

# Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) Business Advisory Committee August 2024 Meeting Summary

## Attendance

**Members Present (5)** Jennie Song, Erinn Pearson, Jaswinder Kaur, Jason Doo, Vicki Gray

**Absent (6)** Sukia Akiba, Nephtalie McCrary, Angela Hofman, Margaret Pimentel, Keisha Greaves, Zina Thompson

**City Staff Present (3)** CDD: Pardis Saffari, Director  
Tyrone Fells, Small Business Specialist  
Stephanie Groll, Mobility Strategy Manager

**Others (0)** N/A

## Welcome & Introductions

Tyrone Fells (TF) opened the virtual meeting at 4:00 PM by welcoming members of the BIPOC Business Advisory Committee. City staff in attendance introduced themselves.

## Discussion

### Net Zero Transportation Plan

Stephanie Groll presented draft actions for the Net Zero Transportation Plan. BIPOC members provided feedback about the Net Zero Transportation Plan involving more populations within the Cambridge community. Stephanie Groll made a note of the feedback and chatted about coming up with a plan moving forward about how to make sure more populations within the Cambridge community could be involved in the planning process.

### Supplier Diversity Fair

Tyrone Fells updated members about our October 22 Supplier Diversity Fair

- Including Knowing your capabilities workshop on 9/18
- Including Pitch Perfect Workshop on 9/25

### New Vendor Registration Info:

Tyrone Fells updated members about New Vendor Registration eProcurement software

- In September, the City is transitioning to a new eProcurement software for publishing solicitations and receiving vendor responses. We are encouraging current vendors and new vendors to [register your account early](#) to begin receiving email notifications for the City's Bid/RFP opportunities. Registration is 100% free! After registering, please subscribe to the City's [e-Procurement Portal](#).

## EOD Program Updates:

Pardis Saffari updated members on various EOD programs

### Programs:

- Storefront Improvement Program:  
<https://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/economicopportunityanddevelopment/smallbusinessassistance/smallbusinessprograms/storefront>
- Small Business Enhancement:  
<https://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/economicopportunityanddevelopment/smallbusinessassistance/smallbusinessprograms/smallbusinessenhancementprogram>
- Retail Interior Accessibility:  
<https://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/economicopportunityanddevelopment/smallbusinessassistance/smallbusinessprograms/retailinterioraccessibilityprogram>
- E-Commerce:  
<https://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/economicopportunityanddevelopment/smallbusinessassistance/smallbusinessprograms/smallbusinesscommercegrant>
- ARPA Green Equipment Grant:  
<https://www.cambridgema.gov/COVID19/Business/Assistance/SmallBusinessEquipmentUpgradeProgram>

## Updates

Jennie Song, Jaswinder Kaur, Jason Doo all spoke about the upcoming Ballot Question #5 – around moving tipping staff to minimum wage and how this might affect their business moving forward. Pardis mentioned she'd like to connect with Christina to think about this, since it may be something Prepshift may be addressing in upcoming workshops.

## Other Committee Items

N/A

## Public comment

None

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM.