

Minutes

Remote Housing and Economic Development Committee

October 15, 2025

NOTE: This meeting was held via Zoom and can be viewed at this link:

<https://portlandme.portal.civicclerk.com/event/8331/media>. These Minutes provide a record of those in attendance, general discussion taking place, and motions made.

A remote meeting of the Housing and Economic Development Committee (HEDC) of the Portland City Council was held on Tuesday, October 15, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom. Present from the HEDC were Chair Councilor Pious Ali, and members Councilors Sarah Michniewicz, Regina Phillips and Kate Sykes. Present from the City staff were Housing and Economic Development Department Director Greg Watson, Housing and Community Development Division Director Mary Davis, Corporation Counsel Michael Goldman, Assistant City Manager Dena Libner, Parks and Recreation Department Director, Ethan Hipple, and Director of Public Assemblies Division, Andy Downs.

Item #1: Review and recommendation to City Council for Agreement for 2026 Back Cove Festival

Director Hipple introduced the item and outlined the revisions made as a result of guidance received from Committee members during the meeting on October 7, 2025. Revisions include an increase to the noise deposit (\$1,000 to \$5,000) and requiring any transfer of contract rights to be approved by the City Council, not the City Manager.

Councilor Phillips and Councilor Michniewicz asked several clarifying questions. Councilor Michniewicz asked staff to review all changes made to the original agreement, which Director Hipple provided. Councilor Michniewicz requested that Corporation Counsel review if

and how amendments may be made by the Council. Corporation Counsel Goldman indicated that a contract is different from an ordinance and it would be difficult for the Council to make amendments on the floor as the other party would not have an opportunity to agree or negotiate. Councilor Sykes indicated that all her concerns were not addressed and she remains concerned about transparency around the type of tickets issued, return on investment to the City, and how neighborhood concerns are being addressed.

After continued committee discussion and responses from staff, Councilor Ali asked for a motion. Councilor Phillips made a motion which was seconded by Councilor Michniewicz. The Committee voted 3-1 (Sykes against) to forward the item on to the City Council for approval.

Public comment was not taken on this item because the Committee took public comment at its meeting on October 7, 2025.

Motion to adjourn by Councilor Phillips, seconded by Councilor Michniewicz and approved by 4-0 vote Meeting was adjourned at 6:41 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for October 21, 2025.

Respectively submitted, Mary Davis