RESOLUTION NO. 7269 A


WHEREAS, Joint Economic Development Organization (JEDO) Board will meet on October 30, 2002 at 3:00 p.m. in the Chamber Boardroom for the primary purpose of discussing economic development priorities for 2003 per the Interlocal Agreement, and

WHEREAS, the Interlocal Agreement (Shawnee County Contract # C261-2001 and City of Topeka Contract # 31439) specifically states:

"On or before November 1st of each year, the City Council, the Mayor and the County Commission shall meet for the purpose of considering the economic development priorities for the coming year. Thereafter, but not later than January 1st the JEDO shall establish the economic development priorities for the next year based on the input received from the joint meeting of the City Council, the Mayor and the County Commission. If, for any reason, priorities are not established by the JEDO for the next year, the priorities as established for the previous year shall remain in effect."

and,

WHEREAS, the Interlocal Agreement specifically provides that "economic development shall be defined as the implementation of the economic development priorities established on a yearly basis by the JEDO, guided by the Topeka/Shawnee County Economic Development Plan to the extent that such a plan has been adopted by both the City and the County."

WHEREAS, the Joint Economic Development Organization Board established economic development priorities for 2002 in a manner that is not consistent with the provisions of said Interlocal Agreement, and when informed of this inconsistency by the
attached memorandum dated February 12, 2002 and addressed to the Members of the
Joint Economic Development Organization, incorporated herein as Attachment A, did
not respond.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Topeka,
Kansas that, it does hereby agree as follows:

1. The economic development priorities of the City of Topeka for implementation
of the Economic Development Plan for Topeka and Shawnee County as adopted by the
Topeka City Council on February 12, 2002, and Shawnee County Board of
Commissioners on February 14, 2002, are as follows:


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, any agreement entered into by the Joint
Economic Development Organization for implementation of these strategies shall be
consistent with the existing administrative policies of the City of Topeka.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the voting members of the Joint Economic
Development Organization Board representing the City of Topeka shall support the
provisions of this resolution at the Joint Economic Development Organization Board
meetings.

CCRES 10/15/02
JEDO 2003
ADOPTED and APPROVED by the City Council October 22, 2002.

Harry Flesher, Mayor

Iris E. Walker, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY
DATE: 10/23/02  BY:

CCRES  10/15/02
JEDO 2003
Memorandum

TO: Members of the Joint Economic Development Organization

FROM: Clark Duffy, City Councilmember

RE: Interlocal Agreement of Shawnee County Contract No. C261-2001/City of Topeka Contract No. 31439

DATE: February 12, 2002

I am in receipt of an undated, signed contract between the Growth Organization of Topeka/Shawnee County, Inc. and the Joint Economic Development Organization (JEDO). Based on that document and oral reports provided by members of the JEDO during Topeka City Council meetings, I would like to bring to your attention matters in which I think actions taken by the JEDO are not consistent with the Interlocal Agreement of Shawnee County Contract No. C261-2001/City of Topeka Contract No. 31439.

The second whereas in the above-referenced Interlocal Agreement provides that “economic development shall be defined as the implementation of the economic development priorities established on a yearly basis by the JEDO, guided by the Topeka/Shawnee County Economic Development Plan to the extent that such a plan has been adopted by both the City and the County.” Based on my review of the JEDO contract with GO Topeka and my discussions with JEDO board members who have spoken at Topeka City Council meetings, I questioned whether the JEDO is unaware of the existing economic development strategy of the City of Topeka/Shawnee County or if it simply chose not to utilize that guidance as required by the Interlocal Agreement.

In February of 1999, Richard Caplan and Associates, Lawrence, Kansas, presented to the City of Topeka an economic development strategy for Topeka, Shawnee County, Kansas. In response to that report, the City of Topeka adopted Resolution No. 6969, which established the economic development goals of the City of Topeka. This resolution was adopted on March 23, 1999 on a vote of the Topeka City Council of 8-0. Shawnee County adopted the identical resolution as Shawnee County Resolution No. 99-64 on April 5, 1999 by a vote of 3-0. This report and subsequent
resolutions established the economic development goals and strategies of the City of Topeka and Shawnee County. As such, they provide the guidance of the JEDO. I have attached a copy of that report and resolution so that it can guide the JEDO in its future decision-making as required by Interlocal Agreement, Shawnee County Contract No. C261-2001 and City of Topeka Contract No. 31439.

It is my understanding that the JEDO has also established four economic development priorities for the coming year. Although I have received no written confirmation of this action by the JEDO and have no documentation as to what those economic development priorities might be, JEDO board members indicated at the Topeka City Council meeting that this action was taken. If this action was taken, I would refer all members to Section 2 of the Interlocal Agreement, Shawnee County Contract No. C261-2001/City of Topeka Contract No. 31439, which states in the first sentence of that section the following:

"On or before November 1 of each year, the City Council, the Mayor and the County Commission shall meet for purposes of considering the economic development priorities for the coming year."

If the JEDO has established economic development priorities at this time, I would urge the members to reconsider their previous actions so that economic development priorities for the coming year can be established by the City Council, the Mayor and the County Commission as required by Section 2 of the Interlocal Agreement.

Clark Duffy

CD/gb

Attachments

cc: Chris Robbins, Chairperson, GO Topeka
    Doug Kinsinger, President and CEO of GO Topeka