



**Draft MINUTES**  
**Downtown Development Authority**  
**Meeting of the DDA Board of Directors**  
**April 22, 2025**

The April 22, 2025 meeting of the DDA Board of Directors was called to order at 8:31am.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Mayor Brian Turnbull, Amy Bonser, DJ Boyd, Margene Buckhave, David Cole, Aaron Cozart, Ryan McKindles, Robert Miller, Shawn Riley

**Absent:** Mike Jaafar, Jim Long

**Also Present:** George Lahanas / City Manager, Stacy Pearson / DDA Assistant Director, Wendy Longpre, Director of Strategic Planning and Special Projects

**AUDIENCE COMMENT**

None

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA**

**Motion by Turnbull, seconded by McKindles** to approve the agenda and consent agenda with modification of numbering of consent agenda items c and d being adjusted to reflect that they are the March reports. **Motion carried** unanimously.

**DDA 2025 PROPOSED BUDGET**

Boyd led discussion on the 2025 proposed budget noting special accomplishments over the year such as updated DDA Bylaws, concerts, outdoor dining permits, and replacement of DDA Director after previous director's retirement. Boyd shared that no major changes were implemented to the proposed budget as presented, but clarified that the debt commitment recorded was an anticipated number, not a final amount. Fund balance discussion followed.

**FORD FIELD PLAYGROUND PROJECT UPDATE**

Longpre gave a broad overview of the current Ford Field Playground project progress. Longpre also gave an overview of the new Gateway Project focused on accessibility into the Ford Field area, noting that the projected start date for work on Dunlap and Hutton should begin in the upcoming weeks. OHM would be utilized for the work under the guidance and collaboration with Longpre.

## **SAFETY UPDATES AND IMPLEMENTATION FOR SPECIAL EVENTS**

Maciag shared the new guidelines for special events to include hard close of streets for the duration of events and mobile crash resistant barricades. Included in the discussion that followed was the note that opening and closing streets throughout a multi-day event would no longer be allowed, and that all vendors would have to be informed in advance of this new security measure. Maciag also shared that the mobile barricades are a resource shared by Oakland County, and in the future, there may be an option to purchase for the city's private use.

## **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Design Committee – Miller, May 6, 2025 at 8:00am next meeting. Miller requested a monitor or pull-down screen installed in DDA Meeting Room A.

Marketing Committee – Riley, next meeting May 1, 2025. Pearson added that this is a training session for the group on sponsorships.

Parking Committee – Maciag, Yearly parking overview and plan for warnings with no fee prior to tickets to be implemented in the upcoming month.

Organizational Committee – none

Economic Development Committee – Cole, Transition from Cozart to Cole as lead for EDC has begun and a plan for the next year is being developed.

## **DDA FUTURE MEETINGS / IMPORTANT DATES**

The next DDA board meeting will be held on May 27, 2025 at 8:30am in DDA Meeting Room A.

## **BOARD AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

Pearson shared that the NCBA has a new president, Stephanie Holmes owner of the Hair Foundation, and a new treasurer Antoinette Kramer of Orin Jewelers. The group will be holding Ladies Night Derby Days on May 1, 2025. The DDA is assisting the NCBA both in social media and with financial support.

Pearson also shared that Music in the Ville is moving forward in full swing and all lineups, dates, and times will be released shortly.

Seasonal staff update was given by Pearson to outline the plan for returning and new seasonal workers in conjunction with the shared services position with DPW. Pearson added that the shared services employee will be working throughout the entire concert series times on both Friday and Saturday concerts.

The Northville Art Market is returning, and Pearson shared that this is a rebranded event being hosted in June by the Northville Art Market.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Turnbull and seconded by McKindles** to adjourn the DDA Board meeting.  
**Motion carried** unanimously. **Meeting adjourned at** 9:47am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stacy Pearson, Assistant DDA Director  
Northville DDA