

ORDINANCE NO. 764

AN ORDINANCE of the City Council of the City of Lakewood, Washington, establishing an “Economic Development Opportunity Fund” within the General Fund Ending Fund Balance Reserves.

WHEREAS, the Lakewood City Council developed and adopted a Strategic Plan (Plan) that establishes Lakewood’s goal and objectives based on the priorities and values identified by the City’s most important component, its people; and

WHEREAS, the Plan is an invaluable tool to align and connect the Lakewood City Council’s Goals to existing plans and policies while also providing a roadmap for the future that supports the community values identified in the Vision Statement; and

WHEREAS, the City Council adopted the current Plan for the fiscal years 2021 through 2024, with reviews and updates to occur as part of the City’s biennial budgeting process; and

WHEREAS, the current Plan identifies Dependable Infrastructure and Economic Development as part of the City Council Goals, along with Public Safety, Fiscal Responsibility, Transparency and Robust Community; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to establish a designation of General Fund ending fund balance fund titled “Economic Development Opportunity Fund” for the purpose of setting aside funds for the purpose of providing economic development related opportunities;

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Opportunity Fund may include a Small Business Growth Revolving Fund Loan program for the purpose of supporting growing businesses physically located within the City of Lakewood that are in need of gap financing. This is a self-replenishing flexible source of capital that may be used in combination with conventional financing. The basic terms and limits may be: loan amounts of \$5,000 to \$150,000; interest rate to be determined; terms depended upon use and may be: up to 5 years for working capital; up to 10 years for equipment; up to 15 years of real property. The funds may be used for: operating capital; acquisition of land and buildings; new construction; machinery and equipment; façade improvements and building renovation; and landscape and property improvements. The business requirements for these loans may include a business plan, business experience and management information, credit history and financial statements, collateral, personal or corporate guarantee, and cash flow projections. The results must benefit the community in some way, including: number of living wage and/or family wage jobs created; increase in tax revenue; beautification, health, and safety improvements; and benefits to low and moderate-moderate income citizens.

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that the creation of the Economic Development Opportunity Fund is in the best interest of the City by providing administrative efficiency, reporting, and transparency;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD,
WASHINGTON DO ORDAIN as follows:

Section 1. Designation of “Economic Development Opportunity Fund” Created. There is hereby established in the General Fund ending fund balance the “Economic Development Opportunity Fund” for the purpose of accumulating excess funds from the General Fund and other funds that are eligible to provide funding for economic development opportunity related expenditures. The City shall appropriate and use the Economic Development Opportunity Fund as approved by the City Council.

Section 2. Severability. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance shall be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, or its application held inapplicable to any person, property or circumstance, such invalidity or unconstitutionality or inapplicability shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance or its application to any other person, property or circumstance.

Section 3. Effective Date. A summary of this ordinance shall be published in the official newspaper of the City, and the ordinance shall take effect and be in full force as five (5) days after publication as required by law.

ADOPTED by the City Council this 15th day of November, 2021.

CITY OF LAKEWOOD



Don Anderson, Mayor

Attest:



Briana Schumacher, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:



Heidi Ann Wachter, City Attorney