

City of Blaine
Request for Council Action
Meeting Date: October 8, 2018

Subject: Repealing BMC Section 2.88 Economic Development Advisory Committee

Department: City Manager

Prepared By: _____
(Digital Signature)

Agenda Location: Consent Agenda Council Action Unfinished Business

Attachments:

1. Ordinance 18-2918

Background/Summary:

The Blaine Economic Development Advisory Committee was formed in 2008. For several months prior to the creation of the committee, a City Council member and a group of citizens were working in an unofficial capacity to pursue economic development. The committee was formed to bring the efforts of that group into the fold of the City and into City Council oversight.

The committee worked on a variety of issues, primarily planning for sale and development of the Gateway property. The committee was staffed by the City Clerk and the City Manager; however, it routinely required attendance by the Public Works Director, Community and Tourism Coordinator and the Community Development Director. Although there was routinely interesting and dynamic conversations, little output was created and direct action by the committee was limited. Work was significantly hampered by irregular and infrequent attendance by most committee members. A lack of quorum was common.

The City Manager recommends that by working directly with Council, with ad-hoc committees, and the Port of Bellingham's economic development office, we can be more effective in our efforts. It will free up significant staff time to pursue economic development and special projects if the committee is disbanded.

Budget Implications: Current Budget New Budget Request Non-Budgetary

There are no budget implications.

Recommendation: Waive the second reading

The City Manager recommends that the City Council approve Ordinance 18-2918, repealing Title 2.88 of the Blaine Municipal Code to Dissolve the Blaine Economic Development Advisory Committee.

Reviewed By:

City Manager _____ Finance Director _____ City Clerk _____
(Digital Signature) (Digital Signature) (Digital Signature)

ORDINANCE NO. 18-2918

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLAINE,
WASHINGTON, REPEALING TITLE 2.88 OF THE BLAINE MUNICIPAL
CODE TO DISSOLVE THE BLAINE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, the City of Blaine is nearing completion of the redevelopment of the Blaine Municipal Airport development site and has completed the update of the Economic Development element of the Blaine 2036 – the City of Blaine Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the need for economic development guidance and input has evolved, and the resources available to the City for professional economic development effort through the Port of Bellingham has increased; and

WHEREAS, the Blaine Economic Development Advisory Committee has proven to be difficult to populate with interested and engaged business leaders, subsequently leading to a repeated lack of quorum; and

WHEREAS, the City seeks to plan and conduct economic development efforts in the most efficient and effective means possible; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that project specific, ad hoc committees are effective for our needs, and direct coordination with staff on economic development efforts allows the City to be more responsive; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has the authority to create ad hoc committees to address specific projects and activities related to economic development, and intends to do so as needed in the future.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLAINE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: Section 2.88 BLAINE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE is hereby repealed as follows:

~~2.88.010—Duties and Responsibilities~~

- ~~A.—The Blaine Economic Development Advisory Committee shall be advisory to the Blaine City Council and have as its primary objective assisting the City Council and the Blaine community in focusing on the important economic issues necessary to create a healthy and successful community.~~
- ~~B.—The committee will serve to focus attention on economic development, educate the community regarding the importance of economic development~~

~~and work with others to enhance the economy of Blaine and assist in the recruitment of new businesses and assist existing businesses become more successful.~~

~~2.88.020 Composition, Terms and Appointments~~

- ~~A. The Blaine Economic Development Advisory Committee shall consist of up to fifteen members.~~
- ~~B. Members need not reside in Blaine but must have a direct business relationship in the community or an interest and experience that will help achieve the stated purpose of the Committee.~~
- ~~C. One member of the Committee shall be a member of the Blaine City Council and shall serve as the Chair.~~
- ~~D. All members shall be nominated and approved by the Blaine City Council.~~
- ~~E. Members shall serve four year terms except that after the adoption of this ordinance the members shall, among themselves, determine who shall serve one, two, three and four year initial terms in order to achieve staggered terms. Thereafter, the full term of office for each appointive member shall be four years.~~
- ~~F. Members shall be limited to two full consecutive terms.~~
- ~~G. The Committee may approve additional non-voting members and special advisors as it determines best for the functioning of the Committee.~~
- ~~H. The Committee shall select a Vice-Chair from its membership who shall serve in the Chair's absence and perform other duties as assigned by the Chair.~~
- ~~I. The City Manager or his/her designee shall serve as staff to the Committee.~~

~~2.88.30 Meetings, Rules and Records~~

- ~~A. The Committee shall meet at least six times annually.~~
- ~~B. The Committee shall keep a written record of each meeting which shall be available to the public.~~
- ~~C. A quorum shall be a majority of the voting members and action can be taken by a majority of those present.~~

~~D. The Committee shall present a report to the City Council of their activities on a quarterly basis.~~

SECTION 2: Should any section, clause or provision of this ordinance be declared by the courts to be invalid or unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole, or any part thereof, other than the part of the ordinance declared to be invalid.

SECTION 3: This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage by the City Council and approval by the Mayor, if approved, otherwise, as provided by law and five days after the date of posting for publication.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLAINE, WASHINGTON on this 8th day of October 2018, and approved by the Mayor on the same day.

CITY OF BLAINE, WASHINGTON

BONNIE ONYON, Mayor

ATTEST:

SAMUEL CRAWFORD, City Clerk