



City of Longview

1525 Broadway
Longview, WA 98632
www.ci.longview.wa.us

Agenda

Economic Development Committee

Thursday, August 20, 2026

4:00 PM

Training Room
2nd Floor, City Hall

1. **HYBRID MEETING DETAILS**

26-00716 Please click the link to join the webinar: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86896675065>
Webinar ID: 868 9667 5065
Or by Telephone: (253) 205 0468; or (346) 248 7799

2. **CALL TO ORDER**

3. **ROLL CALL**

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

26-00719 MINUTES FROM JULY 16, 2026

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

26-00717 REAL ESTATE AND DEVELOPMENT ROUNDTABLE

6. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

8. **ADJOURNMENT**



Minutes

Economic Development Committee

Thursday, July 16, 2026

3:30 PM

Training Room,
2nd Floor, City Hall

1. HYBRID MEETING DETAILS

26-00587 Please click the link to join the webinar: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86896675065>
Webinar ID: 868 9667 5065
Or by Telephone: (253) 205 0468; or (346) 248 7799

2. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:34pm.

3. ROLL CALL

Committee Members: Mayor Erik Halvorson, Mayor Pro Tem Keith Young (3:48pm), Councilmember Mike Claxton, City Manager Jennifer Wills, Community & Economic Director Nick Little (3:50pm), Finance Director Aaron Hill
Other Staff Present: Fire Chief Brad Hannig, Deputy City Clerk Sam Van Laer

4. COMMITTEE KICKOFF & WORK PLAN DEVELOPMENT

26-00586 AGENDA

City Manager Wills presented the Committee Kickoff & Work Plan Development handout. City Manager Wills introduced the purpose of the Committee and posed the questions from the handout. The Committee discussed how staying static is not possible and diversifying the industry will help the City be sustainable. New development is a way to provide the community with job options and population growth is a necessary lubricant for economic growth. Longview has not had the same opportunities for growth that the State of Washington has had as a whole and has been stagnant over the last 35 years. Job growth is not keeping up with the state average.

The Committee discussed current opportunities:

- sports
- Mint Farm
- robust water supply
- "can do" and "finding a way to get to yes" attitude
- simplifying permitting
- spreading the news that there are no significant barriers to industry
- airport
- tax incentives and deferrals
- zoning and annexations
- healthcare
- market-rate housing and waterfront property
- fishing, boat launches, and parks
- fire line for sprinklers downtown

The Committee discussed challenges:

- power availability*
- declining and aging population (median age is higher than the state average)*
- lower consumption*

The Committee discussed what they would like to see a year from now:

- street changes such as courtyards and creating vibrant active areas*
- would like to measure success using measurable key performance indicators*
- creating a philosophy document*

The Committee discussed infrastructure readiness and permitting, strategic partnerships, and marketing and community branding as potential priorities to focus on.

5. SELECTION OF DAY, TIME & FREQUENCY FOR MEETINGS

For meetings going forward, the Committee discussed inviting developers, real estate groups, employers, small businesses, and the Cowlitz Economic Development Council. The Committee would like to focus on land developers first.

The Committee came to consensus on meeting on the third Thursday of each month from 4:00pm - 5:30pm.

The Committee took comments from the members of the public in attendance.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55pm.