

THE MAGNIFICENT MILE[®] ASSOCIATION

MICHIGAN AVENUE DISTRICT | CHICAGO

North Michigan Avenue SSA 76

Tuesday June 24, 2025, 3 PM

625 North Michigan Avenue, 6th Floor Conference Room

Agenda

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting was called to order by Stephanie Knight at 3:04 pm.

In attendance:

- a. Commissioners Stephanie Knight, John Harder, Savas Er (virtual),
- b. TMMA Staff: Austin Faison, Kimberly Bares, Ellen Farrar, Glenn White, Willie Richardson, Liz Gilbert
- c. Other: Gail Spreen, Julio Berthet (United Security), Andy Thompson (Density USA)

2. Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- a. SK noted that she was present at the 05/27/25 meeting, and not virtual. The minutes were amended accordingly and approved.

3. Safety and Security Reports

- a. For May and June
 - i. GW gave a brief update, commented that the avenue is in good condition. There was a retail theft sting operation conducted by Cook County Sheriff's Office. There has been a crackdown on scooters. There is an uptick in the unhoused population. He noted that retail theft peaks in July.
 - ii. KB asked for a food contribution on behalf of the District Commander. It was noted that there is an opportunity for a roll call in the district.
 - iii. JB and United staff have noticed the increase in unhoused. He highlighted

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their interactions with the district and discussed the deployment of resources.

4. Review of May Financials

- a. AF reviewed the May P&L.
- b. There was a brief discussion of the current line of credit, its use, and the next tranche of funds from Cook County/City of Chicago.

5. Marketing Updates

- a. Review of IPW
 - i. KB reviewed all the IPW work (detailed in memo by LG/EF). She highlighted the events, the convention, and TMMA's event.
 - ii. LG went over the connections made through this event (likely \$2B in business)
 - iii. KB gave follow up notes on IPW. She wants to better highlight members, so that it continues to justify the investment. There are also needs for "press pass" type of micro-websites for affinity groups. She then reviewed the associated costs.
 - 1. The memo requested an additional \$25,350 in funding towards IPW.
 - 2. SK made a motion to increase the IPW allotment to \$75,349.62. JH seconded. Motion passed.

6. Old Business

- a. KB discussed the 26 Budget. It was explained that there was a need to increase the budget and that the commissioners should consider the percentage. If the increase is over 5%, then there is a requirement for a community meeting. There was a brief discussion of the justification of the increase in costs (COLA and price indexes).

7. New Business

- a. Public Safety subsidization presentation

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- i. Andy Thompson, Density Security Fog
 - 1. AT discussed the product and how the firm could offer a discount for members of the SSA.
 - 2. AF noted how the subsidization of security investments is a potential line item within the SSA workplan.
- b. 2026 Work Plan discussion
 - i. AF presented version 1 of the 2026 workplan. Where there was a 4.75% increase.
 - ii. KB expressed, which was previously supported by Julie Cameron, an interest in investing in navigability and wayfinding for the district. There is a strong desire for better signage. The revised workplan will reallocate funds towards wayfinding, after AF costs out solutions.
 - iii. AF made a COLA adjustment to salaries. KB instructed AF to alter that to 4% and to adjust the budget accordingly.
- c. July Meeting Date (July 14 or July 15)
 - i. SK proposed July 14 at 3pm
- 8. Public Comment
- 9. Adjourn - Meeting adjourned at 4:43 pm