

**DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, September 2, 2025
2:00 p.m.
Ronald E. Gardner Board Room
201 St. Charles Ave., Suite 3912**

NO QUORUM

Roll taken - Meeting called to order at 2:063 p.m.

Members Present: Board Chair Chris Ross, Commissioner Kenneth Rubenstein, Mr. Shelby Russ, Bennett Davis

Members Absent: Committee Chair (Board Vice-Chair) Alex Glaser, Commissioner Miles Tully, Jr, Stephanie Burks, Mr. Kelly Parenton, Jasmine Brown, Michael Siegel

Other Board Members Present:

Staff/Counsel Present:

Others Present: Henry Consulting, Garden Doctors

Notice: The time, location, and agenda were adequately and publicly noticed.

Public Input Card: N/A

Public Comments: N/A

Action Items: N/A

Approval of September 2, 2025, Meeting Minutes- **Action Item**

NO QUORUM

Meeting Summary:

Travelers Aid Society Mayte Hernandez The district's homeless outreach faces resource limits that keep most individuals on the street despite efforts to place them in shelter. Individuals seem to be being bused into New Orleans from other states.

Chuck Bourg spoke about the following:

Deep cleaning targeted key areas, with over 1,300 blocks of weeds cleared in October. The district renewed its landscaping contract with Garden Doctors for another year and completed fall plantings across all gateways. Sidewalk repairs are planned for early November with permit approval pending from DPW. DDD initiated contracts with two prime DBE vendors to perform the repairs. An RFP for sidewalk tree maintenance has been issued.

Donnie Clause explained that security coverage expanded from weekends in 2016 to 24/7 due to police shortage and rising costs. Armed security supplements rangers and NOPD by providing a continuous presence, responding to stakeholder calls. Bike patrols and a 24-hour Rover complement foot patrols from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 pm. The armed security team also provides 24-hour call coverage through the Rover, ensuring assistance outside ranger hours.

Note: In accordance with the provisions of the Louisiana Open Meetings Law (La. R.S. 42:11 et seq.) the Board of Commissioners of the DDD may go into Executive Session to discuss legal or personnel matters.

Concerns expressed from committee members regarding sidewalk parking which creates safety hazards and damage infrastructure. They believe that vacant buildings contribute to loitering and safety concerns.

Adjournment: N/A – no quorum.

Note: In accordance with the provisions of the Louisiana Open Meetings Law (La. R.S. 42:11 et seq.) the Board of Commissioners of the DDD may go into Executive Session to discuss legal or personnel matters.