



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Executive Office of the Mayor
Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development

Innovation & Technology Inclusion Council

October 11, 2018

2:30 - 4:00 PM

WDCEP, 1495 F St NW, Washington, DC 20004

MINUTES

ITIC Members & DC Government Staff Present: Rey Ramsey (Chair), Julian Alcazar, Lushae Cook, Dr. Wayne Curtis, Ken Eisner (by phone), Alexandra Givens, Lisa Jones Gentry, Elizabeth Lindsey, Ryan Maliszewski, Nasir Qadree, Scott Rechler, Thomas Sanchez (by phone), Stefanie Thomas (by phone), Ken Tolson (by phone), Dartanion Williams, Andrew Trueblood (DMPED), Sharon Carney (DMPED), Joycelyn James (DMPED), KellyAnn Kirkpatrick (DMPED), Kate Mereand (DSLBD), Delano Squires (OCTO), Maya Garcia (OSSE), Derrick Colbert (DOES)

Other Attendees: Dan Beer, Kevin Morgan (WDCEP)

Call to Order ~ 2:35 p.m.

I. Welcome & Introductions

II. Overview of ITIC

A. Charter & Mission

R. Ramsey – ITIC’s charge is to think of DC as a place for all people to join the tech and innovation ecosystem; lots of parts to the tech ecosystem and we look at all through the lens of inclusion; group created to come up with ideas and recommendations; provided some background on past work, including a data census that led to the *Pathways to Inclusion* report, how to create an onramp into the tech economy, how we mitigate obstacles and maximize opportunity

III. Discussion

A. ITIC Goals for FY19

R. Ramsey - In past term, ITIC had two subcommittees: 1) Education & Human Capital, and 2) Economic Development & Entrepreneurship; provided brief overview of the past subcommittees’ work, including recommendations for developing the

Inclusive Innovation Fund (IIF), and selection of The Marathon Foundation (TMF), DC Government's partner to manage the fund.

1. Develop/Refine Recommendations

- R. Ramsey - In ITIC's last meeting, we determined that creating useful and actionable recommendations for Education and Human Capital will be a primary focus over the next year; ITIC is here to think through investable propositions that the private sector will support.
- A. Trueblood – ITIC is an informal advisor to DC Government for questions beyond our expertise; engagement with ITIC is our effort to be proactive; ITIC has been helpful in guiding development of *Pathways to Inclusion*, Inclusive Innovation Incubator (in3), and other initiatives that were listed as ecosystem assets in the Amazon HQ2 bid; ITIC has helped us sell the city as a tech hub.

2. Others Issues to Explore

- N. Qadree – Questions about equity stake of TMF/DC Government in IIF
- S. Carney – DC Government cannot take equity stake in companies; part of this initiative is a pipeline program TMF will support that will help vet investment opportunities

B. DMPED Priorities for FY19

- A. Trueblood – Excited about the energy of ITIC this term; provided high-level overview of DMPED; Business Development unit is thinking about health and vibrancy of DC, creating jobs, inclusive innovation; ITIC has been a helpful thought leader in this area.

1. Inclusive Innovation Fund Launch

- S. Carney – IIF is first step and planning other activity relating to entrepreneurship and access to capital.

2. SOCAP

- S. Carney – Went to Social Capital Markets (SOCAP) for the first time in 2017 as recognition of DC's strength as a hub for the socially conscious workforce and double bottom line businesses; returning this year with targeted meetings, IIF and Opportunity Zone conversations; welcome suggestions on ways to maximize the opportunity to be there.

3. West Coast Visit

- S. Carney – Anticipating broader West Coast mission in early 2019; objective is to make sure DC entrepreneurs are on the radar of West Coast investors; considering

taking a delegation of DC entrepreneurs to connect and promote DC as Capital of Inclusive innovation, DC's value proposition, and investment opportunities; hope to have a clear investment prospectus to share for this trip; welcome ideas and suggestions.

L. Jones-Gentry – Recommends exploring Silicon Beach, Southern California as well.

4. SXSW 2019

A. Trueblood – In partnership with WDCEP, we've had an activation at South-By-Southwest Conference (SXSW) in Austin, TX, for the past few years; an opportunity to market vibrant creative and tech scene; has become a hub for DC folks down there, with focus on capital of inclusive innovation and mobility innovation; partnered with Events DC to highlight DC artists and musicians.

5. WeDC Fest

A. Trueblood – In partnership with WDCEP, brought a reflection of SXSW vibe home to the WeDC Fest in September 2018; first year effort and considering whether to do that again, welcome thoughts on how this could be successful.

C. Open Discussion

R. Ramsey – what do you care about, what should be on the ITIC agenda that is not there?

E. Lindsey – Very interested in the human capital component, wants to dive into access to devices and broadband.

W. Curtis – Welcomes new, fresh leadership to subcommittees.

R. Ramsey – open to new ideas/subcommittees

D. Colbert – DOES is in the process of starting an IT apprenticeship program with DC Infrastructure Academy, training 100-300 residents in IT field; should be starting within the next 60-90 days; in the process of selecting a training vendor.

R. Ramsey – what ways can we better work with universities?

A. Givens – BEACON published a report on how university service departments can help via legal clinics and business consulting services; have broader role in tech transfer

Dr. Curtis – Gallup approached the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) to take the lead on working with Bowie State, Morgan State and Thurgood Marshall Foundation, to develop a pilot program over next 10 months to take 10 residents from Wards 7 and 8 to train them and create businesses over 18 months; program is 7 weeks old, he is faculty consultant; will keep ITIC updated; Gallup has committed funds, wants to make a multi-year commitment.

D. Colbert – DOES willing to assist with this pilot

R. Maliszewski – in DC there are 17 members of consortium universities, lots of cross collaboration; Gallaudet also works closely with Howard for small biz

development; regarding mentoring, our youth are very hungry to develop those soft skills as well; a challenge we're facing in DC is that there are so many resources that apply, all condensed here in DC, so consider making a central point where content can be tailored and customized.

J. Alcazar – Georgetown also has a tech management program, and an entrepreneurship initiative providing capital to DC businesses, great way to keep these innovative minds in DC; Stanford Business school has a Latino entrepreneurship program, similar to an education/bootcamp at Stanford for 1st generation minority businesses, teaching about scale and providing access to capital; broadband – Mike Eckles who has gig speed service over copper wire

M. Garcia – is there a resource map of sorts so that we can look at the gaps

S. Carney – we have some asset maps, based on opportunity areas from DC Economic Strategy, but they are kind of raw.

R. Ramsey – lot of new members and it may make sense to sever education and workforce portions of the subcommittee; when we think of programs, consider three points: does it exist, is it any good, are you aware of it?

S. Rechler – how are we focusing innovation? R. Ramsey, we focus on the part that focuses on tech portion

D. Squires – would like us to focus on K-12 education aspect, require additional attention to impact multi-generational Washingtonians, not just transplants

D. Williams – wants to explore how can people reskill; need to focus on the ability of midcareer folks to develop skills.

IV. Next Steps

A. Subcommittee Selection

J. James – will share web-forms for your best contact information, subcommittee selections, and resources/program data.

B. Meeting Schedule

J. James – meeting schedule is 2nd Thursday of every even month; will send a calendar invite for next meeting in December

V. Adjourned ~ 4:05 p.m.