

**DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**  
**QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, May 5, 2026**  
**2:00 p.m.**  
**Ronald E. Gardner Board Room**  
**201 St. Charles Ave., Suite 3912**

Roll taken - Meeting called to order at 2:03 p.m.

**Members Present:** Committee Chair (Board Vice-Chair) Alex Glaser, Commissioner Kenneth Rubenstein, Bennett Davis, Mr. Shelby Russ, Kelly Parenton

**Members Absent:** Board Chair Chris Ross, Jasmine Brown, Stephanie Burks, Michael Siegel,

**Other Board Members Present:**

**Staff/Counsel Present:** Jared Brosett, Donnie Clouse, Brendan Smith, Charles Bourg, Rene Pastorek

**Others Present:** Capt. Palumbo, 8<sup>th</sup> District, Mayte Hernandez, Travelers Aid, Captain Corey Porter and Captain Chris Morgan, Tulane Security, Henry Consulting,

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

**Public Input Card:** N/A

**Public Comments:** N/A

**NOPD update by Capt. Palumbo**

Reported that the 8th District was experiencing a 10% decrease in violent crime and 33% decrease in property crime year-to-date, though challenges persisted in the 100 block of Carondelet and Magazine Street areas. He mentioned that there were drug arrests, sidewalk clearances and newly initiated traffic citations for vehicles parked in traffic lanes. He said that enforcement creates relocation rather than a permanent resolution. Parking enforcement will transition to the police department control beginning at the end of the month.

Street Performer and noise ordinance prohibit amplified music after 8:00 p.m. on public right of way. Street performers technically require city permits that are not currently issued creating legal doubt around enforcement authority.

Committee proposed convening stakeholders with Capt. Palumbo and Dr. Avegno to address complaints from the stakeholders and to find a solution.

**Charles Bourg, Public Safety & Operations:**

Updates included progress on graffiti removal (over 730 tags in April), weed abatement efforts, and the completion of Phase 1 of the Canal Street sidewalk project. Phase 2 will be organized by blocks with 36 different areas to address. Seth Knudsen will review Phase 2 documentation once Chuck has completed and submitted.

**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.

RFP process for homeless outreach services has begun, with proposals due Friday and recommendations to be presented at the June board meeting.

Charles Bourg discussed the 6-month renewal of landscaping services at Gateway parks, which began in April, and mentioned plans to develop a new RFP starting October 1st.

**Mayte Hernandez, Travelers Aid**

DDD Rangers and Travelers Aid collaboration has strengthened outreach efforts and effectiveness. The data showed 42 total clients with 22 new cases. Two long-term unsheltered individuals were housed successfully and had supportive treatments.

**Seth Knudsen, President & CEO**

City has made requests for DDD to expand homeless services including night security enforcement, reserving beds at low-barrier shelter similar to FQMD. The committee leadership expressed concern about funding the relocation of the low-barrier shelter. If the low barrier shelter is relocated, the individuals will still return to downtown. Seth will get more information on how FQMDs funding of shelter exits/beds works.

**Adjournment: n/a**

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