

Committee Members

MEETING AGENDA

April 8, 2026
2:00 PM
Tenth Street Place
1010 10th Street, Room 1013
(Green Room)
Modesto, CA 95354

<i>Sue Zwahlen, Chair</i>	<i>Supervisor Mani Grewal</i>
<i>Anthony Sims, Vice-Chair</i>	<i>Randy Crooker</i>
<i>Carlos Roque</i>	<i>Rosalinda Vierra</i>
<i>Cecil Russell</i>	<i>Alternates</i>
<i>Cerina Otero</i>	<i>David Wright</i>
<i>Christine Schweininger</i>	<i>Erika Phillips</i>
<i>David White</i>	<i>Guadalupe Gutierrez</i>
<i>Dillon Olvera</i>	<i>Jarod Pitassi</i>
<i>Elizabeth Talbott</i>	<i>Jessica Romero</i>
<i>Gisel Pimentel</i>	<i>Julian Acuirre</i>
<i>John Ismail</i>	<i>Julie Strain</i>
<i>Jose Ibarra</i>	<i>Melissa Holdaway</i>
<i>Joshua Mann</i>	<i>Scott Ball</i>
<i>Kayleigh Gilbert</i>	<i>Susan Vasquez</i>

The Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) welcomes you to its meetings which are regularly held. Special meetings may be scheduled as needed. Your interest is encouraged and appreciated.

AGENDAS: Committee agendas are typically posted 72 hours prior to the meeting at the posting board at 1010 10th Street Place and on the Internet at the following website:

<http://www.stancounty.com/ceo/econ-dev/edac.shtm>

NOTICE REGARDING NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS: Committee meetings are conducted in English. Language assistance requests to provide an interpreter should be made 72 hours prior to the meeting by contacting the Committee Secretary, Kris Ixta, at ixtak@stanworkforce.com or (209) 595-0556.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Committee Secretary, Kris Ixta, at ixtak@stanworkforce.com or (209) 595-0556. Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the Department to make reasonable accommodations to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: Matters under the jurisdiction of the Committee, and not on the posted agenda, may be addressed by the general public at the beginning of the regular agenda. However, California law prohibits the Committee from taking action on any matter which is not on the posted agenda unless it is determined to be an emergency by the Committee. Any member of the public wishing to address the Committee during the "Public Comment" period shall be permitted to comment once and be limited to a maximum of five minutes. If you would like to provide a written comment, please email your comment to Committee Secretary at ixtak@stanworkforce.com by 4:00 p.m. on the day before the meeting and include the Agenda Item Number or Public Comment Period in the subject line of the email. Your written comment will be distributed to the Committee and kept on file as part of the official record of the EDAC meeting.

ANY MEMBER OF THE AUDIENCE DESIRING TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE ON A MATTER ON

THE AGENDA: Please raise your hand at the time the item is announced by the Committee Chairperson. In order that interested parties have an opportunity to speak, any person addressing the EDAC will be limited to a maximum of five minutes.

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Resignation of Committee Member Doris Foster (District 2)
3. Welcome and Introduction of New Committee Members
4. Member Roll Call to Confirm Quorum
5. Approval of Minutes from January 14, 2026 Meeting
6. Public Comment Period
Limit comments to five (5) minutes so that everyone may be heard. Matters under the jurisdiction of the Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) and not on this posted agenda may be addressed by the general public at this time; the EDAC may consider adding the item to the next meeting's agenda for further consideration. California law prohibits the EDAC from taking any action on a matter that is not posted on the agenda unless it is determined to be an emergency by the Committee.
7. Conflict of Interest and Declaration
8. Staff Report
9. Discussion and Action Items
 - A. Identification of Agencies Tracking Outstanding Goals in the Stanislaus County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) 2025–2030
10. Presentation(s)
 - A. Workforce Development – update on New Business Growth and Closures in Stanislaus County
11. Member Updates on Economic Development Projects and Initiatives
12. Next Meeting Dates: July 8, 2026 and October 14, 2026
13. Adjournment



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Jody L. Hayes
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Tina M. Rocha
ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Raul L. Mendez
ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Jewel A. Warr
ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**STANISLAUS COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, January 14, 2026

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

- Deputy County Counsel: Shaun Wahid and Ciara Asefi
- 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 Talbott – 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)
- Rosalinda Vierra – Seat 16 (Community)
- Jose Ibarra - Seat 17 (Community)
- Dillon Olvera - Seat 18 (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)

1. Chair Roque called the meeting to order at 2:01 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Chair Roque welcomed the public and asked any new Committee members to introduce themselves.
3. Roll call was conducted to confirm quorum. It should be noted that Member Talbott was not present at roll call.
4. The Committee was reminded of the bylaws indicating that a new chairperson and vice-chairperson should be elected every two years in the first meeting of the year. The Chair and Vice-Chair should serve a two-year term.

A nomination and a motion were made for Mayor Zwahlen to be appointed as **Chair**.

Motion: Roque; Second: Foster. Unanimous.

A nomination and a motion were made by Foster for Olvera to be appointed Vice-Chair. Member Olvera declined. Motion died.

A nomination and a motion were made by Foster for Schweininger to be appointed Vice-Chair. Member Schweininger declined. Motion died.

A nomination and a motion were made by Foster for Sims to be appointed **Vice-Chair**.

Motion: Foster; Second: Aguirre. Unanimous.

5. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made to approve the October 8, 2025 Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Olvera; Second: Russell. Unanimous with 1 abstention - Talbott

6. Public Comment – No public comment.
7. Correspondence – The Committee acknowledged and accepted a letter from U.S. Department of Commerce dated November 20, 2025 accepting the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2025-2030 Plan submitted by Stanislaus County.
Motion: Russell; Second: Talbott. Unanimous.
8. Conflict of Interest Declaration – None declared.
9. Discussion / Action Items

- a) Discussed the Executive Summary for the Stanislaus County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) 2025-2030 and discussed the possibility of appointing ad hoc committees to track the five goals listed in the CEDS.

Of the five goals, three are already being tracked by Stanislaus Workforce Development. The goals tracked by Workforce Development are in *italics*.

- Expand Investment-Ready Sites and Infrastructure
- Strengthen and Diversify Economic Base
- *Build a Skilled and Inclusive Workforce*
- *Elevate Small Business and Entrepreneurial Ecosystems*
- *Catalyze Equitable Growth Through Local and Regional Collaboration*

The Committee asked several clarifying questions, including what was the purpose of tracking all this information and should the ad hoc committee

members really be responsible for convening meetings. Staff reminded the Committee that there are several County initiatives that may already be tracking several of the action items included in the CEDS and it might be a matter of having those parties update the committee. It would also be helpful to list the potential partnerships or resources to the Executive Summary for reference.

Member Olvera stated that he, in partnership with Opportunity Stanislaus, might be able to track one of the goals, but did not want to commit until he had a discussion with Opportunity Stanislaus.

The Committee was reminded that this is a 5-year plan and not everything needs to be addressed and that a decision did not need to be made at this meeting. However, staff did recommend for the Committee to review the Executive Summary and be prepared to consider an action at their April meeting.

No action was taken. It was only a discussion item.

10. Presentation – Stanislaus 2030 Update on Small Business Initiative in partnership with Stanislaus Workforce Development

The Committee heard a presentation from Member Foster and Amanda Hughes, Stanislaus 2030 Director.

The presentation is attached for reference.

Note: While the presentation was wrapping up, Member Mann stepped out. After the presentation and prior to the next item, Members Russell and Schweininger stepped out.

11. Updates on Economic Development Projects and Initiatives

- Member Sims shared that a new Chick-Fil-A will be opening up on W. Tuolumne Road in Turlock and that there is a Small Business Funding Expo taking place on January 29th.
- Member Roque shared that the City of Patterson has a new 4-story commercial distribution center and other shopping centers will be opening soon.
- Member Talbott shared that the City of Waterford has seen significant sidewalk improvements along 132 and off 132 and Tim Bell Road. New housing developments are in process and that they have a new Chamber of Commerce.
- Member Zwahlen shared that 7th Street Village Housing Development will be breaking ground soon. Also shared that Sutter Memorial will be opening a Cancer Center.
- Member Aguirre shared that there will be six new tenants at the old Wal-Mart site and that a second Dutch Bros Coffee shop has opened in Ceres.

12. Next Meeting Date: April 8, 2026

13. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 3:25 PM.

**STANISLAUS COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AGENDA ITEM**

BOARD AGENDA: 9.A.
AGENDA DATE: April 8, 2026

DISCUSSION AND ACTION:

SUBJECT:

Identification of Agencies Tracking Outstanding Goals in the Stanislaus County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) 2025–2030

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. Identify the agency or agencies responsible for tracking the outstanding goals outlined in the Stanislaus County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) 2025–2030.

DISCUSSION:

To ensure focused attention and effective progress monitoring for each strategic goal, the Committee should identify which agencies within Stanislaus County are currently tracking the outstanding goals listed below.

Outstanding Goals Not Yet Assigned to a Tracking Agency:

- Expand Investment-Ready Sites and Infrastructure
- Strengthen and Diversify the Economic Base

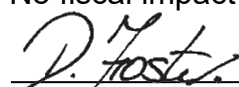
Goals Currently Tracked by Workforce Development:

- *Build a Skilled and Inclusive Workforce*
- *Elevate Small Business and Entrepreneurial Ecosystems*
- *Catalyze Equitable Growth Through Local and Regional Collaboration*

Once agencies are identified for all five goals, they will provide regular updates to the EDAC Committee, including progress reports and key findings. This process will support the Committee's ability to monitor progress, identify challenges, and recommend actions that advance effective implementation. It will also promote deeper engagement, clearer accountability, and more consistent tracking of outcomes across all priority areas.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact is associated with this agenda item.



Doris Foster, Director
Stanislaus County Workforce Development