

Essex Economic Development Commission (EDC)

8:00 AM Thursday, April 15th, 2021

COVID-19 UPDATE: Due to the COVID-19 / coronavirus pandemic, this meeting will be held remotely via Microsoft Teams. Available options to join the meeting:

- Join via Microsoft Teams: <https://www.essexvt.org/887/5673/Join-Teams-Meeting-Essex-EDC>. Depending on your browser, you may need to call in for audio (below).
- Join via conference call (audio only): [\(802\) 377-3784](tel:8023773784) | Conference ID: 626 758 56#
- Public wifi is available at the Essex municipal offices, libraries, and hotspots listed here: <https://publicservice.vermont.gov/content/public-wifi-hotspots-vermont>

Note that for the purpose of recording minutes, you will be asked to provide your first and last name and your address.

When listening to the meeting, please keep your phone or computer on “mute” to prevent interruptions. For agenda items when it is appropriate for the public to speak, please unmute your phone or computer and introduce yourself before requesting the floor from the Chair.

AGENDA

Commission Members: Annie Cooper, Chair; Brian Shelden, Vice Chair; Botur Kosimi, Clerk; Jeff Benjamin; Ta-Tanisha Redditta; Greg Morgan (On Leave)

Staff & Partners: Evan Teich / Greg Duggan; Owiso Makuku; Darren Schibler; Robin Pierce; Sam Anderson, GBIC

Guests: Mariah Sanderson, Coalition Director for the Burlington Partnership for a Healthy Community, as well as on the Steering Committees for the statewide prevention coalition, Prevention Works VT and regional prevention group, the Chittenden Prevention Network; Justin Hoy, Director of Programs and Youth Services, Essex CHIPS; Lori Houghton, Vermont House of Representatives, Chittenden 8-2

1. Call to Order
2. Changes to Agenda/Review/Approval of Minutes
3. Public to be Heard
4. **Cannabis Discussion:**
 - a. Presentation by Mariah Sanderson, Coalition Director for the Burlington Partnership for a Healthy Prevention Works VT followed by discussion.
 - b. Further Cannabis discussion, including explanation of research committee re: Owiso Makuku
 - c. Nomination of one EDC member to serve on research committee
5. **Local Option Tax:** to continue to continuously & consistently invite Essex residents, Essex businesses, Essex boards to our meetings to share their thoughts for our note-taking, for dreams/visions of Local Option Tax, as we prepare to get surveys out to residents, businesses, & boards.
6. Check in on bigger picture **interweaving Essex committees/commissions** coming together

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7. **Updates** from Partners and Staff
8. **Business Contact List** brief check in.
9. **Next EDC Meeting:** **Thursday, May 6th, 2021, 8am**
10. Meeting Adjournment: (9:00 AM)