



**CENTRAL COMMERCIAL  
MAINTENANCE ASSESMENT DISTRICT (MAD)  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, February 27, 2024 5:00PM to 6:00PM**  
[Meeting Recording](#)

**Call to Order and Introductions**

Alex Southard, Small Business Engagement Specialist, Economic Development Department

- Meeting was called to order at 5:04 PM.

**Attendance:**

**Community Members**

James Justus  
William Burties  
Leonardo Ortiz  
Tony Pollard  
Arturo Perzabal  
Chelsea Klaseus  
Terrence Sullivan  
Ebony James

**City Staff**

Lizzie Rodriguez, Council Representative, Office of Councilmember Vivian Moreno  
Michelle Munoz, Community Development Specialist, Economic Development Department  
Alex Southard, Small Business Engagement Specialist, Economic Development Department

**Non-Agenda Public Comment**

Public comment may be made on any non-agenda topic in the committee's area of responsibility. Attendees will be muted during the webinar. The host will take those off mute that wish to give public comment. *(Public comments are limited to 2 minutes per speaker.)*

- Concerns around community storm drains and preventative flooding infrastructure.
- County of San Diego residents/businesses can self-report damages on the website [here](#).
- Walmart in Logan Heights will be closing in February.

**1. February Meeting Minutes**

Alex Southard, Small Business Engagement Specialist, Economic Development Department

- The community advisory group voted to unanimously approve the February meeting minutes.

**2. Community Updates**

Ebony B. James, Chief Operations Officer, Logan Heights Community Development Corporation

- Ebony B. James provided an update on the recently closed Walmart building. LHDCDC has been communicating with the Governor's office, the building owner, and others to discuss how that space might be used going forward. The building owner is open to leasing to a grocery store, but will sell if he doesn't get a lease within 60 days.
- Black History Month banners were installed along the Imperial Avenue corridor. New banners will arrive in partnership with the San Diego County Fair.
- LHDCDC has been providing technical assistance for the Emergency Response Grant. The SBDC and SBA has been providing support as well in the community.
- On March 21, LHDCDC is hosting a Small Business Resource Fair at the Logan Heights Library featuring a number of government agencies, organizations, and presenters discussing insurance, marketing, taxes, and more.

- The LEEP program is starting a new cohort. Applicants can apply now and anticipate an April 3 start date.
- San Diego Housing Commission partnership to help people impacted by the floods. LHDCDC received a \$15,000 grant from Cal Coast Credit Union gave to the community for food and gas gift cards. LHDCDC distributed a total of 134 gift cards to 89 families. All of those impacted by the floods, LHDCDC conducted assessments with families to help them get access to the resources they need in recovery.

### **3. Council District 8 Report**

Lizzie Rodriguez, Council Representative, Office of Councilmember Vivian Moreno

- Lizzie Rodriguez provided updates from the Office of City Councilmember Moreno.
- Upcoming informal event for community members to get-to-know the Councilmember on Friday at Antojitos Colombianos from 9:00-10:30 am.
- Councilmember Moreno has been in communication with the owner of the Walmart building. Similar to Ebony, Lizzie said the owner wants to move quickly to either lease or sell.
- Staff reported over 100 broken streetlights through Get-It-Done and have been told new installations would be completed in the upcoming month. Will report back to the group once the work has been completed.
- Containers are being distributed for flooding and storm relief. Residents can order trash containers for dumping and to help assist with the removal of damaged property.

### **4. Urban Corps Report**

Arturo Perzabal, Operations Manager, Urban Corps of San Diego County

- Arturo Perzabal shared information regarding the improvements and activities provided.
- In February, they added two additional Corpsmembers to the crew.
- Noticed an increase in trash in the community.
- Weed abatement on 14 blocks.
- Urban Corps has been assisting with graffiti removal, and paying attention to the Walmart area.
- Urban Corps is working with Environmental Services Department to clean-up trash around encampment areas around Walmart.
- Urban Corps is getting an extra truck for the Corpsmembers to help with extra trash pick-up, so two trucks will be driving around the community.

### **5. EDD Report**

Alex Southard, Small Business Engagement Specialist, Economic Development Department

- EDD met with Transportation and Urban Corps to address ways to work more efficiently together to address reports submitted through Get-It-Done. More to come on this.
- Alex Southard provided updates on the budget process and walked through the proposal for FY25. The group approved an assessment increase to 5%, with the desire to see an increase in Corpsmembers to provide an increase in services. The group also supports spending down the fund balance by \$70,000.

### **6. Adjournment**

Alex Southard, Small Business Engagement Specialist, Economic Development Department

- Meeting was adjourned at 6:08 PM.

\*Unfinished business shall be tabled and placed on the agenda for the next committee meeting.

**THIS INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATIVE FORMATS UPON REQUEST.** To request an alternative format or to request a sign language or oral interpreter for the meeting, please contact Economic Development Department at least five (5) working days before the meeting at (619) 236-6700 to ensure availability.