



**Downtown Development Authority
Meeting of the DDA Board of Directors**

August 26, 2025

The August 26, 2025 meeting of the DDA Board of Directors was called to order at 8:31am in City Hall Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Brian Turnbull, Ryan McKindles, Amy Bonser, Margene Buckhave, Aaron Cozart, Mike Jaafar, Jim Long, Robert Miller, Shawn Riley

Absent: DJ Boyd, David Cole

Also Present: George Lahanas / City Manager, Kate Knight / DDA Director, Stacy Pearson / DDA Assistant Director, Al Maciag / NCFD Police Chief, Barbara Moroski-Browne / Mayor Pro-Tem, Fred Sheill, Justin Quagilata, Seth Herkowitz – Hunter Pasteur (HP), Patricia Ruredjian, Citizen and Owner of 156 North Center.

AUDIENCE COMMENT Building owner of 156 North Center and Northville resident Patricia Ruredjian spoke on her concerns over parking, noting that she sees Birmingham as a successful parking model for Northville.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by **Turnbull**, **seconded** by **McKindles** to approve the agenda and consent agenda. **Motion carried** unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Knight gave an overview of recent happenings in downtown reporting that the department's goal is to steer residual interest in our street status into media reach that lifts our business district across broader themes. Of note for Knight was that the biggest story impact this month, with thousands of views and strong engagement, has been a WXYZ Channel 7 piece on new businesses, "Thriving' Northville experiencing business boom", in which reporter Christiana Ford speaks with downtown businesses about "why they feel confident about the future".

Knight also gave updates from the LIV tour in August and how the DDA's marketing engagement with the event includes app content, with an invitation to "Visit Downtown Northville" within "Know Before You Go" ticketholder info, print material is in place on resort grounds, and with DDA social media is inclusive for the wide range of businesses in the

DDA. In addition, Knight gave note of the new professional photography- gorgeous, current imagery of downtown, to share with anyone telling our story.

Knight shared that Placer AI data reports from our partners at SEMCOG would be upcoming for Skeletons are Alive along with other large scale downtown events.

Knight reminded the group that in July the board discussed the scope and vision for work to Town Square, and that August would see the action plan, stating that the goal is that hardscape and landscape upgrades and maintenance will be bid and executed within a tight timeframe to minimally impact downtown programming.

Knight concluded with the DDA's investment in the downtown business experience with a new "How to Open a Business" document, created in cooperation with City departments, and the upcoming DDA hosted social media workshop in September for downtown businesses, with Herta Communications.

THE DOWNS PUD PROJECT STATUS

Herkowitz gave a presentation update on the Downs Development with a group discussion throughout. He made note of the following upcoming dates:

- June 17, 2025 Planning Commission recommended approval
- August 18, 2025 Historic District Commission certificate of appropriateness
- September 2025 Targeted for city council's review of the development agreement amendment

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE GMA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR TOWN SQUARE HARDSCAPE AND LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS

Knight presented the quotes and proposal from GMA for Town Square raised bed landscaping and additional hardscape improvements in the area.

Motion by Turnbull, seconded by **McKindles** to authorize DDA Director to execute agreement with Grissim Metz Andriese (GMA) for Professional Services Town Square Hardscape and Landscape services for \$11,500, including construction documents and construction phase services.. Motion carried **unanimously**.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE GMA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR TOWN SQUARE BAND SHELL IMPROVEMENTS

Knight presented on the GMA professional services for updates and maintenance to the Town Square band shell.

Motion by McKindles, seconded by **Buckhave** to authorize Executive Director Kate Knight to execute agreement with Grissim Metz Andriese (GMA) for Professional Services Town Square Bandshell Improvements for \$12,500, including construction documents and construction phase services. Motion carried **unanimously**.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR ARBORIST

Knight presented quotes by two arborist companies, Westside and Davey, for the grooming

and health maintenance for all trees in downtown.

Motion by McKindles, seconded by **Buckhave** to authorize Executive Director Kate Knight to execute contract with Westside Forestry services for \$15,030.00. for treatment of downtown streetscape trees and boxwoods. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THRONE PILOT CONTRACT

Knight reported on the findings and offer from the Throne public restroom program to provide Northville with a 90 day trial period for one unit to begin in immediately upon acceptance of the offer.

Motion by McKindles, seconded by **Turnbull** to authorize Executive Director Kate Knight to move forward with securing the Throne pilot program up to \$20,000. Motion carried **unanimously**.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Design Committee – Miller - None

Marketing Committee – Bonser – A larger DDA community wide steering committee would be meeting three times per year, and a smaller internal group would meet monthly beginning September 2, 2025. On September 16 and 17 the DDA is providing a professional development workshop to all downtown businesses. Professional photography underway with Stackwood Studio's, and Knight has been busy with media attention. Additionally, a Yiftee gift card option underway with QR code purchase and send via email / Apple Pay option available with merchants in favor and doesn't look like it's in opposition to chamber paper copy.

Parking Committee – Chief Maciag – Parking Enforcement Pace Officer has written 548 tickets. As of March 10, 303 were warnings, 42 waved, 200 tickets in total that were fined, of those 156 have been paid, little over 50 unpaid – all as of Aug 21.

Organizational Committee – none

Economic Development Committee – none

NEW BUSINESS

None

BOARD AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Knight shared that on the previous Saturday she and Bonser went to a Women in Small Business in Downtown Detroit as representatives from Northville.

Next month Knight noted that prior to the board meeting she will be a speaker at the Michigan Municipal League, MML, facilitating a panel on placemaking and public art on Thursday September 18, 2025.

Riley praised Bonser for her excellent job with marketing committee.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Turnbull, and **seconded by McKindles** to adjourn the DDA Board meeting.

Motion carried unanimously. **Meeting adjourned at 10:00am**

Respectfully submitted,
Stacy Pearson, Assistant DDA Director
Northville DDA

Parking Committee – none

Organizational Committee – none

Economic Development Committee – none

DDA FUTURE MEETINGS / IMPORTANT DATES

DDA Board meeting, July 22, 2025, 8:30am, DDA Meeting Room A.

BOARD AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Long, seconded by Boyd to adjourn the DDA Board meeting.

Motion carried unanimously. **Meeting adjourned at** 10:33am.

Respectfully submitted,
Stacy Pearson, Assistant DDA Director
Northville DDA

