

Committee of the Whole

Meeting date: July 15, 2020

Subject: Regional Economic Framework

District(s), Member(s): All

Staff Prepared/Presented: Michael Larson, Senior Planner, 651-602-1407

Division/Department: Community Development / Local Planning Assistance

Proposed Action

Discussion only.

Background

The draft of the Regional Economic Framework has now been distributed for public review. It is available to review on the [Regional Economic Framework website](#). On July 15, staff will provide a brief overview of the document's findings and proposed actions; and help facilitate discussion around areas of interest and concern. Staff have proposed the following to help guide your review and engagement.

Questions for you to consider:

- Does the Framework improve your understanding of the region's economy and our major issues related to job growth and racial inequities?
- Does the Framework express the right level or kinds of commitment toward racial equity?
- How well does the Framework explain how the region can withstand or adapt to economic challenges, such as presented by COVID-19?
- Does the Framework represent a range of the most important (but not all) meaningful commitments to supporting or improving the regional economy and the skills of our workforce?
- Understanding that the region tracks many economic and socioeconomic variables, does the Framework identify the most relevant ones for the strategic priorities?
- Is the role of the Council clear? Is the partnership and our commitments to each other clear?

Suggestions for responding:

- Be as specific as you can with proposed improvements, changes, or additions. This helps staff respond in ways that can best meet your expectations.
- Flag content that is not clear to you.
- Avoid extensive wordsmithing. The Communications Department will do a plain language review. You are also welcomed to identify examples where plainer language may help the reader.
- Please share facts, data, or references that you think would improve and/or substitute for references in the Framework.

In order to ensure a meaningful and efficient resolution of input to the document, yours and other public responses to the draft will be addressed as follows:

- All input will be logged.
- Lead staff at each organization will sort and discuss input for resolution.
- The following will be tracked in a revised document that shows how the document has changed:

- Changes to action steps and measurements.
- Changes or additions to the SWOT tables.
- New content or subject matter.
- Language changes that significantly alter meaning or tone.
- The following will NOT be purposefully tracked:
 - Minor language changes such as wordsmithing for plainer language and spelling/grammar corrections. (An electronic comparison to the draft document can always be done to ensure accountability.)
 - Improvements to graphics, such as photos and the readability of graphs and tables, which will be obvious to the reader.
 - New or modified references and data points, unless addressing new subject matter.