

MINUTES
U City Loop Special Business District Board Meeting
Via Tele Conference
Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

Attending Board Members: Mary Gorman, Renau Bozarth, Michael Alter, Max Sassouni, and Jay Trudeau.

Absent Board Member(s): Dan Wald

Others in Attendance: Deputy City Manager Brooke Sharp, Montez Miles, Captain Fredrick Lemons, Jessica Bueler, Ryan Griffore, Carter Stacy, Beverly Pegues-Tucker, Dr. James Tucker, Hany Abounader, John Grizzell, Alison Bozarth, Suzanne Schoomer, Audrey Jones, JoAnna Schooler, Rachel Siegert, Joe Edwards and Samantha Smugala.

Call to Order: The meeting began at 9:02 a.m. with a quorum.

Public Comments: Joe Edwards commended the Parkview Gardens Association for its PACER newsletter.

Approval of the Minutes: Mary Gorman made a motion to pass the March 11, 2025 LSBD Board meeting minutes. Jay Trudeau seconded the motion. Without further discussion, the motion to pass the March 11, 2025 LSBD Board meeting minutes carried and passed unanimously.

University City Updates:

- i. **City Hall Updates** – Deputy City Manager Brooke Sharp stated that the EDRST board approved the reallocation of the Expanded Outdoor dining funds back to the City for use in assisting with the cleanup and removal. Deputy City Manager Sharp also indicated that all the applications for façade improvement program were approved and totaled roughly \$65,000
- ii. **Security Updates** – Captain Fredrick Lemons indicated that no major events happened in the Loop and that the UCPD hired a new parking attendant specifically for the Delmar Loop. Captain Lemons informed the group that more officers will be patrolling on bikes as the weather gets nicer. Captain Lemons briefly talked about the HOPE initiative addressing homelessness in the Loop and encouraged business owners to call the non-emergency number 314-725-2211 should they ever need assistance.

Washington University Update – Joanna Schooler shared that the final exams run May 1-7 with Commencement on May 12 highlighting the Simone Biles and Jennifer Lewis would be the commencement speakers.

Rachel Siegert provided an overview of the work at Salt + Smoke regarding the condo association project and mentioned that tuck pointers were running behind,

but that the group can expect scaffolding to be down soon with a scissor lift being used to complete remainder of project. Ms. Siegert stated that tuck pointing on the Enigma Tattoo building east façade and the painting of those storefront window frames and doors will begin in the upcoming months.

Treasurers Report: Jessica Bueler shared that the LSBSD had a starting balance on March 1, 2025 of \$49,312.65 and ended March 31, 2025 with \$39,419.26.

FY26' Projected Budget: Jessica Bueler proposed the FY26 LSBSD budget, totaling \$376,101 (up from \$350,600 in FY'25), was reviewed by the LSBSD Board. Ms Bueler explained the inflation-adjusted increases and the addition of \$10,000 for marketing and promotion. Mary Gorman made a motion to pass the FY26' LSBSD Budget Renau Bozarth seconded the motion. Without further discussion, the motion to pass the FY26' LSBSD Budget carried and passed unanimously.

LSBSD Board Officers Election: Michael Alter made a motion to nominate Jay Trudeau to be the new LSBSD Board Chair. Max Sassouni seconded the motion. Without further discussion, the motion to appoint Jay Trudeau as the LSBSD Board Chair carried and passed unanimously. Jay Trudeau made a motion to nominate Michael Alter as the LSBSD Vice Chair. Max Sassouni seconded the motion. Without further discussion, the motion to appoint Michael Alter as the LSBSD Vice Chair carried and passed unanimously. Michael Alter made a motion to nominate Dan Wald as the LSBSD Treasurer. Max Sassouni seconded the motion. Without further discussion, the motion to appoint Dan Wald as the LSBSD Treasurer carried and passed unanimously.

Mannequins Project: Audrey Jones reported on the Mannequins Project, announcing that 21 artists have been confirmed, and the project kickoff will take place on April 19 at Blueberry Hill with the mannequins being displayed in businesses across University City.

Loop Events and Marketing: Dr. James Tucker presented a proposal for the Juneteenth Heritage Festival indicating that the event will be held on June 14, 2025, in the Tivoli parking lot from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. that will include exhibits, vendors, music, and educational programming. Mary Gorman made a motion for the LSBSD to support the Juneteenth Heritage Festival. Jay Trudeau seconded the motion. Without further discussion, the motion for the LSBSD to support the Juneteenth Heritage Festival carried and passed unanimously.

Renau Bozarth provided updates on upcoming Budding Artist Event that will be held on May 31, 2025. Ms. Bozarth mentioned that over 70 artists have been accepted, and that the confirmed spaces include the former Componere Gallery, 6275 Delmar, The Market in the Loop and other outdoor locations along Delmar Blvd. Ryan Griffore shared that The Loop Mural Festival is scheduled for May 30 through June 1, with the four major artist mural locations being confirmed.

Mary Gorman shared an update on the St. Louis Walk of Fame repairs and spoke about one of the missing stars and its plaque.

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 10:19 a.m.

Announcements: Jessica Bueler announced that the next LSBD board meeting will be held at Fitz's (6605 Delmar Blvd) on Tuesday, May 13, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. If you have any business events, sales, promotions, please email jessica@visittheloop.com to be included on the website, social media postings, and weekly email blasts.