

Gwinnett County Development Advisory Committee**Wednesday, May 21, 2025, at 12:00 pm**

One Justice Square

446 West Crogan Street, 1st floor, Conference Room 106

Lawrenceville, GA 30046

Present: Allen Mendenhall, Alyssa Davis, Amy Bray, Bess Walthour, Carson Brown, Corbitt Woods, Derrick "DA" Williams (virtual), Jeffrey Cleveland, John McHenry, Marvin Aikerson, Michael Johnson, Nicola McIntyre, Thomas J. DeAngelo (virtual)

Absent: Aysha Treadwell, Colleen Frangos, Louis Tseng, Mike Lant, William Edwards

Staff Members: Cyndi Sloan, Rinda Grooms, Marcus Canada, Yang Chen, Sharon Cook, Tai Yi Su, James Hornbeck, Patricia Huguenard, Sandra Hawkins

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Corbitt Woods at 12:05pm.

II. Determination of a Quorum (7+ Members)

A quorum was present

III. Announcements

Corbitt Woods, Chairman, welcomed everyone, introduced Carson Brown, and noted Aysha Treadwell was not present to introduce.

IV. Adoption of Agenda

Allen Mendenhall made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended to include zoom meeting discussion under New Business.

{Action: Approved Motion: Marvin Aikerson; Second: John McHenry; Vote: 11-0}

Members present: Approved (11-0).

V. Approval of Minutes

February 19, 2025

{Action: Approved Motion: Jeffery Cleveland Second: Allen Mendenhall Vote: 11-0}

Members present: Approved (11-0).

VI. Old Business

a) Variance Request on Zoning Cases.

After extensive research by members, staff, and a particular thanks to Jeffrey Cleveland, it was determined that of all the zoning cases researched there was only one isolated case that contained excessive variances. This topic is now concluded.

Members present: Approved (11-0).

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VII. New Business

a) Zoom Meeting Discussion

{Action: Allen Mendenhall made a motion to terminate the use of audio for member participation and allow only observation when in attendance virtually for all future Development Advisory Committee meetings. The motion was not seconded.}

Discussion by members followed regarding if a member in virtual attendance can be represented on the record and make a motion if not counted towards a quorum.

Amy Bray made a motion to add virtual attendance rules as an item of discussion to the next meeting, to allow input from the Law Department and to allow research on the Bylaws.

b) UDO Update

Yang Chen, Planning Division Director, presented the proposed UDO Amendments. The Development Advisory Committee will have a chance to review the changes and make comments. The resolution is scheduled to go before the Planning Commission on July 1, 2025, and the Board of Commissioners Public Hearing, July 22, 2025.

Cyndi Sloan, Deputy Director, stated the first major amendment to the UDO was prepared in 2023 and effective January 1, 2024, to coincide with the 2045 Unified Plan. The proposed amendments are staff initiated. They do not coincide with another adoption for another ordinance. Members are welcome to share their ideas with staff for consideration.

c) 2024 Permit Numbers.

At the request of the DAC, Rinda Grooms, Development Division Director, presented 2024 development permit information and data which will be tracked each year.

d) Exemption Plat Updates.

There have been no changes since the UDO Amendments effective January 1, 2024.

e) Tree Provision in UDO Rewrite Update.

Patricia Huguenard, Development Project Manager, provided an update on the tree ordinance project. The kickoff was in August of last year and the community outreach is ongoing, with the third community meeting scheduled for early July which will conclude that phase of the project. The stakeholder meetings are complete.

The draft of the tree canopy assessment report is under review by staff. The Tree Ordinance Review Technical Committee (TORTC) will meet late June, early July, to review the first draft of the ordinance rewrite. The final version is scheduled to go before the Board of Commissioners in the fall.

VIII. Other Business

a) Chris Cannon introduced himself as the new Director of Create Gwinnett, a nonprofit economic development organization formerly known as Art Works.

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- b) Marcus Canada, Building Division Director, announced The Georgia Insurance Safety Commissioner's Rule 120 amendments will become effective on May 27, 2025.
- c) Marcus Canada, Building Division Director, announced Gwinnett County has been recognized as Jurisdiction of the Year by the Building Officials Association of Georgia, honoring the County's commitment to excellence in building code enforcement, education, and community partnership.

IX. Adjournment (1:27pm)

{Action: Approved Motion: Marvin Aikerson; Second: Nicola McIntyre: 11-0}

Members present: Approved (11-0).