

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND JOBS COMMITTEE REPORT relative to changes to the Jobs and Economic Development Incentive (JEDI) Zones Establishment Policy.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. APPROVE the following programmatic changes to the JEDI Zones Establishment Policy:
 - a. Adjust the assessment criteria “Non-seasonal unemployment rate that is at least 3 percent higher than the Citywide rate” to “Average unemployment rate 3 percent higher than average Citywide rate.”
 - b. Eliminate the assessment criteria “Crime rates 5 percent higher than the Citywide crime rate.”
 - c. Eliminate the assessment criteria “Commercial, retail, or industrial vacancy is 5 percent greater than the City average.”
2. AUTHORIZE the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) to release a Request for Qualification (RFQ) for the JEDI Zone Façade Improvement Program to develop a pool of qualified contractors to participate in technical and construction services required for the program.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The EWDD reports that there is no impact to the General Fund.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On October 12, 2021, your Committee considered an August 19, 2021 EWDD report relative to changes to the Jobs and Economic Development Incentive (JEDI) Zones Establishment Policy. According to the EWDD, on March 6, 2020, Council approved and adopted the joint report from Economic Development Committee and Ad Hoc on Comprehensive Job Creation Plan to implement the Jobs and Economic Development Incentive (JEDI) Zones Establishment Policy and Incentive Plan. The JEDI Zones are defined areas where local economic incentives are used to enhance existing businesses, attract new businesses and industries that will result in economic development and growth to the City, particularly in communities that have been historically underinvested.

The EWDD is requesting changes to the programmatic elements of the JEDI Zones Establishment Policy, including adjusting the unemployment assessment criteria, and eliminating the assessment criteria for crime and vacancy rates. The EWDD is also requesting authority to release an RFQ to establish a list of qualified, experienced contractors that provide technical and construction services needed for the implementation of the JEDI Commercial Façade Program. After consideration and having

provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the EWDD report, as detailed in the above recommendation. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Economic Development and Jobs Committee

COUNCILMEMBER	VOTE
PRICE:	YES
KREKORIAN:	YES
BLUMENFIELD:	YES
RAMAN:	YES
HARRIS-DAWSON:	YES

ARL

10/12/21

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-