



Downtown Development Authority Meeting

Monday, July 27, 2026 at 6:30 PM

City Hall, 875 Main Street, Stone Mountain, Georgia 30083

Agenda

I. Call to Order

1. Attendee Name / Attendee Participation (Present, absent, late for this meeting):

Chair Carl Wright

Vice Chair Robert Witherspoon

Treasurer Sarah Hage

Board Member Bobby Singleton

Board Member Michelle Dunbar

Board Member Thom DeLoach

Board Member & Council Member Anita Bass

II. Approval of the Agenda

III. Approval of Minutes

1. DDA Regular Meeting Minutes: June 22, 2026

IV. Citizen Comments

V. Director's Report

1. DCA Report - June 2026
2. Welcome and Introduction of New City Employees

VI. Council Report

VII. Old Business

1. DDA Bank Accounts
2. Discussion Item: 955 Main Street- Commercial Grant (Property Owner- Hilda Wells)
3. Discussion Item - DDA Projects

VIII. New Business

1. DDA Budget Amendment / 20.5130.52.3850 - Contract Labor

IX. Executive Session to Discuss Personnel, Legal, and/or Real Estate (if needed)

X. Adjournment

Downtown Development Authority Meeting

Monday, June 22, 2026 at 6:30 PM

City Hall, 875 Main Street, Stone Mountain, Georgia 30083



Minutes

I. Call to Order

1. Carl Wright called the meeting to order at 6:29 p.m. Members Present: Carl Wright, Anita Bass, Sarah Hage, Robert Witherspoon, Thom DeLoach and Bobby Singleton. The DDA Legal Counsel attended as well. Michelle Dunbar was absent from the meeting.

II. Approval of the Agenda: Motion made by Anita Bass to approve the agenda, seconded by Sarah Hage. Motion carried unanimously.

III. Approval of Minutes

1. DDA Regular Meeting Minutes: February 02, 2026: Motion made by Sarah Hage to approve the meeting minutes for 02/02/2026, seconded by Bobby Singleton. Motion carried unanimously.
2. DDA Regular Meeting Minutes: May 26, 2026: Motion made by Sarah Hage to approve the meeting minutes for 05/26/2026, seconded by Anita Bass. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Citizen Comments: Mayor Pro Tem noted that residents and visitors are actively using McCurdy Park and the outdoor gym. He suggested that the DDA explore initiatives that could further connect them with downtown businesses, events, and activities.

V. Director's Report

1. DCA Report - May 2026: The DCA monthly report was presented

VI. Council Report: Council Member Bass provided an update on the latest Council meeting.

VIII. New Business

1. Discussion Item: Available Funding / Commercial and Enhancement Grants: the DDA Members requested a report on the available funding.
2. Discussion Item: Live Oak / Enhancement Grant Application: Motion by Thom DeLoach to approve the request for funding in the amount of \$10,000.00, seconded by Bobby Sngleton. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Discussion Item: DDA Bank Accounts: Motion by Sarah Hage to add the DDA Chairperson to the bank resolution, seconded by DeLoach. Motion carried unanimously

4. Discussion: Tourism Manager (vacant position): there was a discussion about the role of the Tourism Manager.

IX. Executive Session to Discuss Personnel, Legal, and/or Real Estate (if needed): there was no Executive Session.

X. Adjournment: Motion by Anita Bass to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Sarah Hage. Motion carried unanimously.

Form Name: 2026 Community Activity Report
Submission Time: July 24, 2026 2:26 pm
Browser: Chrome 150.0.0.0 / Windows
IP Address: 50.207.61.118
Unique ID: 1482455419
Location:

Section V. Item #1.

Main Street Community Reporting: Stone Mountain

Designation Level Classic

Month of Report: June

Region: Region 3

Community Population: 5,001 to 10,000

Person Reporting: Maggie Dimov

I would like a copy of this completed report emailed to: mdimov@stonemountaincity.org

PROGRAM OPERATIONS

What is the total dollar amount spent on your program's operational expenses during this reporting period? 5515.00

Please select all funding sources which contributed financially to your program's monthly operational expenses: DDA funds
Other: City Budget

Did your program have a board meeting this month? Yes

Did the Main Street Manager attend training this month? No

Did any Board Members attend training this month? No

EVENTS and VOLUNTEERS

Did any events occur downtown during the reporting period? Yes

Were any of these events funded through or by the Main Street Program? Yes

If known, please estimate the total amount of volunteer hours for all events, board meetings and committee meetings hosted by the local Main Street program:

10

What is the total cumulative expenditures for these events, including advertising?

5515.00

Events

How many events occurred in the downtown district during this reporting period?

1

What is the total estimated attendance for all events:

150

Main Street Manager's Notes - Events

One event took place in the month of June - the Juneteenth celebration.

JOB CREATION

Did any of the following occur in your downtown district during this reporting period? Check all that apply.

Business Opening

How many new businesses opened in your program area during this reporting period?

3

How many new jobs were created from new business opening during this reporting period?

6

Main Street Manager's Notes - Businesses Opening

The following business started withing the City of Stone Mountain:
Brovo Design Management LLC
Stone Mountain Historic Society
Stone Mountain Fleet Body

PROGRAM PROJECTS AND EXPENSES

NEW MAIN STREET STAFF

Did your program hire any new staff this month?

No

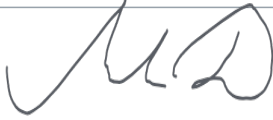
Section V. Item #1.

Did your program release staff this month?

No

Complete and Certify

By signing below, you verify that the information contained in this report is accurate to the best of your knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MD' or similar, written over a horizontal line.



DDA Agenda Item
Meeting Date: July 27, 2026

SUBJECT : Welcome and Introduction of New City Employees

The City of Stone Mountain and the Downtown Development Authority are pleased to welcome **Laurie “Elle” Walker, Tourism Manager**, and **Thatcher Hart, Community Development Director**, to the City team.

Both Laurie and Thatcher will play important roles in supporting the work of the Downtown Development Authority and advancing the City’s downtown revitalization, tourism, Main Street, economic development, and community development initiatives.

Laurie Walker, Tourism Manager, will serve as a key day-to-day staff resource for the Downtown Development Authority. In this role, Laurie will work closely with DDA members and City staff to support and implement downtown programs, tourism initiatives, Main Street activities, special events, and other projects that promote the vitality and economic success of downtown Stone Mountain. Laurie will assist with coordinating DDA initiatives, supporting programming and events, helping develop tourism and downtown promotional materials, and advancing projects that engage residents, visitors, businesses, and other downtown stakeholders.

Thatcher Hart, Community Development Director, will provide broader leadership, oversight, and coordination for the City's community development, economic development, planning, and downtown revitalization functions. As Community Development Director, Thatcher will work closely with the Tourism Manager to implement downtown programs and projects, provide oversight and coordination of DDA activities, and ensure that the DDA’s work is aligned with the City's broader economic development, redevelopment, planning, and Main Street goals.

Thatcher will also serve as a resource to the DDA on matters related to economic development, redevelopment opportunities, business growth, property development, investment, and coordination with City departments and external stakeholders.

Together, Laurie and Thatcher will provide the Downtown Development Authority with dedicated staff support and leadership while maintaining a collaborative relationship with the DDA Board, City staff, businesses, property owners, residents, and community partners.

The City of Stone Mountain is excited to welcome Laurie Walker and Thatcher Hart to the City team and looks forward to their partnership with the Downtown Development Authority as the City continues to advance downtown revitalization, tourism, economic development, and Main Street initiatives.



DDA Agenda Item

Meeting Date: July 27, 2026

SUBJECT : DDA Bank Accounts

Item: Discussion Item / DDA to Consider Closing 2 Bank Accounts

Department: DDA

Presented By: Maggie Dimov, Economic Development Director/DDA



DDA Agenda Item

Meeting Date: July 27, 2026

SUBJECT : Discussion Item - DDA Projects:

Discussion Item: 2026/2027 DDA Projects.

The DDA approved the following initiatives:

- “Tunes by the Tracks” Event: Main Street Inc. will submit a proposal/agreement for DDA review.
- Art Walk Initiative
- Shared Business Space
- Depot Incubator Program
- Targeted Business Outreach
- Museum Retail (Swag) Items
- Criterium Event (2026)
- “Movies Under the Stars” Series
- Development Opportunities at the Lawn / MARTA Lot
- Main Street Revitalization Efforts
- “Carnival Day at the Lawn” Event
- Strategic Property Acquisition
- Bourbon Festival
- Public Art / Murals Program
- Volunteer Coordination and Business Activation During Events
- City Branding Strategy
- City Landmark / Gateway Feature
- Tax Allocation District (TAD) Initiatives



DDA Agenda Item

Meeting Date: July 27, 2026

SUBJECT : Budget Amendment - Stone Mountain Mural Project

Action Requested: Approve the allocation of \$20,000 from the Downtown Development Authority's reserves to complete the mural project at Stone Mountain Pizza and approve the corresponding budget amendment to line item 20.5130.52.3850 - Contract Labor - DDA.

Background: The Downtown Development Authority previously budgeted \$20,000 for mural projects. The funds were not expended during the prior budget period and were subsequently retained in the DDA's reserves.

The DDA is now proposing to utilize the previously budgeted funds to complete the mural project at Stone Mountain Pizza. The mural artist selected by the DDA is Charity Hamidullah, and the total project cost is \$20,000.

The project will support the DDA's ongoing efforts to enhance the visual appearance of downtown Stone Mountain, promote public art, and contribute to the continued revitalization and activation of the downtown area.

Budget Amendment: To appropriate the funds necessary for the project, the DDA will amend its budget as follows:

Expenditure:

- Account: 20.5130.52.3850 - Contract Labor - DDA
- Amount: \$20,000

Funding Source:

- DDA Reserves

The available funding will be transferred from the DDA's reserves to the Contract Labor - DDA line item to fund the mural project.

Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Downtown Development Authority:

1. Approve the use of \$20,000 from DDA reserves for the completion of the mural project at Stone Mountain Pizza;
2. Approve the selection of Charity Hamidullah as the mural artist for the project; and
3. Approve the corresponding budget amendment increasing 20.5130.52.3850 - Contract Labor – DDA by \$20,000, funded from the DDA's reserves.