

**Economic Development Retail Sales Tax Board  
Minutes  
October 2, 2025  
6:30 p.m.**

The Economic Development Retail Sales Tax (EDRST) Board held a virtual meeting on Thursday, October 2, 2025. The meeting commenced at 6:30 pm and adjourned at 8:06 pm.

**Voting Members Present:**

Cynthia Martin  
Bobette Patton  
Byron Price  
Brandon Bradshaw  
Margaret Holly  
Chair Brendan O'Brien

**Voting Members Absent:**

Dr. Monica Stewart

**Council Liaison:**

Mayor Terry Crow

**Staff Present:**

Brooke A. Sharp, Deputy City Manager - Development  
Becky Ahlvin, Economic Development Manager  
Larry Hampton, Chief of Police  
John Mulligan, City Attorney

**Others attending:**

None

**Minutes**

Motioned by Christina Dancy, seconded by Cynthia Martin and carried by voice vote to approve the minutes from April 3, 2025 and July 17, 2025.

**Public Comments**

There were none received.

**Mayor's Comments**

Mayor Crow provided updates on the Tru hotel project on Kingsland. He also discussed the controversial Canton Townhomes project and encouraged feedback on that project.

**Old Business**

*U City Farmers Market Update*

Deb Henderson, Executive Director for the U City Farmers Market provided an update on the Farmers Market and its activities at Centennial Commons.

### *Business Outreach Update*

Becky Ahlvin, Economic Development Manager, provided an update on the Business Outreach activities that began in July of 2025.

Discussion was had on this topic.

### **New Business**

Deputy City Manager Brooke Sharp stated that even though applications had not opened, there were two funding requests that the City Manager wanted the Board to consider. She stated that the police department was requesting \$200,000 to be split between years 26 and 27 and noted that the funding would be used for private security patrols and surveillance equipment like license plate readers.

#### *Request for Funding – FY26: University City Police Department*

Chief Larry Hampton explained that with the new infrastructure in the commercial areas, it has become a bit difficult to conduct routine patrols. He stated that hiring private security for additional patrols and adding surveillance trailers and license plate readers would increase safety in the commercial areas.

Discussion was had on this topic.

Board member Margaret Peggy Holly questioned whether this was a permitted use of EDRST funds. Discussion was had.

The Board decided to table this matter until the city attorney could issue an opinion on whether this was a permitted use of the funds.

#### *Request for Funding – FY26: C-17 Commissary*

Deputy City Manager Brooke Sharp stated that this was a proposed redevelopment project for 8201 Olive, which was formerly Royal Banks. She noted that the applicant was YW Hospitality Group, LLC, which is the owner of Corner 17 in the Loop. She noted that total project costs were estimated to be over \$7 million and that the applicant is requesting \$438,178 in EDRST funding. Sharp indicated that staff was not prepared to make a recommendation because the information received from the consultant was outdated due to the applicant providing new numbers after the report was received.

The C-17 team provided additional background information on the project.

Discussion was had.

The Board determined that it did not have enough information to make a decision. This item was tabled.

#### *FY26 Façade Improvement Program – Tentative Schedule for Applications*

Deputy City Manager Sharp noted that note vote was required and that the Board was being provided with a tentative schedule for accepting applications for the Façade Improvement Project. She indicated that \$150,000 was budgeted in this fiscal year.

### **Board Member Comments**

Discussion was had about scheduling a sub-committee meeting, but it was decided that this would be done offline.

### **Next Meeting Date – January 8, 2026**

### **Adjourn**

Motioned by Cynthia Martin, seconded by Byron Price and carried by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.