following EDB Board members were present: Kathryn Philip, Wayne Leach, Nick Schwanz, Linda Kachiu, Wayne Leach, Skip Brand

The following EDB staff members were present: Aleena Decker, Debbie Yarrow, Brad Johnson, Lauren Cartwright, Bernadette Marko, Tara Thompson, Marcos Suarez, Katherine DiPasqua, Christine Palmer, Lauren Cartwright, Jack Kampmann, Juanita Fong

II. CONSENT ITEMS

A. The meeting minutes from September 25, 2024, were approved.

Motion: Linda Kachiu Second: Nick Schwanz

Yay: 6 Ney: 0 Abstained: 0

III. POLICY PROGRAM UPDATES

A. Creative Sonoma

The team is comprised of several SCOE coordinators, CTEF, Windsor USD, Luther Burbank Center for the Arts, [Creative Bridges](#), and Creative Sonoma. The goal is to streamline and update the current Framework and address needs of equity and access with goals for the next 5 years. SCOE PK Coordinator, Ryan Kurada, gave a presentation on the international Reggio Emilia Children Exhibit that is coming to Sonoma County in Dec. 2027. Planning for this exhibit will be incorporated into the master plan. The team meets for a second and final day in November. The plan is due to be completed by February.

Collaborative work continues on “College and Career Pathways in the Arts” Day at SSU. High school and community college students will be invited to learn more about careers in the arts and arts education on February 1, 2025. The Arts Educators Workforce Committee will convene next week to review the new campaign materials as well as populate a resource page with content.

Board members requested a packet they can send out with the campaign and to help get the word out and support the growth of the arts educators.

B. Business Services & research

The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors today voted to establish a local program to permit small-scale residential retail food facilities, known as Microenterprise Home Kitchen Operations, or MEHKOs, which are authorized by state law. In opting into the statewide MEHKO program, individuals will be able to seek permits to run small dine-in or take-out restaurants from their private residences within unincorporated Sonoma County and the nine cities. "Microenterprise Home Kitchens provide home chefs with business opportunities, particularly for those with limited access to capital or facing industry entry barriers such as child or elder-care responsibilities," said Supervisor David Rabbitt, chair of the Board of Supervisors. "They can also increase community access to healthy food, offering options for cultural or regional foods that may not be available locally, while ensuring food safety."

Board members inquired about next steps and actions being taken and requested updates as the program progresses.

C. Broadband

Board members inquired and discussed satellite-based internet. Kate Fosburgh explained that the order of services will be fiber first, wireless solutions and lastly satellite. EDC will be applying for the Broadband Equity Access & Deployment Grant Program, more to come on that and it's possible that via that grant program there may be areas sited for satellite.

Kate briefly discussed the Digital Equity and Access Survey that EDC partnered with Los Cien to conduct. The division is currently working on a report that compiles the data collected along with recommendations on how the department will spend the ARPA funding. Those compilations will be presented to the board of supervisors 12/3.

IV. BOARD BUSINESS

- a. A. Guest Speaker: Patricia Andrews, Housing Director, Program Manager, Economic Development Collaborative

Patricia gave an overview of her position's objectives, goals, and current projects. She spoke about the resources she shares with employers and her effort in bridging the gap between the incoming workforce and the current workforce. Patricia discussed her work with Workforce Adjustment Retaining Notification (WARN) and the steps they take once notified of a WARN.

- b. Board Reports

Kathryn: Warren Miller

V. ADJOURNMENT

Kathryn Philip, Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:00 am.