



City Council Communication

AGENDA DATE: November 10, 2025 **LEGISTAR ITEM #:** Pres 25-378

PRESENTER: Natalia Antezana **DEPARTMENT:** Economic Development

☐ Ordinance

☐ Resolution

☐ Public Hearing

REQUEST

Since the inaugural meeting of the Small Business Task Force (SBTF) in October 2024, the group has worked diligently to identify and address key challenges facing Commerce City's small business community. The report summarizes the insights, key takeaways, and recommendations that have emerged from these efforts.

We respectfully request Council's continued support of the SBTF, and consideration of collaborative efforts to advance solutions aligned with the report's findings to ensure sustained progress in supporting our local small businesses

BACKGROUND

Council Motion from July 2024:

"I want to make a motion directing city staff to create a Small Business Task Force (SBTF) to enhance collaboration between the City and small business owners to advance recommended policies to support small business growth and success in our City.

The objectives of the SBTF shall include, but will not be limited to:

1. Make recommendations for policies, regulations, and initiatives that promote and support small businesses within the City;
2. Facilitate communication and collaboration between small business owners and city officials;
3. Advocate for the interests and needs of small businesses in the City;
4. Promote economic development strategies that foster a supportive environment for small businesses to thrive in the City.

JUSTIFICATION

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION CONTINUED

☐ Council Goal	☒ Strategic Plan	☐ Work Plan	☐ Legal
Citation	Industry or Place - Focused Roundtables-Mentorship and Community Building: Create industry specific roundtables that (1) identify needs, (2) share resources available, (3) develop training/resources to meet needs, and (4) develop. Catalyze new ways for businesses to connect to one another and for the City to connect with businesses Strategic Plan 1.3.1, 1.3.7, 4.2.1 Industry - Specific Incubator: Create industry-specific business incubators alongside ecosystem partners that culminate in opportunities for start-up (physical space, capital). Initial Opportunities: Retail/Restaurants or Manufacturing. Strategic Plan 1.1.6, 1.2.4, 1.2.6. BRE Support-Elevate Commerce: Continue individual business retention and expansion visits for existing small businesses. Develop and implement a start-up guide on the Elevate Commerce website that can be used in BRE visits and training. Additionally, increase marketing efforts to inform businesses about available services, funding and advisory resources. The guide will be developed as a bilingual start up guide to enhance accessibility. Strategic Plan 1.2.5, 2.2.5 Ecosystem Partner Development: Strengthen relationships with existing ecosystem partners and develop new partnerships to connect to local business community and ED programs. Expand workshops on financial literacy, business strategy, and marketing. Resource Awareness: Improve outreach through ecosystem partners such as the North Metro SBDC, Colorado Enterprise Fund, and the Chamber of Commerce. Strategic Plan 1.3.6, 5.1.2 Public Safety & Business-Friendly Environment: Establish a Business Safety Grant Program, Work with		

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION CONTINUED

	the Commerce City Police Department to address business safety concerns. Explore funding partnerships for storefront security grants. Strategic Plan 1.3.1. Streamlining Business Licensing & Permitting. Advocate for a simplified licensing process. Conduct a comparative analysis with neighboring cities. Identify and implement suggested changes to streamline internal processes and regulatory compliance. Continue bilingual outreach and educational efforts on code enforcement and business regulations. Strategic Plan 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.2.3.
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