

# Downtown Development Authority of Augusta, Georgia

# Director's Report July 2016

#### Active ED Projects

905 Broad Street 1162 Broad Street 912 Ellis Street Loan approved April 16/\$250,000 (extension until April 2016) Loan approved/\$250,000 Loan closed October 29/\$250,000

# <u>Other</u>

Sweets on Broad and Broad Street Barkery opened in July. Working with Fruitland Vodka for rental space downtown. Showing available sites to prospective Brewery/World of Beer locating on Washington Road Working with two local developers on mixed-use projects. Met with SC Brewery April 13/Meeting next week finalize sites Working with R360 and Daniel Communities on mixed-use opportunities. Project 511: IGA approved by Commission/ Draft Development Agreement completed and under review

# Pilot SPLOST Project

Springfield Park application approved by Board. Old Town Wayfinding Signage Project completed. Art the Box: Electrical Signal Art Project: Project completed

# SPLOST VI Project/Riverwalk

Preliminary projects approved by commission. Design Proposals for shade structures and arches forthcoming this week from Cooper Carry. Line of Credit with GB&T approved by Board. First invoice to GB&T and city underway.

# Downtown Programs

#### **Retail Strategy**

Working with a local developer on multi-tenant project/medical district.

IHOP, Newk's, Jimmy Johns and Barberito's are looking at possible sites.

On Dress-Ups radar screen for 2017.

Working very closely with a Brewery who wants to make a site selection by spring 2016.

Working with Kroger and Wal-Mart Neighborhood stores. Assisting with Discovery Plaza and Paine College (old Wife Saver property on 15<sup>th</sup>). Adding Laney-Walker Corridor to the strategy and in the process of completing a building inventory and possible sites. RS working on a strategy for property owners who have not bought in to the retail vision for downtown. Focus will remain on regional restaurants and retail brands. Affordables Apparel Pop-Up Store held on March 4-5. Following up on next steps.

Update Available Properties/Sites Inventory underway and on-going

RECON 2016 Report in board books for review. \*\* Confidential\*\*

#### **Grant Projects**

#### James Brown Blvd. Phase 1

Punch list is completed and last pay application underway.Dogwood trees were planted and have a one year warranty.Total Project Funding:\$812,500Total Project Costs:\$807,340 (Includes \$32,377 in approved change orders)Contract extended until December 2016/Approved by Commission/Commissioner FennoyRibbon cutting event will be scheduled at project completion.

#### James Brown Blvd. Phase 2

Detailed Project Schedule forthcoming (2016 Design, 2017 Right-of Way, and 2018 Field Construction). LAP and PDP training scheduled.

Project Budget \$589,500.00

Procurement has RFQ. Selection of Design Consultant slated for August.

# **Parking**

Recommended parking management strategy included in Downtown Mobility Concept Plan. Small sub-committee has met to work on smaller solutions such as the ordinance and off-street parking. Trip to Savannah/Residential, Employee and Mobility components of overall strategy

#### <u>Website</u>

Website design underway/City will host our site Retail Recruitment Video completed and on website. Retail Strategies is working on retail component for new site.

#### Jones Street Alley

Concept Design Drawings are completed and to department heads for comment. Project cost estimates underway. Design Budget: \$26,967.50 Next Steps: Preliminary design approval by Commission

#### **Office Inventory**

Underway to determine existing condition and future needs in the core. Project completion expected end of July. State of Office Space Webinar-research determining current state and future trends.

#### Laney-Walker Corridor

Working with HED on a retail strategy and other development opportunities. Project includes available properties and sites inventory. Retail Strategies working on small grocery store.

#### Downtown Advisory Panel (DAP)

A meeting was held on June 22. Skateboarding ordinance under review. The next meeting is scheduled for July 27 at Westobou Offices.

# **Other**

Working with City ED Committee on James Brown Statue and other initiatives. South Augusta Task Force Meeting held June 27. Working on maps for CVB. ARC Board Meeting held June 20. Luncheon with Georgia Power. Lunch with Dr. Keel on August 2.