



East Dearborn Downtown Development Authority

East DDA Board Meeting
February 18, 2026; 10:00 AM

Dearborn Administrative Center, Room 1D
16901 Michigan Ave, Dearborn MI 48126

- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Director Kamal Turfeh, Director Mariam Jalloul, Director Siham Said, Director Zaineb Hussein, Director Steven Witkowski
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** Secretary Treasurer Jennifer Lorenz, Vice-Chair Jay Kruz, Director Rana Saad, Mayor Abdullah Hammoud
- NON-MEMBERS PRESENT:** CITY OF DEARBORN: Jordan Twardy (ED), Kaileigh Bianchini (ED), Lara Rayshouny (ED), Rebecca Schultz (Legal), Amanda Sancen (ED), Courtney Skora (Finance), Mohammed Rezq (ED)
- GUESTS:** None

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:17 AM.

2. ROLL CALL

A role call for Board Members was conducted. A quorum was present.

3. APPROVAL OF EDDDA MINUTES

A motion to approve the East DDDA meeting minutes of January 21, 2026 was made by Director Zaineb Hussein and was seconded by Director Kamal Turfeh. The motion passed unanimously. Minutes approved.

4. REVIEW AND FILING OF TREASURER'S REPORT

Courtney Skora reviewed the financial statement dated January 31, 2026.

5. EDDDA ACTION ITEMS

- a. **Resolution ED 26-02-01: Confirmation of Executive Committee Appointment Secretary-Treasurer:** The EDDDA Board confirmed the appointment of Jennifer Lorenz as Secretary-Treasurer for the 2026 calendar year. While the Board had previously elected its Executive Committee in January via Resolution ED 26-01-01, Director Lorenz’s appointment was contingent upon her formal acceptance due to her absence at that meeting. Secretary-Treasurer Lorenz wasn’t able to attend the February 18, 2026 meeting and submitted a written statement of acceptance, which was read into the record



during the **February 18, 2026** meeting, and the Board **resolved** to finalize the appointment, effective immediately. Director Steven Witkowski made a motion to approve and was seconded by Director Kamal Turfeh. A voice vote passed unanimously. Motion approved.

- b. **Resolution ED 26-02-02: Reallocation Of Funds From Landscape and Maintenance to Snow Removal** : The EDDDA board Board approved the reallocation of \$30,000.00 from the Landscape and Maintenance account to the Snow Removal account. This reallocation was necessary to address severe winter weather conditions that resulted in the current snow removal budget being insufficient to cover projected costs for the remainder of the fiscal year. The motion was made by Director Kamal Turfeh and seconded by Director Zaineb Hussein. A voice vote passed unanimously. Motion approved.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a) **Holiday Lights:** Program Manager, Lara Rayshouny, gave an update on the Ramadan Holiday Light Decorations 2026.
- b) **Sanitation:** Economic Development Deputy Director Kaileigh Bianchini addressed growing sanitation concerns including overflowing dumpsters and illegal dumping. She sought Board feedback on developing a comprehensive sanitation strategy for both the West and East downtowns. The proposed approach involves engaging a consultant or planning firm to conduct a best-practices analysis to improve district-wide cleanliness.

7. DDDA ACTIVITY UPDATES

- a. **Business Liaison Updates & Data Reporting:** Program Manager Lara Rayshouny informed the board that Business Liaison Adel Al-Adlani has transitioned out of his position to accept a new role. She assured the board that his responsibilities will be covered in the interim and committed to providing further updates moving forward.
- b. **Events Update:** The Special Events and Outreach Manager, Amanda Sancen, provided an update on Dearborn's Night of Innovation and Bet On Dearborn Resource EXPO. She also provided the Dearborn Downtown Development Authorities 2026 events calendar.

8. CITY UPDATES

Economic Development Director Jordan Twardy announced that the city received \$1 million from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) to support a project for the alleyway behind the Arab American National Museum. He noted that the project involves a collaboration with DPW to address necessary sewer repairs alongside the implementation of various pedestrian improvements.



9. CALL TO BOARD

None.

10. CALL TO AUDIENCE

None.

11. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Director Zaineb Hussein at 10:35 AM and seconded by Director Kamal Turfeh. A voice vote was passed unanimously. Motion was approved and the meeting was adjourned.