



East Dearborn Downtown Development Authority

East DDA Board Meeting
May 20, 2026; 10:00 AM

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Director Kamal Turfeh, Director Siham Said, Director Zaineb Hussein, Director Steven Witkowski, Secretary Treasurer Jennifer Lorenz, Director Rana Saad, Mayor Abdullah Hammoud, Vice-Chair Jay Kruz

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: CITY OF DEARBORN: Laura Aceves-Sanchez (ED), Lara Rayshouny (ED), Amanda Atwy (Legal), Amanda Sancen (ED), Courtney Skora (Finance)

GUESTS: None

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Abdullah Hammoud at 10:05 AM.

2. ROLL CALL

A roll call for Board Members was conducted by Mayor Abdullah Hammoud. A quorum was present.

3. APPROVAL OF EDDDA MINUTES

A motion to approve the East DDDA meeting minutes of April 15, 2026 was made by Vice-Chair Jay Kruz and was seconded by Director Zaineb Hussein. The motion passed unanimously. Minutes approved.

4. REVIEW AND FILING OF TREASURER'S REPORT

Courtney Skora reviewed the financial statement dated April 30, 2026.

5. EDDDA ACTION ITEMS

- a. **Resolution ED 26-05-01: Reallocation of Funds for East Downtown Activities:** The EDDDA approved the reallocation of funds across several accounts to ensure upcoming seasonal activities and district goals are fully resourced. Specifically, a total of \$37,224.00 was reallocated to Streetscape Enhancements (moving \$4,523.00 from Ramadan Lighting/Holiday Decor and \$32,701.00 from Snow Removal); \$3,819.00 was reallocated to General Marketing (moving



\$1,260.00 from Fall Festivities, \$165.00 from Business Mix & Mingle, and \$2,394.00 from Coffee Week); and \$7,500.00 was reallocated from Restaurant Week to Summer Festivities to support upcoming community events and downtown improvements. Director Kamal Turfeh made a motion to approve and was seconded by Vice-Chair Jay Kruz. A voice vote passed unanimously. Motion approved.

- b. **Resolution ED 26-05-02: Adoption of 2027 Board Calendar:** The EDDDA approved the 2027 calendar of meeting days and times as presented by the Economic Development Department staff. This calendar ensures that the Board of Directors can meet on a regular basis while providing a schedule that will be publicly noticed in compliance with open meeting standards. Director Kamal Turfeh made a motion to approve and was seconded by Vice-Chair Jay Kruz. A voice vote passed unanimously. Motion approved.
- c. **Resolution ED 26-05-03: Purchase of Replacement Lids and Liners:** The EDDDA approved the expenditure of \$6,900.00 from the Streetscape Enhancements account to purchase ten (10) sets of replacement lids and liners for the district's trash cans. This purchase addresses damaged lids or missing liners in the East Dearborn Downtown area to maintain local aesthetic and functional standards. The motion was made by Director Steve Witkowski and seconded by Vice-Chair Jay Kruz. A voice vote passed unanimously. Motion approved.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a) **Alleys for repair:** Program Manager, Lara Rayshouny, provided an update on the scheduled alleyway and pavement repairs for East Downtown for 2026. She shared that the city's primary goal for the year is to address deteriorating infrastructure by redoing several key alleyways that have been identified as high-priority through recent inspections. Furthermore, she added that the scope of work will include necessary repairs to adjacent sidewalks and aprons to ensure safe, accessible, and functional thoroughfares behind local downtown businesses.
- b) **Holiday Lights Updates:** Economic Vitality Manager, Laura Aceves-Sanchez, shared that staff is currently reviewing a holiday lighting quote from "My Bright Lights," the company behind the Camp Dearborn display, to cover Peace Parks and streetscape pole decorations. Staff is working internally with the purchasing department to finalize a formal proposal for next month's meeting. Bringing the proposal forward in June will allow for a necessary four-month planning and shipping window for overseas materials, ensuring everything is installed and ready ahead of the holiday season kickoff around Thanksgiving.

7. DDDA ACTIVITY UPDATES

- a. **Events Update:** The Special Events and Outreach Manager, Amanda Sancen, provided an update on the Downtown Dearborn Movies series and discussed with the board shifting the Ice Sculpture Walk date to January .



8. CITY UPDATES

Mayor Abdullah Hammoud highlighted the upcoming 100th anniversary Memorial Day Parade in the East End. In library news, Esper Library has closed and Bryant Library will close within two weeks for a comprehensive remodeling project; both are slated to reopen in Spring/Early Summer 2027 with new STEM and family spaces. Lastly, the city has expanded its "Clean Streets" initiative to a 13-person crew to proactively pick up litter and debris across all city, state, and county corridors.

9. CALL TO BOARD

None.

10. CALL TO AUDIENCE

None.

11. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 10:32 AM by Director Kamal Turfeh and seconded by Director Steve Witkowski. A voice vote was passed unanimously. Motion was approved and the meeting was adjourned.