

# Executive Director's Report June 2022

### **Economic Restructuring:**

### **Active Prospects:**

Midwest Maintenance has purchased 1126 Ellis Street.

753 Broad Street/Lamar Building- PS & L agreement has been reviewed by Jeb and under review with Pace Burt Development.

1812 Slaton Street/25-acre mixed-use project. Project Completed. CO issued May 27.

1162 Broad Street/hotel developer. HPC approved demo permits pending site plan and revised façade renderings on 11/18/21. Have started possible financing structure conversations with Naman.

1211 Greene Street/Stovall Barnes House. Façade Grant approved.

Florida based developer in town 2/24.

Macon based developer in town 4/27 and have made an offer on a Broad Street property.

901 Greene Street (former Shared Space) has been purchased by ATC Development- 35 employees.

The Atticus was approved by the Commission on 4/11 for 10<sup>th</sup> & Ellis- 82-units/mixed use project.

Residence Inn by Marriott was approved by Planning Commission on 4/11 for 13<sup>th</sup> Street- 125 rooms.

### **New Business Announcements & Openings:**

Edwards Mercantile and Co. at the DeLaigle House on Greene St.

Manny's Sports Bar, 215 10<sup>th</sup> Street-old Hive Space

Buona Caffe Coffee, 520 Reynolds Street

Tip Top Taps Bar & Restaurant, 936 Broad Street- old Book Tavern Space.

Tacocat, 208 10<sup>th</sup> Street is now hiring and will open soon

Fetch 501, 501 Broad Street

Pineapple Ink Tavern is rebranding at 1002 Broad Street and will re-open soon.

### **Expansions:**

Mellow Mushroom moving to 1102 Broad Street

### **Ribbon Cuttings:**

Georgia Legal Services 5/19 by Chamber of Commerce.

"Embers of Hope" Golden Blocks Mural 6/3.

Buona Coffee TBA.

### Other:

HB 469 passed reinstating state historic tax credits for 5 years.

Completed two FY23 Congressionally Directed Spending Requests via Senator Warnock's office:

Façade Program for Blighted Buildings \$1,320,000 Downtown Enterprise Center \$2,350,000

### Design:

### Riverwalk Arches (Attached)

Contract awarded to RD Brown in the amount of \$314,000.

Construction Contract has been completed by Cranston. Will forward to Jeb for review.

Once executed, project will be completed in 14 to 16 weeks.

Blighted/Empty Building Inventory for Broad Street Corridor is completed.

DCA Grant application submitted June 3 for Jones Street Alley improvements. Total cost is \$1,145,661. Grant ask is \$1,031,095. City match is \$114,566.

### **DDA/City MOU for Downtown Maintenance-America Relief Funds**

Approved by the Commission on 3/1 with \$250,000 for cleanliness and \$250,000 for blight removal. MOU was executed and returned to the DDA on 4/21.

DDA requested first allotment of \$175,000 on 4/22. The check has been deposited in a separate dedicated account.

MOU between DDA and ACE has been drafted, reviewed by Jeb and sent to ACE.

Blighted Building Inventory has been completed.

Conference call with Kirby Glaze held 5/3 on possible structuring of program.

Carl Vinson will assist with façade designs.

First Quarterly Update has been submitted to Dr. Malik and Ms. Donna Williams per the MOU.

### **Façade Grants:**

Available funds left for award: \$23,500 Accepting no more applications at this time.

On agenda for approval today:

1501 Broad Street

### Pending:

510 Greene Street 753 Broad Street 1126 Ellis Street Soul Bar Laney Walker property

## **Georgia Cities Loan Applications**

922 Greene Street has been approved by Foundation.

401 Greene Street approved by Foundation in the amount of \$200,000.

### Pending:

753 Broad Street/Lamar Building Penthouse.

1211 Greene Street/Stovall Barnes House

1126 Ellis Street/Midwest Maintenance.

### **Promotion:**

Website refresh underway. New Customer Journey reports and Downtown Highlights page has been updated. Phuong will update Office Inventory Report.

Sponsored CANIKICKIT on 5/20.

### Instagram:

850 accounts reached; 122 accounts engaged; 667 followers.

### Facebook:

6861 post reach; 497 post engagements; 442 likes; 589 followers.

### Website:

385 sessions; 856 page views.

#### **SOOFA Kiosks:**

Contract with SOOFA has been executed for 3 kiosks.

Locations: 5<sup>th</sup> Street Pedestrian Bridge, Broad Street side of the Common, Soul Bar on 10<sup>th</sup> Street.

Locations have been approved by John Ussery.

Wier-Stewart design concepts are completed (attached).

MOU signed with Azalea Advertising (60-40 split).

Sponsorships and advertising are underway.

App Screen design underway.

SPLOST reimbursement underway.

Aiming for a Summer unveiling.

### **Bi-Monthly DDA Update**

First Edition has been distributed to elected officials and is on the website.

### **Customer Journey Reports:**

| Year                | Est. # of Customers | Est. # of Visits | Visits per Customer |
|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 2019 (baseline)     | 784.5K              | 3.5M             | 4.46                |
| Apr. 2021-Mar. 2022 | 649.1K              | 3.4M             | 5.3                 |

### Organization:

Commissioner Jordan Johnson breakfast at May Park on 5/14.

Georgia Outdoor Recreation & Trails Summit on 5/15 and 5/16.

Collaboration Meeting with Tonny McNeil on 5/18.

Georgia Chamber Luncheon on 5/26.

Meeting with Miller Theater on 5/27.

Students2Work Match Luncheon on 6/1.

Tniya Collins is our intern. She is a graduate of Butler High School and will attend Augusta Tech in the Fall.

Thank you Georgia Power.

Project Coordinator Katherine Bonner has been accepted to the Leadership Augusta Class of 2023.

Congrats to Katherine and thank you Georgia Power.

No board meeting in July. Happy Independence Day!

Next board meeting is 8/11 at Auben Realty (909 Walker Street).











