





# A word from us.

### Our Commitment to Downtown Wilmington

Dear Friends, Neighbors and Colleagues:

It is with great pride that we present the accomplishments and initiatives of Downtown Visions (DTV) for fiscal year 2022 (7/1/21-6/30/22), another remarkable 12-month period for our organization! As has been the case over the past several years, we started 2022 facing many pandemic-related challenges in the management and enhancement of Wilmington's Downtown Business Improvement District (WDBID). DTV leadership and staff again rose to the occasion, responding with innovative and creative strategies to fulfill our mission to create, manage and promote a quality environment for people who live, work and visit Downtown Wilmington. With the support of dedicated public and private resource partners, devoted area corporations, determined small businesses, resilient Wilmington residents and employees, DTV helped facilitate significant advances in the delivery of clean and safe services, neighborhood revitalization and stabilization, retail retention and expansion, district-wide marketing, small business growth, and residential development in the WDBID.

Fiscal year 2022 also brought significant evolution within the organization. In September, we honored the retirement of our founding Executive Director Martin (Marty) P. Hageman who, over his 27 years at Downtown Visions' helm, worked tirelessly to plan, implement, and manage vital services in support of the WDBID. After an exhaustive national search, careful succession planning, and significant initiatives in employee training and development, the Board of Directors has insured that Marty's legacy will be preserved and strengthened by a reorganized and dynamic management team that is focused on the support and enhancement of Downtown Wilmington as a vital economic, cultural, residential, and historic center of the mid-Atlantic region!

By adapting to the changing landscape, tackling formidable challenges, forging new and strengthening existing partnerships, and sharing information and resources, DTV has worked together with devoted partners in the City, County, State, and private corporations to support and enhance Downtown's safety, appeal and economic vitality over the past year. This work has positioned Downtown Wilmington to thrive in the new fiscal year and beyond. We thank you for your generous support and look forward to continuing to assist Downtown Wilmington grow and prosper.

Sincerely,



Michael Maggitti, Executive Director



Adam Landis, Esq., Board Chair



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#### **STAN SOJA**

**Executive Director** Wilmington Parking Authority

#### \*PEGGY STRINE

Non-Profit Consultant

#### **CHIEF ROBERT TRACY**

Wilmington Police Department

#### **MICHAEL VANNI**

Chief Risk Officer **Chase Card Services** 

#### JOHN WILLIAMS, ESQ.

The Williams Law Firm

#### **Also serving on Board of Directors** during fiscal year 2022

Director, City of Wilmington Office of Economic Development

#### \*MARTIN P. HAGEMAN

**Executive Director** WDBID Management Co., (Downtown Visions)

#### **NORMAN PERNICK, ESQ.**

Cole Schotz, P.C.

\*Executive Committee Member

# Positioned for Success

# Meet our Leadership Team

With the retirement of founding Executive Director Marty Hageman, the Board of Directors conducted a comprehensive nationwide search for his successor and considered opportunities to build on Marty's legacy and position DTV to deliver critical services to our constituents into the future. In October, the Board of Directors announced the selection of our own Michael (Mike) Maggitti as Executive Director and a reorganized management structure team that will assist him in fulfilling DTV's mission.



#### MIKE MAGGITTI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mike has been with Downtown Visions since 2007, most recently as Deputy Executive Director. Over the past 14 years, he has also served as Director of Operations and Director of Safety. Prior to joining Downtown Visions, Mike spent 25 years as a Wilmington police officer, retiring at the rank of Captain.

Mike earned a Master of Public Administration and a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from the University of Delaware.



# LOSHAWN MAXWELL, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

Loshawn has been a part of Downtown Visions since its inception, having joined its founding organization, Wilmington 2000, in 1994. Over the past 27 years, Loshawn has held the positions of Director of Administration, Office Manager and Office As-

sistant. In her new position, she will be responsible for overseeing all aspects of Downtown Visions' financial, administrative and human resource matters. Loshawn earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Management from Goldey-Beacom College and during the fiscal year was selected as an Emerging Leader Fellow with the International Downtown Association, where she participated in a week-long experiential program focused on urban district management, leadership skills, economic development, the live-work-play experience, and public-private partnerships.



#### NORM PERNICK, SENIOR ADVISOR

Norm, an attorney and founding member of the Wilmington office of Cole Schotz, P.C., has been a board member of Downtown Visions since its inception in 1994 and served as its Board Chair from 2010 to 2019. He is also a founding member of the Main Street Wilmington program, serving as its first Board Chair from

2006 to 2014 and a member of its board since 2006. Norm will focus his efforts on strategic planning, marketing, personnel development and external relationships.

### The Leadership Team is supported by a dedicated professional staff:

THOMAS (TUCKER) CASEY,
PUBLIC SPACE MANAGER

TABRIA PINKETT,
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

HERBERT POE, EVENING MANAGER

AMY RAUSCH, DIRECTOR OF SAFETY

MAUREEN FEENEY ROSER, SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR LANI SCHWEIGER, MAIN STREET WILMINGTON PROGRAM DIRECTOR AND SENIOR BRAND & MARKETING MANAGER





# Support & Collaboration

## Creating Synergy for Downtown Wilmington

Our work to enhance the Downtown Wilmington experience, foster community and assist small businesses would not be possible without the support and collaboration of many corporate and community partners and funders. DTV is grateful for the assistance and unmatched cooperation.

Thank you to our generous sponsors.





















### Our partners.\* We are grateful for your collaboration and assistance.

A-10 Tournament Planning Committee Aloysius Butler & Clark Creative Art Loop Wilmington Arts, Culture, Heritage Group (ACH) Bike Wilmington Buccini/Pollin Group

City of Wilmington Committee of 100

DART

Delaware Business Executives Delaware Division of Small Business

Development & Tourism Delaware Historical Society

Delaware SCORE

Delaware Small Business Chamber Delaware State Housing Authority Delaware State Chamber of Commerce

Downtown Development District First State Community Loan Fund

Food Bank of Delaware

Gable Music Ventures

Greater Wilmington Convention and Visitors'

Bureau

Housing Alliance Delaware

**IN Wilmington** 

It's Time Campaign

JP Morgan Chase & Co.

Joint Community Court Steering and Planning Committee Meeting Market Street Corridor Revitalization

Mayor's Strategic Planning Committee New Castle County Chamber of Commerce

Out & About Magazine

Quaker Hill Historic Preservation Foundation

Partnership for the Delaware Estuary Riverfront Development Corporation's

Security Committee

Rodney Square Conservancy Small Business Administration Small Business Development Center

Tech Forum of Delaware and Tech2Gether

True Access Capital/Corridor Revitalization

Funds (CRF) Urban Bike Project

West Side Grows

Wilmington Alliance

Wilmington Business Leaders Network

Wilmington Creative District Wilmington Police Department Wilmington Fire Department

Wilmington Public Library

\*Sample list may not include every partner.

By working together and with the help of dedicated employees, resource partners, area corporations, small businesses and Wilmington residents, DTV is wellpositioned to fulfill its mission as the future unfolds.

# **Cleaning Division**

# Keeping Downtown Wilmington Clean

DTV's Cleaning Ambassadors are dispatched daily from Downtown Visions' head-quarters at 409 North Orange Street to maintain a clean and orderly environment for all who live, work or visit Downtown Wilmington. Each day during fiscal year 2022, Ambassadors patrolled the 72 square block Downtown Wilmington Business Improvement District (WDBID) and removed litter, unsightly stickers, posters, and illegal signs. The DTV Cleaning team also provided seasonal power washing, gum removal, weed abatement and leaf removal services. As they worked, Ambassadors reported damage to buildings and public facilities, and conveyed issues with signage, sidewalks, and streetlamps to the City and/or Delmarva Power for repairs/replacements. This cooperative effort ensured the quick remediation of any physical issues negatively impacting the WDBID.

In addition to our regular district-wide cleaning, DTV Cleaning Ambassadors also provided pre- and post-affair cleaning services for events held throughout the WDBID, thereby ensuring Downtown Wilmington is a clean and inviting host location.

Finally, the Cleaning Division serviced commercial trash removal contracts, some with daily pickups, replaced streetlight banners as necessary and installed holiday streetscape decorations.

An attractive, appealing and litter-free Downtown year-round is the reward for these efforts—and is at the core of what DTV is all about!

# **Safety Division**

### Keeping Downtown Wilmington Safe

During fiscal year 2022, DTV's Safety Ambassadors worked tirelessly to support the Wilmington Police Department and the Downtown community by advancing and expanding safety in Downtown Wilmington. 361 days a year, day and night, DTV Safety Ambassadors patrol the WDBID to monitor activity, and conduct business contacts and property checks. Any safety concerns are immediately reported to the Wilmington Police Department through radio contact. These efforts supported a safe and welcoming Downtown by increasing the efficiency of safety personnel and their impact on the community. In addition to safety alerts, all observed issues with streetlight outrages, broken parking meters, potholes, and graffiti were reported to the appropriate authorities for prompt and efficient response to maintenance issues.

In addition to the services above, the Safety team provided significant hospitality assistance in the BID by offering on-demand safety escorts, as well as community information and directions on a regular basis. To prepare for these hospitality duties, each DTV Ambassador receives extensive training in local history and cultural attractions to be a genuine asset to visitors and residents alike. In this vital way, DTV supports the arts, entertainment and tourism in Downtown, while ensuring a safe environment for all to enjoy.





273,000 Pounds of Garbage

3.6<sub>K</sub>

**Suspicious Activity Camera** Alerts

170,000

**Property Checks** 

**273** 

City/DPL **App Alerts** 

(Streetlights, Parking Meters, Potholes & Graffiti)

Removed 214

Graffiti **Tags** 

Nearly

5K

Directions Provided

11,600
Safety Escorts

Removed

764

**Stickers** 

38,500

**Business Contacts** 

1.8<sub>K</sub>

**High Visibility Patrols at Events** 

Hospitality



Security



# **Main Street Wilmington**

### Promoting Downtown Wilmington

Main Street Wilmington (MSW) is a vital part of DTV's goal to promote the economic health and sustainability of Downtown. Comprehensive work in the areas of design, organization, promotion, and business retention/recruitment has earned MSW national recognition as an accredited Main Street© program annually since 2010.

During fiscal year 2022, MSW worked tirelessly to assist Downtown businesses not only withstand pandemic-related limitations on commerce but prosper. A continual series of promotions, events and activities were meticulously planned and implemented to help meet this economic enhancement goal. Of note, the economic restructuring activities listed below proved to be so effective that they will be continued as MSW offerings in fiscal year 2023.

Curbside Wilmington Happy Hours - In collaboration with community partners, and with the generous support of JP Morgan Chase, DTV provided live music every Thursday night from 6-9 PM at various locations Downtown from June through October. The effort supported WDBID businesses by expanding entertainment offerings, increasing foot traffic, and enhancing Downtown's evening appeal. 80% of businesses surveyed indicated that Curbside Wilmington Happy Hours improved their sales, and based on information provided by businesses, significantly enhanced the Downtown economy.

Shop Small - Free Shipping - COVID-19 drastically changed consumer spending and shopping habits. In response, DTV encouraged e-commerce Downtown by covering all shipping expenses incurred by participating WDBID retailers for online sales during the 2021 holiday season. The promotion supported seven Downtown businesses, helped them reach new customers and keep loyal ones, and encouraged retailers without e-commerce capabilities to add them. To support the effort, DTV shared valuable information about available technical assistance and resources for the development of online sales platforms. Retailers taking advantage of the free shipping opportunity during the 2021 holiday season saved nearly \$860 on shipping fees.

Downtown Holiday Village and Pop-Up Market (DHVPM) - Beyond the Free Shipping promotion and continued participation in Small Business Saturday and the 12 Days of Christmas promotions, DTV endeavored to boost holiday sales by providing a series of holiday events between Thanksgiving and Christmas designed to attract customers and enhance the WDBID's image as a clean, safe, fun and family-friendly place to shop and dine during the holiday season. Located in the 500 block of North Market Street, the DHVPM also enlisted established Market Street businesses to host vendors as part of the overall market event(s) to benefit as much of Downtown as possible. Each week Delaware Historical Society provided free mini-tours and family-friendly events, Colonial Parking offered free parking, the Rotary Club of Wilmington provided a free gift-wrapping station, and the Wilmington Fire Department displayed their Touch-a-Truck vehicle. These efforts, complemented by holiday decorations and music, the volunteer-manned Salvation Army donation kettle, and a food drive for the less fortunate, presented Downtown Wilmington as a clean, safe, and festive holiday destination, meeting the image-enhancement goal. In the future, DTV will seek additional partners and explore new formats for the holiday village concept to increase Downtown's holiday appeal and support the economy.



"Thanks so much for ... the Curbside Happy Hours over the last three months ... even with unfavorable weather on several occasions, we experienced approximately a 35-40% increase in sales compared to a typical Thursday."

- TONY BOMBA, OWNER, DORCEA

"Over a dozen orders from Spaceboy made their way to their destinations with the support of this program. The way Downtown Visions has stepped up to help this community is very, very cool."

- AJA, SPACEBOY CLOTHING



Dine Downtown

Deal generates a

328% ROI



13
New
businesses



Dine Downtown Deal (DDD) – This fiscal year DTV continued the DDD designed to reward frequent diners for monies spent in WDBID restaurants and eateries. While loyalty programs are not rare, the DDD is unique in that a restaurant does not have to discount food, alter operations, or add administrative burdens to benefit. Further, because all WDBID eateries are included in the promotion, there is no locational advantage/disadvantage for restaurants, and because earned rewards can be used at any business located within the WDBID, the promotion benefits all businesses Downtown, not just restaurants. More than 100 Downtown customers participated in the DDD, which generated \$41,267 in WDBID income for an outlay of \$6,192 – a whopping 566% return on DTV investment!

"...the information you provided is priceless. I can tell you love what you do by how detailed you were on the options out there to help me as a new business. I am most grateful and will put it to use!"

- JUSTIN WOMACK, PRESIDENT, OATH 84

### **Façade Improvement Program**

Throughout the fiscal year, MSW worked diligently to preserve the building stock and stimulate investment in Downtown through technical support and \$30,000 in matching grants to significantly improve the appearance and functionality of the iconic Warner Building located at 10th and Orange Streets through DTV's Façade Improvement Program. These grants provided for major façade renovations and interior fit-outs, while stimulating nearly \$700,000 in private investment in the Downtown building, resulting in \$42.88 improvements for every \$1 DTV invested during the reporting period!





# Facebook

**Downtown** Wilmington DE 10,117 followers +10% over FY21

Downtown **Farmers Market** 1,822 followers



@downtownwilmde 3,351 followers +38% over FY21



Twitter

@DowntownWilmDE 3.381 followers +10% over FY21



Youtube

**Downtown Visions** 



downtownwilmde 16 followers



LinkedIn

**Downtown Visions** 170 followers

# Media Programs

### Reaching Our Audience

DTV uses the most current and effective technologies to broadcast all that Downtown Wilmington has to offer as a jewel of the mid-Atlantic region! During fiscal year 2022, we continued to focus on providing value to our constituents by reaching, growing, and engaging Downtown's audience and providing the most up-to-date event, shopping, dining, entertainment and living information. Specifically, DTV conducts a robust, dynamic and comprehensive social media campaign through Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Tik-Tok, Twitter and YouTube. We also use E-blasts, monthly newsletters, regular DE TV segments, our website and blog, web-links, and print media, including ads, posters, post cards and table tents. Through frequent and informative outreach, DTV reaches and engages the Downtown audience, while generating excitement, traffic and sales for WDBID businesses. As a result of these efforts, DTV gained many new friends, followers, and subscribers in fiscal year 2022, while maintaining our existing audience. DTV's media programs were so successful in fact that we brought in partners to help us keep up with the growing demand by developing unique and interesting social media content and increasing the frequency and relevance of our posts, as well as the timely reposting of WDBID businesses' news and offerings. These new partnerships, implemented at the end of fiscal year 2022, will allow for more effective use and evaluation of our social media programs through user engagement by platform, as well as reactions, comments and shares. The information will help tailor our future social media efforts to engage target markets and more effectively promote Downtown and its many thriving businesses.

In addition to these efforts, DTV created and is ready to launch a first for Downtown - a comprehensive smart phone application. The DowntownWilmDE app features up-to-date information on Downtown businesses, events, activities, entertainment, parking, and clean and safe initiatives - all in one easy-to-use tool! Scheduled to go live in mid-September 2022, the app was made possible through Delaware's Small Business Development Center with Cares Act funding and will be used as a model of design and implementation for other Delaware Main Street towns! DTV is excited about the pilot opportunity presented to us and look forward to another effective tool in reaching those who live, work and play in Downtown.







# Downtown Farmers' Market

# **Enriching Downtown Wilmington**

The Downtown Farmers' Market is a cooperative and organized marketing alternative for small scale agricultural and specialty products in Downtown Wilmington. Since 2004, the market has been a staple in the Downtown community connecting rural to urban, farmer to consumer, and fresh ingredients to our diets. While conscientious response to the pandemic shuttered the market for most of fiscal year 2021 and somewhat delayed its opening this year, Downtown Wilmington residents, workers and customers enthusiastically welcomed the return of this important Downtown economic and civic centerpiece in June! Every Wednesday through October, the Downtown Farmers' Market bustled as patrons supported small businesses by shopping for local produce, flowers and plants, organic bath and beauty products, handmade accessories, unique artesian creations, and homemade baked and canned goods. Live music and savory dishes from local food trucks made for fun and flavorful mid-day breaks for Downtown residents and workers alike.

DTV is proud to provide this positive and healthy weekly experience for the Wilmington community and we thank our corporate neighbors for sponsoring the Downtown Farmers' Market. We especially appreciate JP Morgan Chase and Colonial Parking's generous support and we look forward to our continued partnership for Downtown's future.

31
Market Days

\$280,000
Total Market Sales

\$27,000
Total Farm Sales

\$15K

Total non-farm products sales

40
Vendors

\$129,000
Total Food Truck Sales





# Clean & Safe Services

# **Expanding Our Reach**

Established in 2001, Clean & Safe Services is a subsidiary corporation of DTV, which allows for the delivery of services, like those supplied in Wilmington Downtown Business Improvement District (WDBID), to areas beyond its geographic boundaries.

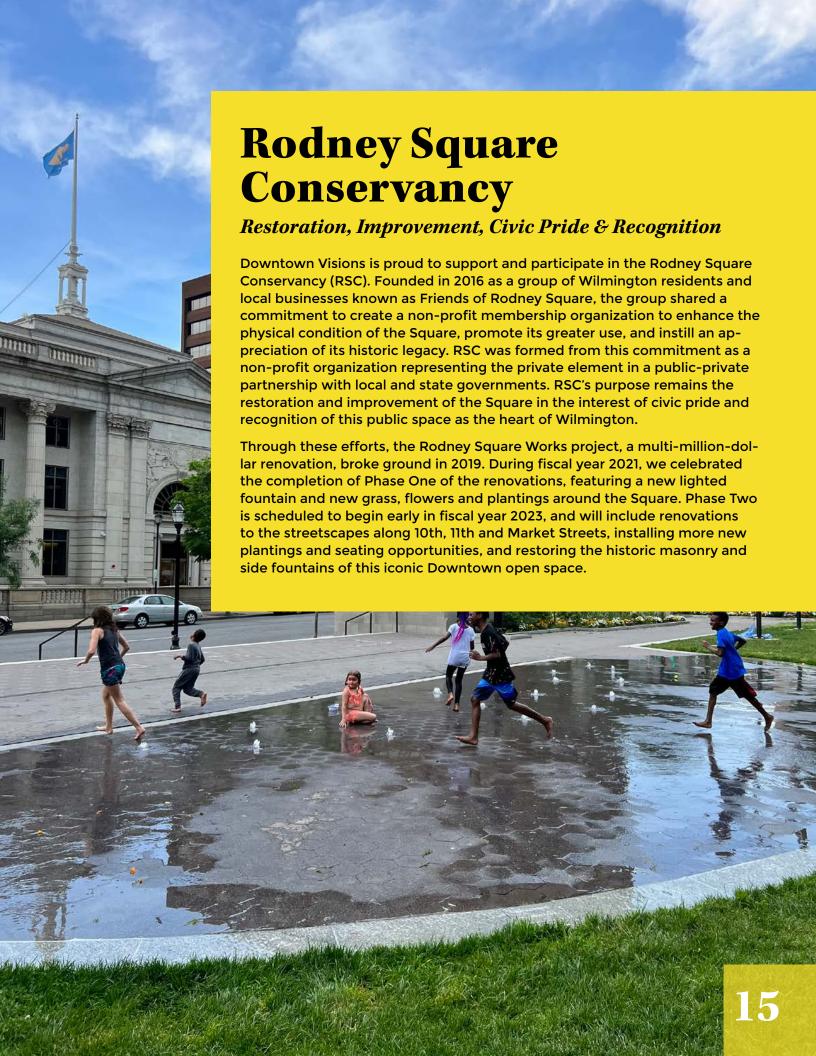
During fiscal year 2022, Clean & Safe Services' Ambassadors performed trash removal, safety assistance, and graffiti and litter removal throughout the City, including on buildings, streets, sidewalks, and at bus stops. Clean & Safe Services is proud of its efforts to support and maintain a kempt and secure environment within the City of Wilmington.

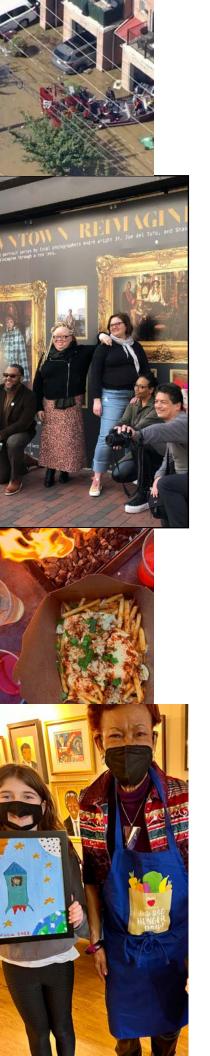
13,479
Square feet of
Graffiti Removed

9
Private Trash
Contracts









# Recovery, Resilience & Renaissance

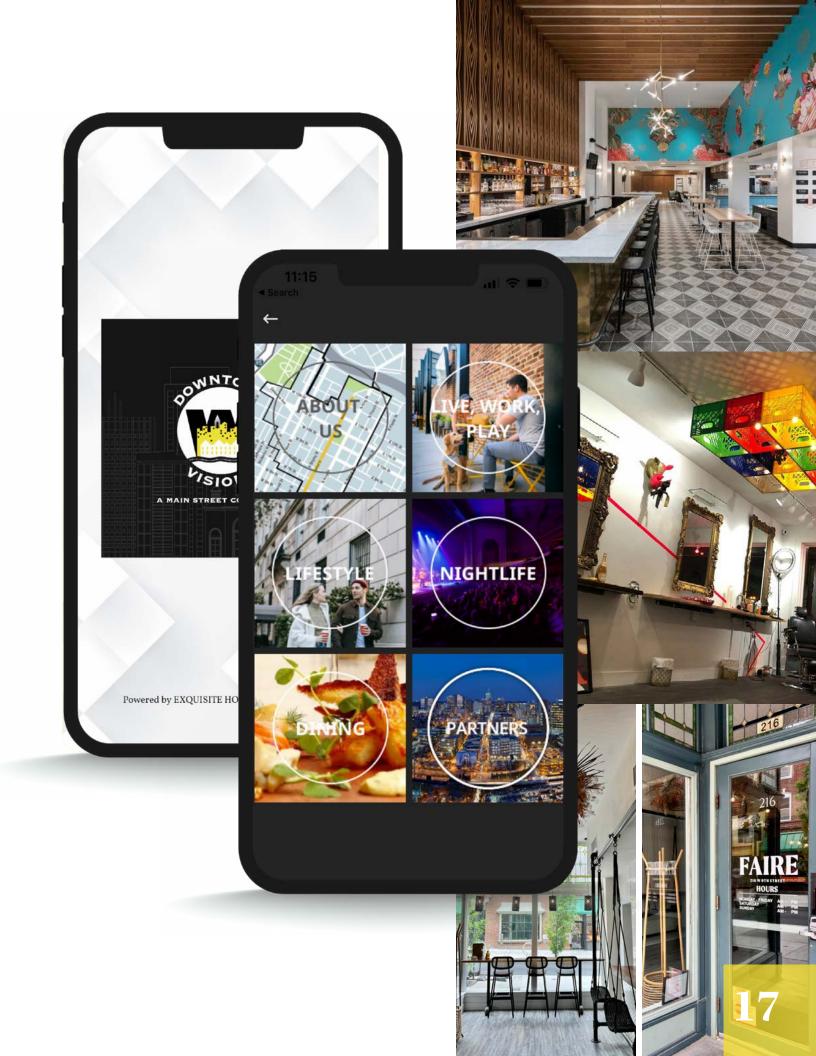
## Supporting Downtown Through Crisis and Beyond

We are proud of the leadership role Downtown Visions assumed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic! Not only did DTV initiate robust efforts to protect the health and safety of all DTV employees and their families, allowing the organization to operate without missing a day of service to the community, but we also provided vital resources and assistance for small businesses severely impacted by the unprecedented disruption to commerce. DTV collaborated with the city, local corporations, and organizations to coordinate business support efforts and make the most impact out of limited resources.

Specifically, DTV worked with partners to deliver effective retail programs/ initiatives to stimulate WDBID commerce. We also delivered the most up-to-date information regarding marketing, financial and/or technical assistance opportunities for businesses on the local, state, regional and federal levels as well as ever-changing restrictions and protocols. As new information became available, DTV staff made sure that Downtown businesses had the latest information through email blasts, social media, regular virtual merchant meetings, a redesigned web page and one-on-one assistance.

In part, through these efforts, Downtown remained dynamic and robust throughout fiscal year 2022, despite continued limitations on commerce and a significantly reduced daily Downtown work force. This resilience permits us to be not only optimistic, but enthusiastic, about the upcoming fiscal year and new opportunities to meet our core goals to provide a quality environment for all who live, work and visit Downtown Wilmington. We've already begun planning exciting new projects to this end and look forward to:

- The launch of our new DowntownWilmDE smart phone application, featuring the most up-to-date information on Downtown businesses, events, activities, entertainment, parking, and clean and safe initiatives - all in one easy-to-use tool for attract new and energize existing customers!
- Collaborations with partners to learn more about Downtown's target markets and develop strategies to more effectively advertise all Downtown has to offer to them.
- Efforts designed to welcome and cultivate new customers resulting from numerous residential developments and expansions in the Downtown core to enhance markets for the WDBID; and as always
- Continually improve upon DTV operations to meet our clean and safe core values.



# WDBID MANAGEMENT COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES

Assets		2022		2021
Current Assets				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	1,682,145	\$	1,892,727
<b>Assessed Charges Receivable</b> (Net of \$112,149 and \$108,523 in Allowance for Doubtful Accts)		56,781		107,133
Finance Charges Receivable (Net of \$195,744 and \$181,771 in Allowance for Doubtful Accts)		2,386		2,556
<b>Accounts Receivable</b> (Net of \$10,720 and \$8,590 in Allowance for Doubtful Accounts)		24,042		41,364
Contributions Receivable		3,720		23,717
Prepaid Expenses		51,612		58,286
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		1,820,686		2,125,783
Capital Assets		721,772		671,289
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	2,542,458	\$	2,797,072
Accounts Payable	\$	12,316	\$	8,290
<u> </u>	\$		\$	
Accrued Expenses  Assessment Overnovments		252,307		223,501 165,447
Assessment Overpayments  Deferred Revenue		2,567		
				2,567
Current Maturities of Long-Term Debt  Total Current Liabilities		29,914		67,085
Long-Term Liabilities		297,104		466,890
		406 E44		92/ 629
Long-Term Debt (Net of Current Maturities)	•	406,544	•	824,628
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$	703,648	<b>\$</b>	1,291,518
Net Position				
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$	285,314	\$	206,146
Restricted		261,154		319,791
Unrestricted		1,292,342		979,617
TOTAL NET POSITION	\$	1,838,810	\$	1,505,554

Operating Revenues	2022	2021
Revenue from Assessed Charges		
Gross Revenue from Assessed Charges	\$ 2,522,341	2,609,921
Bad Debt Allowance (Net of Recoveries of \$17,367 in 2022)	(3,626)	(20,979)
Reassessment Credits	(26,380)	(155,698)
NET REVENUE FROM ASSESSED CHARGES	2,492,335	2,433,244
Service Contracts (Net of \$2,542 and (\$1,240) in Bad Debt/(Recovery))	276,638	212,077
Finance Charges (Net of \$29,433 and \$39,061 in Bad Debt))	28,817	29,134
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	2,797,790	2,674,455
Operating Expenses		
Personnel Services	2,200,093	2,256,249
Contractual Services	334,572	2 298,333
General and Administrative	87,469	93,714
Supplies	165,186	150,135
Marketing	48,191	69,960
Depreciation	91,436	90,139
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	2,926,947	2,958,530
Operating Income (Loss)	(129,157)	(284,075)
Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)		
Grants and Other Income	87,283	197,744
Interest Income	1,228	2,995
Grants and Contributions Awarded	(30,000)	(31,248)
Paycheck Protection Program Loan Forgiveness	426,570	426,572
Interest Expense	(22,668)	(25,128)
TOTAL NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)	462,413	570,935
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	333,256	286,860
NET POSITION - BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,505,554	1,218,694
NET POSITION - END OF YEAR	\$ 1,838,810	) \$ 1,505,554





A MAIN STREET COMMUNITY

Downtown Visions is the non-profit management company for Wilmington's Downtown Business Improvement District.

Our mission is to create, manage, and promote a quality environment for people who live, work, and visit Downtown.

> 409 N. Orange Street Wilmington, Delaware 19801

(302) 425-4200 downtownwilmingtonde.com