

**EASTERN MARKET COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 25, 2026**

**MINUTES**

Attendance: Mike Bowers (for Bill Glasgow); Nikki Dean Brown; Chuck Burger, Chair; Monte Edwards, Secretary; Steve Hagedorn; Anita Jefferson; Jackie Krieger, Vice Chair; and Susan Oursler, Treasurer. Jerry Sroufe joined after the meeting began.

The regular meeting of the Eastern Market Community Advisory Committee (EMCAC) was held on Wednesday, March 25, 2026, at 7:00 P.M., via Zoom. The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M.

**Adoption of the Agenda**

The agenda was adopted as distributed.

**Report of the Treasurer**

Treasurer Susan Oursler reported that there has been no financial activity.

**Report of the Chair**

The Chair reported that: (1) EMCAC's letter regarding the Rumsey Aquatic Center project was sent to Thennie Freeman, Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), and (2) EMCAC is the process of scheduling a meeting with DPR representatives, with a meeting with Department of General Services (DGS) to follow. For the upcoming agency meetings, the Chair stated that he will circulate bullet points derived from EMCAC's letter to EMCAC members for comment and the Rumsey Aquatic Center Project Ad Hoc Subcommittee will seek comments from a licensed architect.

**Report of the Market Manager**

Barry Margeson, the Market Manager, presented a written report, which is attached to these minutes. He agreed to: (1) make a request for additional budget authority of up to \$1,000,000 to cover all expected Eastern Market fiscal year revenue; (2) provide to EMCAC the detail of the Eastern Market's fiscal year 2027 budget request as submitted by DGS to the Mayor; and (3) facilitate discussion with Eastern Market Main Street regarding promotional opportunities.

**Report of the Tenants Council**

Anita Jefferson, Chair of the Tenants Council, presented a written report, which is attached to these minutes.

**Report of the Subcommittee on Operations**

Ms. Oursler, Chair of the Subcommittee on Operations, presented a written report, which is attached to these minutes.

**Report of the Subcommittee on Capital Improvements**

Monte Edwards, Chair of the Subcommittee on Capital Improvements Committee, stated that DGS's contractor for the hot water piping replacement project consulted him and Jackie Krieger on questions arising from the project.

**Report of the Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Public Safety**

Sam Pastore, Chair of the Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Public Safety, presented a written report, which is attached to these minutes.

**Community Comments and Concerns**

Amy Marx commented on EMCAC's efforts to review the DGS Ombudsman process and advocated for mediation for violations and disputes.

Mike Bowers commented on issues involving trash bins, mice, door gaps, and fire extinguishers.

Monte Edwards commented that he supports the repeal of the statutory authority that made Eastern Market's Enterprise Fund a lapsing fund.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9: 17 P.M.

Monte Edwards, Secretary



## Eastern Market Manager’s Report to the EMCAC

March 25, 2026

### FY26 Operating Finances

#### Revenues:

Row Labels	Oct-2025	Nov-2025	Dec-2025	Jan-2026	Feb-2026	Grand Total
OTHER REVENUE FROM SOUTH HALL		6,397.06	63,273.84	23,185.17	19,822.57	112,678.64
OTHER REVENUE FROM NORTH HALL	2,900.00	17,275.00	66,650.00	46,650.00	5,350.00	138,825.00
OTHER REVENUE FROM OUTDOOR VENDORS	9,235.53	16,203.88	22,736.51	11,607.04	9,206.83	68,989.79
OTHER REVENUE FROM WEEKEND FARMERS	7,149.45	11,083.47	10,470.48	1,319.45	38.24	30,061.09
OTHER REVENUE FROM 300 BLOCK	5,819.43	8,769.08	6,656.31	418.58		21,663.40
OTHER REVENUE FROM FLEA MARKET			9,318.00			9,318.00
OTHER REVENUE FROM TUESDAY FARMERS	80.00	80.00	3,728.17	492.07	18.82	4,399.06
OTHER REVENUE FROM APPLICATION FEES	70.00	350.00	173.68	70.00		663.68
OTHER REVENUE FROM ATMS			2,519.40	918.84		3,438.24
RENTALS - OTHER		2,000.00	2,000.00			0.00
INTEREST INCOME		2,137.82	925.79	966.19	912.59	4,942.39
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>25,254.41</b>	<b>64,296.31</b>	<b>184,452.18</b>	<b>85,627.34</b>	<b>35,349.05</b>	<b>394,979.29</b>

**Budget set by OBPM for FY26: \$834,693**

#### Benchmarks:

##### FY24:

Budget set by OBPM: \$838,052

Revenues through February: \$375,191

Total FY24 Revenues at year end: \$974,895

##### FY25:

Budget set by OBPM: \$835,259

Revenues through February: \$433,556

Total FY25 Revenues at year end: \$998,552

#### Expenses:

Row Labels	Oct-2025	Nov-2025	Dec-2025	Jan-2026	Feb-2026	Grand Total
ELECTRICITY		304.97	9,987.31		9,414.26	19,706.54
WATER					9,603.33	9,603.33
WASTE MANAGEMENT				4,971.89	5,879.75	10,851.64
PERSONNEL SERVICES	37,974.68	39,890.57	40,310.18	41,567.11	37,115.90	196,858.44
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES - OTHER				4,600.00	12,037.18	16,637.18
OCCUPANCY FIXED COSTS			980.00		210.00	1,190.00
P-CARD CLEARING ACCOUNT				0.00	993.76	993.76
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>37,974.68</b>	<b>40,195.54</b>	<b>51,277.49</b>	<b>51,139.00</b>	<b>75,254.18</b>	<b>255,840.89</b>

# Capital Improvements

## Internal & External Projects

Bollards – Met with the Vehicular Terrorism Task Force on Saturday, March 14. My understanding is that they will have drafted a report by the end of the month. Guidelines will be drafted after the report has been reviewed and accepted/rejected.

## Hot Water Piping

Contracting is currently reviewing and is aware of the legislative requirements:

**(B)** Review and comment on all summaries of proposals received by the CPMO in response to each RFP and provide comments to the CPMO on the information reviewed by the EMCAC;

## Door hardware, shed electrical, shed drainage, etc

Waiting for confirmation of cost of hot water piping project before moving forward with these projects. There should be plenty of remaining funding.

## FY27 Budget:

Last year, we received budget on June 5 and the hearing was on June 12.

I'll be scheduling a meeting with Monte and the Capital Budget team to review the budget as it stands and make updates.

## Operations:

### Facilities:

Work Orders: A number of work orders were resolved over the past week. And other work that didn't even have work orders attached:

1. North Hall and Center Hall painted;
2. Water fountains working;
3. Piano hinges put on north side doors and quote received for handicapped door operator installation;
4. Flags replaced;
5. North Hall doors adjusted;
6. Lights replaced around market.

### Vending:

Spring is here! Farmers are back (Ashton and Dunham for now). H3O in late April. Knopps in Early May. New farmer, Farmer Jawn in early May.

### Security:

- The Eastern Market Emergency Response Plan video is now required viewing for vendors and merchants, and so far, there have been 173 views. The new season begins on April 4<sup>th</sup> and the video is required viewing. Each vendor must confirm the following:

### Confirmation of Viewing Emergency Response Plan Training Video

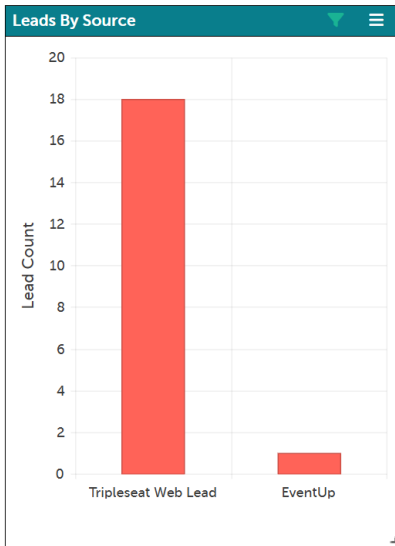
To help ensure the safety of Eastern Market, all Eastern Market vendors, merchants, and staff are required to watch the Eastern Market Emergency Response Plan training video. By clicking on "I Agree" you are hereby confirming that you have watched the short 17 minute video.

[Click here to watch Emergency Response Plan Training Video.](#)

- We also are requiring that vendors input their Emergency contact information.
- All Eastern Market doors (except exterior of the main doors on the 7<sup>th</sup> Street side) have been numbered and that numbering program has been added to the map that is a part of the ERP and ERP Training.

## North Hall





Name	Status	Date	Event Actual	Amount Due
Big Barn Puppets' Tuesdays - March 2026	CLOSED	3/3/2026	\$0.00	\$0.00
Utah Wilderness Coalition Celebration to Honor Wilderness Champion Senator Dick Durbin	CLOSED	3/3/2026	\$5,100.00	\$0.00
Aerobic Fitness - March 2026	CLOSED	3/4/2026	\$400.00	\$0.00
FIT4MOM	CLOSED	3/4/2026		
Aerobic Fitness	CLOSED	3/6/2026		
Big Barn Puppets' Fridays - March 2026	CLOSED	3/6/2026	\$0.00	\$0.00
DC Rawhides Country Dancing	CLOSED	3/7/2026		
Big Barn Puppets' Tuesdays	CLOSED	3/10/2026		
Aerobic Fitness	CLOSED	3/11/2026		
FIT4MOM	CLOSED	3/11/2026		
Aerobic Fitness	CLOSED	3/13/2026		
Big Barn Puppets' Fridays	CLOSED	3/13/2026		
Big Barn Puppets' Tuesdays	CLOSED	3/17/2026		
Aerobic Fitness	CLOSED	3/18/2026		
Aerobic Fitness	CLOSED	3/20/2026		
Big Barn Puppets' Fridays	CLOSED	3/20/2026		
DC Rawhides Country Dancing	CLOSED	3/20/2026		
Maury at the Market 2026	CLOSED	3/21/2026	\$1,850.00	\$0.00
Big Barn Puppets' Tuesdays	CLOSED	3/24/2026		
Aerobic Fitness	CLOSED	3/25/2026		
Mayor's Cabinet Meeting	DEFINITE	3/25/2026	\$0.00	\$0.00
Aerobic Fitness	DEFINITE	3/27/2026		
Big Barn Puppets' Fridays	DEFINITE	3/27/2026		
Basis DC PCS Supernova Auction & Gala	DEFINITE	3/27/2026	\$750.00	\$0.00
2026 Capital Art Book Fair	DEFINITE	3/28/2026	\$3,300.00	\$0.00
2026 Capital Art Book Fair	DEFINITE	3/29/2026		
Big Barn Puppets' Tuesdays	DEFINITE	3/31/2026		
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>\$11,400.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

## Marketing and events:

No news at this moment.

## Social Media

## **Facebook**

Followers: 51.1k -> 51.4k

Last 28 days: 43.5k views

## **Instagram**

*Compared to last report:*

Followers: 38.3k -> 38.6k

Last 28 days: 26k views

## **Tiktok**

*Compared to last report:*

Followers: 7,548 -> 7,576

Likes: 155.3k -> 155.6k

Last 28 days: 2,310 views

## **New Vendors**

We are getting a LOT of applications and we are now reviewing them with Sola Ope, Aisha Shabazz-Austin, and Mostapha Wafa. So, the team is growing!

## **Thank you!**

Tenant's Council for:

- Suggestion a long time back for the Orientation Meeting. That has become a staple of how we operate and we wouldn't be able to accept as many new vendors as we do if it wasn't a part of our standard operating procedure;
- Suggestion to require ERP training video viewing as a requirement for new seasons;
- And much more.

# Tenants Council Meeting Minutes March 18, 2026

“Chuck” = TC Chair Anita “MCAC” = EMCAC

## Key takeaways

- The Enterprise Fund has been changed from non-lapsing to lapsing status, with the district sweeping remaining balances annually and taking an additional \$1,307 per year for the next four years
- Snow removal procedures need updating based on lessons learned from the recent major snowstorm, particularly regarding ice falling from buildings and snow pile placement
- DPR's Rumsey Pool renovation project may impact Eastern Market's operational space and vendor areas, requiring close monitoring and participation in planning discussions
- Market violation notices are being issued more frequently to address compliance issues, particularly regarding tent weights and vendor setup requirements
- Promotions and events need to target millennial and Gen Z demographics to increase foot traffic and sales

## Discussed topics

### Enterprise Fund and Budget Changes

The council discussed recent legislative changes that converted the Eastern Market Enterprise Fund from non-lapsing to lapsing status, allowing the district to sweep unused funds annually.

- **Details**
  - Chuck: Questioned whether this topic still needed discussion given it was covered in the MCAC meeting
  - Nikki: Explained this was a citywide change affecting multiple funds, not specifically targeting Eastern Market; confirmed both the supplemental budget and Budget Support Act require Council approval
  - Mike: Asked if there's a list of similarly affected funds to see how others are addressing the issue
  - Nikki: Discovered an additional provision taking \$1,307 annually from Eastern Market for the next four fiscal years (page 155 of legislation)
  - Barry: Confirmed he was not aware of the changes beforehand and is unsure if DGS director or CFO office knew
  - Kem: Raised concerns about whether other legislative changes could occur without notification
- **Conclusion**
  - The change affects multiple district funds, not just Eastern Market
  - There are concerns about the notification process and whether appropriate DGS staff were consulted
  - MCAC will continue discussion on ensuring proper notification for future legislative changes

## **Snow Removal Plan Review**

Discussion focused on updating the snow plan based on lessons learned from the recent major snowstorm, particularly ice falling from buildings and snow pile placement.

- **Details**

- Barry: Proposed leaving snow against the building wall (10-15 feet) to prevent pedestrian traffic in areas where ice falls; suggested promoting use of main market door during ice conditions
- Mike: Supported the idea and suggested reposting DGS Instagram warnings about ice falling; noted the North Hall snow melted faster than South Hall; raised concerns about the large snow pile at 7th and C creating visibility hazards and burying the fire hydrant
- Chuck: Emphasized need for detailed if-then scenarios in the snow plan; requested Barry update and share the plan incorporating new lessons learned
- Aisha: Noted the entire DMV region was unprepared for the amount of snow and suggested this was an unusual occurrence
- Mike: Recommended keeping hardened ice-breaking tools on hand for future events

- **Conclusion**

- Barry will update the snow plan with new protocols including leaving snow near walls during ice-fall conditions, promoting main door usage, and addressing snow pile placement
- Plan will be shared with Tenants Council for review and feedback
- Future planning should include lead times and preparation for outlier weather events

## **DPR Rumsey Pool Renovation**

The council discussed concerns about the Rumsey Pool renovation project and its potential impact on Eastern Market operations and space.

- **Details**

- Chuck: Asked if Barry is receiving updates from Parks and Rec on the renovation
- Mike: Expressed concerns about the drive between North Carolina and C Street, need for truck access and customer parking, and the 1999 Corporation Council letter defining the line of demarcation at the wall; noted Parks and Rec is the client to the architects; shared that the lot line runs from the west corner of Rumsey to the corner of North Hall, with anything beyond being DDOT space
- Barry: Confirmed Parks and Rec is leading the project; identified Sean Madigan (DGS Construction) as contract manager but doesn't know the Parks and Rec contact
- Kem: Raised concerns about community input being disregarded as the design changed to include a second floor; worried about continued access to the courtyard for vending; requested to be informed of any changes affecting vendor space
- Chuck: Noted the legislation grants use of the natatorium space conditionally, not in perpetuity

- **Conclusion**

- Barry will identify the Parks and Rec contact and try to get information on meeting schedules
- Kem, Mike, and Barry will collaborate to create a list of questions and concerns before the MCAC meeting

- The group needs to obtain the most current active plan (likely available through Charles Allen's office or DGS/DPR websites)

## **Vendor Displacement Plan for Construction**

Discussion about planning for the displacement of approximately 15 vendors during Rumsey renovation construction.

- **Details**

- Kem: Emphasized the need to start planning now for where to move 15 vendors during construction, which could take 2-3 years; noted this was raised previously in Parks and Rec meetings and MCAC
- Chuck: Agreed this is important for peace of mind regardless of future outcomes

- **Conclusion**

- Kem, Barry, and Katrina will work together to develop a displacement/disruption plan
- Planning will need to account for construction start timing and seasonal considerations

## **Market Violation Notices and Vendor Compliance**

Extensive discussion about enforcing rules and regulations, particularly regarding tent weights and vendor setup requirements.

- **Details**

- Chuck: Proposed creating electronic versions of rules to send to vendors; noted people don't read through rules on Market Spread; suggested implementing an email warning system before issuing MVNs
- Aisha: Expressed frustration with long-time vendors not following rules, specifically regarding tent weights; stated vendors without weights should be sent home
- Sola: Agreed that vendors without adequate weights should be sent home as they pose danger to everyone; suggested warnings require signatures to confirm vendors read and understood them
- Barry: Reported changing approach to MVNs - sent 1 on March 7th, 2 on March 10th, 2 on March 14th, and 6 warnings most recently; noted 5 warnings went to new vendors about weights; mentioned one vendor was sent home permanently on their first day; changing orientation to clarify MVNs can be issued on first day
- Mike: Asked if vendors without weights are required to take tents down
- Chuck: Emphasized need to communicate that MVNs are being issued to change overall behavior; noted some long-time vendors commit multiple violations expecting no consequences

- **Conclusion**

- Barry will send electronic copies of rules and regulations to all vendors
- Management will continue issuing MVNs and warnings more consistently
- Barry will consider communicating what violations are resulting in MVNs to improve overall compliance
- Vendors without adequate tent weights may be required to remove tent tops or be sent home

## **Marketing, Promotions, and Events**

Discussion about spring/summer events and attracting younger demographics to the market.

- **Details**
  - Chuck: Asked about plans for spring/summer and cherry blossom decorations
  - Barry: Needs to check with Nicole about cherry blossom decoration timing due to wedding schedule; mentioned this is the only current plan
  - Sola: Reported Eastern Market Main Street will not be doing collaborative events this year due to weather failures in past attempts
  - Aisha: Advocated for events targeting millennials and Gen Z rather than just children; noted these demographics have spending power; suggested events like silent disco
  - Sola: Proposed opening North Hall for large group yoga sessions similar to those at the Mall and Cathedral, with vendor goodie bags or coupons
  - Mike: Suggested cherry blossom decoration contest for vendor stands; proposed projector for ceiling imagery; offered to source inexpensive flags
  - Kem: Asked about Arboretum doing classes at Eastern Market
  - Barry: Identified Olivia Cook (Peacock Botanicals) as arboretum volunteer contact; mentioned Kid Singer Jim could do cherry blossom-themed performances; prefers focusing efforts on Christmas rather than diluting across the year
- **Conclusion**
  - Barry will schedule a promotions meeting soon to gather ideas from vendors
  - Barry will reach out to Olivia Cook, Davana, and Kid Singer Jim about potential cherry blossom activities
  - Barry will investigate obtaining cherry blossom decals from the city
  - Focus will be on creating adult-oriented events to attract millennials and Gen Z with spending power

## **Lightning Rods Maintenance**

Brief discussion about lightning rod repairs.

- **Details**
  - Mike: Asked if lightning rods are heading toward capital budget or different provisions
  - Barry: Hopes they will be handled through maintenance repairs as the project is too small for capital budget; confirmed he added them to maintenance spreadsheets
- **Conclusion**
  - Mike requested the tracking number for the lightning rod item to monitor progress
  - Barry will report on this in the MCAC meeting

## **December Events Best Practices**

Follow-up on action item from previous meeting.

- **Details**
  - Chuck: Asked about status of December events best practices review
  - Barry: Confirmed he has begun work but doesn't have it completed yet
- **Conclusion**
  - Barry will complete the December events best practices review by the April TC meeting

## Safety Video Completion

Brief update on safety video viewing.

- **Details**
  - Chuck: Asked for number of people who have viewed the safety video
  - Barry: Reported 154 out of 183 total have viewed it
  - Kem and Mike: Confirmed they watched it and found it helpful

## Challenges

- Difficulty accessing information about DPR Rumsey renovation planning meetings and ensuring Eastern Market needs are represented in discussions
- Lack of clarity on who at DGS was consulted about Enterprise Fund legislative changes
- Long-time vendors not complying with basic safety requirements like tent weights
- New vendors arriving unprepared with inadequate equipment and knowledge of rules
- Need to attract younger demographics (millennials and Gen Z) to increase market sales
- Limited lead time for planning seasonal events and promotions

## Action items

- **Barry**
  - Identify Parks and Rec contact person for Rumsey renovation project
  - Update snow removal plan incorporating lessons learned from recent storm and share with Tenants Council by April meeting
  - Complete December events best practices review by April meeting
  - Check with Nicole about timing for cherry blossom decorations given wedding schedule
  - Reach out to Olivia Cook (Peacock Botanicals), Davana, and Kid Singer Jim about cherry blossom activities
  - Investigate obtaining cherry blossom decals from the city
  - Schedule promotions meeting in next week or two to gather vendor ideas for events
  - Send electronic copies of rules and regulations to all vendors
  - Consider communicating what violations are resulting in MVNs to improve overall vendor compliance
  - Provide tracking number for lightning rod maintenance item to Mike
  - Report on lightning rod status at MCAC meeting
- **Kem, Mike, and Barry**
  - Collaborate to create list of questions and concerns about Rumsey renovation before MCAC meeting
  - Obtain and review the most current active plan for Rumsey renovation
- **Kem, Barry, and Katrina**
  - Develop displacement/disruption plan for vendors during Rumsey construction now instead of waiting for DPR construction date
- **Chuck**
  - Follow up on how to access AI Companion meeting summary and action items from Zoom
- **Nikki**
  - Emailed legislation document showing \$1,307 annual sweep provision (page 155) to EMCAC members and will elaborate in March meeting.

The Operations Committee met on March 2, 2026.

The next Operations Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 7, at 2:30 pm.

Barry reported that he had checked on the Facilities Conditions Assessment Report and was told that it would definitely be conducted this year. The Committee asked if a contractor had been identified, and if the contractor had been identified, when Barry might expect to see the survey which is part of the process.

The Committee discussed the broken lightning rods above the North Hall. Barry reported that a request has been made to have repairs made, and that this process is moving ahead.

Sarah asked if we could PLEASE get the farmer's shed downspouts repaired.

Mike noted that a new electrical panel is needed for the sewage ejecton pit, and also recommended we look into having a battery backup system.

The committee also discussed continued HVAC problems, including the HVAC pan that does not drain properly. Barry said the drain was a warranty issue, and that he was working on that.

The committee also discussed budget needs for advertising and other matters.

## **EMCAC Public Safety Ad Hoc Committee Meeting Report**

**Date:** March 19, 2026

**Time:** 6:00 PM

**Location:** 350 7th Street SE

### **Attendees:**

Kem Ramirez

Jackie Krieger

Sam Pastore (Chair)

Mike Bowers (joined during the second hour)

## **1. Opening Remarks & Introductions**

The meeting began with introductions and an overview of committee objectives, including coordination, communication, and public safety at Eastern Market.

## **2. Meeting Schedule Discussion**

An agenda item was introduced to evaluate adjusting meeting times to Tuesday or Friday afternoons to improve attendance. This will be revisited and finalized at a future meeting.

## **3. EMIT (Eastern Market Information Team) – Update**

This was the primary focus of the meeting. Key points include:

- Review and revision of the draft EMIT Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)
- Jackie Krieger to circulate the updated SOP for EMCAC and management review
- Discussion of training materials and rollout strategy
- Tentative pilot launch scheduled for April 3–4
- Preparation of supporting communications, including:
  - A statement for the Tenants Council
  - A public announcement regarding EMIT

## **4. Market Security SOP – Update**

The committee reviewed the current Department of General Services (DGS) market security SOP at a level appropriate for public discussion, noting that certain contract details remain confidential.

Discussion included:

- Roles, responsibilities, and coordination under the current DGS security structure
- Comparison of current security operations with prior private security arrangements (discussed further during the second hour)
- Identification of areas requiring additional clarification

## **5. Open Discussion**

Additional topics raised included:

- Snow removal procedures and related safety communications
- Clarification of protocols regarding National Guard presence and interactions with vendors, EMIT, market management, and DGS security
- Consideration of potential scenarios involving federal enforcement actions and the need for clear guidance on roles and responsibilities

The discussion also highlighted the importance of ensuring alignment with vendor experiences and maintaining clear communication across all stakeholders.

## **Action Items & Next Steps**

- Circulate updated EMIT SOP (Jackie Krieger)
- Prepare:
  - Tenants Council statement on EMIT
  - EMIT announcement materials for the community
- Confirm EMIT pilot logistics and participation (target: April 3–4)
- Revisit and finalize meeting schedule timing
- Add to next meeting agenda:
  - Snow removal procedures and communication protocols
  - National Guard presence and guidance
  - Federal enforcement scenarios and role clarity
  - Comparison of DGS security SOP with prior private security operations
- Coordinate with EMCAC and DGS on outstanding security-related questions