



**COLUMBIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

The Columbia Economic Development & Infrastructure Committee conducted a meeting on Tuesday, January 16, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. at City Hall (Mayor's Conference Room), 1737 Main Street, 2nd Floor, Columbia, SC 29201. The Honorable Peter M. Brown, Chair called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Peter M. Brown	Chair	Present
Will Brennan	Member	Present
Aditi Bussells	Member	Present

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

2. Economic Development Partner Update from GrowCo - Ms. Caroline Crowder, Executive Director

Ms. Caroline Crowder, Executive Director said their mission is to inspire and support high growth/high tech founders along their entrepreneurship journey and to create an inclusive culture of entrepreneurship in the Midlands at the Boyd Innovation Center. Within their first year, they had tremendous growth, hosted close to 100 events, and launched a mentor network.

There was discussion about next steps, new founders, challenges and successes in attracting venture capital, and space utilization in the current facility.

3. Economic Development Partner Update from Columbia Opportunity Resource - Mr. Lee Goble, Jr., Board Secretary and Ms. Julia Reedy, Director of Development

Mr. Lee Goble, Jr., Board Secretary and Ms. Julia Reedy, Director of Development said COR's goal is to build local champions for the city of Columbia. Talent retention crucial for the continued development, growth, and success of the city. They shared their methods of talent retention: Crash Course Columbia for college age individuals and Capture Columbia for individuals who new to Columbia's workforce.

There was discussion about funding, giving back to entities, metrics for successful participation, and collaboration with GrowCo.



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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Dr. Bussells, the committee voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session at 1:44 p.m. for the discussion of **Item 4**.

4. Discussion of matters relating to the proposed location, expansion, or provision of services encouraging location or expansion of industries or other businesses in the area served by the public body pursuant to S.C. Code §30-4-70(a)(5)

*2221 Devine Street
Project Subtext*

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Erika D. Moore Hammond, CMC
City Clerk