

**Director's Report
September 2014**

Active ED Projects

905 Broad Street	Loan under review/Site visit by Chris Higdon
334 Greene Street	Loan under review at GCF/Green Loan approved
1022 Broad Street	Loan under review at GCF/Pre-approved by GCF
1033 Broad Street	Loan approved by DDA/In underwriting at GCF

Loans in the pipeline

303-315 Greene Street	Pending Letter of Intent/\$195,000/GCL/Energy Loan approved-HVAC/roof
1162 Broad Street	Loan completed/Approval under New Business/\$250,000 request/Site visit by Chris Higdon

Other

Continued interest and site activity for a hotel
Metro Market located at 851 Broad Street opened on August 22
Working with two local prospects for downtown office space
Boots Factory has been purchased by Peach Contractors/20 apartments under construction

Pilot SPLOST Project

The Richmond on Greene/Application approved by Board/Meeting scheduled with owner
Springfield Park application approved by Board
Old Town Wayfinding Signage approved by CVB/Going thru city approval process

SPLOST VI Project/Riverwalk

RFP draft completed
Committee meeting held March 11
\$600,000 in SPLOST 6 Funds is available/Request for funding underway
Committee meeting held July 17 at 2 p.m./RFP draft approved
RFP has been forwarded to procurement

Downtown Programs

Retail Strategy

Initial research completed and under review
Downtown Augusta has been represented at the following retail conferences:
ICSC Las Vegas, ICSC Atlanta, ICSC Dallas, ICSC Orlando and Retail Live in Atlanta
List of retail prospects is confidential and available to board members
Private sponsors/\$27,500
Augusta brochure completed
Very successful Masters Week

Next steps

Bring developers to Augusta/Meet with city leaders in regards to a downtown grocery
Plan a trip with city leaders to a PEER City
Complete building inventory
New Market Tax Credit seminar/Possibly in October
Food Desert Designation underway
BaseCamp Webinar completed
Website changes underway
Chuck Branch in town August 15/Identified potential sites

Grant Projects

James Brown Blvd. Phase 1

Pre-Bid Meeting June 20 at 10 a.m.
Bid Opening July 8 at 3 p.m.
Board approved Supplemental Agreement to extend contract/August 14
Board approved Larry Pittman & Associates as Contractor in the amount of \$625,132.25/August 14
Engineering Services Committee August 25/Approved
Commission approval September 2/Approved
Contract signatures underway

James Brown Blvd. Phase 2

Environmental work underway
Awaiting MOU's from DOT for execution

GRU DAY

Planning for September 2014 - April 2015 underway
September 18 - Funk You to perform 10th Street 6 p.m. to 9 p.m./Macartan Street
Shuttles will run from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Parking

Updates underway for future commission workshop (completed)

Other

Website quotes underway (\$15,000 to \$30,000)
Renaissance Act has been signed in law by Governor
GAZA Conference in Augusta August 14-16
Georgia Downtown Conference in Decatur August 20-22
National Main Street Conference will be held in Atlanta in April 2015
CLUS Sponsorships underway/\$5,000 raised to date/ Planning meeting in September
Augusta will be highlighted in Georgia Trend's August edition
Hub Designation/Exploration and fact finding underway
2015 budget request submitted to city and budget hearing to be held on September 16 at 10:45 a.m.

Submitted a tourism grant on behalf of Morris Museum

Distributed information to merchants for a proposed weekly downtown television show in Augusta on behalf of Mark Crump

Ground Breaking for Canal Side Apartments/September 9

Small Business Panel with John Barrow

Renaissance Act guidelines completed

Events

First Friday - September 5

Border Bash - September 12

GRU Day - September 18

Arts in the Heart - September 19 -21

Intermedix Ironman 70.3 Augusta - September 28

Westobou - October 1-5

Color Run - October 4