

Activity Report

Stone Mountain Downtown Development Authority Report: July - September 10, 2025

The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) of Stone Mountain has continued to advance several projects that strengthen the City's revitalization efforts and community engagement. Below is a summary of activities and accomplishments between July and September 2025.

Joint City Council & DDA Meeting (July 28, 2025)

On July 28, the DDA held a joint meeting with the Stone Mountain City Council to review and discuss several community development projects. Updates were provided on the Lawn Project, with public feedback still being collected through the Table Talks Survey to help finalize the design. The MTAP Study was reaffirmed as a key priority for revitalizing Main Street, and the DDA Director was authorized to move forward with an application for a TAP study.

Mural Project - Final Approval & Implementation

The DDA finalized approval for the mural project to be located on the wall of Stoned Pizza. The selected design, "Strength Through Community - Stone Mountain Village", highlights the City's culture, history, and diversity. The total cost of the mural is \$20,000, with funding support secured. Once completed, the mural will be finished with a protective clear coat to ensure long-term preservation against weather.



Commercial Buildout Grant Program

The DDA also approved the creation of the Commercial Buildout Grant Program, a new initiative designed to support the interior renovation of commercial and mixed-use properties within the DDA district. For Fiscal Year 2025, the Authority has allocated \$50,000 to assist with buildout and renovation projects that improve business functionality and contribute to the vitality of downtown Stone Mountain.

Eligible projects under this program include interior improvements such as the repair or enhancement of walls, flooring, and ceilings, the installation or servicing of HVAC systems, upgrades to sprinklers, fire alarms, plumbing, or grease traps, and improvements to electrical systems and lighting. Grant awards range from \$1,000 to \$25,000 and are provided as reimbursements after project completion. As a matching grant, the DDA covers up to 80 percent of eligible project costs (not to exceed \$25,000), while applicants contribute the remaining 20 percent. This program is expected to encourage long-term investment in downtown properties, strengthen the business community, and create more professional and welcoming environments for both customers and employees.