

## Business Development and Workforce Taskforce Orientation Meeting

Meeting Date: April 15, 2024

Meeting Time: 12:44 PM - 2:06 PM

Location: Bobby Snipes Water Resource Center - Presentation Room

YouTube Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zyw699PTJbU>

### **Present Taskforce Members:**

Commissioner Carol Myers  
Wesley Mellina  
Ilka McConnell  
Michele Pearson Tucker  
David Bradley  
Broderick Flanigan  
Sally Kimel-Sheppard  
Matthew Epperson

### **Facilitator:**

Kara Fresk

### **Guest & Staff:**

Alejandra Calva  
Myung Cogan  
Kenshundria Bailey-Allen  
Niki Jones

### **Absent Taskforce Members:**

Tiffany Taylor  
Shane Blackwell  
Dodd Ferrelle  
Al McCall

### **Meeting Notes:**

- I. Commissioner Carol Myers welcomed the committee and covered the Business Development and Workforce Support Task Force Charge.
- II. Presentations of Existing Efforts & Resources in Athens Clarke County
  - Athens Areas Chamber of Commerce Workforce Development Strategic Plan - David Bradley:
    - Raising the Average Household Income
    - Attracting Businesses that contribute to Economic Growth
  - Workforce and Employment Trends - Ilka McConnell
    - Workforce/Employment Overview
    - Bio-Tech Industries & Health Care Wage Data
  - Small Business and Entrepreneurship Efforts- Myung Cogan
    - ARTWORK Professional Workshops
    - Small Business Start/Grow/Finance/Learn/Connect/Innovate Information located on: [Entrepreneurship & Small Business - Athens-Clarke County Economic Development Department \(investathensga.com\)](https://investathensga.com)
  - Second Chance Committee Efforts - Kenshundria Allen & Sally Kimel-Sheppard
    - Risk and benefits of Second Chance Hiring
    - Diversion Center Specific Programs
    - Action Incorporated/WIOA Certification Courses
  - Workforce Resource Map - Kenshundria Allen: [Workforce Training & Development - Athens-Clarke County Economic Development Department \(investathensga.com\)](https://investathensga.com)
- II. Expectations
  - Task Force Member Responsibilities - Commissioner Carol Myers
  - Group Norms - Kara Fresk

III. Sub-Committee Timeline - Kara Fresk

- April-May One on One Interviews with Committee Members
- May-June Sub-Committee Work Sessions
- July Final Report with ARPA Recommendations
- Expectations & Deliverables
- Inventory
- Potential Solutions
- Recommendations

**Worker Empowerment**

High Quality Labor Standards | Labor Organizing | Benefits

**Sub-Committee Members:**

Sally Kimel-Sheppard

Ilka McConnell

Tim Johnson

Broderick Flanigan

**High Wage Employment**

High Wage Industries

**Sub-Committee Members:**

Michele Pearson-Tucker

Wesley Mellina

David Bradley

**Small Business Development**

Cooperative and Worker Owned Businesses

**Sub-Committee Members:**

Matthew Epperson

Carol Myers

IV. Closing Remarks - Commissioner Carol Myers

- Upcoming Meetings

**April 29, 2024 - Full Task Force Meeting : Bobby Snipes Water Resources 12:30PM-2:00PM**

- May 13 - Sub-Committee Working Meeting
- May 20 - Sub-Committee Working Meeting
- June 3 - Full Taskforce Meeting - Sub-Committee Presentations
- June 17 - Full Taskforce Meeting - Prioritizing

Recommendation to Mayor & Commission

- June 26 - Mayor & Commission Agenda Report Due
- July 1 - Mayor & Commission Work Session Presentations Due
- July 9 - Mayor & Commission Work Session
- July 16 - Mayor & Commission Agenda Setting Session
- August 6 - Mayor & Commission Voting Session