

**MONTGOMERY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
AGENDA**

Regular Meeting: March 11, 2025

AGENDA ITEM:

Discussion on Downtown Enhancement Project

SUBMITTED BY: Stephanie Johnson

APPROVED FOR AGENDA: Ruby Beaven

BACKGROUND:

Downtown Enhancement Project

A Vision for a Tranquil & Gathering Space. City owned vacant lot 105/149 Create a timeless space that celebrates Montgomery's heritage while providing a place for residents and visitors to gather, relax, and enjoy downtown Montgomery's business district.

Key Features

The Liberty Tree – A Symbol of History & Unity

- A 20-ft historic tree donated by the Montgomery County Historic Commission (arriving March 2026)

Cobblestone Pathways – Aesthetic & Accessible

- Charming, old-world design to enhance downtown character
- Winding paths encourage exploration
- ADA-compliant

Waterfall Feature – A Touch of Serenity

- Natural rock-style waterfall to add tranquility
- Helps mask city noise, creating a peaceful atmosphere
- Recirculating system for sustainability

Greenery & Privacy Features

- Evergreen shrubs for year-round color
- Privacy shrubbery wall and trellis with climbing vines to reduce highway noise

Covered Patio – A Space for Community Events

- Ideal for small city gatherings, performances, and special events

Seating Areas – Designed for Comfort & Connection

- Benches and picnic areas for relaxation, reading, and socializing

Budget & Implementation Plan

| Component | Estimated Cost |
|--|------------------------------|
| Site Preparation & Grading | \$10,000 - \$20,000 |
| Landscaping & Design | \$15,000 - \$30,000 |
| Cobblestone Pathways | \$20,000 - \$35,000 |
| Small Waterfall Feature | \$15,000 - \$25,000 |
| Privacy Shrubs & Fencing | \$10,000 - \$20,000 |
| Covered Patio with Pergola | \$25,000 - \$40,000 |
| Benches & Seating Areas | \$8,000 - \$15,000 |
| Lighting & Irrigation System | \$12,000 - \$25,000 |
| ADA-Compliant Ramps & Accessibility Features | \$10,000 - \$20,000 |
| Maintenance & Contingency | \$10,000 - \$20,000 |
| Total Estimated Cost | \$135,000 - \$250,000 |

Implementation Timeline

6-12 months – Phased approach including planning, construction, and planting

Community Engagement & Sponsorships

- Possible sponsorship recognition on seating, pathways, or the digital sign
- Community involvement in sponsorships, planning, and future maintenance

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

RECOMMENDATION:

For discussion only