MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
THE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF CLARKSTON, GEORGIA
HELD IN PERSON AND BY TELECONFERENCE, ZOOM AUDIO/VIDEO
IN SAID CITY ON MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2026

NOTE: Items appearing in these minutes are in the order they were discussed, not necessarily in the order they appeared on the agenda.

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairperson Rezwan Amad called the meeting to order at 1:07 P.M.

II. ROLL CALL

The following Board members were present: Chairperson Rezwan Amad, Vice Chairperson Adria Marshall, Secretary/Treasurer Michele Maserjian, Director Sydney Jakes, Director Dean Moore, and Director Ganaro Makor.
The following Board member was absent: Director Akber Lassi.
The following staff member was present: Jacob Bouie, Economic Development Coordinator.

III. APPROVAL OF THE 8/10/2026, AGENDA

Motion made by Director Adria Marshall to add the Discussion of the DDA Regular Meeting time under New Business.The motion was seconded by Director Ganaro Makor.
The aye votes were: 6, with the nay votes: 0. Motion passed.

Motion made by Director Adria Marshall to approve the August 10, 2026 Regular Meeting Agenda, as amended.The motion was seconded by Director Sydney Jakes.
The aye votes were: 6, with the nay votes: 0.Motion passed.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE 7/13/2026, MEETING MINUTES

a) July 13, 2026 Downtown Development Authority Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Director Dean Moore to approve the July 13, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Sydney Jakes.
The aye votes were: 6, with the nay votes: 0. Motion passed.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any member of the public may address the Board during the time allotted for public comment. Each attendee will be allowed 3 minutes for comments at the discretion of the Presiding Officer. The public comment period will be limited to 40 minutes, and it is not a time for dialogue. If your public comment contains a series of questions, please submit those to the Planning & Economic Development Director in writing. This will facilitate follow-up by the council or staff. The DDA desires to allow an opportunity for public comment; however, the business of the DDA must proceed in an orderly, timely manner.

There were no public comments.

VI. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

a) Discussion: DDA Quick Wins Project — Quarterly Business Meet & Greet

Staff introduced the Quarterly Business Meet & Greet concept as a structured approach to support the DDA's broader Business Outreach Framework. The Board discussed using the initial Meet & Greet to introduce the DDA, highlight available City and DDA resources, build relationships with businesses and property owners, and better understand their needs. The Board generally agreed that the event should focus on trust and relationship building rather than code enforcement or propertycondition concerns. The Board also discussed opportunities to encourage commercial property improvements, including sharing conceptual façade ideas with property owners. Staff and Board members will continue developing a commercial property and ownership list to support targeted outreach. Staff noted that the effort aligns with City Council's emphasis on development and redevelopment and will share relevant City project information and a recent report on immigrant-owned businesses with the Board.

b) Discussion: DDA Quick Wins Project - Placemaking project(s) for 2026-2027

The Board continued its discussion of placemaking projects, including art in vacant windows and potential code requirements related to window coverage. Mr. Bouie described placemaking as a coordinated effort within a specific area to advance economic development. He noted that projects may vary in scale and may include art, events, gateway murals, or small public seating areas. Secretary/Treasurer Maserjian asked whether the DDA may need to request City funding for future projects and identified wayfinding signage as a priority. Mr. Bouie discussed his work to install wayfinding signage along the Stone Mountain Trail. Director Makor observed that existing Welcome to Clarkston signs are difficult to see. Secretary/Treasurer Maserjian suggested solar lighting. Mr. Bouie stated that he would note potential small-scale improvements, including lighting and flowers, to increase the signs' visibility.

c) Discussion: DDA Business Outreach Framework

The Board agreed to move forward with the DDA Business Outreach Framework.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

a) Downtown Strategic Assessment Schedule Update

a) Discussion and Review of the DDA Regular Meeting Schedule

The Board discussed whether the existing meeting day and time continued to work for all Directors. Motion made by Director Dean Moore to change the DDA regular meeting schedule to the second Tuesday of each month at 10:00 A.M., effective with the September 2026 meeting. The motion was seconded by Chairperson Rezwan Amad. The aye votes were: 6, with the nay votes: 0.

b) Downtown Strategic Assessment Schedule Update
Staff reported that Georgia Tech requested additional time to complete a deeper analysis, satisfy all deliverables within the scope of work, and gather additional information requested by City Council.

b) No Cost Extension Contract

Staff advised that Georgia Tech requested a no cost extension of the Strategic Planning Services contract. The proposed extension would revise the completion date from August 31, 2026, to October 31, 2026, with no additional cost.

c) Green way Trail Tour Invitation — August 28th, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

Staff invited the Board to attend a Greenway Trail tour on August 28, 2026, at 9:00 A.M. Chairperson Amad, Vice Chairperson Marshall, Secretary/Treasurer Maserjian, Director Jakes, and Director Moore indicated interest in attending.

d) Discussion of the Economic Development and Redevelopment Section of the DRAFT Clarkston 2046 Comprehensive Plan Update

Motion made by Director Adria Marshall to table the remaining two New Business agenda items until the next DDA meeting. The motion was seconded by Director Sydney Jakes. The aye votes were: 6, with the nay votes: 0. Motion passed.

e) Proposed 2027 Budget for DDA — Funds needed for 2027 operating expenses including: Legal, Outreach costs, Placemaking project(s), etc.

Item tabled until the next meeting.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Director Dean Moore to adjourn the meeting at 2:28 P.M.The motion was seconded by Director Sydney Jakes. The aye votes were: 6, with the nay votes: 0. Motion passed.