

**CITY OF WALLED LAKE
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

Tuesday, July 14, 2026

The Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance led by DDA Chairman Blair

ROLL CALL: Blair, Gunther, Johnston, Langan, Lublin, Marshall, Raleigh

ABSENT: Langan, M, McDonald, O'Leary

OTHERS PRESENT: City Manager Whitt, Council Member Ambrose, Police Chief Shakinas, Deputy Chief Kolke, Fire Chief Gonzalez, DPW Superintendent Ladd, City Attorney Vanerian, and City Clerk Stuart

There being a quorum present the meeting was declared in session.

**DDA 07-01-26 MOTION TO EXCUSE BOARD MEMBERS LANGAN, M;
MCDONALD; AND O'LEARY**

Motion by Johnston, seconded by Langan, T, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To excuse board members Langan, M; McDonald, and O'Leary.

REQUEST FOR AGENDA CHANGES: None

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

1. Regular DDA Meeting of June 9, 2026

**DDA 07-02-26 APPROVAL OF THE MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 9, 2026
MEETING**

Motion by Lublin, seconded by Johnston: CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To approve the meeting minutes of June 9, 2026.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Flock Safety Gateway Camera Renewal

Police Chief Shakinas explained that the city owns all data collected through the Flock Safety camera system. Under the terms of the City's contract, the data is not for sale and is used solely for legitimate law enforcement purposes. A presentation regarding the Flock Safety system was provided. Chief Shakinas provided several examples of how the system has assisted law enforcement. In one case, a stolen vehicle was identified traveling westbound on Maple Road near Decker Road. Officers verified the vehicle through the Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN), confirmed the Flock camera alert, and conducted a traffic stop. Both vehicle occupants were found to have outstanding warrants and were taken into custody. Chief Shakinas said the department has successfully utilized the system to recover stolen vehicles, identify stolen license plates, and apprehend individuals with felony warrants. He also described a case involving an elderly Walled Lake resident who had gone missing. Using information captured by the Flock camera system, officers were able to track her travel route, leading to her safe location several jurisdictions away. Additionally, Chief Shakinas explained that the department's DEA task force detective regularly utilizes the Flock camera system during investigations. He highlighted a recent operation that began with a traffic stop and involved the DEA Task Force, Air Wing, Southfield SWAT, and the Hamtramck Police Department. The investigation resulted in the execution of eight search warrants, the seizure of approximately 52 kilograms of cocaine and \$300,000 in cash, and the arrest of 11 individuals. Chief Shakinas stated that the investigative capabilities and archived data provided by the Flock system were instrumental in supporting the operation and would have been extremely difficult to replicate without the technology.

Chairman Blair stated this is a necessary tool for the police department and is in full support.

**DDA 07-03-26 MOTION TO APPROVE FLOCK SAFETY RENEWAL FOR
\$18,000**

Motion by Langan, T, seconded by Gunther: CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To approve Flock Safety renewal for \$18,000.

DDA Board Member Lublin confirmed the renewal is for the six existing Flock cameras.

Police Chief Shakinas explained one camera was damaged and unfortunately is not covered by insurance when purposely damaged. Chief Shakinas said there are over 1,800 departments that share this system.

Board Member Lanagan asked if the police are pursuing the person who damaged the equipment intentionally.

Chief Shakinass explained there is a usage and data policy for the use of the Flock safety camera systems, and it is adhered to strongly. He said Flock also offers a transparency portal.

Katie Dauphinais, a representative from Flock explained Walled Lake owns 100% of its data.

Board Member Lublin verified Flock does not have access to the city's camera information.

Ms. Dauphinais explained information may be obtained when Flock is requested to trouble shoot an operational issue and IT may review sensitive information. Ms. Dauphinais said any access is tracked and logged.

Chief Shakinass said the department support the use of Flock as with examples provided earlier.

EXECUTIVE & MANAGING DIRECTOR REPORT:

1. Civic Fund/DDA/City of Walled Lake Fireworks and Festival Report

City Manager Whitt offered Mr. R. Johnston to explain the Civic Fund after action report.

Board Member Johnston said there were over 6,000 wrist bands utilized for the event, marketing reported 20-30,000 views of this event. He said patrons came from Oakland, Livingston, Wayne and Monroe County great attendance.

Chief Shakinass said overall the event was successful, with one physical altercation.

Chairman Blair asked about the shuttle service provided, good idea.

Board Member Johnston said Council Member Ambrose had provided him with contact information to SMART. The shuttle transported attendees from the Public Safety Campus to Liberty Street approximately every 30 minutes throughout the day, which he said significantly contributed to the event's success. He noted that attendance noticeably declined after the shuttle service concluded. Mr. Johnston expressed his appreciation to the Department of Public Works, Fire Department, Police Department, and the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) for their support of the event. He also recognized the festival's major sponsors, including the DDA, Greenhouse, and Casey's of Walled Lake who donated all of the alcohol for the beer tent at no cost. He thanked Suburban Party Rentals for their outstanding service and acknowledged the support provided by Oakland County Parks, noting that, because the Civic Fund is a 501(c)(3) organization, the stage rental cost was reduced to \$550. Mr. Johnston further recognized Michael Whitney and Alex for their exceptional efforts in organizing the event, stating that they stepped up when needed and provided outstanding follow-through. Mr. Johnston said they hired a sound engineer for the day. The bands enjoyed this as well. They did have some power issues. The bounce house equipment drew more power than anticipated. He said next year they will look into a rock wall for the kids. He said the county takes on the liability for the rock wall. Mr. Johnston said the bounce houses were taken down starting at 7pm. Mr. Johnston said the \$5 attendance fee after 5pm may or may not be necessary. He asked the board to consider not charging.

Board Member Langan asked if the capacity was reached. He said he does not understand why anyone would complain about the \$5 fee for an all-day event with much activity.

Chief Shakinis said communities who don't charge see issues, once a charge is instituted, problems seem to decrease.

City Manager Whitt said he has been doing this for 15 years; there will be an after-action report at the next city council meeting.

2. Discussions on 2027 Civic Fund/DDA/City of Walled Lake Fireworks and Festival

Mr. Johnston said he would like to get the board's feelings about expanding the event, to bring in more people. He asked what the board wants to see for next year. Mr. Johnston said the Civic Fund wants to put out a letter to all the businesses, offering an opportunity to discuss being a part of the event next year. We need to extend the invitation and encourage all to be a part of this. All the profit goes back into the event. This is the largest event Walled Lake has ever had. Mr. Johnston named certain individuals Alexis Hawkins, Bryan O'Leary, Michael Whitney, Monica Johnson, Kathy Kramer, Marybeth Novitsky, Kevin Jonski, Adam Bell, Macie Smith, Alex Hagood. He said these folks did the core work for the event. Mr. Johnston said the lifeguard did a great job. Mr. Johnston explained the Civic Fund would like to ask for same amount of financial support next year, however, if the DDA board wishes to change something the request may change.

Board Member Lublin said before the board were to approve anything, financials would need to be provided.

Mr. Johnston said he provided to Finance Director Pesta and a report will be coming. Mr. Johnston said he is asking for support for the 2027 festival.

City Manager Whitt said letters will be sent out from front office, there will be a budget in the prepared for future presentation.

DDA 07-04-26 MOTION TO SUPPORT THE 2027 WALLED LAKE CIVIC FUND SUMMER FESTIVAL WITH FINANCIALS TO BE DETERMINED AND APPROVED AT A LATER DATE

Motion by Lublin, seconded by Gunther: CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To support the 2027 Walled Lake Civic Fund Summer Festival with financials to be determined and approved at a later date.

DDA Board Member Raleigh said he has heard nothing but great things, only one item would be to have more activities for the kids.

Mr. Johnston said Oakland County has a list of activities for kids, they bring attendants for the items, and Oakland County covers insurance. Mr. Johnston said the city's insurance was a cost of \$2300 for the days event.

3. Public Safety Activity Report

City Manager Whitt said when the arrest is made for damage to the Flock Safety camera, a report will be provided. City Manager Whitt said the Civic Fund event is organized well, the city had several officers and firefighters in place. City Manager Whitt said there will be a draft budget presented when the time comes.

Mayor Gunther said the mobile trailer is really valuable and we could rent it out to other communities. He said it is an interesting opportunity.

Board Member Lublin said it does not make sense to purchase; we don't have these types of events every weekend and this type of equipment can become obsolete quickly.

Chairman Blair agreed and said the DDA is very prudent with its funds, that is how we have accumulated it. He stated owning a system like that, he does not want to be in the rental business, explaining we don't have the staff nor storage. He said to purchase was not a good idea.

Chief Shakinis explained the mobile watch equipment could be rented for an event with an approximate cost of \$3500.

Board Member Langan said it would be a far better angle to rent that buy for \$60,000 and the technology instantly becomes obsolete.

Mayor Gunther said it does not have to be active, just being there deterred people.

4. Mercer Beach Memo

City Manager Whitt said issues came up of the use of the beach. He said Attorney Vanerian provided a memo that gives the board information on the history of the beach grant.

Mayor Gunther said there is nothing in agreement that prohibits the DDA from charging people.

WARRANT REPORT:

1. June 2026

DDA 07-05-26

**APPROVAL TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE WARRANT FOR
JUNE 2026**

Motion by Lubin, seconded by Langan T: CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To receive and file the warrant for June 2026.

ADJOURNMENT:

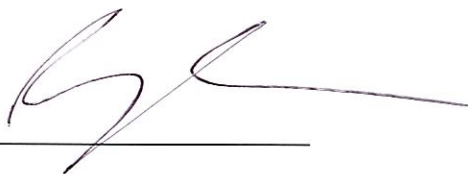
DDA 07-06-26

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Lublin, seconded by Langan T: CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To adjourn the meeting at 5:02 P.M.



Jennifer Stuart
Recording Secretary



Steve Blair
DDA Chairman