

CITY OF RICHLAND CENTER

AGENDA ITEM DATA SHEET

Agenda Item: Economic Development

Meeting Date: 12/20/2022

Requested by: Ashley Oliphant upon recommendation from the Personnel & Insurance Committee

Background: The position of Economic Development Director is a shared role between the City and County. Although the role is technically a County employee, direction is provided from the RED Board. Due to the financial challenges the County is experiencing, the future of economic development as it currently stands is uncertain.

While a significant effort has been made in demonstrating the value and benefit of the role, the County has not identified a means to continue funding the position beyond 2023. To preserve the position and continue the City's economic development efforts, the full cost of the position/department was included in the 2023 budget allowing the City to create a full-time position and withdraw from the Structural Document which established the shared position.

Taking this action will ensure the City's economic development efforts are not hindered. It will also alleviate the financial burden of the role on the County. The City may opt to provide ongoing economic development services to the County at an hourly rate or other arrangement to be determined.

Financial Impact: \$120,953 (all expenses related to the role)

Funding Source: Accounted for in the 2023 budget

Requested Action: Motion to adopt Resolution 2022-TBD authorizing the issuance of a Notice to Withdraw to Richland County, and establishment of a full-time City position for the purpose of economic development.