DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
August 26, 2026 3:30 PM

PRESENT	ABSENT	STAFF	OTHERS PRESENT
Drayden Dunn	Chelette Holden	Cedric Glover	Don Jones (Jones Brothers)
Mario Chavez	William Bradford	Janie Landry	Jeffrey Goodman(Comm of 100)
Terry Moore		Stacie Leng	David Popen
Ed Taylor		Lorenzo Lee	Ed Angel (ELA Group)
Chris Stokes		Lauren Davidson	Rev. Duane Trombetta (Holy Trinity)
		Kathleen Robertson	Jerome Cox
			George Sirven (KTBS)

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Drayden Dunn at 3:35 pm.

II. ROLL CALL

Kathleen Robertson called the roll. A quorum was present.

III. AMEND AGENDA

The agenda was not amended.

IV. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS/PRESENTATONS

Reverand Duane Trombetta gave a presentation on the proposed expansion of Holy Trinity. The new development would include a parish hall and new parking lot. The development would include a monument to the 5 Martyrs (the Shreveport Martyrs are five French-born Catholic missionary priests who died caring for the sick and dying during Shreveport's devastating yellow fever epidemic of 1873). A parking area will also be included. A request has been submitted to demolish the former Greyhound Bus station.

Mario Chavez suggested sending a letter of support to waive the 180-day period before demolition. The DDA has previously submitted a letter in support of the demolition.

A motion was made by Mario Chavez to waive the 180-day demolition waiting period. Terry Moore seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Agenda Items)

There were no public comments.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes

Drayden Dunn asked for approval of July 22, 2026, regular meeting minutes.

A motion was made by Chris Stokes to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2026, regular meeting. Mario Chavez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

B. Budgetary Comparison Financial Statement

Ms. Landry gave a brief report relative to the July financial statement. She noted that both the Streetscape contract and Parking contract with the City have been paid through July 2026. DDA revenue from 2026 taxes is more than originally budgeted.

Ed Taylor made a motion to approve the Budgetary Comparison Financial Statement as presented. Terry Moore seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. REPORTS

A. Director's Report

- Cedric Glover gave an update on Operation See, Sign, & Secure, which is a multi-agency partnership that will enhance safety using cameras and other technology for proactive security in downtown. The program will also focus on a consistent and effective enforcement of regulations already in place regarding the public consumption of alcohol and marijuana. See, Sign, & Secure will also target aggressive panhandling and other related offenses. Another part of the effort will include a public education campaign to promote alternative assistance for panhandlers through the website shreveportla.gov/abetterway. The security officers will patrol the downtown area from early morning through the evening with a specific focus on late and overnight weekend hours.

- Beginning in Q4 of 2026 Gensler and a team of local professionals will begin to advise on optimizing downtown assets and returning shuttered properties to commerce. A comprehensive parking assessment will identify how to best support redevelopment efforts. Infrastructure and amenities will be evaluated to create a blueprint for improvements supporting future needs.

- Storefronts Initiative - Pending the board's approval and before the end of Q3 2026 this will initiate a measure that will partner with downtown building owners and businesses to activate street-level spaces. The program, modeled on programs used in New Orleans and Chattanooga, is intended to incentivize a certain category of businesses to locate in downtown. The program would also be intended for business owners who want to invest in revitalizing and improving their current downtown locations. The Storefronts Initiative would be a grant program funded in conjunction with DSDC, with anticipated grants capped at $25,000.

- Construction on the downtown library has commenced. Mr. Glover had a meeting with SML Director Lynette Roberson and her team. She announced that the next phase of construction has begun and should be completed by the end of Q2 2027. She indicated that SULC-Shreveport has expressed interest in restarting in downtown Shreveport in Q3 of 2027 and advised that it would be beneficial to work together as there is the possibility that the location may be on the main campus of SUSLA rather than downtown.

- Mr. Glover held a meeting with the owner of Louisiana Tower owner and the property's leasing agent. The owner would like to become more involved in downtown, improve the use of the building's space, and be more active in the downtown community. He also expressed an interest in holding a future DDA event at the property.

B. Parking Report

Lorenzo Lee gave the parking report. He said there was a small increase in revenue and one vehicle was booted. Mario Chavez and Drayden Dunn requested a quote for the cost of having the curbs along Commerce Street repainted.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

A. Lunch & Discover

- This event was covered in the Director's Report.

B. DDA 25-Year Tax Renewal Election.

- The renewal millage will be on the 11/3/26 ballot. A DSDC subcommittee has been formed to educate the community about the renewal and provide support for the election.

C. Holy Trinity Church Development.

- Covered in discussion after Father Trombetta's presentation.

D. DDA/SRAC Lease-708 Texas & Assessment.

- There was no discussion.

E. Operation See, Sign & Secure.

- This topic was covered in the Director's Report.

F. Downtown Security Opportunity.

- Discussed in the Director's Report. Drayden Dunn requested an FAQ document from Tectus that could be available to the public. He suggested a meeting with downtown business owners, residents, and Tectus. Cedric Glover suggested a press roll out for the last week of September. Tectus will be present at NNO on October 6th. The city is providing space in the Red River District for the security company.

G. Placer AI Subscription

- No discussion.

H. Pipeline & Tracker

- There was no discussion.

I. City Planning, Infrastructure and Infrastructure Planning.

- No discussion.

J. State Incentive Legislation Related to the Redevelopment of La. Downtown Development Districts.

- There was no discussion.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. Artspace Lease/SRAC-708 Texas Street

Janie Landry reviewed the primary details of the proposed lease agreement. Legal council will review before finalization. Mario Chavez advised that plumbing cost should be passed onto the tenant in the sublease of the restaurant space.

Ed Taylor made a motion to approve the lease agreement with amendments requested by the board. Chris Stokes seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Activated Storefronts Initiative - $50,000 (Matched by DSDC)

Mr. Glover reviewed the program in his Director's Report. Ed Taylor and Drayden suggested possibly planning a working group for further discussion.

Drayden Dunn made a motion to approve the initiative. (There was no second.) Mario Chavez stated he would like more information.

Ed Taylor made a motion to approve the initiative contingent on further information. Mario Chavez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

C. **Operation Secure UTV, etc. -$50,000 (Matched by DSDC)**

Mario Chavez made a motion to approve. Terry Moore seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

D. **Red River Revel Sponsorship Request - $5000 (Matched by DSDC)**
Downtown Residents Night and Downtown Workers Night
Mario Chavez suggested $1,000 instead of the $5000 requested. Mr. Glover asked for an exception as this is a one-time sponsorship for an established event in downtown Shreveport that is celebrating 50 years this year. After further discussion it was decided that $5000 would be awarded for the sponsorship.

Drayden Dunn made a motion to approve the $5000 sponsorship. Mario Chavez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

E. **Help Improving Life LLC- Shreveport Pre-Labor Day Blues & Southern Soul Festival Sponsorship Request - $15,000**
Mario Chavez suggested $1000 instead of the $15,000requested.

Drayden Dunn made a motion to table pending more information. After further discussion it was decided that $1500 would be appropriate.

Drayden Dunn made a motion to approve the $1500. Ed Taylor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

F. **3rd Annual Marshall Street Food Festival Sponsorship Request - $1500.00**
Mario Chavez suggested $1,000 instead of $1500 as requested. Mr. Glover asked for further consideration.

Mario Chavez made a motion to approve the $1500 sponsorship. Drayden Dunn seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Glover announced that Lauren Davidson, Marketing Manager, would be leaving at the end of the month. The board suggested sending her flowers.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

XIII. **ADJOURN**

With no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned 5:45 PM.

Dr. Chelette Holden

Chelette Holden, Secretary