

Resolution # 4



**DOWNTOWN
HAMMOND**
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
2 W THOMAS ST, HAMMOND, LA 70403 | (985) 277 5681

January 12, 2026
RE: DDD Board of Directors Appointments

Dear Hammond City Council,

The Hammond Downtown Development District is seeking your appointment of following nominees to serve on our Board of Directors. I've attached supporting documents for each nominee including nomination letters, resumes, and evidence of business and/or property ownership in the district.

Terms effective immediately though December 31, 2026

- Largest Assessed Property Owner - First Guaranty Bank (400 E Thomas St)
 - Nominee: **Evan Singer of First Guaranty Bank**

Terms effective immediately through December 31, 2027

City of Hammond Mayor

- Nominee: **Todd Delaune of Red, White & Brew, Inc.**

Chamber of Commerce Seat - Tangipahoa Chamber (400 NW Railroad Ave)

- Nominee: **Mary Mowad Guiteau of Holly & Smith Architects**

East Side Property/ Business Owner

- Our Mom's Restaurant (205 E Thomas St)
- Modified: A Beauty Bar (209 E Thomas St)
- Lady Phoenix Rising (209 E Thomas St)
- Cena; Hammond (123 S Cate St)
- Movement Mortgage (109 E Charles St)
 - Nominee: **Eddie 'Ryan' Oliphant of Benteaux LLC**

In compliance with our statute (RS 33:2740.15; attached), all nominating parties and nominees are current on property tax and sales tax (where applicable), as well as current on occupational licenses issued by the City of Hammond (where applicable). All nominees are registered voters in Tangipahoa Parish.

Please note that our 'West Side Property/ Business Owner' seat remains open for nominations.

My best,

Michelle Kendall
Executive Director, Hammond Downtown Development District



§33:2740.15. The Hammond Downtown Development District; Downtown Development Authority; creation, composition, and powers; preparation of plans; levy of ad valorem taxes and issuance of bonds

C.(1) The governing authority of the district shall be a board of eight members. The board shall be known as the Downtown Development Authority, hereafter referred to as the "authority". Seven members of the authority shall be appointed by the council of the city of Hammond, hereafter referred to as the "city council". The mayor shall serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the authority. One of the members shall be appointed from a list of nominees submitted by the mayor. Three of the members shall be appointed from lists of nominees submitted by each of the six largest assessed property owners within the district. One member shall be appointed from a list of three nominees submitted by the Hammond Chamber of Commerce. Two members shall be appointed from nominations submitted by property owners subject to the ad valorem tax provided for in Subsection E of this Section, or who are licensed business owners within the district. Nominations shall be compiled separately for the areas east and west of the ICG Railroad tracks, and each such nominee shall be nominated by a minimum of five business owners from within the respective districts before being considered a valid nominee for the Hammond City Council's review. A nominee shall be eligible only if all taxes and licenses of the nominee as well as the taxes and licenses of those placing the nominee's name into consideration are current. If any list of nominees provided for herein is not submitted by any nominating group or person within fourteen days after notification by the city council, the city council may appoint a member of its own choosing. Each member of the authority shall own property in the district, be the owner of a business within the district, or be an officer of a corporation or other business entity owning property in the district and shall be a registered voter of Tangipahoa Parish. The city council may remove any member for cause.

E. Ryan Oliphant

Co-Owner & Operator, Benteaux | Small Business Owner | Community Advocate

Ryan Oliphant is a Hammond-based small business owner with strong ties to Tangipahoa Parish and a demonstrated commitment to the growth and long-term vitality of Downtown Hammond. A graduate of Hammond High, He is the co-owner and operator of Benteaux, a restaurant located on the East Side of Hammond's Downtown Development District, where he has been actively operating and investing in the district for the past two years. Prior to opening its brick-and-mortar location, Benteaux operated for approximately a year and a half as a vendor at the Hammond Farmers Market, giving Ryan direct experience with downtown activities, event-driven commerce, and small business incubation within the district.

Ryan's professional background is rooted in entrepreneurship, operations, and community-centered business development. In addition to Benteaux, he is a co-owner of The Depeaux, a full-service restaurant located in Independence, Louisiana since 2020, and operates Oli Woodworks, a successful custom cabinet and millwork manufacturing business serving residential and commercial clients across the southern United States for the past 30 years. Across these ventures, Ryan has firsthand insight into the realities faced by local business owners and property stakeholders.

As a downtown business owner, Ryan is directly impacted by issues related to infrastructure, foot traffic, event programming, and long-term planning. He has seen how thoughtful downtown planning, such as farmers markets, community events, and coordinated district initiatives, can strengthen both individual businesses and the district as a whole. He is particularly interested in ensuring the East Side of downtown receives balanced representation and thoughtful investment.

Ryan believes effective downtown development requires collaboration between business owners, property owners, city leadership, and the broader community. He brings a practical, solutions-oriented perspective shaped by real operational experience, with an emphasis on transparency, accountability, and sustainable growth.

If selected to serve on the Downtown Development District Board of Directors, Ryan would be honored to represent East Side interests while contributing constructively to the district's overall mission. He views the role as an opportunity to give back to the community and help ensure Downtown Hammond remains vibrant, inclusive, and economically strong.



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East Side Board of Directors Nominations: The current open DDD seat is for the west side. Only nominations made by West Side business and property owners will be considered. Deadline to Nominate: Tuesday, January 6, 2026 at 5PM

Per DDD Statute: Two members shall be appointed from nominations submitted by property owners subject to the ad valorem tax provided for in Subsection E of this Section, or who are licensed business owners within the district. Nominations shall be compiled separately for the areas east and west of the ICG Railroad tracks, and each such nominee shall be nominated by a **minimum of five business owners** from within the respective districts before being considered a valid nominee for the Hammond City Council's review.

Eligibility Requirements:

- All taxes and licenses of the nominee as well as the taxes and licenses of those placing the nominee's name into consideration must be current.
- Each member of the authority shall own property in the district, be the owner of a business within the district, or be an officer of a corporation or other business entity owning property in the district.
- Shall be a registered voter of Tangipahoa Parish.

Nominee Information:

Name of Nominee: Ryan Oliphant

Nominee Email: RYOLIPHANT@GMAIL.COM Nominee Phone Number: 985-634-5225

Why do you feel this nominee would be an asset to the DDD Board of Directors (write below or provide attachment).

See Email body

West Side Business/ Property Owner Information (Nominating Party):

Your Name: JP Ngo

Your Email: JP@ourmomrestaurant.com Your Phone Number: 225-933-6914

Your Business or Property Address: OUR MOM'S RESTAURANT

Your Business Name (if applicable):

Your Signature: [Handwritten Signature]

Date: 1-6-26

Nominations for DDD

From: JP Ngo <jp@ourmomsrestaurant.com>
To: kendall_ml@hammond.org

Tue, Jan 6, 2026 at 10:19 PM



I'm happy to recommend Ryan Oliphant.

Ryan understands what it takes to build and run a business because he has lived it. He helped grow Benteaux from a farmers market vendor into a brick and mortar operation, so he has firsthand experience starting small, using community programs, and eventually operating as an established downtown business.

He also brings experience from his family's construction business, which gives him a practical understanding of development, infrastructure, and the real challenges business owners face. He is grounded, realistic, and focused on execution rather than just ideas.

Ryan is passionate and dependable. When he commits to something, he shows up and puts in the work. He genuinely cares about the downtown community and wants to contribute in a meaningful way.

I believe Ryan would bring valuable perspective and be a strong addition in any leadership or board role.

Sincerely,

JP Ngo

Sent from my iPhone



image0.jpeg
313K

omination

messages

Callie Perk <callperk@yahoo.com>
: kendall_ml@hammond.org

Wed, Jan 7, 2026 at 4:30 P

Hi! My name is Callie Perk and I own Modified a Beauty Bar! I was looking to nominate Ryan Oliphant for the East Side seat. Ryan has excellent experience owning a business and seeing it first hand on what goes on in our city. He has a strong work ethic and is considerate of others in this area. I think he would be a good fit and when he puts his mind to something he exceeds all expectations!

Ryan Oliphant
ryoliphant@gmail.com
(985)634-5225

Callie Perk
Modified LLC- Modified a Beauty Bar
209 E Thomas St Hammond, La 70401
(856)938-4581



IMG_2879.jpg
228K

Michelle Kendall <kendall_ml@hammond.org>
: Callie Perk <callperk@yahoo.com>

Wed, Jan 7, 2026 at 5:00 P

Received! Thank you Callie!
[Quoted text hidden]

Michelle Kendall, MPH

Executive Director, Hammond Downtown Development District

#2 W Thomas St, Hammond, LA 70401

D: 985-277-5683 | C: 985-373-0132

<kendall_ML@hammond.org | downtownhammondla.com



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- Shall be a registered voter of Tangipahoa Parish.

Nominee Information:

Name of Nominee: Ryan Oliphant

Nominee Email: ryoliphant@gmail.com Nominee Phone Number: (985) 634-5225

Why do you feel this nominee would be an asset to the DDD Board of Directors (write below or provide attachment)

As a business owner, Ryan will provide great insight to the current mission of the DDD.

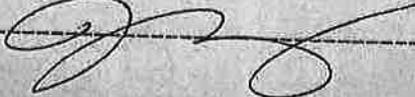
~~West~~ EAST Side Business/Property Owner Information (Nominating Party):

Your Name: Jessica Shirley

Your Email: downtownstylist@yahoo.com Your Phone Number: (504) 975-2200

Your Business or Property Address: 209 E. Thomas St.

Your Business Name (if applicable): Lady Phoenix Rising, LLC

Your Signature:  Date: 1-7-2026



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- Shall be a registered voter of Tangipahoa Parish.

Nominee Information:

Name of Nominee: RYAN OUPHANT

Nominee Email: POUPHANT@GMAIL.COM Nominee Phone Number: 985.634.5225

Why do you feel this nominee would be an asset to the DDD Board of Directors (write below or provide attachment).

RYAN IS A HARD WORKER AND DEDICATED TO GROWING HIS BUSINESSES FROM A FARMERS MARKET BOOTH TO A BRICK + MORTAR. HE CARES ABOUT THE COMMUNITY AND GROWING DOWNTOWN.

East Side Business/ Property Owner Information (Nominating Party):

Your Name: CHANC KINCHEN

Your Email: CHANC@CENAHAMMOND.COM Your Phone Number: 985.634.9191

Your Business or Property Address: CENA 123 S. CATE ST HAMMOND, LA 70403

Your Business Name (if applicable):

Your Signature: ck

Date: 01.06.2026



DOWNTOWN HAMMOND

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Learning



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- Shall be a registered voter of Tangipahoa Parish.

Nominee Information: Ryan Oliphant
Name of Nominee: _____

Nominee Email: ryoliphant@gmail.com Nominee Phone Number: 985-674-5225

Why do you feel this nominee would be an asset to the DDD Board of Directors (write below or provide attachment).

Cares about the success of downtown, creative, & innovative

West Side Business/ Property Owner Information (Nominating Party):

Your Name: Rick Sedberry / movement mortgage

Your Email: rick.Sedberry@movementm.com Your Phone Number: 985-969-8048

Your Business or Property Address: 109 E. Charles

Your Business Name (if applicable):

Your Signature: _____

R Sedberry

Date: _____

1/7/25