



# CITY OF MILPITAS

## Economic Development and Trade Commission

---

### SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

**Wednesday, January 14, 2026**  
**Committee Conference Room**  
**Milpitas City Hall, First Floor**  
**455 E. Calaveras Blvd. Milpitas**

#### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Norwood called the meeting to order at 4:35 PM.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Norwood led the pledge of allegiance.

#### ROLL CALL

Economic Development Specialist Kal Zubair called the roll.

**PRESENT:** Chair Chris Norwood, Commissioners Bill Bhagvat, Larry Ciardella, Parkash Daryani, Jacob Sanchez.

Alternate #1 Conrad Schapira

Alternate #2 Michael Nguyen

Staff: Economic Development Coordinator Michael Thomas and Economic Development Specialist Kal Zubair

**ABSENT:** Vice Chair Lynne Rice

#### SEATING OF ALTERNATES

Alternate Member No. 1: Conrad Shapira was seated in the Commission's technology seat.

Alternate Member No. 2: Michael Nguyen will be seated in place of Commissioner Sanchez, as he needs to leave early.

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Recommended Action:** Approve January 14, 2026 special meeting agenda of the Economic Development & Trade Commission as submitted.

**Mover / Seconder:** Schapira / Sanchez

**Motion carried by a vote of:** AYES: 6 NOES: 0

**Ayes:** Norwood, Bhagvat, Ciardella, Daryani, Sanchez, Schapira

**Noes:** None **Abstentions:** None

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Recommended Action:** Approve November 3, 2025 meeting minutes of the Economic Development & Trade Commission as submitted.

**Mover / Seconder:** Daryani / Schapira

**Motion carried by a vote of:** AYES: 6 NOES: 0

**Ayes:** Norwood, Bhagvat, Ciardella, Daryani, Sanchez, Schapira

**Noes:** None **Abstentions:** Rice

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

Energy & Environmental Sustainability Commissioner Lisa Oliver shared three announcements: an invitation to a climate film event on January 31,

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Norwood announced that he was re-elected as Milpitas Unified School District's school board president and that Robert Jung will become MUSD's representative at the Commission.

Councilmember Lam provided an update on a below-market-rate property that has not been sold and on the recruitment of a City Manager and a City Attorney.

Coordinator Michael Thomas announced that since the January 14 meeting is a special meeting, the Commission's elections will be moved to February's regular meeting. Mr. Thomas also notified EDTC about the Silicon Valley Business Journal's Economic and Mayors' Forecast on January 22 and of Joint Venture's annual State of the Valley conference on February 27.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **9a. Super Bowl 60 and FIFA World Cup Preparations – Economic Development Coordinator Michael Thomas**

Commissioner Sanchez left the meeting at 5 p.m.

Recommended Action: Receive an overview of the Office of Economic Development's preparations for the 2026 sporting events. This item's nexus is Economic Development Element Policy ED 4-1: Enhance the City's economic vitality.

Mr. Thomas provided an overview of the City's preparations for the 2026 sporting events to date.

No public comment was provided.

Commissioners discussed the details of the tour and presentation and asked clarifying questions.

Commissioner Daryani suggested that more decorations be installed on Main St. or around the City Hall campus. Mr. Daryani also suggested that staff solicit sponsorships for the Taste of Milpitas event and for the lighting outside of City Hall.

Chair Norwood suggested that Calaveras Blvd. be used for City announcements and to leverage the medians from Hillview Drive to Milpitas Blvd. to promote local businesses. Mr. Norwood also stated that staff should explore providing a quarterly report on ToT and Hotel Occupancy to EDTC.

**Mover / Seconder:** Daryani / Ciardella

**Motion carried by a vote of:** AYES: 6 NOES: 0

**Ayes:** Norwood, Bhagvat, Ciardella, Daryani, Schapira, Nguyen

**Noes:** None **Abstentions:** None

**9b. Milpitas Unified School District's Workforce Development Career Pathways Partnership – Economic Development Specialist Kal Zubair**

Recommended Action: Discuss MUSD's workforce development career pathways strategy and provide suggestions. This item's nexus is the Commission's Workplan and Economic Development Strategy 17.

Mr. Zubair introduced the item, and Chair Norwood led the Commission's discussion of MUSD's workforce development initiative.

No public comment was provided.

Commissioner Daryani suggested that the Partnership focus on creating training opportunities and curriculum.

Alternate Schapira emphasized the important of understanding the hiring needs of businesses and of soft skills development.

Chair Norwood provided information on the MUSD Career Fair on April 1, 2026.

**Mover / Seconder:** Schapira / Daryani

**Motion carried by a vote of:** AYES: 6 NOES: 0

**Ayes:** Norwood, Bhagvat, Ciardella, Daryani, Schapira, Nguyen

**Noes:** None **Abstentions:** None

**9c. New Business Item Discussion – Chair Chris Norwood**

Recommendation: Commissioners introduce items the Commission may consider including or modifying in future EDTC Workplans. This item's nexus is *The Commissioners' Handbook*. Staff will note and file Commissioners' suggestions.

Specialist Zubair introduced the business item, and Chair Norwood led a discussion on items that should be kept and removed on the future EDTC Workplan.

No public comment was provided.

Commissioners discussed the EDTC Workplan and provided suggestions on its refinement.

Chair Norwood motioned to remove the Green City initiatives action item from the FY 2027 EDTC Workplan; Alternate Nguyen seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

The Commission collectively agreed to pursue better engagement with the Milpitas Chamber of Commerce.

**Mover / Seconder:** Daryani / Ciardella

**Motion carried by a vote of:** AYES: 6 NOES: 0

**Ayes:** Norwood, Bhagvat, Ciardella, Daryani, Schapira, Nguyen

**Noes:** None **Abstentions:** None

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Mover/Seconder:** Ciardella / Schapira

**Motion carried by a vote of:** AYES: 6 NOES: 0

**Ayes:** Norwood, Bhagvat, Ciardella, Daryani, Schapira, Nguyen

**Noes:** None **Abstentions:** None