MEMORANDUM

TO: Thurston Regional Planning Council

FROM: Marc Daily, Executive Director for Michael Cade, Thurston Economic Development Council, Executive Director

DATE: February 23, 2018

SUBJECT: Thurston Community Economic Alliance and Economic Development Council Update

PURPOSE

Briefing on the progress of the Thurston Community Economic Alliance and its progress in implementing its Strategic Economic Development Plan. Mr. Cade will also discuss emerging opportunities the EDC is working.

Summary:

- At the beginning of 2016, the Thurston EDC Board directed staff to explore the possibility of creating a Thurston County-wide Strategic Plan for Economic Development.
- More than 100 community leaders representing local government, non-profits, educational institution and the greater Thurston business community came together under the Thurston Community Economic Alliance (Alliance) to leverage broad-based, county-wide public and private partnerships, to:
  - coordinate economic development activities
  - identify goals to attract investment
  - and develop a long-term strategy to support and diversify the regional economy.
- In 2017, the Alliance published its Strategic Economic Development Plan.
- Since that time, the EDC and the Thurston community has worked to implement the Economic Development Plan.

REQUESTED ACTION

Briefing only.

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