

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2025, 11:00 AM  
CITY HALL, COUNCILORS CONFERENCE ROOM  
200 LINCOLN AVE., SANTA FE, NM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Economic Development Advisory Committee was called to order by David Perez, Chair, at 11:03 am, on Wednesday, November 5, 2025, at City Hall, in the Councilors' Conference Room, 200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**2. MEMBERS PRESENT**

David Perez, Vice Chair (Chair for this meeting)  
Kathy Rivera  
Ondine Frauenglass  
George Gamble  
Ava Salmon  
Myrriah Tomar  
Dulce Marti

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Councilor Jamie Cassutt, Chair, Excused  
Ken Resnick, Excused  
Sierra Cruz, Excused

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Johanna Nelson, Director, Office of Economic Development  
Casey Dalbor, Business Growth Manager  
Simon Woodruff, President, Woodruff Engineering  
Dave Montoya, CIO, New Mexico Consortium  
Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chair Perez stated he would like to move item 7 to after the Approval of Minutes.

**MOTION** A motion was made by Chair Perez, seconded by Ms. Frauenglass, to approve the agenda as amended.

**VOTE** The motion passed on a voice vote.

**4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

None.

## **5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

### **A. APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 1 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EDAC) MEETING MINUTES**

It was noted that Ms. Salmon's last name is spelled Salmon.

**MOTION** A motion was made by Ms. Frauenglass, seconded by Mr. Gamble, to approve the minutes as amended.

**VOTE** The motion passed on a voice vote.

## **7. PRESENTATIONS**

### **A. FUSION ENERGY AND SANTA FE**

Chair Perez said the Steering Committee agreed, after input from the Committee, that having presentations on industry sectors at Committee meetings would be beneficial. The two items on the agenda under presentations are the beginning of that effort. Santa Fe is a unique confluence of talent with LANL, the University, the Community College and others. He feels these two sectors have great potential.

Mr. Woodruff introduced himself and said Fusion Energy is the current and upcoming trend in energy. He would like to give the Committee an overview of the current stats and the landscape of this industry.

Mr. Woodruff gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Fusion: Why Now."

There was discussion about energy sources, jobs, the development of a demonstration facility, internships and pathways for students.

Ms. Rivera asked what additional resources are required for dealing with this energy.

Mr. Woodruff said we are looking at green sites and workforce development program support. There are many aspects that need to be embraced. He is happy to share his recommendations.

Chair Perez thanked Mr. Woodruff for the presentation and said we are in a global competition to place these sites. We are looking to coordinate with the State Economic Development Department and the State Investment Council. We want to get our fair share of the companies in Santa Fe and are laying the ground work for creating

an ecosystem. The Innovation Hub in Midtown is about that. We are looking to bring high value opportunities here. Fusion and high performance computing are interrelated.

## **B. HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING AND SANTA FE**

Mr. Montoya presented the background of his consortium and his experience in computing, AI and quantum data centers. His presentation continued with information on research centers, unique regional resources, collaborations, why Santa Fe is a great location and the Innovation Hub.

There was discussion

Chair Perez thanked Mr. Montoya for his presentation.

## **6. ACTION ITEMS: DISCUSSION AGENDA**

### **A. GO LOCAL, GO DIFFERENT SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR VOTE**

Ms. Nelson said she wanted to present the follow up feature of the subcommittee for our Go Local initiative. You have in front of you the selection of a Chair person to lead this subcommittee and work with us on this initiative. We are on the verge of launching this initiative soon. She sent out to the Committee an outline of what we envision this group would do.

Mr. Dalbor said we would like you to pick the Chair of the subcommittee and three members of this Committee to join the subcommittee. Due to quorum issues, you are limited in the number of Committee members who can serve, but you may have as many non-committee members as needed. They will collect data and bring it back to the Committee.

Chair Perez said he would like volunteers to serve on the subcommittee, then we will vote on a Chair.

Ms. Nelson said our team would really work with the Chair to make this as user friendly as possible and supported as possible. We would like to get it started.

The following Committee members volunteered to serve on the subcommittee: Ms. Salmon, Ms. Marti (volunteered to be a member or Chair), and Ms. Rivera.

**MOTION** A motion was made by Ms. Marti, seconded by Ms. Salmon, to elect Ms. Marti as Chair of the Go Local Subcommittee.

**VOTE** The motion passed on a voice vote.

Ms. Nelson said we are excited to work with you.

Mr. Jusik said this will be a wide-ranging effort with many possibilities.

Chair Perez acknowledged Director Nelson and her team for the amazing work and efforts they make for our community.

Mr. Dalbor said he will open up the opportunity to join the subcommittee to members who are not present today.

## **8. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

## **9. MATTERS FROM STAFF**

Ms. Nelson called out Mr. Rentz Whitmore for his addition to our newsletter focused on innovation. We are continuing to work on our Small Business Navigator program and will be making a presentation at our December meeting. We have trainings and workshops coming up and will send the Committee notification of these. New Mexico Angels will be part of this as well. Go Local will be launched on our website and in an ad campaign focused on the holidays. We are in the throws of working on the neighborhood walk - the Guadalupe Winter Walk. It will be held on December 13<sup>th</sup> and will be holiday themed. There is a lot of work going on.

Ms. Nelson introduced Deborah Torrez, our Native American Coordinator. She is involved with a lot of projects. On November 12<sup>th</sup> there will be a Native American business event at the Incubator.

Ms. Nelson continued, saying the living wage discussion will come to a final vote on Wednesday at Governing Body. That has consumed a lot of our time. We support businesses and employees and encourage you to show up at the meeting and express your thoughts to the City Councilors. Other of our events and opportunities can be found in our newsletter.

## **10. MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE**

Ms. Salmon asked how people can apply for grants for crime mitigation.

Ms. Nelson said it is one-time funding and hopefully will be live at the end of the year. She encourages businesses to sign up for our newsletter for direct information when it goes live. More than likely, it will go the NMSU for getting the funding to businesses. We will do a presentation on it at the December meeting.

## **11. MATTERS FROM THE CHAIR**

Chair Perez said this meeting agenda came out of the Steering Committee at our first meeting. We are also looking at engaging our Legislators and inviting them to a briefing on what EDAC is doing so that we can ask them for their support.

Mr. Gamble said the court recently made a decision on the excise tax. What is the City going to do at this point.

Chair Perez said Councilor Cassutt has been one of the leaders of that effort. We can get an update on that at the next meeting.

Ms. Nelson said the City has hired a Director of Affordable Housing. We can work with her to make a presentation as to what she is thinking.

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 12:28 pm.

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Councilor Jamie Cassutt, Chair

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Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer