



ECONOMIC ADVISORY COMMISSION (EAC) STRUCTURE REVIEW & CONSIDERATIONS

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Economic Initiatives Committee

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AGENDA & MEETING GOAL

Agenda

1. Review current EAC structure and composition
2. Overview of challenges, opportunities and input
3. Structure proposals
4. Discussion

Meeting Goal

Provide feedback on ideal Economic Advisory Commission objectives and structure to develop bylaws

WHY CONSIDER THE STRUCTURE NOW?

- Part of county-wide review of all boards, authorities and commissions
- Very large body – 70 members
- Current economic shifts, challenges and opportunities – looking to the future

Over-Arching Goals of EAC Structure Review

- Ensure the best structure to meet objectives
- Ensure value to EAC commissioners, the county, and staff

CURRENT EAC COMPOSITION

- Established in 1992. Reconstituted in 2008 via Board Matter
- Stated mission:
 - To advise the Board on economic development and related issues
 - To provide policy level recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on matters related to the development and expansion of the County's economy

2008 Board Matter Seat Allocation: 44

- 17 'Government' (Board of Supervisors, 3 towns, CEX, RHA, Planning Commission, FCPS)
- 12 Residents (appointments from each district, 3 at-large by Chairman of the Board)
- 15 Business and Community Partner Organizations

Seats added since 2008: 26

- 23 residents/at-large
- 2 Business and Community Partner Organizations
- 1 BAC (small business commission)

Current Total Seats: 70

COMPOSITION & PARTICIPATION

Current Sector Representation

Based on organization or company affiliation, including for at-large members (includes 'holdover' seats)

Participant Type	# of Seats
Private Sector / Business	20
Nonprofit & Institutional	27
Government & Public	20
Vacant	3

2021-2023 Meeting Attendance

Average Participation Rate: 56%

Non-Government Average Participation Rate in 2021 (Virtual): 68%

Non-Government Average Participation Rate in 2022/2023 (In-Person): 29%

REVIEW OF SIMILAR ENTITIES

Loudoun County Economic Development Advisory Commission

- Objectives: Act in advisory capacity, recommending policies and procedures, provide business intelligence
- Membership: 31
 - Voting Members (23) – based on target industry clusters
 - Non-Voting Standing Advisory Members (8) – government and related institutions (no elected supervisors on commission)
 - Chair and officers elected annually (by commission)
- Recent topics:
 - Workforce Development
 - Housing
 - Zoning Ordinance Rewrite
 - State of Dulles Airport

REVIEW OF SIMILAR ENTITIES

Cook County (IL) Economic Development Advisory Committee

- Appointments by County Board President
- Objectives / focus: Advise the county and the Bureau of Economic Development on strategic activities
- 25 members
 - Private sector Chair and Vice Chair
 - C-suite / executive appointments
 - Private-sector, non-profit, institutional, government
- Recent topics
 - Incentives and financial tools (vote)
 - Small business grants and capital
 - Manufacturing reinvented
 - Bureau strategic plan

EAC MEMBER FEEDBACK

What is working

- Networking - connecting with staff and Board of Supervisors
- Mixed group in the room receiving same information
- New knowledge on important topics
- Pre-work or meetings to address a specific issue

Areas to manage / improve

- Focus on the topic at hand
- Experts and member participation and impact
- Anticipate, prepare and adapt to market changes

Opportunities to Explore

- Higher-level, cross-cutting topics
- Decrease size, increase engagement
- Earlier start-time, more networking

CONSIDERATIONS: OBJECTIVES & FOCUS

Maintain overall purpose/mission:

- To advise the Board on economic development and related issues, including economic diversification and resiliency
- To provide policy level recommendations to the Board of Supervisors

Objectives:

- Provide business intelligence to the board and to county agencies
- Provide recommendations or response to economic development policies or programs

CONSIDERATIONS: STRUCTURE

Reduce the total number of EAC seats to approx. 25

- 10 Board of Supervisors (including Chairman)
- 8-10 private-sector member appointments
- 5-7 standing seats – economic and business development organization

Appointments based on industry and/or function

- Executive / C-suite
- Specified by industry – diverse range
 - Seek Geographic Diversity
 - Include Young Entrepreneurs

CONSIDERATIONS: MEETINGS & OUTCOMES

Topics & Experts

- Additional experts invited to meetings to provide input on specialized topics
- Ad-hoc meetings established for specific needs
- Meetings structured to focus on receiving business intelligence from members and experts and input on specific programs, policies and topics

Time and Location

- More networking opportunities
- Longer meeting time (for example, 9am-11am)
- Consider alternative location in the Government Center

NEXT STEPS

- Based on Board feedback, develop bylaws
- Share draft final EAC structure with Board via NIP
 - Discussion and feedback
- Bylaw creation and adoption at a future EAC meeting



QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION