

MINUTES  
U City Loop Special Business District Board Meeting  
Via Tele Conference  
Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

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**Attending Board Members:** Mary Gorman, Renau Bozarth, Dan Wald, Max Sassouni, and Jay Trudeau.

**Absent Board Member(s):** Michael Alter

**Others in Attendance:** Deputy City Manager Brooke Sharp, Montez Miles, Captain Fredrick Lemons, Jessica Bueler, Ryan Griffore, JoAnna Schooler, Rachel Siegert, Tom Ray, Suzanne Schoomer, Audrey Jones, Mike Giger, John Grizzell, Alison Bozarth, Hany Abounader, Joe Edwards and Samantha Smugala.

**Call to Order:** The meeting began at 9:05 a.m. with a quorum.

**Public Comments:** Suzzane Schoomer asked if the format of the LSBSD board meetings could be offered in an open Zoom meeting format to allow others to see who is in attendance. Ms. Schoomer inquired about the timeframe for the removal of the expanded outdoor dining concrete blocks. Joe Edwards offered to allow the LSBSD board members to meet at Blueberry Hill for future meetings. Samantha Smugala spoke about some upcoming projects and events that are taking place in the East Loop CID.

**Approval of the Minutes:** Mary Gorman made a motion to pass the February 11, 2025 LSBSD Board meeting minutes. Renau Bozarth seconded the motion. Without further discussion, the motion to pass the February 11, 2025 LSBSD Board meeting minutes carried and passed unanimously.

**University City Updates:**

- i. **City Hall Updates** – There were no updates.
- ii. **Security Updates** – Captain Fredrick Lemons shared his pleasure of the UCPD partnership with the LSBSD and spoke briefly about the security during the recent Mardis Gras events. Captain Lemons indicated that there would be a greater bike enforcement presence as the weather gets nicer. Renau Bozarth and Max Sassouni raised concerns over individuals loitering in their business and building entrances and asked what could be done to solve this problem. Captain Lemons mentioned that individual patrols do monitor the businesses in the Delmar Loop and encouraged businesses and their employees to call the police and to report these incidents.

**Washington University Update** – Joanna Schooler spoke about spring break taking place at Washington University from March 9 through the 16 and the upcoming ThurtenE Carnival that will take place starting April 4 through the April

6. Rachel Siegert shared details on the construction upgrades that are taking place on the Salt + Smoke building and other spaces being leased in the Delmar Loop.

**Execution of Agreements:** Deputy City Manager Brooke Sharp spoke about the LSBDB Board voting on giving the Marketing and Administration team (Jessica and Ryan) the authority to execute agreements and contracts on behalf of the LSBDB Board that are in line with the events, projects, and marketing. Mary Gorman stated she would like to have the board vote on items individually. Deputy City Manager Sharp indicated that Jessica and Ryan would be delayed in their work as they would need to wait until the next LSBDB Board meeting to move specific items anything forward, or the LSBDB would need to hold a Special Session meeting each time to pass any agreement or contract.

**Treasurers Report:** Jessica Bueler shared that the LSBDB had a starting balance on February 1, 2025 of \$57,221.85 and ended February 28, 2025 with \$49,312.65. Jessica Bueler advised the LSBDB Board that they need to meet to discuss the budget for Fiscal Year 2026 as there are several challenges that need to be addressed.

**Walk of Fame Bids:** Ryan Griffore shared the details on the B & K Concrete bid that the LSBDB Board wanted to move forward with. Mr. Griffore restated the proposal that Deputy City Manager Brooke Sharp offered the LSBDB Board the opportunity to offer Jessica and Ryan authority to execute agreements and contracts on behalf of the LSBDB. Jay Trudeau agreed, this would be of value to get projects and events planned in a timely manner without holding meetings in special sessions.

Mary Gorman made a motion to move forward with the B & K Concrete contract for the Walk of Fame Stars. Renau Bozarth seconded the motion. Without further discussion, the motion to pass the B & K Concrete contract for the Walk of Fame Stars carried and passed unanimously. Mary Gorman asked how quickly the LSBDB could expect the EDRST reimbursement. Jessica Bueler indicated it could take up to one month to receive the funds, but there is no specific timeframe she can say for certain.

Renau Bozarth made a motion for Marketing and Admin team (Jessica and Ryan) along with the LSBDB Board Chair to have signing authority to execute agreements and contracts on behalf of the LSBDB Board, and to retroactively provide updates once a month to the LSBDB Board members. Jay Trudeau seconded the motion. Without further discussion, the motion for the Marketing and Admin team (Jessica and Ryan) along with the LSBDB Board Chair to have signing authority to execute agreements and contracts on behalf of the LSBDB Board, and to retroactively provide updates once a month to the LSBDB Board members carried and passed unanimously.

Mary Gorman indicated that she would like to relinquish her role as the LSBDB Board Chair. Jessica Bueler advised that upon receipt of Ms. Gorman's

resignation from the LSBDB board, the Vice Chair will assume the LSBDB Board Chair role. Ms. Bueler informed the board that alternatively they can hold their LSBDB Board officer elections and vote on the new LSBDB officer roles.

Ryan Griffore spoke about the funds used for the Loop Ice Carnival to ensure its success, and that extra event funds would need to be reallocated to the Loop Ice Carnival. Max Sassouni made a motion to request the EDRST Board to reallocate the unused EDRST funds from the Holiday events, and to apply them to the EDRST Funds assigned for the Loop Ice Carnival event. Jay Trudeau seconded the motion. Without further discussion, the motion to request the EDRST Board to reallocate the unused EDRST funds from the Holiday events, and to apply them to the EDRST Funds assigned for the Loop Ice Carnival event carried and passed unanimously.

Ryan Griffore shared the four previous events from fiscal year 2025 which included the Holiday events, Loop Ice Carnival, The Budding Artist, and the Loop Mural Festival. Mr. Griffore asked the LSBDB board if they would like to move forward with the same four events for fiscal year 2026. Mary Gorman made a motion to continue with the budgeted Holiday events, Loop Ice Carnival, The Budding Artist, and the Loop Mural Festival events for fiscal year 2026. Renau Bozarth seconded the motion. Without further discussion, the motion to continue with the budgeted Holiday events, Loop Ice Carnival, The Budding Artist, and the Loop Mural Festival events for fiscal year 2026 carried and passed unanimously.

**LSBDB Board Officers Election:** Jay Trudeau requested differing the election until all Board members were present.

**Mannequins Project:** Audrey Jones shared her excitement for the launch of the Recycle it Don't Trash It, 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Mannequins Project event. Ms. Jones encouraged more businesses in the Delmar Loop to sign up.

**Loop Events and Marketing:** Renau Bozarth shared updates on the Call to Artists for the Budding Artist Event. Ryan Griffore shared updates regarding the buildings selected to be painted for the Loop Mural Festival. Mary Gorman asked if the coffee cup outside of Meshuggah could be painted during the Loop Mural Festival. Mr. Griffore shared a brief overview of the Juneteenth Race for Reconciliation and its timeframe taking place in the Delmar Loop.

**EDRST Projects:** Ryan Griffore spoke about the concrete trash and recycling bins being delivered to the Delmar Loop with the anticipated install date before the end of March. Mary Gorman indicated that she would reach out to B & K concrete to receive an updated invoice that the LSBDB could submit for EDRST reimbursement to begin work on the repair for the Walk of Fame Stars.

**Old Business:** There was no old business.

**New Business:** There was no new business.

**Public Comments:** There were no public comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

**Announcements:** Jessica Bueler announced that the next LSBD board meeting will be held via tele conference on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. If you have any business events, sales, promotions, please email [jessica@visittheloop.com](mailto:jessica@visittheloop.com) to be included on the website, social media postings, and weekly email blasts.