



**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

The Economic Development & Infrastructure Committee conducted a meeting on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at City Hall (Mayor's Conference Room), 1737 Main Street, Second Floor, Columbia, SC 29201. The Honorable Peter M. Brown, Chair called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of February 20, 2024 Economic Development & Infrastructure Committee Meeting Minutes

Upon a motion made by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Dr. Bussells, committee members approved the February 20, 2024 Economic Development & Infrastructure Committee Meeting Minutes.

PRESENTATIONS

2. Pathway to Employment Workforce Development Program - Mr. Jackie Epps, Chairman of Saint John Career Development Corporation

Mr. Jackie Epps, Chairman of the Saint John Career Development Corporation shared a collaborative proposal for generating job opportunities for Columbia's most challenged citizens. The mission is to revitalize the Booker Washington Heights Community. St. John Baptist Church is located centrally within this community and we were challenged by a county council member to get involved and implement solutions. We fundamentally believe that as employment increases, crime and violence will decrease. The Pathway to Employment Workforce Development Program provides an opportunity for candidates to participate in a 12 week program with a 40 hour work week that includes a combination of field work and professional development. The program's goal is for all participants to transition into a full time job.

There was discussion about measuring success within the pilot program, business and community partnerships, recruitment, rules of conduct, turnover within Public Works, and training outside the City of Columbia.



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ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Erika D. Moore Hammond, CMC
City Clerk