



**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD
AGENDA
January 12, 2026
8:30 AM**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**
 - A. EDAB Minutes December 8, 2025
- 4. NEW BUSINESS**
- 5. OLD BUSINESS**
- 6. OTHER BUSINESS**
 - A. Discussion with the Mayor and City Commission- Economic & Cultural Outlook
- 7. ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- 8. PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**
- 9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**
- 10. ADJOURNMENT**

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board, Agency, or Commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. (FS 286.0105)

Any person requiring auxiliary aids and services at this meeting may contact the City Clerk's Office at (954) 535-2705 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Florida Relay Service by using the following numbers: 1-800-955-8770 or 1-800-955-8771.

CITY OF LAUDERDALE LAKES

Agenda Cover Page

Fiscal Impact: No

Contract Requirement: No

Title
EDAB Minutes December 8, 2025
Summary
Staff Recommendation

Background:

Funding Source:

Fiscal Impact:

Sponsor Name/Department:

Meeting Date: 1/12/2026

ATTACHMENTS:

Description	Type
<input type="checkbox"/> EDAB Minutes Dec 8, 2025	Minutes

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD (EDAB) MEETING MINUTES

**Monday, December 8, 2025
8:30 AM
City of Lauderdale Lakes City Hall Complex**

I. Meeting Called to Order

Meeting called to order on Monday, December 8, 2025 at 8:52 a.m.

II. Roll Call

Members Present

Patrick Green, Vice Chair
Derica Reed, Secretary
Neil Ramsay
Daphne Edwards
Latasha “Taj” McGill

Member Absent

Samuel Goodman, Chair

Guest

Celestine Dunmore, CRA Executive Director

III. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

A. Approval of Meeting minutes of November 10, 2025

Motion to approve November 10, 2025 meeting minutes was made by Board member Derica Reed and second by Board member Neil Ramsay. Minutes were approved with the condition of correcting a minor typographical error.

IV. Old Business

A. Long-term goals and objectives of the Board

• Goal #1- Establishment of the chamber of commerce

- Board member Green requested that this long-term goal should be marked as completed in future agendas and related documents.
- The Chamber is pursuing funding for the Shop Lauderdale Leagues initiative, awaiting commission approval to release funds.
- A Chamber retreat for their board members is scheduled for Sunday, May 14th, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM to set strategic objectives for 2026 and update stakeholder communications.
- Website updates and outreach efforts will follow the retreat to maintain member engagement.

- **Goal #2 – Host the 3rd Financial Literacy and Business Resource Fair**

Confirmed dates:

- **Networking & Job Fair:** Saturday, April 18, 2026 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Multipurpose Building- Auditorium.
- **Financial Literacy and Business Resource Fair:** Thursday, June 20, 2026. Multipurpose Building- Auditorium.
- "'Save the Date' letters were sent to community partners.
- The board plans to begin formal outreach for the April job fair in January or February of 2026, allowing required 60-day lead time for partner involvement.
- These events aim to improve small business resources and workforce readiness, supporting broader economic development goals.

- **Goal #3 – Land development and Redevelopment of neglected commercial plazas**
Commercial Plaza Redevelopment

- According to Board member Ramsey the city faces significant economic challenges but holds opportunities through strategic cultural and community assets.
- Board member Ramsey highlight the following points:
 - Lauderdale Lakes ranks between 68 and 80 on a 0–100 vulnerability scale, placing it among the most economically vulnerable U.S. cities.
 - This positioning qualifies the city for substantial federal economic development support through Community Redevelopment Agencies (CRAs).
 - The city's financial capacity is stable but public infrastructure and amenities lag severely, limiting business attraction.
 - Median household income is around \$44,500, with a high renter population and limited homeownership, reflecting entrenched poverty.
 - The community has a strong cultural identity and independent small businesses, mainly local services and food, which contribute modestly to the tax base.
- Board member Ramsey further stated that the city lacks “third spaces”—public venues beyond home and work where residents can gather. The following points were stated:
 - Absence of parks, recreational centers, and entertainment limits quality of life and crime prevention efforts.
 - This deficit causes informal, unsupervised gatherings that increase municipal service burdens, including police and emergency response.
 - Without these amenities, attracting higher-income families is unlikely, as children's education and play opportunities are inadequate.
 - The economic stability is described as "stably poor," with income growth tied to improvements in schools and amenities.
- **Property and Commercial Real Estate Engagement**
 - The board is moving forward to build direct relationships with commercial property owners to address property conditions impacting the city's image and business environment.
 - An updated list of property owners is being compiled and will be shared at the next board meeting to facilitate outreach efforts.
 - The goal is to engage owners on property aesthetics and tenant management to improve commercial corridors.
 - This effort aligns with concerns about vacant or poorly maintained buildings that detract from investment appeal.

- Board members see this as a critical step to encourage owners to invest in upgrades and support city revitalization.

V. New Business

- **Economic Development Strategy and Board-Commission Relations**
 - The board agreed that strengthening communication and collaboration with city commissioners is essential for effective economic development.
 - The board plans to invite all five city commissioners to a breakfast meeting on January 12th at 8:30 AM to discuss the City of Lauderdale Lakes' economic and cultural outlook.
 - This meeting aims to create an open dialogue where commissioners and board members align on challenges and opportunities.
 - The goal is to understand commissioners' priorities and barriers to progress before making formal recommendations publicly.
 - Board members emphasized the need for City Commissioners to actively engage in business attraction and regional partnerships.

VI. Announcements

- No announcements

VII. Petitions from the Public

- No petitions from the Public

VIII. Future Agenda Items

- Board members requested the attendance of Lauderdale Lakes Mayor and City Commission to discuss with the board the economic and cultural outlook of the city at the first Board meeting scheduled in January 2026.

Adjournment (9:38 a.m.)

Derica Reed, Secretary

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