

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE February 24, 2023

TO T.C. Broadnax, City Manager

SUBJECT **Mayor's Working Group on Downtown Revitalization**

Dear Mr. Broadnax:

In November, our voters provided us with a once-in-a-generation opportunity to remake our convention center and our city center through the passage of Proposition A.

This is perhaps the most consequential City of Dallas-led project in decades, and our residents are trusting us to get this right. It is absolutely critical that we do so. The decisions that are made as we redevelop this portion of Downtown Dallas in the years ahead will reverberate for generations to come.

This means that as we assess the future of this part of Downtown Dallas, we must be decisive and bold — but we must also facilitate a collaborative and holistic process.

That is why I am forming the **Mayor's Working Group on Downtown Revitalization**. This group includes several adjacent property owners, which will help improve the project's synergy, and private-sector experts who are primarily interested in what is best for Downtown Dallas. Please note that I am not including anyone who has expressed interest in bidding on aspects of the project.

The inaugural members are:

- **Mark Arnold**, Partner, Hunton Andrews Kurth
- **Vana Hammond**, Senior Legal Counsel, AT&T, and former Chief of GrowSouth
- **Chris Kleinert**, CEO and President, Hunt Investment Holdings, LLC, and Co-CEO, Hunt Consolidated, Inc.
- **Arthur Santa-Maria**, Vice President, Hoque Global
- **Jennifer Scripps**, CEO, Downtown Dallas, Inc.
- **John Stephens**, Chairman, City of Dallas Economic Development Corporation
- **Ray Washburne**, CEO, Charter Holdings

To be clear: This group is meant to be a sounding board and advisory body on this complex project, not a formal City of Dallas board or commission.

As the planning process and construction move forward, I would like for the Mayor's Working Group on Downtown Revitalization to have discussions with city staff on the redevelopment of the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center and its surrounding properties. I suggest your staff hosts at least once-a-month sessions with the members to provide updates and seek their thoughts.

It is my sincere hope that the input from the Mayor's Working Group on Downtown Revitalization — combined with feedback from other interested stakeholders, experts, and the Dallas City Council — will ensure that we build a stronger, more integrated downtown experience for Dallas residents, workers, and visitors alike.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your work on this project. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Johnson', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Eric Johnson
Mayor

cc: The Honorable Tennell Atkins, Chairman, City Council Economic Development Committee
The Honorable Omar Narvaez, Chairman, City Council Transportation & Infrastructure Committee
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
Tammy Palomino, Acting City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor