

Wilmington, Delaware
February 19, 2026

#0191

Sponsor:

**Council
Member
Oliver**

WHEREAS, Section 2-234 of the City Code authorizes the Office of Economic Development to “develop plans, policies and strategies for the city's economic and business development and viability and provide leadership, coordination and oversight of the city's economic goals and objectives”; and

WHEREAS, despite a strong reputation for attracting corporate entities, the City of Wilmington operates in a highly competitive economic environment. Attracting and retaining businesses, investment, and workforce talent requires strong leadership, coordinated strategy, and effective communication with stakeholders regarding the City’s vision for growth; and

WHEREAS, an economic development conference hosted by the Office of Economic Development would offer a forum to clearly articulate Wilmington’s priorities, highlight existing opportunities, promote collaboration, and effectively direct public and private sector investment towards cohesive goals; and

WHEREAS, a City-initiated conference focused on economic development would position the Office of Economic Development to engage a broad range of stakeholders, including representatives from the business community, workforce development organizations, educational institutions, nonprofit partners, and regional economic entities. In addition to supporting transparency and public engagement, such a conference would provide an opportunity to advance inclusive, equitable development by showcasing the unique entrepreneurial assets of Wilmington’s neighborhoods.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that this Council respectfully requests that the Administration collaborate

with the Office of Economic Development to plan and execute an economic development conference to attract and retain entrepreneurial investment in the City of Wilmington.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the conference should be a forum to bring together a range of stakeholders, while also clearly communicating the City's priorities for economic opportunity and growth.

Passed by City Council,

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution respectfully requests that the Administration collaborate with the Office of Economic Development to plan and execute an economic development conference to attract and retain entrepreneurial investment in the City of Wilmington.