



**Downtown Development Authority
of Augusta, Georgia**

**Director's Report
October 2016**

Active ED Projects

905 Broad Street	Loan approved April 16 th /\$250,000 (extension until October 2016)
1162 Broad Street	Loan approved/\$250,000
901 Broad Street	Loan application underway for Board approval

Other

Working with Fruitland Vodka for rental space downtown.
Showing available sites to prospective SC distillery.
Working with two prospects for purchase and 5000 sf rental.
Working with two local developers on mixed-use projects.
Working with R360 and Daniel Communities on mixed-use opportunities.
Escape Room Concept has signed an 8000 SF lease at 1025 Broad Street.
Real Estate Company has put an offer on a building for a downtown location.

Pilot SPLOST Project

Springfield Park application approved by Board.
Two applications have been forwarded for requests new sidewalks, lighting and street furniture for Ellis Street and picnic and street furniture at the marina.

SPLOST VI Project/Riverwalk

Preliminary projects approved by Commission.
Design of arches and shade structures underway. Georgia Power is working with Cooper Carry on the shade structures and DDA is working with city on geo tech and survey information for design of arches.
First invoice submitted to GB&T; outstanding invoices have been paid and an invoice has been submitted to city.
Revised MOU approved by Commission and signed by Mayor for four payment allocations thru 2017.

Downtown Programs

Retail Strategy

Working with a local developer on multi-tenant project/medical district.
IHOP, Newk's, Jimmy Johns and Barberito's are looking at possible sites.

On Dress-Ups radar screen for 2017.

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 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 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.

Affordables Apparel Pop-Up Store held on March 4th-5th. Following up on next steps.

Update Available Properties/Sites Inventory underway and on-going

Working on a multi-tenant development on Walton Way.

Working on an organic grocer and local brokers for a downtown site.

Marketing city-owned sites to multiple developers.

Using cell phone tracking data to entice retailers by showing distance people are driving to downtown.

Retail Strategies in town October 6th for presentation to South Augusta Study Committee.

Grant Projects

James Brown Blvd. Phase 1

Waiting on change order from contractor to provide:

- Basement hatch at Tabb Bldg.
- Vent at Marshall Bldg.
- Install 3 trash receptacles

Dogwood trees were planted and have a one year warranty.

Total Project Funding: \$812,500

Total Project Costs: \$812,386 (Includes \$37,377 in approved change orders)

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

Project Close-Out meeting held with DOT September 30th

Ribbon cutting event will be held November 10th at 10 a.m. (immediately after our Nov. Board Meeting).

James Brown Blvd. Phase 2

Detailed Project Schedule forthcoming (2016 Design, 2017 Right-of Way, and 2018 Field Construction).

LAP and PDP training scheduled.

Project Budget \$589,500.00

Procurement has issued RFQ for Design Consultant.

Next Step: Selection of Site Design Consultant. Proposals due October 20th at 11 a.m.

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.

Trip to Savannah/Residential, Employee and Mobility components of overall strategy

Website

Website design underway/City will host our site
Retail Recruitment Video completed and on website.
Retail Strategies is working on retail component for new site.

Jones Street Alley

Incorporating city comments into revised design documents.
Final design plans will be submitted to city for review the last week of August.
Project cost estimates underway.
Design Budget: \$26,967.50
Design meeting held October 12th for budget discussions and re-design options.
Next Step: Preliminary design approval by Commission

Office Inventory

Preliminary draft has been completed. Edits are underway.

Laney-Walker Corridor

Working with HED on a retail strategy and other development opportunities.
Project includes available properties and sites inventory.
Retail Strategies working on small grocery store.

Downtown Advisory Panel (DAP)

A meeting was not held in September but will resume in October with date and location forthcoming.
Skateboarding ordinance under review.

Other

Working with City ED Committee on James Brown Statue and other initiatives.
South Augusta Task Force Meeting held October 6th.
Completed maps for CVB strategic plan.
Chamber Board Meeting September 27th.
The DDA Budget Hearing was held on September 19th with city administrator and finance regarding city funding for 2017.
The Downtown Redevelopment Plan Public Review Meeting was held at the DDA office on October 3rd from noon to 2:00 p.m.
The DDA Board Luncheon with Dr. Keel was held on September 27th.
Participated on panel for Georgia Municipal Association on September 27th at the Augusta Convention Center.
A Bus Unveiling Ceremony was held on September 30th for the new public transit buses and was held at the Augusta Common.
CLUS Meeting held October 12th
Game Changers Panel Forum October 13th