

Written Testimony - Agenda Item 283

Agenda Item	Name or Organization	Position	Comments	Attachment	Created
283	Kamelah Adams- Owner of Mimi's Fresh Tees	Support	Please view the attached Written Testimony in Support of City Office of Business.	Yes	04/09/24 11:44 AM

Honorable Members of the Portland City Council,

RE: Agenda Item 283 Letter of Support for City Office for Small Businesses

I am writing to express my strong support for the establishment of the Office of Business within our city. As a small business owner myself, I understand firsthand the challenges and obstacles that entrepreneurs face, particularly those with three or fewer employees. Therefore, I believe that the creation of this office is a crucial step in providing much-needed support and resources to this vital sector of our economy.

Small businesses are the backbone of our community, contributing not only to economic growth but also to the unique character and vibrancy of our neighborhoods. However, operating a small business can be daunting, especially when faced with limited resources and a complex regulatory environment. The Office of Business would serve as a valuable resource hub, offering guidance, assistance, and advocacy for small businesses navigating these challenges.

One of the most significant benefits of the Office of Business would be its focus on small and micro businesses. Micro businesses with five or fewer employees. These micro-enterprises often operate on razor-thin margins and lack the resources to access traditional business support services. By tailoring its programs and initiatives to meet the specific needs of small and micro businesses, the Office of Business can make a meaningful difference in their ability to survive and thrive.

Furthermore, the Office of Business has the potential to foster a more inclusive and equitable business environment. By providing targeted support to underserved communities and minority-owned businesses, it can help address disparities in access to resources and opportunities. This, in turn, can contribute to greater economic mobility and empowerment for all Portland residents.

In conclusion, I urge the Portland City Council to prioritize the establishment of the Office of Business. By investing in this critical initiative, we can create a more supportive and inclusive environment for small businesses and micro-enterprises, strengthening our economy and enriching our community as a whole.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Kamelah Adams/ Owner at Mimi's Fresh Tees