



**Uptown Dallas, Inc. Board Meeting
Thursday, April 16, 2026 | 8:30 AM
23Springs**

Members in attendance: Michael Allen, John Armstrong, Joel Behrens, Aaron Bidne, Ashley Booth, Kevin Butkus, Phil Cobb, De'On Collins, Tara Green, Iman Harris, Judy Hearst, Pasha Heidari, Todd Henderson, Wade Johns, Jacob Moore, John Murray, Alan Neuhoﬀ, Ross Odland, Tony Page, Joseph Pitchford, Sharon Quist, Pretlow Riddick, Neal Sleeper, Seth Thatcher, Cheryl Thompson, Mike Turner, Bill Weinberg, Robert Wright, and Shan Zaidi.

Other parties in attendance: Larry Gordon, Larry McCoy, Councilmember Paul Ridley, Maura Jackson, Kelem Butts, Megan Mummaw, Bailey Criado, and Sophia Morgan.

Members absent: Michael Alost, James Blanton, Josh Bock, Chris Cleghorn, John Cummings, Corbin Eckel, John Hall, Kevin Hickman, Yolanda Lawson, Adam Maciak, Ramsey March, Ryan McManigal, Paula Nemec, Kyle Noonan, Paula Peters, Zachary Porter, Elliot Prieur, Chase Prospere, Tyler Sibley, Melissa Swope, and Kevin Welsch.

Chairman's Report:

Call to Order: Aaron Bidne, Uptown Dallas, Inc. "UDI" Chairman of the Board, called the meeting to order at 8:38am. He welcomed the members and thanked them for their attendance. He also introduced new members to the group, Michael Allen and Todd Henderson.

- **Minutes:** Tony Page motioned to approve the February meeting minutes. Cheryl Thompson seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

Aaron then introduced Maura Jackson of Forvis Mazars, who presented the draft 2025 financial audit, reviewing the required communications and proposed and recorded adjustments. Forvis Mazars did not identify any material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in 2025, reporting a clean audit to the Board.

Joseph Pitchford motioned for the Finance Committee to review UDI's unallocated cash, confirm the absence of excess funds, and report back to the Board in June. Phil Cobb seconded the motion, and it carried.

Tony Page motioned to approve the draft 2025 audit report and Jacob Moore seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director's Report:

- Kelem Butts, UDI Executive Director, updated the Board of new restaurants in Uptown such as The Bread Club at The Quad and Hudson House in West Village.

- Kelem then provided a brief update on the Speck-Dempsey Public Realm Design Study. The Executive Committee will review the draft report in May for final approval.
- He then updated the Board of Sophia Morgan's relocation from Dallas to Austin. UDI is in the final steps of hiring for her position.
- Kelem and Joseph Pitchford, UDI Governance Chair, presented on the Digital Kiosk initiative and associated concerns in Uptown. Joseph provided historical background, including UDI's formal opposition in 2023, while Kelem outlined recent developments, including projected kiosk locations for phases two and three of the rollout.

Treasurer's Report:

- Tara Green, UDI Treasurer of the Board and Finance Committee Chair, had to leave the meeting early, so Kelem provided a brief Treasurer's Report on her behalf. He noted small March variances and explained that at the end of Q1, UDI had spent approximately 22% of their approved budget. The Board also reviewed February financials as the Executive Committee was unable to approve before the April Board meeting. **Neal Sleeper motioned to accept the February and March financials, and Cheryl Thompson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

Committee Reports:

- **Public Safety Committee:** Wade Johns, Public Safety Committee Chair, announced that the SeeSay app is now live and encouraged all Board members to download. He also recapped a recent Uptown shooting, explaining UDI's involvement with helping confirm the suspect's identity and support an arrest warrant via video footage.
- **Two-Way Committee:** Neal Sleeper provided an update of the Two-Way conversion project along McKinney and Cole. The City of Dallas plans to deliver 60% design plans in October 2026.
- **Marketing, Outreach, and Placemaking Committee:** Iman Harris, Marketing Committee Chair, presented upcoming Spring events and various FIFA World Cup initiatives. Bailey Criado, UDI Marketing & Events Manager, noted that she will be reaching out to Board members to gauge interest in being a part of the digital Uptown visitor's guide
- **Other Reports:** Phil Cobb, Advisory Council Chair, reported on the McKinney Avenue Transit Authority's increased service during FIFA.

Other Business:

- Larry McCoy of Klyde Warren Park announced that the second phase of the KWP deck build will go for bid in June. He also mentioned KWP's FIFA initiatives.

Aaron Bidne adjourned the meeting at 9:54am.