
Action Items:

- 4. Resolution #01-2026 of the Columbus Redevelopment Commission to grant \$750,000.00 toward the construction of the new Columbus Animal Care Services building from the Central Allocation Area and the Midtown Allocation Area – Doug Sunkel, Project Manager and Nicohl Birdwell-Goodin, Columbus Animal Care Services Director**

Trena introduced Doug Sunkel and Nicohl Birdwell-Goodin to present the request. Joined by Harley, a shelter alum. Much of the presentation was shared at the January meeting. The proposal is to build a new facility on a plot across the street from the current facility. They just released the RFPQ last Friday. The overall estimate is \$9.7 Million dollars. There are also some additional projects that need to occur for future development in the Airplex Park. There is \$5 Million in the city budget for 2026, running a capital campaign with a goal of \$1 Million. There are grant funds that have been obtained as well. The request today is for the \$750,000.00 of the building cost. Heather then explained the changes to the request from previously presented numbers. The request for the sewer funds will come at a later date as part of additional improvements.

Trena opened it up for questions. Grace asked about the proposed request and if that was included in the projections provided by Andrew. Yes, it does include those figures. Those projections will also be updated later in the year as we get the hard cost estimates for the other improvements. Tom Dell noted that this is a very important project for the city and much needed improvements. Heather then reviewed the timeframe for the project. Grace asked about these estimates and if we feel they will be close to the actual estimates received. Doug noted that they have been working closely with Force to get numbers that take into consideration the various factors unique to this build to ensure estimates are close to actual costs. There will be some changes between now and the final product but they are using a hard budget target to give to the developer. Heather also noted that they intend to use BOT process.

There being no further comments or questions from the public, Trena entertained a motion to adopt the resolution as presented. Scott motioned and Cynthia seconded a motion to approve the same. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken and the Motion was approved unanimously. Nicohl also shared the current fundraising efforts underway for the capital campaign.

- 5. Resolution #02-2026 of the Columbus Redevelopment Commission to engage Milestone Design Group to complete design and engineering work for Airplex Commerce Center Phase II, including the preparation of the Final Plat, As-Built Sewer Main relocation for Animal Care Services, As-Built for all other roadways and utilities following construction and to provide surveying services to set property corners of the lots in the final plat of Phase II Airplex Commerce Center – Brian Payne, Airport Director**

Trena introduced Brian Payne. Brian reviewed the expansion plans for the Airplex Commerce Center that this ask will support. The request is for design and engineering services. Once they get estimates, Brian will come back to request funding.

Trena opened it up for questions. Heather asked about some of the other utility updates. There may be some additional funds needed for some of that work. This intends to include designs for road sections. Trena opened it up to the public.

There being no further comments or questions from the public, Trena entertained a motion to adopt the resolution as presented. Cynthia motioned and James seconded a motion to approve the same. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken and the Motion was approved unanimously.

Brian then gave a quick update on the Great by 38 initiative and tower update. Plans for the tower to be completed by October 1, 2027.

6. Riverfront Liquor License request by Kasey Collin d/b/a Forge on 4th LLC located at 418 4th Street, Columbus, Indiana – Heather Pope, Redevelopment Director

Heather introduced the request and Kasey Collins was present to answer questions. Kasey has owned Forge on 4th since 2022. They are hoping to expand the offerings at the facility to include pop-up events. This is the first step in requesting a three-way liquor license through the Riverfront liquor licenses. Heather recommends that the Redevelopment commission give a positive recommendation to Mayor Ferdon. There are 10 licenses still available. They have been working on plans and potentially hoping to be open to the public several days a week.

Trena asked for questions or comments from the commission, having none, Trena opened it up to the public. Tom Dell voiced his support for the request. Trena entertained a motion to recommend approval. Shannon motioned and Scott seconded a motion to approve the same. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken and the Motion was approved unanimously to recommend approval.

7. Approval of Minutes: January 29, 2026 – Regular (Rescheduled) Meeting Minutes

Review of the January 29, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes was had, no corrections or changes were noted. Trena called for approval of the minutes. Cynthia indicated that she would be abstaining since she was not present at the meeting. James moved and Shannon seconded a motion to adopt the same. There being no discussion, a vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

8. Review and Approval of Claims

Docket of claims was provided. There was one additional demand claim for the department's Verizon bill. No further questions or discussion regarding the claims. Trena opened the floor for questions or comments, having none, Trena called for a Motion regarding the approval of the claims. Shannon motioned and Cynthia second. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously, and all claims approved.

Project Update – Heather Pope –

- **Downtown Entrance Plaza** – During the last few months, Merritt Chase has been working on value engineering elements of the Downtown Entrance Plaza concept to aggressively target a lower budget for the project. Currently, Merritt Chase is working with Strand to progress on Construction Documents, which would precede any bidding activity. In the interim, we have seen success in working to identify fund sources that could support this project outside of additional TIF requests. Likely at the March CRC

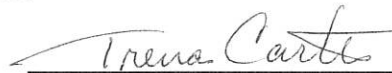
meeting, we will invite Merritt Chase to deliver a Discussion Item update regarding the latest concept, cost estimates and construction timing moving forward. We are optimistic that we can bid through the BOT process this spring and aim for a Groundbreaking by this fall!

- **2nd Street Thoroughfare Project** – Work has commenced again on this project following a period of unfavorable weather conditions. There are some northern lane restrictions on 2nd Street to allow for locates and borings.
- **The Riverfront Project** – Snow runoff has impacted the river water levels and access road for the project. This is not atypical for this time of year, and weather days are naturally built into these types of projects. While the teams are unable to work at the Riverfront construction site until conditions are favorable, they have been working on materials procurement and have been frequenting the limestone quarry to source and shape the limestone blocks required for trail amenities and stabilization. Next, Milestone anticipates completing the sheet driving efforts for the retaining wall and then moving to the amphitheater construction. The ribbon cutting will be October 23, 2026.
- **State Street (former County Highway Garage Property)** - The CRC engaged Renascent Inc. in December to demo the former County Highway Garage on the State Street property. Part of this process requires an asbestos survey, which has been completed. Furthermore, asbestos mitigation and removal efforts are taking place early next week. Renascent will then file their State demo permit 10 days prior to the demolition activity on site which will start on Monday, March 2nd. We have had developers reach out about the site.
- **Arcadia Drive (DPW Facility)** - This project is quickly approaching its completion, targeted for April. We are in the early stages of planning a public Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Wednesday, May 20th from 1-2:30PM.

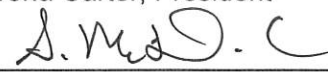
Adjournment

Trena asked for further questions or comments. There being no comments or further business, Trena asked for a motion to adjourn. Scott motioned and James seconded a motion to adjourn. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

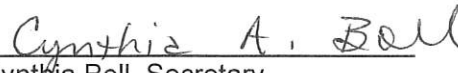
Approval of the minutes this 23rd day of March 2026.



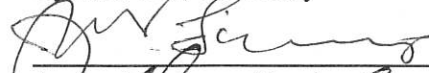
Trena Carter, President



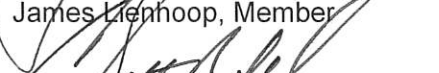
Shannon McDonald, Vice-President



Cynthia Boll, Secretary



James Lienhoop, Member



Scott Ballard, Member