



**Executive Director's Report
August 2022**

Economic Restructuring:

Active Projects:

753 Broad Street/Lamar Building- PS & L agreement has been executed.

1812 Slaton Street/25-acre mixed-use project. Project completed. CO issued May 27. 25 apartments have been leased; 9 pre-leased.

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.

Assisted The Brunch House of Augusta with new location.

Assisting Senator Warnock's office with downtown office location.

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

Residence Inn by Marriott approved by Planning Commission (13th Street) 4/11, 125 rooms.

Met with market-rate housing developer August 8.

New Business Announcements & Openings: See Attachment

TacoCat has opened at 990 Broad Street.

Manny's Sports Bar is opening this week at 215 10th Street.

Pineapple Ink Tavern has rebranded and reopened at 1002 Broad Street.

Munchie's Lab has opened at 1022 Walton Way.

Tiffany's Eatery has opened 828 Broad Street.

Fetch 501 has opened at 501 Broad Street.

Expansions: See Attachment

Flowers on Broad has relocated and is open at 1030 Greene Street.

Mellow Mushroom has expanded and is open at 978 Broad Street.

Ribbon Cuttings:

HUB on 6/24.

Pineapple Ink Tavern on 7/13.

ATC Development on 7/14.

Paceline on 7/20.

Walton Options on 7/26.

Mellow Mushroom on 8/2.

Georgia Legal Services 5/19 by Chamber of Commerce.

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

Buona Coffee 6/3.

Other:

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

Completed two FY23 Congressional 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

Contract has been executed with RD Brown in the amount of \$314,000.

Change order in the amount of \$20,234.74 (increased costs of light fixtures).

Submittals and fabrication underway; November unveiling.

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

MOUs with City and ACE have been executed.

First disbursement received from city and first payment has been made to ACE.

Additional \$500,000 allocated to ACE by commission for 2023 and 2024.

MOU addendum submitted to City on 8/3/22.

Meeting on 8/11 to begin discussions on possible structures for the blight removal program.

5th Street Bridge Wi-Fi

Submitted project parameters to Dr. Malik and he has given us notice to proceed.

Finalizing details with AU Building for rooftop equipment.

Façade Grants:

Received a check from Georgia Power for \$50,000. \$25,000 will be for facades and \$25,000 for blight removal.

On agenda for approval today:

510 Greene Street

Georgia Cities Loan Applications

922 Greene Street has been approved by Foundation.

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

Promotion:

Website: Phuong is updating Office Inventory Report/updated demographic reports have been added.
Katherine has updated Data & Demographics, Downtown Highlights, and Projects pages.
Collaborative ad in August edition of Georgia Trend Magazine.
2nd edition of Bi-monthly report completed 6/29 and distributed to city leaders on 7/6 (Attached).
Assisted with Camp Soul City on 7/16.
Sponsoring Small Business Saturday on 11/26 (logo on tote bags).
Planning committee for NCDCA Conference September 13-16.

Instagram:

825 followers (23.7% increase); 20 posts; 224 stories; 1514 accounts reached; 233 accounts engaged.

Facebook:

509 page likes (15% increase); 676 followers (14.8% increase); 4084 people reached; 505 post engagements.

Website:

851 sessions; 1808 pageviews; 88% of website visitors are new; 20% of visitors follow the link from Instagram, and 40% of visitors follow the link from Facebook.

SOOFA Kiosks:

Encroachment permits have been approved.
Kiosks will ship September 7. October unveiling.
Ad sales in progress.
“Something Cool is Coming Here” vinyl in progress.

Organization:

State of the City address 6/16.
Meeting with Cyber City Circuits on 6/17.
Meeting with downtown restaurants, elected officials and Sheriff’s office 6/21.
Augusta Tech Economic Outlook on 6/23.
Dr. Whirl, Augusta Tech on 7/6.
Chamber Luncheon with Commissioner Bobby Williams on 7/13.
Lunch meeting with HCD for conference on 7/14.
Choice Neighborhood Grant Meeting 7/19.
Trip to Madison with Phuong to look at workforce housing on 7/29.
ACE Board Meeting on 8/3.
DDA Organization Committee on 8/3.
Tim McFalls, EDA on 8/9.
DDA Design Committee on 8/11.

Other:

Submitting budget request to City 8/12.
Upcoming presentation to Commission and press release with DDA updates.
Business and Property Owner Directory has been completed by intern Tniya Collins.