



**DOWNTOWN  
LONG BEACH  
ALLIANCE**

# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

## **Monday, December 8, 2025**

### **8:30 AM**

**Courtyard by Marriot**

500 E 1<sup>st</sup> St  
Long Beach, CA 90802

**Voting Present:** Mike Gold, Sam Pierzina, Amy Chambers, Bo Martinez, Isidro Panuco, James Turner, John Edmond, John Tully, Ryan La Rosa, Silissa Uriarte Smith, Solimar Salas, Thomas Mays, Whitney Neal

**Voting Absent:** Ashley Chiddick, Claudia Ayala, Clay Wood, Graham Gill, Jess Evans, Michael Vitug, Sarah Brainard

**Non-Voting Present:** Council District 1, Samantha Mehlinger, Milton Ordonez

**Non-Voting Absent:** Council District 2, Reverend Antonio Gallardo, Diane Arnold, Don Darnauer

**DTLB Alliance Staff:** Austin Metoyer, James Ahumada, Jeremy Ancalade, Kelsey Ruiz, Rodrigo Rodarte, Stephanie El Tawil, Juan Torres

**Guests:** John Sangmeister, Gladstones; Joe Ung, Cassidy's Corner; Public Works Staff; Windes Staff

1. CALL TO ORDER and INTRODUCTIONS – Mike Gold, Chair  
[Meeting presentation](#). Called to order at 8:37AM.
  - A. Chairperson's Remarks

#### **CONSENT CALENDAR (Items 2 and 3)**

2. SECRETARY REPORT: [Minutes from October 8, 2025 Meeting](#)
3. FINANCIAL REPORT: [Year-To-Date Financials through October/November 2025](#)  
[5 minutes](#)

**ACTION: Approve Consent Calendar Items**

**MOTION: 1<sup>st</sup>: Edmond; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Panuco.**

**VOTE: None opposed. No abstentions. Motion passes.**

4. New Business Introduction  
Joe Ung, Owner of Cassidy's Corner
  - Introduction of Joe Ung, owner of Cassidy's Corner, who has a new location opening in Downtown Long Beach (DTLB) in the coming months.
5. Update from City of Long Beach Public Works  
Josh Hickman, Interim Director of Public Works
  - Presentations by Bolin and Bodek on various projects within Public Works including the Downtown Walkable Corners Projects and 1<sup>st</sup> Street Pedestrian Improvements.
  - Both projects are focused on improving the pedestrian experience in DTLB, specifically throughout 1<sup>st</sup> St and in the East Village.
  - Bolin also discussed the project at 125 Elm St. The building was purchased by the City and plans are currently being developed for a new use for the space.



**DOWNTOWN  
LONG BEACH  
ALLIANCE**

6. Audit Presentation – Windes
  - Buck and Phillips presented on the Year-End Financials and Form 990 for FY24-25, as was presented and approved by the DTLB Alliance Audit Committee the week prior.
  - The findings resulted in a clean audit.
  - A. Audit Committee Report – Jeremy Ancalade
    - i. [2024-25 Annual Audit of Consolidated Year-End Financials](#)  
**ACTION: Approve 2024-25 Annual Audit of Consolidated Year-End Financials as recommended by DTLB Alliance Audit Committee.**  
**MOTION: 1<sup>st</sup>: Edmond; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Salas.**  
**VOTE: None opposed. No abstentions. Motion passes.**
    - ii. [2024-25 Form 990](#)  
**ACTION: Approve 2024-25 Form 990 as recommended by DTLB Alliance Audit Committee.**  
**MOTION: 1<sup>st</sup>: Edmond; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Uriarte Smith.**  
**VOTE: None opposed. No abstentions. Motion passes.**
7. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT - Gold
  - A. Executive Committee Report
    - i. [Executive Committee Minutes\\*](#)
  - B. Governance Committee Report – Uriarte-Smith, Chair
    - Uriarte Smith provided updates on recent Governance discussions and actions. The Committee has filled some programming committee vacancies but continues to look at other candidates.
    - In the coming weeks the Committee will take a closer look at DTLB Alliance's Bylaws.
8. PRESIDENT & CEO REPORT – Austin Metoyer
  - A. Downtown Difference Board  
**ACTION: Designate and approve John Tully to serve as the DTLB Alliance Board representative on the Board for the Downtown Difference.**  
**MOTION: 1<sup>st</sup>: Chambers; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Gold.**  
**VOTE: None opposed. No abstentions. Motion passes.**
  - B. Misc. Updates
    - Metoyer introduced DTLB Alliance's newest member of staff, Rodrigo Rodarte, Sr. Manager of Placemaking & Activations.
    - Rodarte provided a brief background on his past work experience and invited Board members to meet him at one of the upcoming Meet & Greets.
9. UPDATE FROM COUNCIL DISTRICT OFFICES
  - Gray Graves provided updates on behalf of Councilwoman Zendejas, noting that the Councilwoman's office is focused on advocating for space for the LA28 Olympics, securing funding for homelessness, and other important initiatives.
10. OLD BUSINESS
11. NEW BUSINESS
12. PUBLIC COMMENTS (three minutes on all non-agenda items)
  - J. Sangmeister spoke.
13. ADJOURNMENT  
Adjourned at 9:55AM.



**DOWNTOWN  
LONG BEACH  
ALLIANCE**

**NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING:**

**February 18 @ 8:30AM**

**Location: TBD**

***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. E-Mail correspondence regarding agenda items can be directed to [info@dtlb.org](mailto:info@dtlb.org). Agenda items may also be reviewed as posted in public view at the DLBA 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.