

**Business Roundtable (BR)
September 11, 2018
Acorn Room**

Summary Notes

Call to Order by Aaron Kitzman at 8:03 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Colleen Andersen, Adam Antoniskis, Cheri Blessing, Taylor Scott Champagne, Ping Fang, Suresh Iyer, Aaron Kitzman, and Greg Monterrosa

Absent: Brian Berman and James Johnson

Staff: Haider Alawami, Economic Development Manager; Rosie Ornelas, Economic Development Analyst; and Alisa Lacy, Customer Relations Assistant

Others

Present: Adam Haverstock, Director of Governmental Affairs and Tourism, Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce; and Don Schmitz, Council Candidate for Thousand Oaks City Council.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Adam Haverstock gave a report on several items:

- a) On October 11, 2018, the Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce and California Lutheran University are presenting a Candidates Forum for the Thousand Oaks City Council, where there will be three forums that will be moderated by Dr. Herb Gooch.
- b) The Chamber is going through a renovation/remodel for the first time in 10 years. There will be an open house to celebrate on October 16, 2018.
- c) Adam mentioned the Save the Dates for the Taste of Conejo will be going out. The event will be taking place on November 9, 2018, at the Four Seasons Hotel in Westlake Village.

Don Schmitz introduced himself as a Council Candidate for the Thousand Oaks City Council.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Draft Council Report regarding Business Roundtable recommendation to amend the sign ordinance

A report was drafted to go before City Council regarding the sign ordinance. There are three main recommendations:

1. Currently, the ordinance allows for different signage size on freeways, depending on the location of the sign on the freeway. The recommendation is to allow for the same signage size for all businesses, regardless of the location.
2. It is also recommended for monument signs that are located at businesses to be 14 inches higher, to include the property address and to add more room to be able to allow more of the other names of tenants.
3. Also, if a business is located on a cross street, it will be recommended to allow a monument sign on each cross street.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Development and Planning

It was recommended for the Business Roundtable to create an online survey, targeting property owners, developers, and tenants to see what issues they are facing. The committee members will meet up to draft potential questions. Haider stated once the questions are compiled, the City will work with our outreach team to disseminate the survey. It was suggested to circulate the survey utilizing multiple channels, such as mail, posting on the website, sending out an e-blast, and even walking into local businesses. Haider will reach out to CDD staff regarding other ventures that the Business Roundtable could be involved in.

No other subcommittee reports were given at this meeting.



BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE COMMENTS AND OPEN FORUM

Ping discussed the Tri-County broadband initiatives:

- A. The County is working to improve the infrastructure of broadband services. For example, Oxnard discovered their own fiber network throughout the city. They are focusing on building and offering high speed broadband. On October 11, 2018, the Regional Broadband Summit will be taking place at the Ventura County Community Foundation at 8:30 a.m. to further discuss.
- B. It was also mentioned that the City of Thousand Oaks currently has an RFP to hire a consultant to renovate the Civic Arts Plaza Campus to create a Town Center. Public Wi-Fi will be included as proposed infrastructure in the plan.

Colleen requested that she would like the City to focus on a technology strategic plan and include it the economic strategic plan. She stated that home business technology could be better. Haider stated that he needs the data to prove there is a need for this. It was suggested, perhaps, the survey could include home-based businesses, specifically regarding broadband access. The questions that the committee members formulate will be presented at the next Business Roundtable meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 8:58 a.m. to Tuesday, November 13, 2018, in the Acorn Room.

