

Agenda

Downtown Economic Growth Authority

Board of Directors



City of Kalamazoo

Monday, March 16, 2026

3:00 PM

Main Conference Room at Community Planning and Economic Development

A. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

1. Purpose Statement:

The purpose of this Downtown Development Authority is to halt property value deterioration and promote economic growth within its business district, to increase property value.

The purpose of this Downtown Economic Growth Authority is to correct and prevent deterioration in residential, commercial, and industrial areas, to authorize the acquisition and disposal of interests in real and personal property; to authorize the creation and implementation of development plans and development areas.

The Kalamazoo DDA and DEGA, acting in concert, have set forth the strategic objective of focusing its resources on improving “The First 16 Feet”, a three-dimensional volume of space including buildings ground floor façade, the frontage that exists between the façade and the common space, and the common space that provides access to and through the district.

B. ADOPTION OF FORMAL AGENDA

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of the minutes from the meeting of the Downtown Economic Growth Authority Board on February 16, 2026. (**Action: Motion to approve**)

D. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. Financial Report - January 2026 (**Action: Motion to accept the January 2026 Downtown Economic Growth Authority financial statement**)
- 2.

E. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. Arts Council contribution to Beats on Bates (**Action: Motion to accept a \$1,500 contribution from the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo to support Beats on Bates programming**)
2. Beats on Bates Agreement Amendment (**Action: Motion to amend the 2026 Beats on Bates agreement with Guess Who's Dancing Fitness to increase the contract amount by \$1,500 to support marketing of the Beats on Bates programming, bringing the total contract amount to \$51,500**)
3. Budget Amendment (**Action: Motion to amend the DEGA budget to recognize \$50,000 in Ambassador Program funding from the Irving S. Gilmore Foundation and \$1,500 in Beats on Bates marketing support from the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo, and to authorize a \$1,500 expenditure increase to the Beats on Bates agreement with Guess Who's Dancing Fitness and a \$6,500 expenditure increase for concrete pad pouring with Earley and Associates**)
4. 2026-2027 Slate of Officers (**Action: Motion to Approve the 2026-2027 Slate of Officers**)

The Executive Committee recommends the following slate of officers for the 2026–2027 term:

- Chair: Curt Aardema
 - Vice-Chair: Clarence Lloyd
 - Treasurer: Rick Searing
 - Secretary: Trisha Kidd
5. 2026–2027 Committees (**Action: Motion to adopt the resolution establishing the 2026–2027 committees and appointing committee chairpersons and members as presented**)
 6. City of Kalamazoo Request for Letter of Commitment (**Action: Motion to authorize the Board Chair to sign a letter of commitment indicating DEGA's intent to provide up to \$78,640 as a local match for pedestrian bridge repairs along the Arcadia Promenade as part of the City of Kalamazoo's Congressionally Directed Spending grant application, contingent upon the grant being awarded, with the contribution anticipated to be incorporated into the 2027 DEGA budget**)

F. PUBLIC COMMENTS

G. DIRECTOR COMMENTS

H. ADJOURNMENT