



**Executive Director's Report
October 2023**

Economic Development

Lamar Building:

Fiscal Impact Report completed.

Developer is finalizing project financing / final documents will be prepared for board approval.

Marion Building:

Deal structuring in discussion with developer.

Meeting with Tax Assessor's Office.

Brunch House:

GC Loan Application under New Business.

401 Greene Street:

GC Loan Closing anticipated by end of 2023.

Microenterprise Center:

Additional grant research underway.

Metrics for Phase 1 have been completed.

Bylaws and asset mapping in final steps/conversation underway with Georgia Tech on asset mapping.

Website domains have been purchased.

Augusta Tech sponsorships underway.

Dickinson contract has been executed/McKnight contract under review.

Commercial kitchen options under review.

Lease has been fully executed for 600 Broad with City and signed on 9/15.

Utilities are being transferred and October 20th we are in possession and demolition begins.

Accelerate Augusta Board will meet in November and select logo and approve plans, budgets and schedule.

Project Launch scheduled for December 7th at 2 pm.

Ribbon Cuttings:

Miami Vibz 9/20

Force Jackson House 10/6

MOD Home 10/11

Other:

How To Do Business Guide is completed.

Tax incentive policy has been drafted and ready for review by ED Committee.

Will assist Tax Assessor's office on reclassification of downtown properties.

Sunshine Bakery has sold as has IntelliSystems.

Design

SPLOST Projects:

Marina furniture has been installed.

Arches 8th Street installation week of 10/23. Discussing alternative location for 10th Street.
SPLOST reimbursements submitted to City for Marina, 5th Street WIFI, and SOOFA kiosks.
Balance of SPLOST for Jones Street Connector- will need board discussion.
TIA Project- Broad Street will mobilize in November for JB Linear Park.
Entertainment District Ordinance.

Ace Cleanup:

6th Quarterly Report submitted to City.
\$725,000 received from City for maintenance and blight.
\$428,500 has been used for maintenance to date with a remaining payment in 2024 of \$225,000.
\$275,000 remaining for blight program. This will be a priority for Q1 2024.

Jones Street Alley Connector Grant:

Meeting held 9/25 with city and private property owners.
Work will commence January 2024.

Marketing

Tara will be managing website updates, blogs and social media for Arena.
Katherine will work with city on kiosk messaging for TIA, will manage content updates and is working on a sales model for advertising. She completed a podcast released 10/18.
Small Business Saturday is 11/25. DDA is sponsoring tote bags.
CLUS is 12/2 at Augusta Common.
Christmas Parade is 12/9 at 1 pm with new Greene Street route.

Organization

Downtown Soul City Meeting	8/29
Collaboration Luncheon	9/14
Chamber Board Meeting	9/26
Land Bank Presentation	10/6
City/Black Chamber Grant Awards	10/10
Hard Hat Tour Bell & Arena	10/17