



**Downtown Development Authority  
Meeting of the DDA Board of  
Directors  
October 2, 2025**

The October 2, 2025 Special Meeting of the DDA Board of Directors was called to order at 8:33am in City Hall Council Chambers.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Shawn Riley, Ryan McKindles, Amy Bonser, Robert Miller, Margene Buckhave, DJ Boyd, David Cole, Brian Turnbull, Mike Jaafar (arrival 9:20AM)

**Absent:** Aaron Cozart, Jim Long

**Also Present:** Kate Knight / DDA Director, Stacy Pearson / DDA Assistant Director, George Lahanas / City Manager

**AUDIENCE COMMENT** None

**DEVELOPMENT AND APPROVAL OF OCTOBER SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT  
EXPENDITURE REQUEST MOTION**

Riley shared letters from Cozart and Long, sharing both concerns for DDA Board consideration and stating support for general district support. Knight updated on week of events to include: DPW handled an emergency sewer collapse on morning of Wednesday, October 1, court hearing was a few hours later. Knight shared that restauraters were assembled for a 2:00PM meeting with DDA to communicate legal directives moving forward for law suit and removing permitted outdoor restaurant street dining. DDA staff asked how best to support the balance of the permitted outdoor dining season. Knight continued that today is to bring everyone up to a collective awareness and how the DDA can maintain a pro-business vibrant downtown, with the recommendation is to mobilize a DDA provided public dining atmosphere. Knight also shared that DDA is coordinating with downtown businesses and DPW to facilitate logistics to comply with order, to be accomplished prior to hosting a premier DDA event on October 4: Skeletons are Alive launch party, (visitor count 6,000 in 2024).

Analysis: Elimination of private dining seating capacity contributes to furnishing deficit for event on October 4 and following October weekends with skeletons programming. (For October 4 event there will be 11 food trucks.) DDA will mobilize to furnish public seating, tables and supporting elements in support of all eateries downtown. Action supports a neutral public solution for downtown businesses toward a vibrant outdoor dining experience

with uniform elements (tables, chairs, etc.), available for general public use. DDA will monitor weather and conditions to determine furnishings installation process for weekends in October, within the parameter of existing special event permit with closure of Main Street between Center Street and Hutton Street. This activation is consistent with best practice placemaking for vibrant downtown business districts and supports all visitors seeking downtown dining, regardless of previous permitted outdoor uses.

Budget Impact: Funding is allocated from seasonal expenditures and general budget.

**Motion by Bonser, Seconded by Cole** to authorize DDA Director to execute programming expenditures in support of October events for fixtures, furnishings, and accessories for activation of the streets in the month of October not to exceed \$20,000.

**Motion by Cole, seconded by McKindles** to adjourn the DDA Board meeting. **Motion carried unanimously.** Meeting adjourned at 9:25am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stacy Pearson,  
Assistant DDA Director Northville DDA