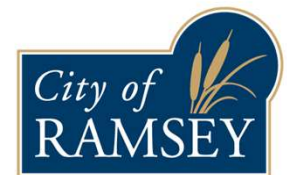




2025 EDA Business Network Breakfast Event Summary and 2026 Budget



Event Photos



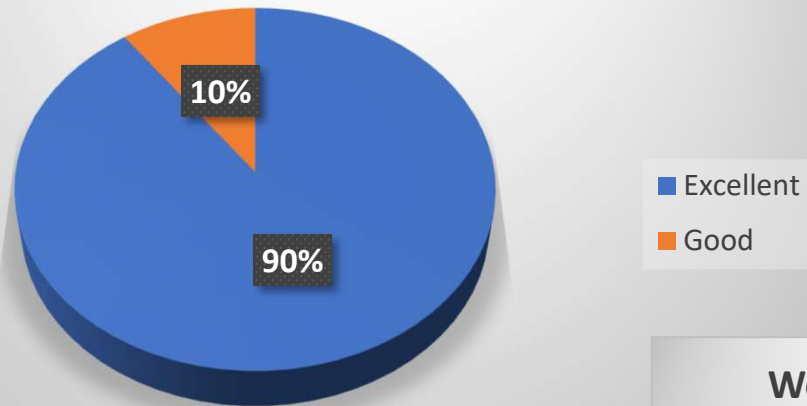
Summary

- 157 RSVP's
- 115 Estimated Attendees
- 49 Businesses in Attendance
- 7 Elected Officials Represented

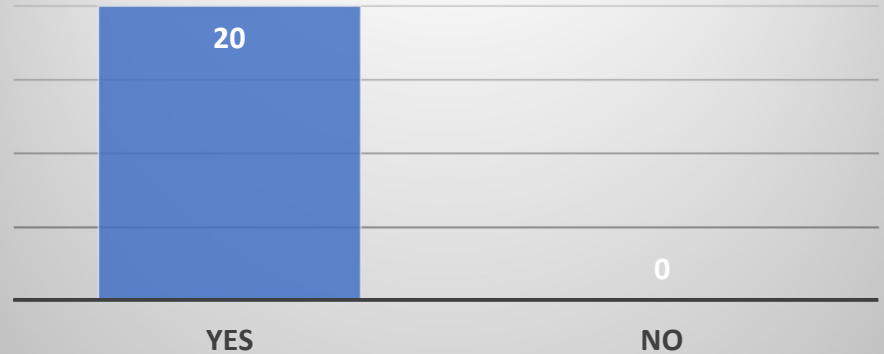


Feedback

Overall Event Rating



Would you participate again next year?



Attendee Comments

- “Utecht was great!”
- “This year’s speaker Ben Utecht was the best I can recall. I enjoyed it very much and it's the highlight of my month.”
- “Ben was motivating and inspiring.”
- “I liked what the keynote speaker had to say. I loved the city updates on development.”
- “I found Ben's culture presentation to be excellent!”
- “Great event once again! It is very apparent that you put a lot of time and work into making these events a success. Company culture at this last one had a lot of great takeaways”
- “The speakers are great, the networking opportunities are fantastic!”
- “Speaker was an excellent choice. Best I’ve heard in a long time.”
- “I thought Ben was fantastic!”
- “Ben was an outstanding speaker. His presentation was the highlight of the morning.”
- “Tremendous event. Great networking, great food, amazing keynote!”
- “Loved the Company Culture and Leadership topics.”

Future Event Suggestions

- “Motivational topics that provide takeaways for business leaders and employees alike.”
- “More on Leadership.”
- “I appreciated the opportunity to network with other Ramsey businesses but wish there would have been an opportunity to see what businesses were going to be present so I could be intentional about who to seek out to network with.”
- “We'd like to keep seeing network events include ways to enhance management skills/strategy.”
- “Potentially hear from the Police or Fire about their jobs and expectations of businesses in Ramsey.”
- “Similar to what we heard this year. It was excellent!”
- “I would encourage more speakers focusing on team building and improving your organization.”
- “Anoka County Commissioner or County Economic Development Director attend to briefly talk about what's happening at the county level on the topics of ED.”
- “Recovery/addiction services, overdose prevention, Community and law enforcement response to drug epidemic.”
- “Environmental stewardship/responsibilities of businesses. Importance of community outreach. Safe workspaces.”

Budget / Event Summary

2026 Budget - Business Network Breakfast		
	La Fontaine	
Headcount	130	145
	2024 Actual	2025 Actual
EXPENSES		
Breakfast	\$ 2,340.00	\$ 2,755.00
Linens (Black)	\$ 250.00	\$ 300.00
Coffee (2)		included
Bottled Water		included
Bottled Juice		included
Service Charge	\$ 468.00	\$ 551.00
Sales Tax	\$ 210.44	\$ 223.84
Subtotal	\$ 3,268.44	\$ 3,829.84
Room Rental	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Keynote Speaker Fee		\$ 2,500.00
Total	\$ 500.00	\$ 3,000.00
Misc		\$ -
Total	\$ -	\$ 6,829.84
REVENUES		
EDA Allocation	\$4,000	\$6,500
BALANCE	\$ 231.56	\$ (329.84)

- Highest Attendance 115
- Lots of Energy in Room
- 42 No-Shows
- Food left over – Order Less?
- \$329.84 over budget

2026 Business Network Breakfast

- Select Venue: LaFontaine Event Center
- Event Timing: Late January-Early February
- Commit to Speaker?
 - Increase EDA contribution for Speaker?
 - \$6,500 last year (\$2,500)
 - \$8,000 (\$5,000)?
 - Every other year paid speaker?

Proposed 2026 Budget Options

2026 Budget - Business Network Breakfast			
	La Fontaine		
Headcount	130	130	130
	<u>2026 Plan</u>	<u>2026 Plan</u>	<u>2026 Plan</u>
EXPENSES	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
Breakfast	\$ 2,470.00	\$ 2,470.00	\$ 2,470.00
Linens (Black)	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Coffee (2)	included	included	included
Bottled Water	included	included	included
Bottled Juice	included	included	included
Service Charge	\$ 494.00	\$ 494.00	\$ 494.00
Sales Tax	\$ 200.69	\$ 200.69	\$ 200.69
Subtotal	\$ 3,464.69	\$ 3,464.69	\$ 3,464.69
Room Rental	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Keynote Speaker Fee	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 5,000.00
Total	\$ 500.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 5,500.00
Misc	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 3,964.69	\$ 6,464.69	\$ 8,964.69
REVENUES			
EDA Allocation	\$4,000	\$6,500	\$9,000
BALANCE	\$ 35.31	\$ 35.31	\$ 35.31

- Option 1 (2024) - Free Speaker
- Option 2 (2025) - \$2,500 for Speaker
- Option 3 (2026) - \$5,000 for Speaker
- Order less Food?

Questions / Discussion



EDA Action

- Motion to Select Venue – LaFontaine Event Center and Late January / Early February Date
- Motion to Adopt 2026 Business Network Meeting Budget (Option 1, Option 2 or Option 3)

NOTE: Staff will bring back a recommended speaker or speaker options based on Option selected. Staff will solidify date once speaker options are identified. Based on recommendations Staff will develop Agenda