

**SELF-SUPPORTING MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
MINUTES**

Thursday, February 5, 2026

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Present: Dr. Greg Mosier, Frank Aguilar, Jason Glasrud, Robert Hughes, Jr., Clayton Hunter, Bill Hutton, Tim Ryan, Michael Simmons, and Jeff Conway

Absent: Jerrell Royal

Guests: Angela Turner, Simmons Security; Captain Stephen Smith, Kansas City, Kansas (KCK) Police Department (PD); Officer Miguel Leal, KCKPD; Dawn Rattan, Executive Director, Downtown Shareholders (DTS)

I. Call to Order

SSMID Advisory Board Chair Dr. Greg Mosier called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM.

II. Roll Call

Roll call was conducted with those present and absent recorded.

III. Review and Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes

A motion to approve the January 8 minutes was made by Bill Hutton and seconded by Frank Aguilar. **The Motion Carried.**

IV. Follow-Up Items from Previous Meetings

None.

V. Informational Items

A. KCKPD Update

Captain Stephen Smith presented the monthly report.

- SSMID Officer Miguel Leal has been on the job for one month and has already provided good stats for SSMID. Officer Leal stated that most businesses now recognize him and are more aware of SSMID. He explained that about 99% of the calls he receives are service-related.
- Captain Smith will finish the monthly report for January.
- A new SSMID email was set up through KCKPD. It will be used for the new business cards being created. **SSMID@kckpd.org.**
- Patrol flyers with KCKPD contact information were finalized in English/Spanish.
- Captain Smith reported that there has been a lot of discussion about the World Cup, and KCKPD is prepared and is waiting to hear about the policing needs from the International Federation of Association Football (FIFA). The Argentinian team will play and practice in Wyandotte County at Compass Minerals Sporting Fields and Sporting Park.
- Captain Smith will be asking officers to focus on quality of life issues while on patrol (identifying vehicles parked for more than 45 days or abandoned and getting those towed).
- Captain Smith said there has been more gang graffiti in the 10th Street area. Bill stated there is still graffiti on the former Brotherhood Bank building, the Bank of Labor building, and the Kays building. Captain Smith stated that the KCKPD wants to document graffiti on buildings before it is removed, as it helps the gang task force. KCKPD also has a newer gun squad.
- If Officer Leal is out, there is no replacement officer for that day. Dr. Mosier asked if SSMID is charged if there is no replacement officer.
- Discussion centered around other licensed police officers in the area of SSMID. KCKCC College Police are licensed officers who will patrol the area around the new KCKCC downtown center. These positions are shared between the association partners of that center. The nearby KCK Housing

Authority has sworn personnel, KU Med has campus police, and the KCK Public School District has officers. Bill asked about the coordination among police officers in the area and how many officers may be available in the event of a crisis. There is a cooperative agreement between policing agencies regarding police presence in downtown KCK. There are monthly meetings regarding that cooperative agreement.

TO DO: Dr. Mosier needs to speak with the KCKPD Police Chief about a memorial near KCKCC for Officer Simonic.

B. *SSMID 10-year plan*

Received a draft proposal from DTS on the renewal of SSMID's 10-year plan. The SSMID renewal process involves many tasks that need to be scheduled in the coming months (e.g., public hearings and letters of notice). The DTS Board will review the proposal, and it may be ready for the March SSMID meeting. The proposal describes the DTS Executive Director's role in leading the renewal plan. Dawn Rattan stated that the renewal of SSMID will be tied to how downtown KCK blossoms over the next 10 years.

TO DO: Keep the SSMID 10-year plan as an agenda item.

TO DO: Frank Aguilar will send the past renewal documents to the DTS Executive Director.

C. *DTS Update/DTS-SSMID Monthly Budget Report (5 minutes)*

Dawn Rattan presented the monthly report.

- Dawn, along with DTS Board President Mary Ricketts, visited Downtown KC (Downtown Council), which is the downtown organization for Kansas City, MO, focused on development. They met with Bill Dietrich, who is the President and CEO. Dawn said the conversations centered on the foundation of clean and safe. The organization has brought together human service organizations to support the homeless and loitering populations. Also discussed how the organization helped revitalize downtown Kansas City, MO. Further meetings will be scheduled. Dawn has visited other downtown areas in cities across Kansas, but KCK has a more urban character. She would like to see the whole region, including both downtown areas, develop in an equitable and successful way.
- Dawn stated that DTS is looking into the International Downtown Association (IDA), which is slightly different than the Mainstreet Association, as it has more of an urban piece.
- The Downtown Open Spaces Tours will be on March 4 and March 7. There are about 12 properties on the tour. Dawn will meet with the property owners involved in the tour on February 20. The tour will start at the KCK Chamber offices and end with a reception.
- DTS continues to work on a new logo and website update.
- DTS is investigating sustainable fundraising and how to get people invested in downtown on a yearly basis. DTS has grant funds available to hire consultants to support sustainable fundraising.
- DTS Board members have been sharing new event ideas such as Jazz in the Dotte, Santa-Con, and a Christmas parade. DTS is also trying to identify an annual fundraiser and create a special award for a "downtown champion."
- Dr. Mosier will be in Washington, DC, next week for a conference and will meet with Kansas legislators. KCKCC has received legislative support in the past for community projects, and Dr. Mosier would like to look at a funding request for the Willa Gill Center.

D. *Budget Update*

Information is in the board packet for review.

VI. Action Items

A. Vice Chair Funding and Outreach Report (5 minutes)

Frank stated he had nothing new to report this month.

B. Vice Chair Community and Business Relations Report (5 minutes)

Bill presented the report.

- Bill talked about recent events that were bringing people to downtown KCK who had never been to that area. He wanted to discuss the positives happening downtown.
- Bill stated that the recent Wyandotte County Bar Association Gala at Memorial Hall in January was a success. There were 150 attendees. DTS/SSMID sponsored a basket for the silent auction, with proceeds going to the Ronald McDonald House. He added that this event brought many people to Memorial Hall who had never visited it.
- The Resurrection Catholic School's (RCS) Taste of KCK event was another successful downtown fundraising event in January.
- In February, Leadership 2000 will hold its "Leadership on the Lanes" bowling event at St. John's Catholic Club, which is an amazing downtown treasure.
- Bill encouraged everyone to visit Connect Café downtown to show community support.
- Bill asked about the coordination of police and business relations to let those downtown know what type of police presence there is, which would be helpful information for a business wanting to locate downtown.
- Robert "Bob" Hughes stated that getting people to visit downtown is an old conversation. He said downtown continues to search for its identity. He added that without an identity, the same conversation continues. Tim Ryan asked how downtown finds its identity. Bob stated that people don't want to invest without a plan. He said people need to come together and decide on what downtown aspect to market. Tim added that community-needed amenities also need to be identified, especially if neighborhoods are going to be marketed. Frank stated he's excited about the incubator projects as small businesses will give downtown its flavor. Bill said other organizations are considering downtown for their headquarters. Dr. Mosier added that these questions need to be addressed as work on the 10-year renewal plan begins. Tim asked if there are "medical travelers" associated with the KU Campus on Strawberry Hill. Jason Glasrud stated there are no outpatient services at that location, but KU's Rainbow location does see medical travelers. Tim said the Visit Overland Park organization is considering promoting medical tourism (hotels that support patients/families near medical centers).
- A new grocery store and Mexican restaurant will open in the former Merc building in March.

VII. Other Business

A. TBD and any Board Member Items

Dr. Mosier is part of the UG's Unhoused Strategy Implementation Team (30 people in the group) that is trying to identify immediate housing and space needs. The relocation of the Willa Gill Center is on top of the list. The mayor wants a plan in 60 days. Gordon Criswell is the chair.

Bill asked Jeff Conway, UG Legal Counsel, when the contract for the downtown transit center between the UG and KC Area Transportation Authority expires. The buses will start charging for rides on June 1, 2026.

TO DO: Jeff will provide the contract's expiration information at the next meeting.

VIII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Frank Aguilar to adjourn and seconded by Robert Hughes. **The Motion Carried.** The meeting adjourned at 4:59 PM.

Held for Future Reference

- i. SSMID Permanent Improvement Plan (Brookings Web Meeting - 1/13/25)
 - 1. Brookings Institute: [How To Break The Doom Loop](#)
 - 2. Brookings Institute: [Transformative Placemaking: Think Regionally, Act Locally](#)
 - a. [Urban Doom Loop: The Future of Downtowns is Shared Prosperity](#)
 - b. [Community-Centered Economic Inclusion: A Strategic Action Playbook](#)
 - 3. Kansas City Investment Playbook
- ii. 2025 Workplan
 - 1. Marketing Plan – Continued

Next Meetings: March 5, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM – Hybrid

Breidenthal Family Boardroom at the KCK Chamber Office, 727 Minnesota Ave and via Zoom