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Stanislaus County
Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC)
Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 8, 2025

Tenth Street Place 1010 10th Street, Room 1013 Modesto, CA 95354

- Deputy County Counsel: Mobin Bhatti
- Deputy Executive Officer: Erica Inacio

Voting Members or Alternate Present Marked with an X:

Voting Member

- Cerina Otero – Seat 2 (City of Ceres)
- Randy Crooker – Seat 3 (City of Hughson)
- Susan Zwahlen – Seat 4 (City of Modesto)
- Gisel Pimentel – Seat 5 (City of Newman)
- Joshua Mann – Seat 6 (City of Riverbank)
- Anthony Sims – Seat 7 (City of Turlock)
- Elizabeth Talbot – Seat 8 (City of Waterford)
- Kayleigh Gilbert – Seat 9 (City of Oakdale)
- Carlos Roque – Seat 10 (City of Patterson)
- John Ismail – Seat 11 (District 1)
- Doris Foster – Seat 12 (District 2)
- Christine Schweininger – Seat 13 (District 3)
- Cecil Russell – Seat 14 (District 4)
- Harpreet Singh – Seat 15 (Community)
- Rosalinda Vierra – Seat 16 (Community)
- Jose Ibarra - Seat 17 (Community)
- Dillon Olvera - Seat 18 (Community)
- Vacant - Seat 19 (Community)
- Ali Arshad - Seat 20 (Community)
- David White - Seat 21 (Community)

Alternate Member

- Julian Aguirre – Seat 77 (City of Ceres)
- Julie Strain – Seat 77 (City of Hughson)
- David Wright – Seat 77 (City of Modesto)
- Scott Ball – Seat 77 (City of Newman)
- Melissa Holdaway – Seat 77 (City of Riverbank)
- Erica Phillips – Seat 77 (City of Turlock)
- Guadalupe Gutierrez – Seat 77 (City of Waterford)
- Jarod Pitassi – Seat 77 (City of Oakdale)
- Jessica Romero – Seat 77 (City of Patterson)

Present Member / Alternate, But Not Voting:

- Mani Grewal – Seat 1 (Board of Supervisors)
- Melissa Holdaway

Prior to calling the meeting to order, Secretary Inacio informed the Committee that both Chair Roque and Vice-Chair Zwahlen were unable to attend the meeting and that a Chair needed to be nominated to preside.

A motion was made to appoint member White as Chair.

Motion: Foster; Second: Russell. Unanimous (11|0); Abstain (0)

1. Chair White called the meeting to order at 2:01 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Roll call was conducted to confirm quorum.
3. Chair White welcomed the public and Secretary Inacio introduced Stanislaus 2030 staff Amanda Hughes and Yolanda Meraz; City of Modesto staff Jessica Hill and Eric Bonander; and Stanislaus Workforce Development staff Sara Redd.
4. Approval of Minutes
A motion was made to approve the June 25, 2025 Meeting Minutes.
Motion: Foster; Second: Russell. Unanimous (11|0); Abstain (0)
5. Public Comment – No public comment.
6. Correspondence – No correspondence.
7. Conflict of Interest Declaration – None declared.
8. Discussion / Action Items

- a) Acceptance of the Stanislaus County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Report

Staff presented the final Stanislaus County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Report prepared by Chabin Concepts as part of the strategy submission to the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA). It was noted that since the June 25, 2025, meeting and the subsequent public review period, minimal public comments were received; however, revisions were made to incorporate feedback from the City of Modesto, City of Riverbank, City of Turlock, and Stanislaus 2030.

Member Mann identified a numbering discrepancy, which staff acknowledged and will revise accordingly.

Staff informed the Committee that approval of the CEDS Report would initiate the process to forward the document to the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors for final approval. Once approved by the Board, the report and accompanying checklist will be submitted to the U.S. Economic Development Administration.

A motion was made to approve the CEDS Report and to include the revisions to the discrepancy identified by Member Mann.

Motion: Russell; Second: Wright. Unanimous (11|0); Abstain (0)

- b) Proposed Meeting Dates

Secretary Inacio informed the Committee to consider establishing a quarterly meeting schedule for the 2026 calendar year. The Committee agreed with the proposed approach. Secretary Inacio will distribute calendar invitations for the next four meetings beginning in January 2026.

9. Presentation – Workforce Development

The Committee heard a presentation from Member Foster and Sara Redd, Stanislaus Workforce Development on the Business One Stop. The presentation is attached for reference. The Committee was presented with a hard copy of their 2024-2025 Annual Report. The report can be accessed at:

https://www.stanworkforce.com/media/x0ejp4ok/annual-report-24-25_board.pdf

Note: While the presentation was wrapping up, Members White and Ball left the meeting.

10. Updates on Economic Development Projects and Initiatives

- Member Arshad shared with the Committee the 3rd Touch-A-Truck Event led by the Modesto Chamber of Commerce.
- Member Foster shared the November 6th Business Expo.

11. Next Meeting Date: TBD

12. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 3:09 PM.