

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
CITY OF RAMSEY
ANOKA COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

The City of Ramsey Economic Development Authority (EDA) conducted a regular meeting on Thursday, July 10, 2025, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Member Rachal Johnson (remote attendee)
 Member Hannah Karpen
 Member William MacLennan
 Member Chris Riley
 Member Shanna Stewart

Members Absent: Chairperson Scott Winyninger
 Member Brittany Lindahl

Also Present: Sean Sullivan, Economic Development Manager

1. CALL TO ORDER

Member Riley called the Economic Development Authority meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

2. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Member Karpen, seconded by Member Stewart, to approve the agenda.

A roll call vote was performed:

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|------------------|-----|
| Member Johnson | aye |
| Member Stewart | aye |
| Member Riley | aye |
| Member MacLennan | aye |
| Member Karpen | aye |

Motion carried.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

3.01: Approve Meeting Minutes Dated May 8, 2025

Motion by Member MacLennan, seconded by Member Stewart, to approve the May 8, 2025, minutes as presented.

A roll call vote was performed:

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|------------------|-----|
| Member Johnson | aye |
| Member Karpen | aye |
| Member MacLennan | aye |
| Member Riley | aye |
| Member Stewart | aye |

Motion carried.

4. EDA BUSINESS

4.01: Receive 2025 Business Expo Summary and Select 2026 Venue and Date

Economic Development Manager Sullivan presented the staff report.

Member Karpen asked the number of trucks involved in the food truck fest.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan reported that there were 30 trucks at the last event, which was too many, and they are thinking of pairing it down to around 15 trucks.

Member Karpen asked if the trucks could angle on the backside of Adrenaline to allow that venue to continue to be used.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan clarified that is actually considered the front side of the building and did not believe there would be room for 15 along the front. He stated that there would be room to have 15 trucks on the backside if it were truly onsite. He noted other buildings that are nearby in that area with large parking lots that could perhaps be used as a location for the food trucks.

Member Karpen stated that she does like the idea of combining the events.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan acknowledged the convenience of being able to pick up food at Central Park and sit at the park or at a picnic table to eat, noting that option would be eliminated if they were to hold the food truck fest in a parking lot.

Member MacLennan stated that it would be great to have the food trucks, but it also is not as convenient to have to drive between events. He stated that if it is going to be shared, they would need to be within walking distance of each other.

Member Riley agreed that having the events together would be great, but if they are not walkable, that would detract from both events. He stated that perhaps, rather than combining the events, they should try to have another food truck or two at the expo and continue to hold the expo at Adrenaline. He confirmed the consensus of the EDA.

Member Johnson stated that she has always liked Adrenaline as the venue. She stated that while she would be open to an alternative location, she was unsure of a good option.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan agreed that it would be difficult to find another location that would be large enough. He stated that while PACT seemed like a good location adjacent to Central Park, that has been removed as an option as the gym could not be used for that event.

Commissioner Stewart stated that consistency is great for events, both for vendors and attendees. She recognized the unpredictability of weather in April and, therefore, was unsure that it would be a good idea to pair the event with the food truck fest. She stated that she would be open to having another food truck or two at the event. She noted that having separate events also creates more visibility for the City and its events.

Member Riley confirmed support for the proposed date of April 25, 2026, and the proposed budget.

Motion by Member MacLennan, seconded by Member Karpen, to select Adrenaline Sports Center as the venue, reserve April 25, 2026, and approve a \$5,500 allocation from the EDA budget for the 2026 Business Expo.

A roll call vote was performed:

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|------------------|-----|
| Member Johnson | aye |
| Member Karpen | aye |
| Member MacLennan | aye |
| Member Riley | aye |
| Member Stewart | aye |

Motion carried.

4.02: Right of Way Acquisition Loan Program (RALF) Property Sales/Process (Information Item)

Economic Development Manager Sullivan presented the staff report, providing an update on the RALF property sales and process.

Member Riley thanked Economic Development Manager Sullivan for the information on the overall program and updates on the parcels.

Member Karpen noted a few car shops next to RM Golf Carts and asked why those properties were not discussed.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan stated that the purpose of the RALF program is to get ahead of the projects as they start to occur. He explained that the City purchased several properties, but in 2008/2009, the priority of the Council changed, and there was not the same focus on purchasing additional properties. He explained that none of the properties were purchased through condemnation and were all willing sellers. He stated that either those properties were not willing

sellers, or the City was not able to secure funds for that purchase. He noted a rezoning that occurred about 18 months ago that made car lots legal nonconforming uses. He stated that a car lot could sell to another party to continue to operate as that type of business, but if the operation ceases for one year, the use would no longer be allowed on the property.

5. MEMBER / STAFF UPDATE

Economic Development Manager Sullivan provided an update on the Ramsey town hall and other items of interest to the EDA.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Member MacLennan, seconded by Member Karpen, to adjourn the meeting.

A roll call vote was performed:

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| Member Johnson | aye |
| Member Karpen | aye |
| Member MacLennan | aye |
| Member Riley | aye |
| Member Stewart | aye |

Motion carried.

The regular meeting of the Economic Development Authority adjourned at 8:38 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sean Sullivan
Economic Development Manager

ATTEST:

Wendy Schlueter
Economic Development Administrative Assistant

Draft by Amanda Staple
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.