

# The DID Dispatch

## Letter from Executive Director, David Aichele

**IT IS WINTER** in the City and the Downtown Investment District Clean Team and Ambassadors are out and about seven days a week, ready to serve. When snow falls, their focus is to keep the curb cuts clear and safe for pedestrians. Property owners are responsible for clearing the sidewalks, but the squad will keep a watchful eye on the changing conditions of the curbs, removing accumulated snow and ice and applying ice melt, as needed.

The Street Outreach Specialist continues her patrols through the winter months to help ensure individuals on the street have access to shelter. This includes the Lancaster County Food Hub Emergency Shelter at 232 N. Prince Street. The shelter moved to this temporary space in November 2023. It was formally located at Ebenezer Baptist Church. The emergency shelter is open from 9PM–7PM, seven days a week and as a temporary space, will only be open through April 2024. We hope you were able to enjoy the new art markets at Ewell Plaza and 100 N. Queen during the holidays. Next up will be the sidewalk string lights to keep the festive atmosphere going. It takes vision, coordination, and hard work by many to make these projects come to reality, so I encourage you to take the time to experience it all.



Sincerely,

**David Aichele**  
Executive Director,  
Lancaster Downtown  
Investment District



Dylan McBrayer and Amber Bricker work in the snow to keep curbs in the DID clear for pedestrians.





*Veteran Clean Team Members, Chris Magill and Amber Bricker warm-up in Central Market.*

## Binns Park/Ewell Plaza

**THE WINTER HOURS** for the Downtown Investment District Clean Team members dedicated to Binns Park and Ewell Plaza are as follows:

**9AM – 5:30PM**

Sunday through Thursday

**9AM – 7PM**

Friday and Saturday

*The gates to the walking path between Ewell Plaza and North Christian Street are locked at 7PM.*

## Overnight Security Guard Pilot Program Extended

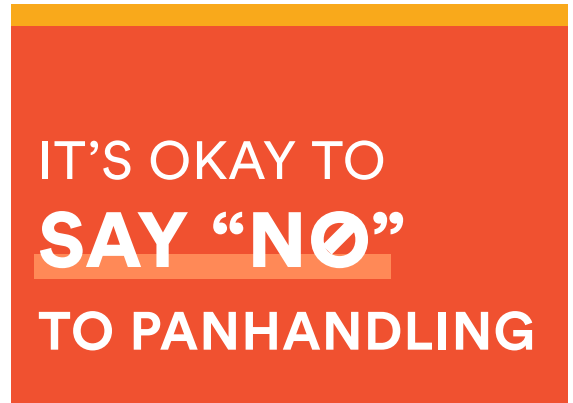


### AT THE SEPTEMBER

Downtown Investment District Board of Directors meeting, the Board agreed to pilot an Overnight Security guard service in the DID. The security guard, contracted through Schaad Detective Agency, concentrates their walking patrols in the downtown core including areas around Binns Park and Ewell Plaza, between the hours of 6PM–2AM, Wednesday through Sunday. During the trial period, the guard made connections with

nearby restaurants, bars, and individuals experiencing homelessness, serving as an extra set of eyes and ears in the Downtown Investment District. The Lancaster City Police, businesses owners, and individuals all shared positive feedback on the presence of the security guard.

At the November meeting the DID Board reviewed the program and decided to continue the security guard service through April 30, 2024, which is the end of the DID fiscal year.



### AGGRESSIVE PANHANDLING

**OR BEGGING IS ILLEGAL** and carries a fine of up to \$600. A better way to help is by contributing to or volunteering for charities and organizations with outreach programs qualified to help those in need.

You can make more of an impact by donating to the Lancaster County Homelessness and Affordable Housing Fund. Your money will support the following initiatives: Emergency Shelter, Permanent Supportive Housing, Day & Drop-in Centers, Crisis Housing, Prevention, Affordable Housing Development, Programming, and Street Outreach.



◀ Scan here to  
make a donation



*Downtown Investment District Ambassadors can also provide a safety escort.*

## Ambassador Safety Escort

**YOU CAN NOW ARRANGE** for an Ambassador Safety Escort where an ambassador will walk you to your vehicle or nearby destination. Call 484.724.1517 between the hours of 10AM and 10PM. Please allow 10 to 15 minutes for us to meet you at your location.

## OPERATIONS



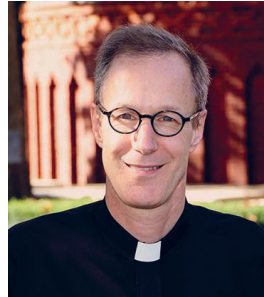
Regina Cooper, Downtown Investment District Outreach Specialist

### Bravo Regina!

**CONGRATULATIONS** to our Street Outreach Specialist Regina Cooper, named Lancaster's 2023 Ambassador of the Year. Rain or shine, heat or cold, Regina's passion is to assist individuals in need. So far, she has played a role in over 40 people choosing to enter rehab and 18 to find housing. Her work, however, is more than just numbers, Regina's willingness to serve others sets her apart from the rest. Thank you, Regina!

## Welcome New Downtown Investment District Board Members

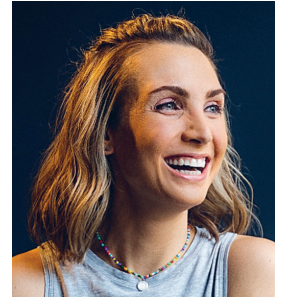
**CONGRATULATIONS** to our new Downtown Investment District Board Members. They will serve five-year terms, ending December 31, 2028. We are grateful for their commitment to serve and using their time and talents to shape the City's future.



**Reverend David Peck**  
St. James Episcopal Church



**Ryan Keates**  
Foxduck | Owner



**Megan Fessler-McCarthy**  
Tread House | Co-Owner

## COMMUNICATIONS

### Make Sure You're in the Know

**THE DOWNTOWN INVESTMENT DISTRICT** is committed to providing you with relevant information and updates regarding event programming, public safety, and outreach efforts downtown. To stay informed, please sign up for our email alerts by emailing [info@teamlanc.org](mailto:info@teamlanc.org).

### Beautiful New Mural on Orange Street

**HAVE YOU SEEN** the delightful new mural at 38 W. Orange Street? Completed by Aron Rook, the mural was the vision of Andre and Donna Pham, owners of Issei Noodle. Andre and Donna wanted to incorporate imagery that represented Andre's Okinawan/Japanese and Vietnamese heritage.

"Growing up as Asian American kids in a small town, we both grew accustomed to masking our cultures and identities to fit in with our peers. It is a common theme of childhood that all children of immigrant parents are probably familiar with. But we never really understood the toll that would take on our lives until we opened the ramen shop and then ultimately began to have kids of our own.

The lesson that we, and so many other Asian Americans who are navigating through parenthood just like us, are striving to teach our kids as they grow up is this: you don't have to hide. You can fully embrace all the aspects of your multicultural family culture. You can enjoy sharing the food that we love to eat even if it looks different and smells different and tastes different from everybody else's food. All of the things that brought shame or embarrassment to us when we were kids can now be worn like badges of honor for our kids." said Donna Pham.

The mural will soon complement the new home of Issei Noodle coming to 38 W. Orange Street in the first quarter of 2024. Along with the new mural, Issei Noodle



will now offer a full-service bar and the Japanese Izakaya concept, which features small plates and snacks.



# Recognizing Local Merchants for 1–40 Years of Business



*Bravo to these Lancaster City business owners who were honored at our November Merchant Meeting with Business Milestone Awards.*

**DOWNTOWN INVESTMENT DISTRICT** Executive Director, David Aichele, Lancaster City Alliance President Marshall Snively, and Mayor Danene Sorace recognized 55 City businesses for reaching one to 40 years of doing business in the city at the November Merchant Meeting. Recognition includes presentation of certificates and plaques. Congratulations to the following businesses!

## 01 YEAR

401 PRIME  
Amanita  
A' La Board & Vine  
Cozy  
Drift Spa  
Gems Catering  
Hills to Sea  
Lancaster Beignet Co.  
Lancaster Gift Box  
Layali El Sham  
Mason's Eatery  
Massage Modern

Pho Life

Safe & Sweet

Susquehanna Sustainable Enterprises

The Pressroom Restaurant

The Twisted Spoon

Urban Farmhouse

## 05 YEARS

The Bread Pedaler  
Columbia Kettle Works 2ND Gear Taproom  
Ellister's Elixirs

The Imperial Restaurant

JB Kelly Seafood Connection

Purse-N-Ality Handbag Shop

## 10 YEARS

Brogue Hydroponics  
The Candy Stand  
Citronnelle  
Commonwealth Kitchen and Café  
Friendship Heart Gallery & Studio  
Goodthree

Issei Noodle

Lancaster Law Group

Mean Cup Café

Oka Asian Fusion & Sushi Bar

Reology Studio

Space

Studio Spin

Thistle Finch Distillery

West End Yoga Studio

## 15 YEARS

Chestnut Hill Café  
European Eyeware

The Gem Den

Infantree

LUXE Lancaster

PhotOle' Photography

Sambalin Hair and Nail Studio

## 20 YEARS

Champ's Barber School  
The Pottery Works

## 25 YEARS

The Belvedere Inn  
Mean Cup

## 35 YEARS

The Framing Concept  
Mulberry Art Studios

## 40 YEARS

Isaac's Craft Kitchen and Brewery

# Exciting New Businesses in the Downtown Investment District

August–December 2023



*Ribbon Cutting ceremony for Tikka Shack, 35 N. Queen Street*

## Announced and Coming Soon in 2024

- **A.J.'s**  
12 North Queen Street
- **Bert & The Elephant**  
29 East King Street
- **Carmen's Sabor Latino**  
43 West King Street
- **Denim Coffee Company**  
221 West King Street
- **Issei Noodle**  
38 West Orange Street  
(Relocation from 44 North Queen Street)
- **Philthy Good Fusion Grill**  
100 South Queen Street (Southern Market)
- **Spanish Island Foods**  
44 North Queen Street  
(The Shops at Reilly Bros. & Raub)
- **Tikka Shack**  
35 North Queen Street
- **Trust46**  
Event Venue, 46 East King Street  
(Under Construction)
- **Vintage Candy Shop**  
38 West King Street  
(Relocation from 602 St. Joseph Street)

# Key Development Activity in the DID, August – December 2023

PROJECT	LOCATION	STATUS
<b>202 North Queen</b> (Mixed-Use; New Construction): Ground Floor Retail, 142 Market-Rate Apartments)	202 North Queen Street	Under Construction
<b>347 North Queen</b> (Mixed-Use; New Construction): Ground Floor Retail, 72 Market-Rate Apartments)	347 North Queen Street	Under Construction
<b>Binns Park</b> Renovation/Upgrades	100 block of North Queen Street (West Side)	Completed
<b>TFB Catering Facility &amp; Headquarters</b>	28–30 East King Street	Under Construction
<b>Thaddeus Stevens &amp; Lydia Hamilton Smith Center for History &amp; Democracy</b>	45–49 South Queen Street	Under Construction
<b>YWCA Capital Improvements:</b> Affordable Housing, Accessibility Upgrades	110 North Lime Street	Under Construction

## Did you know?

### THE DOWNTOWN INVESTMENT DISTRICT

is overseen by a 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 [lanastercityalliance.org](http://lanastercityalliance.org).

### 2023-2024 DOWNTOWN INVESTMENT DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS:

Crystal Weaver,  
Chair  
Teddy Boucard,  
Vice Chair  
James J. Wagner,  
Treasurer  
Nancy Neff,  
Secretary

Alicia Byler  
Bernard Truong  
Christopher Delfs  
Jami Rhynes  
Joseph M.  
Donaldson  
Mark Stoner

Megan Fessler-  
McCarthy  
Reverend David Peck  
Ryan Keates  
Sara Tuscher

### LIKE WHAT YOU SEE?

Visit [lanastercityalliance.com](http://lanastercityalliance.com) to donate,  
volunteer, or join our mailing list.

LANCASTER  
**DOWNTOWN  
INVESTMENT**  
DISTRICT

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