



**Downtown Development Authority
of Augusta, Georgia**

**Director's Report
January 2016**

Active ED Projects

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| 905 Broad Street | Loan approved April 16/\$250,000 (extension until April 2016) |
| 1162 Broad Street | Loan in Underwriting at GCF/\$250,000 |
| 912 Ellis Street | Loan Closed Oct. 29th/\$250,000 |

Other

Met with 3 interested property owners for GCF Loans. Total of approximately 30,000 SF and \$650,000 in loan requests. Letters of Intent forthcoming.

Boots Factory Ribbon Cutting on January 13, 2016. 85% leased.

Pilot SPLOST Project

Springfield Park application approved by Board
Old Town Wayfinding Signage Project completed
Art the Box: Electrical Signal Art Project: Project completed

SPLOST VI Project/Riverwalk

MOU has been approved by the ARC Commission and awaiting executed copy.
Meeting held Jan. 13 with Cooper Carry, Parks & Rec., Canal Authority and Administrator's office to coordinate efforts.
Cooper Carry will finalize plan and complete budgets.
Next Step: ARC Commission Approval, Design Work, SPLOST Reimbursement from City.

Downtown Programs

Retail Strategy

Working with 2 local developers on mixed-use projects.
Jimmy John's will be in town next week to look at sites.
IHOP has expressed interest and possible sites are in the works.
In communication with Barberito's and locating possible sites as well as a visit.
Newk's is interested in Augusta and will follow-up in February.
Working very closely with a Brewery who wants to make a site selection by Spring 2016.
Working with Kroger and Wal-Mart Neighborhood stores.

Assisting with Discovery Plaza, Woolworth, and Paine College (old Wife Saver property on 15th. Adding Laney-Walker Corridor to the strategy and in the process of completing a building inventory and possible sites.

RS has hired Tetrad for Demographic Reports. Tetrad works for retailers such as Costco and J. Crew. Reports are much more detailed and sophisticated. Updated and in portal for distribution.

RS working on a strategy for property owners who have not bought in to the retail vision for downtown. Focus will remain on regional restaurants and retail brands.

Working closely with Affordables Apparel who will have a pop-up store March 4-5th at 600 Broad.

Wade Robinette will be in Augusta in March.

Next Steps: Update Available Properties Inventory.

Grant Projects

James Brown Blvd. Phase 1

Project is 95% completed with brick ramp and pre-punch list items to be completed by Jan31.

Final Walk-Thru will then be scheduled and misc. outstanding items completed for approval by GDOT.

Contract extended until December 2016/approved by Commission/Commissioner Fennoy

Ribbon Cutting event will be scheduled at project completion

James Brown Blvd. Phase 2

Awaiting Contracts from GDOT.

RFQ for Design work completed.

Parking

Recommended parking management strategy included in Downtown Mobility Concept Plan.

Small sub-committee has met to work on smaller solutions such as the ordinance and off-street parking.

Website

Website design underway/City will host our site.

ED video completed.

Retail Strategies is working on retail component for new site.

Jones Street Alley

MOU has been approved by ARC Commission and waiting executed copy.

DDA will oversee design of the project which includes new paving, a loading zone, dumpster farm.

A revised parking lay-out will provide 25 additional spaces.

Project scope is MacCartan to James Brown. Alley will become one-way to vehicular traffic.

Next Steps: Preliminary Design and approval by Commission.

Office Inventory

Underway to determine existing condition and future needs in the core.

Laney-Walker Corridor

Working with HED on a retail strategy and other development opportunities.
Project includes available properties and sites inventory.

Other:

CLUS was held Dec. 5th and was a success.

Working with city ED Committee on James Brown Statue and other initiatives.

DAP Meeting will be scheduled once appointees are recommended and approved.

2015 Audit underway.

2015 Statistics Report for DCA underway.

2016 Budget will be completed for board approval in February as well as a 2015 year in review and project plan for 2016.