



COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT

**APPROVED SUMMARIZED MINUTES**

Thursday, September 9, 2021

4:00 p.m.

Meeting held electronically.

Scottsdale, AZ 85251

**Council Subcommittee on Economic Development**

Subcommittee Members: Councilwoman Linda Milhaven, Chair  
Councilwoman Solange Whitehead  
Vice Mayor Betty Janik

Staff: Brian Biesemeyer, Executive Director, Scottsdale Water  
Gretchen Baumgardner, Water Policy Manager  
Rob Millar, Economic Development Director  
Josh Utterback, Economic Development Program Manager  
Scott Cooper, Economic Development Program Manager

**Call to Order**

Councilwoman Linda Milhaven called the regular meeting of the Council Subcommittee on Economic Development to order at 4:00 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Present: Councilwoman Linda Milhaven, Councilwoman Solange Whitehead,  
Vice Mayor Betty Janik

1. **Approval of June 10, 2021 Summarized Minutes**

**Motion to approve as presented: Solange Whitehead, Second Betty Janik – 3-0**

2. **City of Scottsdale Water Resources – Central Arizona Project Tier 1 Program**

Brian Biesemeyer, Water Resources Executive Director, and potentially additional Water Resources staff, will provide an update on the Central Arizona Project (CAP) announced Colorado River Tier 1 shortage plan and CAP's economic development collaboration strategies.

Presenter: Brian Biesemeyer, Water Resources Executive Director

Staff Contact: Rob Millar, Economic Development Director –  
480-312-2533

**Action: Presentation and Discussion**

**Brian Biesemeyer presented an overview of the Tier 1 water shortage that was announced in August 2021. The estimation for CAP to declare the Tier 1 shortage is based on projections for January 2022. This shortage is expected to last for a few years.**

**The city activated the Drought Management Plan Stage 1 on August 17, 2021. At this time there is no water restrictions to customers, but conservation messaging will increase and the city will expand recycled water recharge and irrigation systems where feasible.**

**Mr. Biesemeyer stated that the city has launched the WaterSmart interface which is a web-based customer water management portal that allows customers to see real time water usage.**

**Mr. Biesemeyer communicated that he is working with economic development and long-range planning to develop tools to help decision makers understand the impact of growth on water. Mr. Biesemeyer stated he is planning on having a sustainable water management plan to council in the spring.**

**Councilwoman Whitehead asked about water that is not going to the treatment plant versus what is going to the Sub Regional Operating Group (SROG). Mr. Biesemeyer stated they are working on a plan to pump more sewage north, while making sure they meet their minimum commitment to the SROG program.**

**3. Business Retention and Expansion Strategy**

**Josh Utterback, Economic Development Program Manager, and potentially other city staff will provide an overview of the business retention and expansion program strategy for fiscal year 2021/2022.**

**Presenter: Josh Utterback, Economic Development Program Manager –  
480-312-7057**

**Staff Contact: Josh Utterback, Economic Development Program Manager –  
480-312-7057**

**Action: Presentation and Discussion**

**Josh Utterback presented an overview of the current business retention and expansion program. Mr. Utterback stated that 70% - 80% of all new jobs are through existing businesses and the ongoing business retention and expansion visits that the department conducts allows the city to get a pulse of the business community.**

**This year's goal is to visit 100 Scottsdale businesses and connect with Scottsdale's top 30 employers. Mr. Utterback invited the subcommittee members to accompany him on any of his visits.**

**4. Economic Development Update**

Economic Development Director, Rob Millar and potentially other city staff will provide an update on economic development trends, events and projects.

Presenter: Rob Millar, Economic Development Director – 480-312-2533

Staff Contact: Rob Millar, Economic Development Director – 480-312-2533

***Action:* Presentation and Discussion**

**Rob Millar provided an overview of the department’s fiscal year end performance metrics, current updates and reviewed the HUUB small business support program development.**

**Mr. Millar provided a summary of the Choose Scottsdale brand refresh and explained the relevancy of the brand for business attraction efforts.**

**Findings from an internal audit were reviewed with the subcommittee members.**

**5. Open Call to the Public (A.R.S. §38-431.02)**

**There were no public comments or requests to speak.**

**6. Future Agenda Items**

**Councilwoman Whitehead asked that job training for non-traditional college degreed jobs be added to a future agenda.**

**7. Adjournment**

**Motion to adjourn: 5:00 p.m. Councilwoman Whitehead, seconded vice mayor Janik.**