



## **West Dearborn Downtown Development Authority**

Joint DDA Board Meeting  
March 18, 2026; 10:00 AM

Dearborn Administrative Center, Council Chambers  
16901 Michigan Ave, Dearborn MI 48126

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair Tahrik Alcodray, Vice Chair Tom Clark, Director Sam Abbas, Director Christopher Williams, Director Zaineb Hussein, Director Karl Makky, Mayor Abdullah Hammoud, Director Hussein Nasser

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Secretary Treasurer Mariam Jalloul

**NON-MEMBERS PRESENT:** CITY OF DEARBORN: Jordan Twardy (ED), Lara Rayshouny (ED), Deena Berri (ED), Rebecca Schultz (Legal), Amanda Sancen (ED), Courtney Skora (Finance), Mohammed Rezaq (ED)

**GUESTS:** None

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Tahrik Alcodray at 10:07 AM.

### **2. ROLL CALL**

A roll call was conducted by Chair Tahrik Alcodray. A quorum was present.

### **3. NEW MEMBER WELCOME**

Program Manager, Lara Rayshouny welcomed new member Hussein Ali Nasser to the WDDDA board.

### **4. APPROVAL OF WDDDA MINUTES**

A motion to approve the West DDDA meeting minutes of February 18, 2026 was made by Chair Tahrik Alcodray and seconded by Vice-Chair Tom Clark. The motion passed unanimously. Minutes approved.

### **5. REVIEW AND FILING OF TREASURER'S REPORT**

Courtney Skora reviewed the financial statement dated February 28, 2026.



## 6. WDDDA ACTION ITEMS

- a. **Resolution WD 26-03-01: Sponsorship Request - Taste of Dearborn (Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce):** The WDDDA Board approved a \$2,000 sponsorship to the Dearborn Area Chamber of Commerce for the annual Taste of Dearborn event, scheduled for June 17, 2026. Recognizing the event's value in bringing visibility to the West Dearborn district—specifically at Peace Park West and West Village Commons—the Board agreed to fund the Plaza Sponsorship from the "Sponsorship Funding" account. The authority will be acknowledged through logo signage at the West Village Commons Plaza entrance, digital and social media recognition, six event tickets, and the opportunity to host a WDDDA engagement booth. The motion was made by Chair Tahrik Alcodray and seconded by Mayor Abdullah Hammoud. A voice vote passed unanimously. Motion approved.

## 7. JOINT ACTION ITEMS

- a. **Resolution WD 26-03-02: Renewal of agreement for capture of Library Millage:** The WDDDA Board approved a ten-year renewal of the Agreement for Capture of Library Millage, extending the Authority's ability to capture tax increment revenues generated by the library millage. The original agreement, established in 2017, is set to expire on June 12, 2027. Noting that the Library Commission already executed this renewal on February 19, 2026, the Board approved the renewal of the agreement which would commence on June 12, 2027, and formally authorized the Chairperson to execute and notarize the renewal agreement on behalf of the WDDDA. The motion was made by Chair Tahrik Alcodray and seconded by Director Karl Makky. A voice vote passed unanimously. Motion approved.

## 8. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a) **Phase 2 of DTE Light Posts Project Update:** Program Manager, Lara Rayshouny, gave an update on Phase 2 of the Michigan Avenue DTE Light Posts project, reporting that the purchase agreements with DTE Energy were finalized and payment was submitted. The project will replace the existing special-order posts with DTE stock "Arlen" posts while reusing the current LED fixtures. She noted that a preconstruction walk with DTE will be scheduled in the coming weeks before construction begins.
- b) **Banner Design:** Program Manager Lara provided an update on a structured rollout for the downtown seasonal banners, proposing a rotation of the following themes and seasons: Winter/Christmas, Spring, Summer, Fall, and Ramadan. To prevent hanging errors, the Board discussed transitioning from text-heavy, bilingual designs to simple, iconic imagery. Possible strategies include installing banners toward vehicular traffic on Michigan Avenue.
- c) **Parking Enforcement in West Downtown:** Program Manager Lara Rayshouny addressed the importance of parking availability in West Downtown and discussed efforts to improve parking turnover in city-owned lots, decks, and alleyways through active parking enforcement.



**9. DDDA ACTIVITY UPDATES**

- a. **Business Liaison Updates & Data Reporting:** Business Liaison, Deena Berri provided updates about new business openings in the district. LOOP Detroit Bagels had their soft opening recently and its sister business, Seltz Soda, is set to open this following weekend. La Gelati is introducing a new coffee partner called Cafe Au Lait soon. In addition, the Summer Wellness Series will be expanding to provide additional fitness classes and vendors such as yoga and yelp. Also, a proposal for designated parking for expectant mothers was shared with the board.
- b. **Events Update:** Special Events and Outreach Manager Amanda Sancen provided an update on Dearborn Night of Innovation and the Bet on Dearborn EXPO. As part of her report, she presented the current Event Deck and shared recent successes in new sponsor onboarding. Specifically, she highlighted an in-kind sponsorship from Galata supporting DSM and DCW Music, as well as a \$2,500 sponsorship from DTE for the Trick or Treat event. She also briefly discussed participation in Placemaking Week 2026, and provided updates on the Dearborn Summer Market, wellness in the park, and student appreciation week.

**10. CITY UPDATES**

None.

**11. CALL TO BOARD**

None.

**12. CALL TO AUDIENCE**

None.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Chair Tahrik Alcodray and seconded by Director Karl Makky. A voice vote was passed unanimously. Motion was approved and the meeting was adjourned.