



**DOWNTOWN
LONG BEACH
ALLIANCE**

Executive Committee

Members

Mike Gold – Chair

Silissa Uriarte Smith – Chair-Elect

Amy Chambers – Treasurer

Ashley Chiddick – Secretary

Sam Pierzina – Immediate Past Chair

Bo Martinez – City Representative

Graham Gill

Isidro Panuco

Thomas Mays

DTLB Alliance Staff

Austin Metoyer

President & CEO

James Ahumada

Senior Vice President &

Deputy CEO

Jeremy Ancalade

Vice President of Administration

Kelsey Ruiz

General Manager

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 2, 2026

8:00 AM

DTLB Alliance Conference Room

100 W Broadway, Suite 235, Long Beach, CA 90802

Voting Present: Mike Gold, Silissa Uriarte Smith, Sam Pierzina, Bo Martinez, Isidro Panuco

Voting Absent: Amy Chambers, Ashley Chiddick, Graham Gill

DTLB Alliance Staff: Austin Metoyer, Jeremy Ancalade, Kelsey Ruiz

Guests: Amanda Kannard, PUMA: Yvette Freeman, PUMA

1. CALL TO ORDER and INTRODUCTIONS – Mike Gold, Chair
[Meeting presentation](#). Called to order at 8:05 AM.
2. SECRETARY REPORT
ACTION: Approve Minutes from [March 5, 2026 Meeting](#)
MOTION: 1st: Uriarte Smith; 2nd: Pierzina.
VOTE: None opposed. No abstentions. Mays not present for vote. Motion passes.
3. TREASURER’S REPORT – Jeremy Ancalade, Vice President of Administration
Amy Chambers, Treasurer
[Draft Year-to-Date Financials through February 2026](#)
 - Ancalade reported that revenue is in line with expectations, with some timing issues regarding the Downtown Parking & Business Improvement Area (DPBIA).
 - The Alliance’s cash assets have increased to a healthy position.
4. CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT – Gold
 - A. Remarks from the Chair
 - B. Governance Committee Report – Uriarte Smith
 - Uriarte Smith updated the Committee on the interview with the new CEO for Long Beach Opera, Michelle Magaldi.
 - Magaldi is being recommended to serve on the Board of Directors representing Arts & Culture as an Advisor.

ACTION: Approve Michelle Magaldi to serve on the DTLB Alliance’s Board of Directors.
MOTION: 1st: Pierzina; 2nd: Uriarte Smith.
VOTE: None opposed. No abstentions. Motion passes.
5. PRESIDENT/CEO REPORT – Austin Metoyer
 - A. DTLB Strategic Plan Project Update
 - Metoyer introduced Amanda Kannard and Yvette Freeman of Progressive Urban Management Associates (PUMA) who are tasked with updating the Alliance’s Strategic Plan.
 - Kannard reminded the Committee of the process thus far which includes an online survey, Board and staff workshops, and synthesizing feedback.
 - The focus areas are: Clean & Safe, promoting Downtown, and generating foot traffic.
 - Kannard explained the implementation of a priority & feedback filter which aims at evaluating the organization’s initiatives and capacity.

B. Assessment Adjustment Discussion for 2026-27

- Ancalade and Metoyer provided a brief background on the need for an annual assessment adjustment which included some historical data.
- This year and all future years, the Board does not need to consider an adjustment for the DPBIA following guidance received from the City Attorney's Office.
- Staff's recommended adjustment is between 4% and 5%.

ACTION: Recommend to the Board of Directors, a 4.5% annual Adjustment to PBID assessments for FY 2026-27, effective January 1, 2027.

MOTION: 1st: Mays; 2nd: Pierzina.

VOTE: None opposed. No abstentions. Motion passes.

C. Advocacy Update

D. Misc.

- Metoyer reviewed upcoming events in DTLB.

6. OLD BUSINESS

7. NEW BUSINESS

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE BOARD

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS (three minutes on all non-agenda items)

10. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 9:20 AM.

NEXT SCHEDULED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING:

May 7, 2026

Location: DTLB Alliance Conference Room

Mission: Cultivate, preserve and promote a healthy, safe and prosperous Downtown for all.

All meetings held by the Downtown Long Beach Alliance shall be conducted in compliance with the Brown Act, California Government Code Section 54950 et seq., and its requirement that public commissions, boards, councils, and public agencies conduct business openly, and in compliance with AB 361. E-Mail correspondence regarding agenda items can be directed to info@dtlb.org. Agenda items may also be reviewed as posted in public view at the DTLB Alliance offices or at City Hall. If special accommodation is desired pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, please make your request by phone to (562) 436-4259, by noon the day prior to the meeting.

Respectful Dialogue Disagree with ideas, not individuals. Focus criticism on proposals and data rather than making personal attacks or questioning motives. Frame disagreements as "I see it differently because..." rather than "You're wrong about..."

Active Listening Allow speakers to finish their points before responding. Ask clarifying questions when you don't understand rather than making assumptions about what someone means.

Meeting Protocol Wait to be recognized by the chair before speaking. Avoid talking over others or jumping in mid-sentence, even during informal discussions. Raise your hand or use agreed-upon signals to indicate you'd like to contribute.

Constructive Engagement Come prepared with specific alternatives when raising concerns. Instead of simply opposing an idea, suggest improvements or different approaches that address your concerns.

Professional Communication Maintain composure even during heated discussions. Avoid interrupting, side conversations, or dismissive body language. Keep voices at conversational levels.

Focused Discussion Stay on agenda topics and respect time limits. Save tangential conversations for breaks or separate meetings. Help redirect discussion when it veers off course.

Confidentiality Respect the confidential nature of board discussions. What's said in the boardroom stays in the boardroom unless explicitly approved for external sharing.

Decision Support Once decisions are made, support them publicly even if you voted against them. Present a unified front while preserving your right to dissent in board minutes.

Preparation and Participation Review materials in advance and come ready to contribute meaningfully. Balance speaking up with creating space for others to participate.