

The image shows a row of four doors in different colors: purple, green, yellow, and red. The doors are set against a light green wall and a wooden floor. The yellow door is the central focus and has a black handle. The green door has a decorative floral pattern. The red door has a decorative arched pattern. The purple door is partially visible on the left.

Workforce Solutions Borderplex

# **Network & Access Committee 4/14/2026**

# Welcome to the Network & Access Committee


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Board members possess networks, peer relationships and credibility that staff cannot replicate. The Network & Access Committee will help staff identify opportunities where strategic priorities intersect with regional decision-making in all priority areas.

**MEMBERS:**

Ruben Chavez (Chair), Armando Aguirre, Christina Gonzalez, Chelsie Evaldi, Art Garza, Ruby Maldonado, Melissa Zamora

### Comments and Questions

 Be the first to post a comment or question for Welcome to the Network & Access Committee

Post a Comment or Question at Zeck.app 

# April 14 Network & Connections Committee

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**RSVP**

Please comment if you will NOT attend.

# Agenda

 April 14th, 2026 12:00pm MDT

Blue Flame Building | 1st Floor Conference Room


12:00pm MDT

**Call to Order | Quorum**

**Discussion Item | Landlord Conversations**

**Discussion Item | Long-Term Plans**

## Comments and Questions

 Be the first to post a comment or question for April 14 Network & Connections Committee

Post a Comment or Question at [Zeck.app](https://zeck.app) 

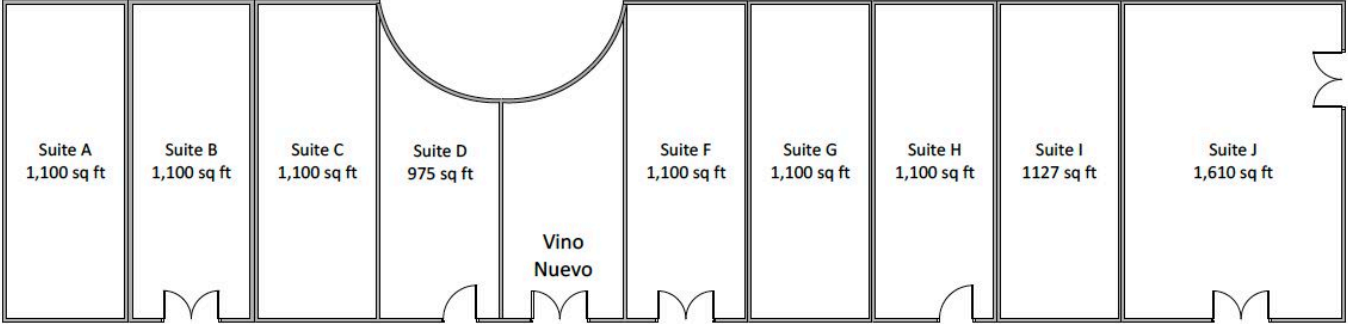
# Discussion Item | Landlord Conversations

## What you need to know:

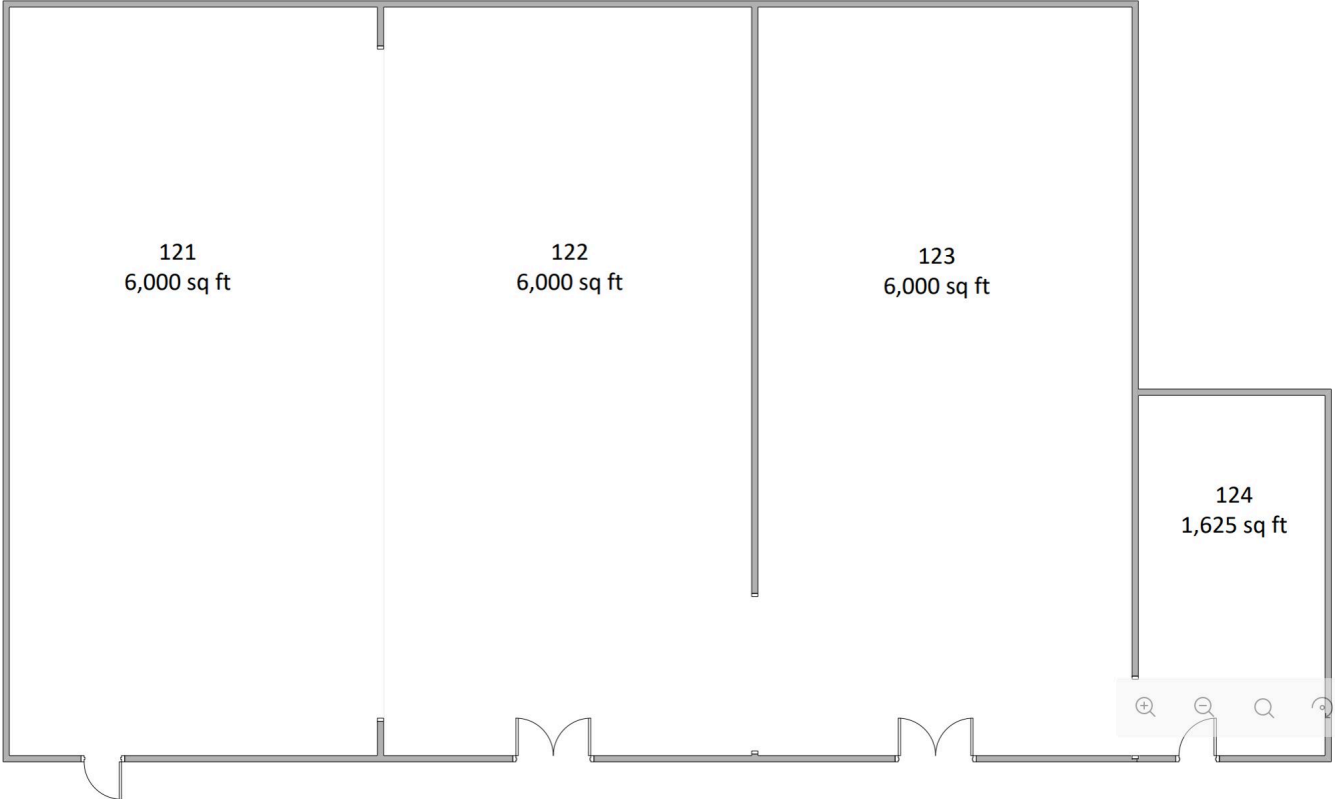
We are actively in discussions with our two largest landlords: Northeast Workforce Center (Vino Nuevo church/nonprofit) and North Loop Workforce Center (Mimco).

At Northeast, we are exploring a phased reduction in space (by suites) while preserving our partnership with the church.

The landlord is also providing a list of other available properties across the city for potential smaller, distributed sites.



At North Loop, we are evaluating consolidating from four suites down to two: one fully funded by Vocational Rehab and a smaller resource room.



Below are available Mimco site options for review. These are exploratory, not final, decisions.

## MIMCO Properties

- 1 North Loop Center
  - 8825 N. Loop, Ste. 122
  - El Paso, TX 79907
- 2 Dyer Center
  - 8941 Dyer St.
  - El Paso, TX 79904
- 1 7500 N Mesa | 1,200sqft - 2,400sqft
- 2 865 Resler | 1,800sqft -1,850sqft
- 3 1461 N Lee Trevino | 1,600sqft
- 4 2200 Yarbrough | 1,284sqft
- 5 1700 Zaragoza | 1,200sqft - 3,600sqft
- 6 550 Yarbrough |1,800sqft



## Highlights:

Opportunity to reduce overall footprint and operating costs while maintaining service delivery.

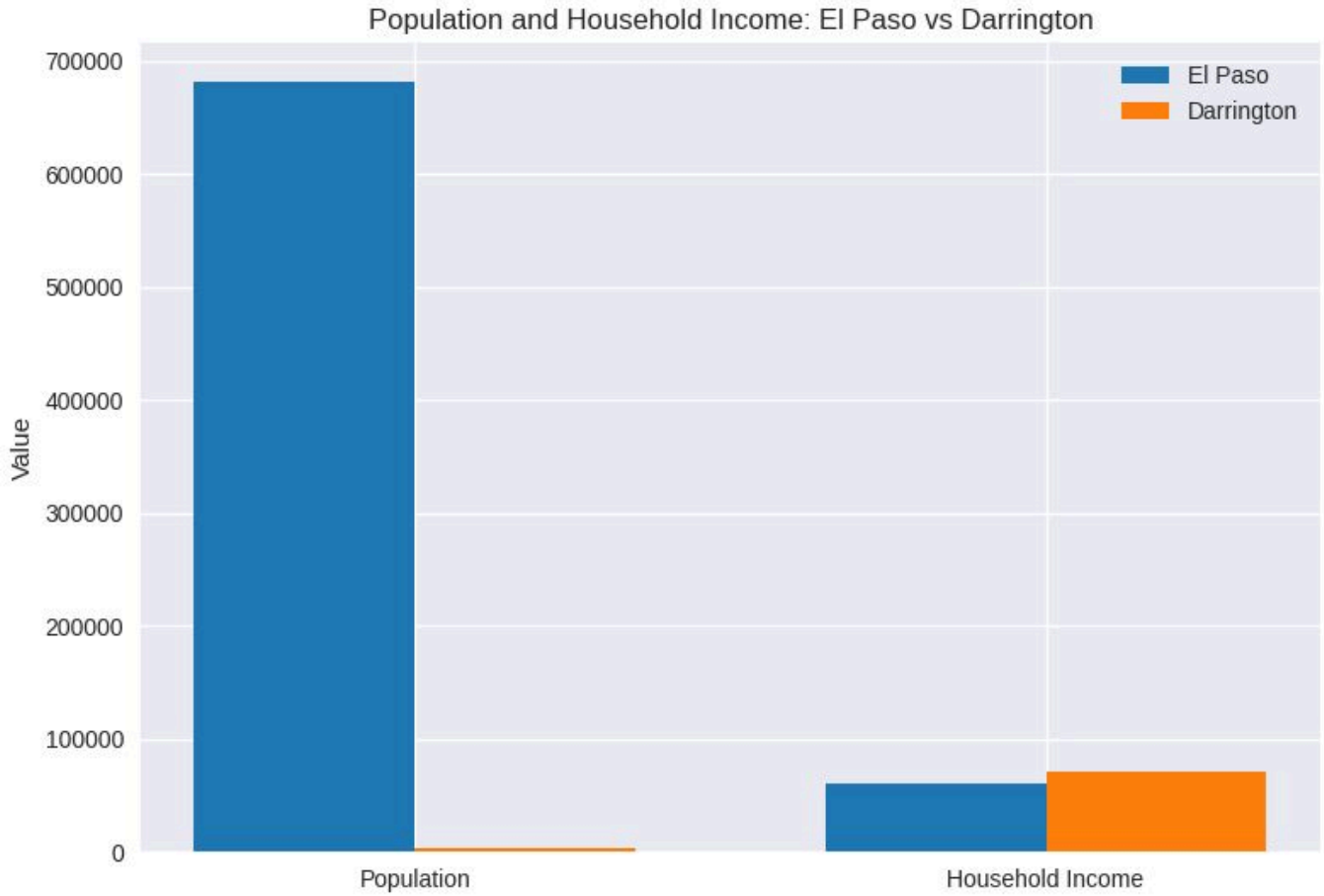
Continued partnership with a nonprofit landlord at Northeast offers financial and community alignment benefits (tax-exempt structure).

Flexibility to transition into smaller, strategically located sites across the city.

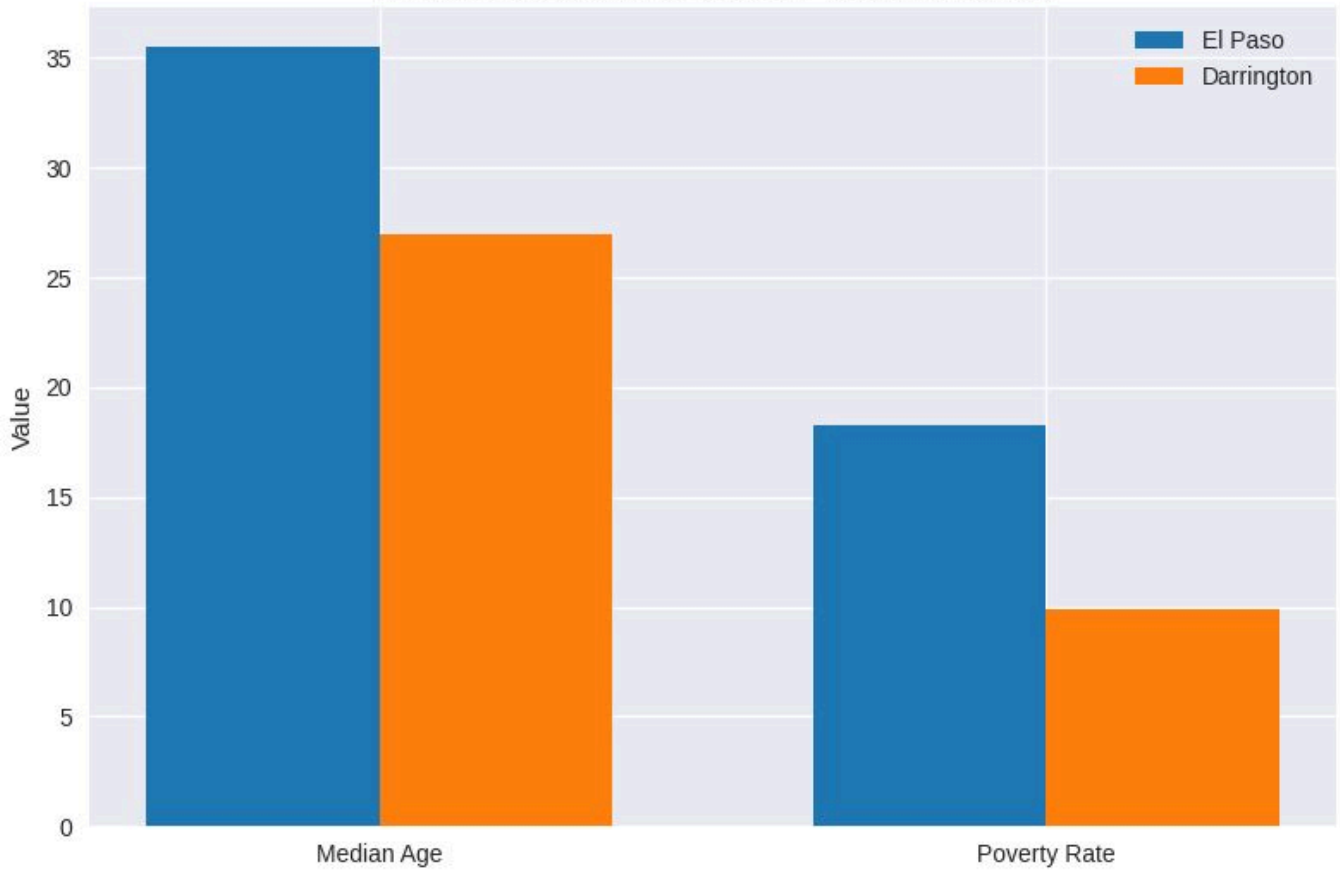
Potential to right-size space based on actual program utilization and funding sources.

# Exploratory Phase


Visited a potential site in Darrington (not current landlord-related).




Median Age and Poverty Rate: El Paso vs Darrington



### Comments and Questions

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## Discussion Item | Long-Term Plans

What you need to know:

1. We are in procurement for workforce services contractors, and the transition will consume a large majority of staff capacity over the next 12–18 months.
2. We are pausing any downsizing of facilities during the transition, but new hires will work remotely and not be located at job centers.
3. We plan to shift non-mandatory services to virtual over the next year to 18 months, which will create vacancies at our job centers.
4. We will not renew leases as they expire and will explore short-term subleasing or event rentals with landlords to utilize vacant space in the interim.

## Highlights:

- Transitioning non-mandatory services to virtual over 12–18 months will reduce our physical footprint and facility costs as leases roll off.
- New remote-first hiring will streamline operations and avoid adding headcount to job centers during procurement transition.

## Lowlights:

- The procurement transition will utilize a large majority of staff capacity, limiting bandwidth for other initiatives.
- Anticipated job center vacancies create interim space management and coordination needs.


## Key Objectives:


- Shift non-mandatory services to virtual delivery over the next 12–18 months to create flexibility and reduce dependency on physical sites.
- Engage landlords to pursue short-term event rentals or other uses for vacant job center space until leases expire.

## What's Keeping Me Up at Night:

- Managing staff capacity through the contractor transition while executing the virtual services shift on schedule.
- Coordinating lease expirations and temporary subletting to avoid stranded costs and underutilized space.

### Comments and Questions

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## Discussion Item | Stakeholder Inventory

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### What you need to know:

1. Our Immediate Past Chair, Bobby Blanco, personally referred 10 client contacts to us via individualized emails outlining our no-cost services and inviting engagement.
2. We have 2 meetings already scheduled with a referred client who responded quickly to Bobby's outreach, indicating early traction from this approach.

### Highlights:

- Personalized executive outreach is converting, with 2 meetings secured from the initial 10 warm introductions and more pending follow-ups.

- We are systematizing board-led warm introductions by equipping members with personalized outreach templates to drive qualified employer engagement at scale.

From Bobby Blanco



○ Bobby Blanco <BBlanco@s-wealth.com>

Wednesday, April 1, 2026 at 1:21 PM

To: phil@allianceriggers.com; Cc: AConde; Leila Melendez

This Message Originated from outside of the Organization

Phil,

As someone who has had the privilege of serving as Chair of Workforce Solutions Borderplex, I have seen firsthand how the right talent partner can transform a business. That is why I am reaching out to you today—not just as a colleague, but as a friend who genuinely wants to see your business thrive.

I would like to introduce you to Leila Melendez, CEO of Workforce Solutions Borderplex. Leila and the team are deeply committed to connecting El Paso's most in-demand industries with the skilled workforce they need to grow. Whether you are in Healthcare, Manufacturing, Technology/IT, or Logistics & Transportation—sectors that are among the hottest job markets in our region—Workforce Solutions Borderplex offers customized solutions tailored to businesses like yours.

Here is what they can offer you at no cost:

- **Job Postings** — Reach a wide pool of qualified local candidates quickly and efficiently.
- **Talent Scanning** — Active searches for candidates who match your specific requirements, saving you valuable time.
- **Recruitment Assistance** — End-to-end support in identifying, screening, and referring top candidates.
- **Exclusive Job Fairs** — Hosted on-site at your location, at the Workforce Solutions Borderplex facility, or virtually, and tailored to your hiring needs.
- **Workforce Cost Sharing** — Reduce hiring and training expenses through innovative shared workforce programs.
- **Job Training Programs** — Customized training solutions to upskill new hires or existing employees.
- **Paid Temporary Workers with Pathway to Hire** — Program-funded trial workers, allowing you to evaluate fit before making a permanent hiring decision.

These are powerful, proven tools—and as your friend and former Chair, I want to make sure you have access to every advantage available. The El Paso business community is strong because we look out for one another, and this is a resource worth sharing.

I encourage you to reach out directly to Leila Melendez to learn more about how Workforce Solutions Borderplex can support your business. Leila is cc'd on this correspondence and would welcome the opportunity to connect.

Leila Melendez, CEO  
 Workforce Solutions Borderplex  
 Phone: 915-887-2274  
 Email: [Leila.Melendez@borderplex.com](mailto:Leila.Melendez@borderplex.com)

Email from Bobby Blanco to his clients

## STAKEHOLDER INVENTORY

Below is a list of the various organizations we have historically engaged with or actively engaged with.

### Private Funders

Name	Engagement Status
Bank of America	Engaged
Wells Fargo	Not Engaged
Microsoft	Loyal

### Community Partners (CBOs)

Name	Engagement Status
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Paso del Norte Foundation

Loyal

Project Amistad

Engaged

TechFrontier

Loyal

AARP

Not Engaged

Better Business Bureau

Not Engaged

Big Brothers Big Sisters

Loyal

Borderplex Alliance

Engaged

Center Against Sexual & Family Violence

Not Engaged

Community en Accion

Not Engaged

Job Corps

Not Engaged

Local 412 Union

Engaged

Medical Center of the Americas

Loyal

Emergence Health Network

Willing

HOME

Willing

Project Arriba

Loyal

Project Bravo

Willing

Rio Grande COG

Engaged

El Paso Chamber

Loyal

El Paso Hispanic Chamber

Loyal

El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank

Not Engaged

Far West Adult Education Consortium

Engaged

STTE Foundation

Not Engaged

### Local Governments

Name	Engagement Status
City of El Paso	Loyal
El Paso County	Loyal
City of Horizon	Willing
City of Socorro	Engaged
Ft. Bliss	Loyal

Ysleta del Sur Pueblo

Willing

### Inactive Stakeholders

Name	Engagement Status
Goodwill	Not Engaged

### ISDs

Name	Engagement Status
EPISD	Willing
YISD	Loyal
SISD	Engaged
CISD	Not Engaged
San Eli ISD	Not Engaged
Clint ISD	Not Engaged
Region 19	Engaged

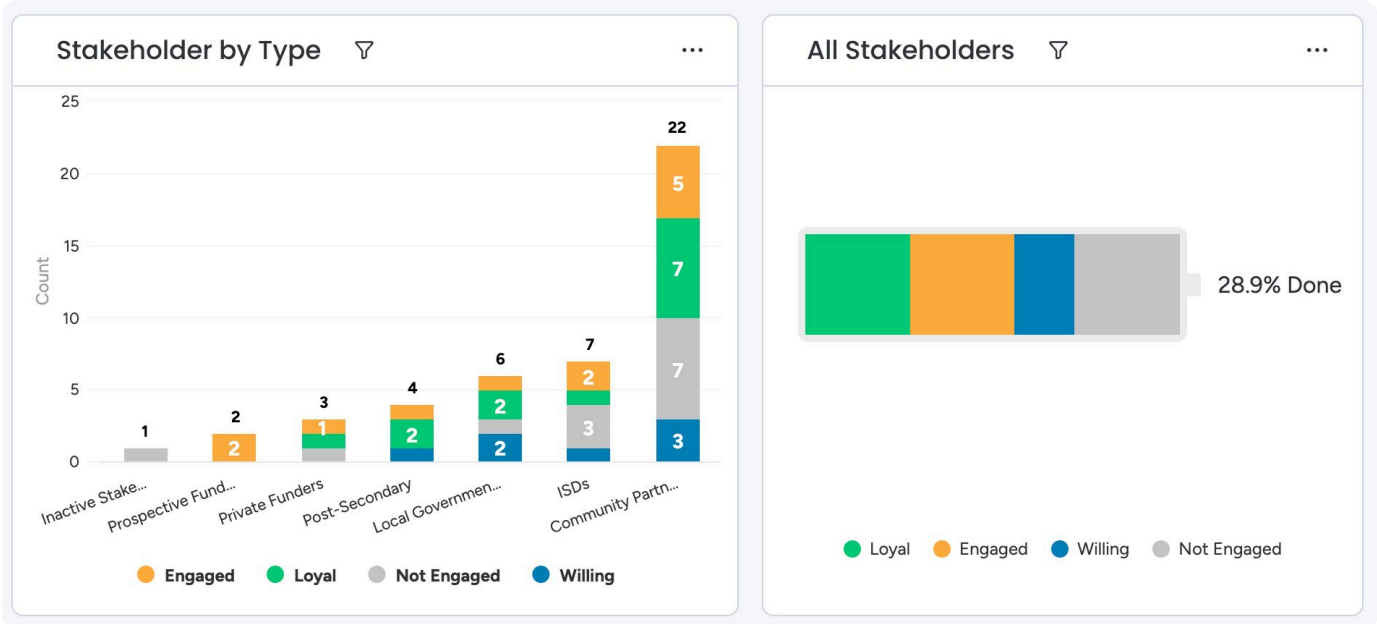
### Post-Secondary

Name	Engagement Status
EPCC	Loyal
UTEP	Loyal
Southwest University	Willing
Texas Tech Medical School	Engaged

### Prospective Funders

Name	Engagement Status
Zale Foundation	Engaged
Cummins Foundation	Engaged

[View table at Zeck.app](#) 




## Comments and Questions

Be the first to post a comment or question for Discussion Item | Stakeholder Inventory

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# Adjourn

## Comments and Questions

 Be the first to post a comment or question for Adjourn

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