



DAVIS DOWNTOWN

Visioning & Civic Relations Committee Meeting Minutes

August 4, 2023 @ 9:00 a.m.

Location: via Zoom Meeting

Chair: Jen Cala

Co-Chair: Dawn Coder

1. Welcome / Attendance
 - a. Board: Jennifer Cala, Dawn Coder, Aaron Wedra
 - a. Acknowledgement of Dawn Coder stepping in as Co-Chair of the Visioning & Civic Relations Committee because we are merging monthly Parking & Transportation Committee meetings into Visioning & Civic Relations Committee meetings (Parking & Transportation Committee will still meet ad hoc for specific/major issues)
 - b. Aaron acknowledges that he is currently the Co-Chair of the Nominating Committee and is going to focus efforts on finding candidates through that committee. Aaron also explains that he is stepping down as Co-Chair of Visioning & Civic Relations Committee to steer clear of any possible conflict with the DDBA's collaboration with the City of Davis to renovate the G Street pedestrian only area, and his personal desire to appeal to the public and/or City Council for particular renovation ideas.
 - b. DDBA Team: Brett Maresca
2. Review of Minutes & Agenda
 - a. June meeting minutes (approved)
 - b. August meeting agenda (approved with additional item discussed)
 - i. Consider how to start integrating Parking & Transportation topics into the future agendas.
 1. Dawn brought up 3rd Street construction
 - a. Jen asks if the City has any updates on construction
 - b. Brett says Barbara Archer will supply an update soon. Brett asked for as much info as possible from City so we can put out an informational newsletter.
 - i. City did provide a breakdown of phasing of construction and Brett will send out later today in a newsletter to members and to the public, as applicable

- c. Committee members are concerned that it looks like the construction project might be behind schedule
- d. Dawn asks if we can ask the City to include “no backing into space” signs in some areas because too many people are backing into spaces since signage does not say they cannot. Some other cities allow this, but Davis spaces are not designed for this. Drivers have said to Dawn that “because the sign doesn’t say I cannot, I am going to”.
- e. Brett and Jen agree that this could be a dangerous situation if cars are backing into angled parking spots and crossing oncoming traffic (bikes and cars) when pulling out.
- f. Dawn points out that the City designed these spaces not to be backed into because of the exhaust facing the businesses and sidewalk in addition to safety issues.
 - i. Jen says this backing into spaces happens a lot.
 - 1. Brett says he’ll look into it. Will try to get clarification from PD.

3. Public Comment

- a. No public comment

4. Beautification Subcommittee Update

a. New Downtown Planters Update

- i. This is in limbo because we are waiting on the City to provide an update on the digital kiosk proposal we submitted. We do not want to put the money toward planters unless it is confirmed that the digital kiosk won’t be possible.
- ii. This is on hold for now.

b. Graffiti Abatement Issue

- i. The PD sent out information on a person of interest recently. DDBA sent a picture and some info out in a newsletter.
- ii. Brett has a meeting with PD and will ask about an update; will ask if any arrests were made etc.

c. Downtown Map Kiosks

- i. Recently, the City asked Brett about the existing 4 standard kiosks downtown because they seem outdated and not very useful. Brett responded and said the topic is hard to address until we know more about the digital kiosk. Perhaps if we can get the digital kiosk in place, we could monetize both the digital kiosks and the 4 standard kiosks with information and advertising packages.
- ii. Brett will talk to Diane Parro more in depth about digital kiosks as it relates to the G Street project.

5. Downtown Streets Team Update

a. Launch Party in E Street Plaza (August 15th)

- i. Jen says invites went out in the mail from DST, since she received one at Sole Desire.

- ii. Brett stated that our organization has been invited to speak at this event about the DDBA's involvement and results we have seen.
- iii. It was mentioned that we will continue to work with DST and the City to see if they can remove tape, stickers, and flyers on all sorts of structures downtown.
 - 1. Many other cities likely have similar problems, but they might have more specific plans and enforcement in place to deal with trash, graffiti etc.
 - 2. Personal businesses can still have signs etc. in their windows, but perhaps it would be good to have an across-the-board policy not to post things on downtown public structures except in specifically designated areas.
 - a. Committee/staff want to have the City look into doing this with DST.

6. Programs & Projects

a. G Street Activation Project

i. Progress & Planning Update

- 1. Brett has provided Diane Parro's communication to the board. It is good that the City has hired someone to work on the project.
- 2. There was a parking request from Illusions. They would like their own spots for customers out front. "15 minute only parking for Illusions."
 - a. Jen loosely suggests that perhaps the 20 minute spot in front of their business could be converted?
 - i. Of course the worry would be that if one business makes this request, then many businesses might request something similar.
 - ii. Brett suggests that it could be very sticky for the DDBA to take a stance. Could seem unfair to other businesses.
- ii. As an aside, Jen asked if anything has developed regarding parking on H Street being 90 minutes vs other spaces around it being 2 hr. The question was whether we could ask the City to change the strip to 90 minutes as well. People may be avoiding the 2 hr. spaces because they want the extra 30 minutes.
 - 1. Brett and Dawn said there hasn't been any discussion as of yet
 - a. Dawn and Jen wonder about 3 hr. parking to entice people to stay downtown longer
 - i. Brett points out the City's big issue is that students could abuse this parking opportunity
 - 1. Jen wonders if the 1 hr. difference would really be a large concern. Understands that parking closer to the campus might need regulation of this sort, but that farther away

students would not be parking their car to then walk to campus.

- i. Brett will follow up about this with Ryan Chapman.

b. CPTED Grants (Safer Davis 2023) Program

- i. Application deadline is the 18th. We had a good response from businesses. Not as many CPTED assessments were requested as the first round of grants, which was expected.

c. Welcome to Davis Sign Update

- i. Jen believes the Odd Fellows and City are waiting for a couple organizations before finishing the project.

7. \$10k City of Davis Beautification Fund

a. Digital Kiosk Proposal Planning Update

- i. The engineering design firm for G Street should be analyzing our request to see if it can be a part of the G Street plan.

- 1. We hope to hear more from the City in the near future. We will push for best case scenario of having the high-tech kiosks we are proposing.

- a. Brett thinks that even though there is a risk of damage of these digital kiosks, that we should not be afraid to try to beautify and modernize our downtown. If the downtown looks bad, it only invites further ill treatment of the space.

- i. Jen points out that funds generated from advertising from the kiosks could also help with repairs if the kiosks were damaged.

8. New Business

- a. No new business

9. Old Business

- a. No old business

10. Adjourn

- a. Meeting adjourned

- b. Next Meeting: Friday, September 1st at 9:00am