



Community Development Authority

Meeting Date: October 15, 2026

Agenda Item: Memo re CDA representative to Innovation Center Advisory Panel

Staff Contact (name, email, phone): Mason Becker, mbecker@whitewater-wi.gov, 262.443.4458

BACKGROUND

(Enter the who, what when, where, why)

The Innovation Center Advisory Panel (ICAP) was established in July 2024 as part of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Whitewater and the University of Wisconsin – Whitewater. This panel replaced the previous Technology Park Board. The ICAP consists of three representatives: one from the University, one from the City, and one from the CDA. The current MOU runs through June 20, 2027.

Per the MOU, the panel shall meet periodically (up to four times per year) to share updates on and discuss the operations of the Innovation Center. This panel is advisory in nature and does not control leasing of the facility or other financial matters. The panel can offer input or make recommendations on future Innovation Center related initiatives, programming, etc.

Thayer Coburn has been serving as the CDA representative on the ICAP for some time but has recently requested to step down from this role. It would be appropriate for the CDA to appoint a new representative to the ICAP.

Due to this matter, the ICAP meeting that was to be held on October 13, 2026 has been rescheduled for November (date to be confirmed).

PREVIOUS ACTIONS – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

(Dates, committees, action taken)

- N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT

(If none, state N/A)

- None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

- Staff recommend that the CDA board appoint a new representative to the Innovation Center Advisory Panel

ATTACHMENT(S) INCLUDED

(If none, state N/A)

- None