



**Downtown Development Authority  
of Augusta, Georgia**

**Director's Report  
June 2015**

**Active ED Projects**

905 Broad Street	Loan approved April 16 <sup>th</sup> in the amount of \$250,000
334 Greene Street	Loan closing held January 29 <sup>th</sup> with ribbon cutting
1022 Broad Street	Loan closed May 6 <sup>th</sup> in the amount of \$185,000
1033 Broad Street	Loan in Underwriting at GCF
1162 Broad Street	Loan in Underwriting at GCF
912 Ellis Street	Loan submitted to GCF in the amount of \$250,000

**Other**

Green Loan Funds has been converted to a Rebate Program/Working with Weed Elementary  
Woolworth Building purchased/TR Ready/In conversations with Retail Strategies  
1022 Broad Street/Sweet Sticks/Opened April 3<sup>rd</sup>  
The Hive, on 10<sup>th</sup> Street (Former Rooster's Beak), opened May 8<sup>th</sup>  
1002 Broad has been leased/New restaurant to open summer 2015  
Discovery Plaza/DDA and Retail Strategies are working with Dennis Trotter on retail portion of the project  
CanalSide Grand Opening is scheduled for June  
Working with 12,000 SF potential user/Delivered 3 site locations for consideration

**Pilot SPLOST Project**

Springfield Park application approved by DDA Board  
Olde Town Wayfinding Signage Project completed  
Art the Box: Electrical Signal Art Project: Project completed in May with unveiling ceremony held on June 5<sup>th</sup> at 600 Broad Street/Trolley tour with city officials to view the completed 23 boxes

**SPLOST VI Project/Riverwalk**

Contract with Cooper Carry approved by DDA Board  
Kick-off meeting with Cooper Carry and city department heads June 11<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.

## **Downtown Programs**

### **Retail Strategy**

Retail Strategies made contact with Which Wich and Dunkin Donuts in 2014. The market was approved by the franchisee and corporate at both companies. Retail Strategies shared several sites to the real estate directors to identify the best positioning. A final site was chosen and a local brokerage group (Jordan-Trotter) is putting together the 3400 SF development at 1640 Walton Way. Both businesses are expected to be operational by late June with 45 employees.

Market Analysis has been updated for 2014 and ready for DDA Website

Private sponsorships raised to-date in the amount of \$36,000

Tour of Downtown Augusta for Investors is underway

Working with Discovery Plaza on retail element

Developed relationships with local brokerage community

In conversations with key property owners and stakeholders

Scheduled meetings on behalf of Downtown Augusta for ICSC Conference in Las Vegas in May

### **Other**

Raising \$8,500 from private partners for Housing Demand Feasibility Report

Vacant Building Inventory updated

Housing Inventory for Broad Street Corridor completed

Downtown Historic Property Values Comparison completed

Downtown Activity Report for 2014 completed

Partnering with ARC on available office space and private investment stats

Retail Update given to Augusta-Richmond County Commission on January 26<sup>th</sup>

## **Grant Projects**

### **James Brown Blvd. Phase 1**

Three Team Meetings have been held since the groundbreaking in November

Construction 80 percent completed with an anticipated completion date of mid-July

All submittals to city have been approved

Working with city on tree issues for the project (removal and replacement)

### **James Brown Blvd. Phase 2**

Awaiting PI Number

### **James Brown Blvd. Phase 3**

Awarded TAP (Transportation Alternatives Program) Grant for Phase 3 for new improvements from Twiggs Circle to Laney Walker Blvd.

GDOT to program funds into STIP (State Transportation Improvement Program)

Awaiting contract from GDOT

## **GRU DAY**

Completed for 2015

## **Parking**

Concerns and comments from community forums were taken back to Commission January 12<sup>th</sup>

Working with City Administrator's Office on next steps

Scope included in Downtown Concept Plan

## **Other**

Audit approved and submitted to city

2015 Operating Budget Completed

Decade in Review Power Point Presentation completed

Board Retreat held in February

Next Steps: Develop a Fundraising Strategy and Complete Incentives for Retail and Small Business Development (by committee)

SB 63 (Beers Job Bill) passed

HB 308 (Historic Tax Credits Bill) passed

ARC Ribbon Cutting for 600 Broad April 3<sup>rd</sup>

Working with City Administrator's Office on solutions for Downtown Cleanliness

Past Chairman's Luncheon held

Jones Street Alley Project

Albany Trip/Ray Charles Statue/ Committee is presenting results to ED Committee June 12<sup>th</sup>

Website meeting with IT Department June 12<sup>th</sup>