

The DID Dispatch



Letter from the Executive Director, David Aichele

AS A PROPERTY OWNER in the Downtown Investment District, we are excited for the opportunity to connect with you. The DID values engagement with our community stakeholders so that we can best represent your interests and act upon your concerns. With this newsletter, we hope to bring our businesses and residents closer together to build a better DID.

It is vital that property owners in the DID see how their investment in the district makes an impact and this newsletter will serve as your report on what is happening in Downtown Lancaster. We hope you not only enjoy the newsletter but see the incredible value of being in the DID. To learn more about the DID visit the DID page at lancastercityalliance.org. Help us save paper, send your email to info@teamlanc.org to receive this newsletter and other updates electronically.

Sincerely,



Executive Director,
Lancaster Downtown Investment District

Lancaster Outreach Specialist Patrols City Streets to Support Individuals Experiencing Homelessness, Addiction, or Mental Illness

MEET SARITA, the new Lancaster City Alliance Outreach Specialist. Sarita has a passion for people and is here to assist individuals in the City experiencing homelessness, addiction, and mental illness. She serves as a friendly face to listen and connect people with the support and services they need to safely leave the streets and benefit from the resources our community provides. She will also be checking-in with business owners, documenting interactions with panhandlers, and connecting with residents. We hope you will join us in welcoming Sarita as a critical part of our Team. Thank you to the City of Lancaster for funding this important new position.



Sarita Rivera,
Outreach Specialist



Pulling weeds is part of keeping the Downtown Investment District clean.

At Your Service— Ambassadors and Clean Team

OUR AMBASSADORS AND CLEAN TEAM

work seven days a week to ensure a clean and safe DID. The Clean Team works to keep the city tidy for all who come to the district. The ambassadors patrol the district, focusing on the quality of life in the DID. They're responsible for lending a helping hand to visitors in need, making contacts to our stakeholders, and identifying issues that need to be addressed. Here is a glimpse of their recent work in the DID.

SEPTEMBER 2021–FEBRUARY 2022

- Litter removed: 44,449 lbs
- Leaves removed: 4,975 lbs
- Sidewalk sweeping: 199 hours
- Pressure washed public spaces: 32 hours
- Graffiti and stickers removed: 445
- Resident assistance: 1,510
- Business checks: 768

CONTACT THE CLEAN TEAM

Daily, 7am–11pm | Call 484.724.1517



Monthly Merchant Meeting Connects the Community

THE DOWNTOWN INVESTMENT DISTRICT, in partnership with the Lancaster City Alliance hosts a monthly meeting in the Ware Center for merchants to stay informed and engaged. These meetings bring together a diverse network of organizations to highlight downtown Lancaster and cultivate a cohesive strategy among stakeholders. Community organizations benefit greatly from the lively discussion of our community's many different perspectives. Police Chief John T. Bey [pictured] presented at a recent meeting.

You are invited! The Downtown Investment District and the Lancaster City Alliance invite you to attend the Monthly Merchant meeting. Held the third Wednesday of every month (except December), The Ware Center, 42 North Prince Street.

Celebrate the City at VeloCity



Jimmy Vega of 551 West is a two-time winner of the Velocity Cocktail Competition

VELOCITY IS BACK! Join the Lancaster City Alliance as we celebrate A City in Bloom at our annual fundraising event to support our merchant community. The cocktail competition, fashion show, along with a celebration of the City's art and food, will return for a thrilling night at Tellus360 on May 12, 2022. Tickets are on sale at Velocitylanaster.com. Join us in support of the Lancaster City Alliance and the Downtown Investment District and celebrate this extraordinary City with us.



Southern Market is located at 100 South Queen Street.

Southern Market— Bringing People Together Since 1888

THE COMMUNITY CAME TOGETHER on January 27 for the grand opening of Southern Market. A world class food hall, business incubator, and gathering space that has transformed this iconic property on South Queen Street.

The Southern Market concept is rooted in providing opportunity and access for all and those in the Downtown Investment District are just a short walk away. When you explore this exciting new space be sure to share your experience on social media and let the world know how you will #GatherAtSouthern.

Ewell Plaza and Christian Street Garage Nearing Completion



Left: Rendering of Ewell Plaza. Right Ewell Plaza under construction.

JUST IN TIME FOR THE WARMER MONTHS the community will celebrate the completion of Ewell Plaza and the Christian Street Garage. The garage parked its first car in April and the Plaza will be completed in the fall. This area of the City serves as a centerpiece for the DID and complements 101NQ and the recently renovated Holiday Inn.

The plaza and garage will include a new event space, green roof, 4,500 square feet of new retail space, public art façade on the front of the garage and a statue of Lancaster's own Barney Ewell, Olympic medalist and celebrated track and field athlete. It will also be home to the new Lancaster Public Library.

Exciting New Businesses in the Downtown Investment District

Help us welcome these exciting new businesses to the Downtown Investment District. We hope you agree, the DID is the place to be.



FOOD AND DRINK TO MAKE YOU SING

- **Inna's Pierogi Shop** | innaspierogishop.com
Pierogi love brought to you by Inna
- **Deerfoot Downtown** | deerfootdowntown.com
Tasting room and bottle shop for Deerfoot Vineyard
- **Norbu** | norbulancaster.com
Featuring Bhutanese and Nepalese cuisine
- **Empanada Gourmet** | empanadagourmet.net
Uruguayan baked goods
- **Psychedeli** | psychedelilove.com
Seasonal sandwiches, salads, sides, and graze boards
- **Endo Café** | endocafe.com
Serving coffee, food, bikes, and hemp products
- **Wish You Well Bakery** | wishyouwellbakery.com
Bakery and cafe
- **The Steak Out** | homeoftherealphilly.com
Philly cheesesteaks
- **The Queen Street Bistro** | queenstreetbistro.com
Eat, drink, and socially connect

HERE TO SERVE YOU

- **I AM Limitless** | i-am-limitless.com
The brain. The bod. The being.
- **Johnny's Barbershop** | facebook.com/johnnysbarbers
Experienced team of barbers
- **Longevity Lancaster** | longevitylancaster.com
Boutique personal training and coaching studio



RAD RETAIL

- **Gallery Grow** | gallerygrow.com
Create a living project
- **Megan Ashman Gallery** | meganashmanart.com
Mixed Media
- **Central Market Flowers on Queen** | perfectpots.com
Customized fresh and dried florals
- **Laura Z. Tai Fine Jewelry & Watches** | lauraztai.com
Fine jewelry and watches
- **Nook Books** | nookbooks.shop
Independent children's bookstore
- **UNIVERSOLE** | universolelancaster.com
Premium sneaker boutique
- **Pop of Color Art** | facebook.com/popofcolorartlanc
Art, handmade goods, and more

Downtown Investment District Member Milestones Awards Celebrate Retail Community

THE DOWNTOWN INVESTMENT DISTRICT and the Lancaster City Alliance recognized 34 City merchants at the January Merchant Meeting. These 34 merchants, most of them located downtown, have been doing business in the City for one to 30 years. Please continue to support these incredible businesses and the exciting opportunities they bring to the City.

**01
YEAR**

Beer Wall on Prince, Black Goat Gastropub, Blade and Spade Coffee Apothecary, Frisco's Chicken, Home Skillet 717, Invictus Haircuts, Issac's Brewhouse, Khilo Sewing, Mad Chef Craft Brewing, Our Town Brewery, Pepper Theo Café, Snap'N, Tonnino Winery, Treasures Markets, Vytal Options, Megan Ashman Gallery, Wyndridge Farm

**05
YEARS**

A Day in the Life Records, Alure Salon, Basura Thrift Boutique, Beiler's Doughnuts, Foxduck, Luca, Sola Salon Studios, The Classy Crab, The Spice and Tea Exchange Farm

**10
YEARS**

City Ballroom, Envy Studio, Freiman Stoltzfus, Gallery on Market, The Fridge

**15
YEARS**

Prince Street Cafe

**25
YEARS**

Details Styles for Living

**30
YEARS**

Pappagallo Style for Living

Proposed Parking Increase Looks to Increase Garage use

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 16 YEARS the Lancaster Parking Authority will increase rates for the 1,200 parking meters across the City from \$1.50 per hour to \$2.50 per hour. Garage rates will remain the same at \$2.00 per hour. The increased revenue will be used to improve City parking infrastructure and amenities. It will also encourage increased use of parking garages because of the lower garage rates, which in turn, will result in a higher turnover rate for on street parking.

Downtown Dollars

HELP KEEP THE SPENDING POWER IN THE CITY, Downtown Dollars make great gifts. Go to visitlancastercity.square.site to purchase.



DID Board Members Provide Input for the City's Comprehensive Plan

IN JANUARY 2022, MEMBERS OF THE DID BOARD volunteered their expertise around Lancaster City and the Downtown Investment District to help inform decision-making around the City's new comprehensive plan. Members of the DID Board, led by Executive Director David Aichele, participated in the "Meeting in a Box" activity, designed to provide community leaders with the tools to host a gathering that collects feedback among their group.

During the meeting, Board members discussed and recorded what they love about the City, such as its diversity, economic

vibrancy, and historic authenticity. Additionally, members discussed areas of improvement and what they envision for the future of Lancaster City and its Downtown. Some of the key takeaways were equity, increased housing density, and improved safety and walkability. This input was sent back to the City's consultant to be considered within their final plan. The consultant will present the plan's initial draft in the fall of 2022 with final adoption and implementation of the City's Comprehensive Plan taking place in the spring of 2023.

Did you Know?

THE DOWNTOWN INVESTMENT

DISTRICT is overseen by an 11-member Board of Directors. There is an executive director to manage the DID plan, finances, budget, and collection of the DID financial assessment from property owners. The DID and the Executive Director is overseen by the Lancaster City Alliance, a non-profit organization based in the City. To learn more visit lancastercityalliance.org.

2021-2022 DOWNTOWN INVESTMENT DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS:

Crystal Weaver, Chair

Pastor Tim Mentzer, Vice Chair

Nancy Neff, Treasurer

James J. Wagner, Secretary

Bill McCarty, Solicitor

Alicia Byler

Jami Rhynes

Patrick Hopkins

Mark Stoner

Laura DeMatteo

Bernard Truong

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