

CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU



OER

Office of Economic
Revitalization



November 28, 2023

**OFFICE OF
ECONOMIC
REVITALIZATION**

Background

- At its October meeting, the Commission considered a draft annual report
- Members discussed many possible changes
- This extra meeting was scheduled to:
 - Consider and approve a revised draft reflecting the October discussion
 - Determine how the Commission should proceed in 2024



Important Parts of the Report

- Review of this year's meetings
- Three “big ideas” and guidance for OER in 2024
- Plan for Commission's work in 2024, including expenditure of allocated funds



Important Changes to Draft Report

- Two of the three “big ideas” are unchanged:
 - *Idea 1: Grant administrator position*
 - *Idea 3: Expand Business Incubators and Accelerators To Leverage Underserved Communities and Untapped Market Opportunities*
- Members asked for a revision of Idea 2



Changes to Idea 2

- The Commission decided not to use the “circular economy” framing for Idea 2
- Much of the discussion about Idea 2 focused on how to engage the City in contracting more with local businesses



Changes to Idea 2

- Idea 2 has been reframed as: *Launch “O‘ahu Business Connector” Program to Expand the City’s Engagement of Local Business*
- The proposed Commission’s Guidance to OER on Idea 2 recommends that OER study and recommend *“policy changes to the operation and marketing of the City’s procurement process to attract and expand the number of local businesses who receive contracts for City projects and services.”*



Commission's Work in 2024

- The Commission has \$50,000 at its disposal – enough for significant research and analysis on one or two important topics
- At the October meeting, several possible ideas were discussed, including:
 - A City procurement analysis to support Idea 2
 - An “import substitution” analysis to identify niches where local entrepreneurs could sell goods and services to local organizations, instead of buying out of state
 - Follow up research to the UHERO Small Business Survey
- No decisions were made about the Commission's 2024 work





Proposed 2024 Actions

- Create a Permitted Interaction Group(s) (PIGs) to create a 2024 work plan:
 - 2024 agenda
 - 2024 schedule
 - 2024 Commission-directed projects
- Ask the PIGs to return with a work plan in January 2024



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