2015 Annual Report
Over the past 25 years of working in Detroit I have been witness to tremendous passion, commitment and vision. Often the consistent and common denominator has been the Downtown Detroit Partnership and its long history of serving the Downtown.

Behind the scenes, our team — with the support of the private, public and philanthropic sectors — works tirelessly every day seeking new opportunities for growth and connection of people and businesses in support of sustained momentum driving Downtown Detroit’s future. Much of this is made possible through leadership willing to take chances and implement innovative ideas.

At no time in my 25 years have I seen the city in a more exciting and positive position, nor have I worked with an organization better positioned to help the Downtown maximize this opportunity.

Many of DDP’s successes in 2015 are highlighted on the following pages. And looking ahead to 2016, our focus turns to how we might accomplish even more in the coming years. In 2015, we spent more time observing our community — the people, businesses and organizations that we serve. We engaged in deeper dialogue about the Downtown — not just its assets and opportunities, but its character and heritage. We committed to be even more thoughtful in 2016, to pay attention and to give everything an extra measure of consideration. And that led us to believe there are three critical areas of purpose for DDP as we move forward:

• As a convener and balanced voice
• As a steward of place in the Downtown
• As a promoter of equity and inclusion

These areas of purpose will guide DDP as we continue to serve and support the Downtown in all the ways you’ve come to expect and appreciate — helping residents, employees and visitors navigate and enjoy a cleaner, safer and more vibrant Downtown.

Thank you to all that support our efforts in so many ways.

All my best,

ERIC B. LARSON
CEO, Downtown Detroit Partnership
Thank you for 10 years of incredible energy and improvements to our downtown.

The high energy and enthusiasm in Detroit is unprecedented and contagious, and we can be proud of what we’ve accomplished.

IN 10 YEARS WE’VE:
• Removed more than 8 million pounds of trash
• Invested $9 billion in real estate
• Hired more than 16,000 people
• Activated nearly 40 parks across 200 acres of land
• Connected downtown with 14 miles of bike lanes
• Had nearly 1,600 participants in the Live Downtown and Live Midtown program
• Cut commercial vacancy in half
• Hosted countless minor and major events

There’s more to come, too. Look to the construction down the Woodward corridor, the QLINE that will unify multiple areas from New Center through Wayne State University, the new Red Wings Arena, all the way down to the waterfront. Buildings are being renovated. Looking into 2016 and 2017, our downtown will be very different, and for the better. There’s a lot of work to do, but momentum keeps building. We’re taking steps daily to add to that energy. Bike sharing. Improved streetscapes. Grants. Build Institute. Detroit Experience Factory. Campus Martius Park. The DDP is a good steward of the money and talent our members have invested, and because of that, there is so much more to come.

However, we are one neighborhood in many. So we’ve shared our impacts far beyond Downtown’s square miles. We’ve taken a leadership position not only in the projects done and underway, but also in creating tools – like the Business Improvement Zone – that other neighborhoods can use. After all, we’re all Detroiterers, in this together.

There is another opportunity in front of us. Those in the DDP are job magnets to put Detroiterers back to work. We must continue to find ways to support retraining, education and employment efforts to raise all of Detroit up when we’re filling jobs – so that they all see the light we’re generating downtown, and take it home to their families.

We’re leaders of amazing companies, organizations and people. We’re leaders in Detroit’s comeback and we should be proud of that. Detroit’s comeback is for everyone, whether you’re visiting from afar, from a neighboring suburb, or a city neighborhood down the street. Clean, safe and welcoming – for all. In the next 10 years, we’re going to give the entire world a reason to not only talk about Detroit, but come to Detroit, invest in Detroit, move into Detroit and celebrate Detroit.

“The high energy and enthusiasm in Detroit is unprecedented and contagious…”

CYNTHIA J. PASKY
Chair, Board of Directors
About Us

The Downtown Detroit Partnership strengthens and supports Downtown Detroit through strategic initiatives and programs. We convene business, philanthropic and government partners to create a vibrant and resilient urban core for Detroit and the region.

We take an active role in development, planning and placemaking decisions that increase the city’s economic prosperity. We also work with key stakeholders in the public and private sectors on multiple programs and projects to enhance Downtown’s appeal to businesses, residents and visitors. Additionally, we provide direct services that make Downtown a cleaner and safer place.

Downtown Detroit Partnership’s executive committee, board of directors and special committees enhance our organization’s team in our work to improve the value and vitality of Downtown Detroit.
2015 Key Accomplishments

**January**
Detroit Experience Factory opened the new Detroit Welcome Center at 123 Monroe St.

**February**
More than 4,000 people responded to the first annual Downtown Detroit Perceptions Survey.

**April**
Nearly 1,000 supporters attended the DDP Annual Meeting.

**June**
The Downtown Detroit Business Improvement Zone Ambassador program was launched.

**July**
The first annual fundraiser was held for Grand Circus Park, the Grand Circus Gala.

**August**
DDP placed over 50 signs throughout 100 blocks in Detroit to highlight walking routes for the Walk Detroit campaign.

**September**
Build Institute launched the first annual Ready Set Build entrepreneur showcase and fundraiser.

**October**
LIVE Detroit held a nationwide conference convening 9 city programs that work to promote city living.

**November**
The 12th annual Shop Detroit expanded and included multiple community partners.

**December**
Over 25,000 people attended the 12th Annual Detroit Tree Lighting Ceremony in Campus Martius Park.

DDP lead employer recruitment efforts for City of Detroit’s summer youth employment program.
The Downtown Detroit Partnership supports Downtown Detroit and the surrounding community through a variety of services and programs that go beyond traditional Downtown services. We continue to enhance and expand what is offered to the Downtown and Detroit community.
Downtown Detroit has experienced rapid expansion and growth over the past five years. The momentum of the city attracts businesses and residents alike to locate Downtown. This progress is evident in the increasing employment and residential population and the plummeting vacancy rates across all asset classes.

Over the past five years, major Downtown employers including Rock Ventures, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and DTE Energy have collectively added almost 18,000 new employees to the Downtown. This growth affected commercial real estate by occupying more available space which contributed to a 14% decrease in the commercial office vacancy rate. Similarly, residential market strength continues with occupancy rates hovering near 98%. With almost 1,000 new units in the pipeline over the next two years, the strong residential occupancy is anticipated to continue.

### 2015 Downtown Snapshot

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EMPLOYMENT ON THE RISE</th>
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<td>Rock Ventures ▲13,500</td>
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<td>Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan ▲3,400</td>
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<td>DTE Energy ▲500</td>
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<th>OCCUPANCY</th>
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<td>Residential 98%</td>
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### Figures and Financials

**Source:** 2016 Crain’s Book of Lists; Company Communications Teams; Fall 2014 D:Hive Survey; CBRE; Downtown Detroit Partnership; Residential pipeline
DDP’s Downtown Detroit Perceptions Survey was first administered in 2014 in an effort to gain insight into opinions of Downtown from those within Detroit and across metro Detroit. Through the survey, we collected impactful data and feedback that helped us better understand what services and programs would better serve the community.

In 2015, we conducted the second annual Downtown Detroit Perceptions Survey and collected the following results on the impression of Downtown.

**Financials**

The 2015 revenue for DDP comes from a broad range of stakeholders and supporters, categorized as:

- **18%** E Earned/Interest Income
- **37%** Corporate Sponsorship and Support
- **30%** Downtown Detroit Business Improvement Zone Programs and Services
- **15%** Foundation and Grant Support
Downtown Detroit Business Improvement Zone

Officially launched in spring of 2014, the Downtown Detroit Business Improvement Zone (BIZ) provides services of cleaning, safety, hospitality, winter season lighting and landscaping for residents, visitors and businesses. Assessments of 571 commercial properties support the $4 million budget that enables DDP and the BIZ to serve the Downtown community in these important ways.

DOWNTOWN AMBASSADORS

Easy to find in their bright green shirts and jackets with the DDP logo, the Downtown Ambassadors are very recognizable as they clean public spaces and serve as an information resource. The Ambassador program employs approximately 150 people during warmer months and 50 over the winter. Over 85% of our Ambassadors are Detroiters, many having experienced barriers to employment in the past. The program, by design, supports both the success of individuals and of the Downtown as a whole.

Stationed throughout Downtown Detroit, the Ambassadors have been trained to enhance the Downtown experience. They serve as concierges, providing assistance with directions, restaurant recommendation-sand tourist attractions, or even a jump for a stalled vehicle. The Ambassadors are also connected to the Downtown security network, providing extra eyes and ears and calling in experts when needed, such as the Detroit Police Department.

COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS OUTREACH

Detroit’s urban landscape is ever evolving and it is our responsibility to support retailers and business owners looking to maximize the opportunity of this evolution. We created the Downtown BIZ Connect to do just that. This network provides access to resources and information such as DDP’s BIZ newsletter, Detroit Connect community events and other communications about all things happening in Downtown for local businesses.

WINTER SEASON LIGHTING

Over 250 light pole ornaments and approximately 225 trees are wrapped each winter season in the Downtown, totaling over 100,000 lights set in creative designs.

These designs are featured along many walkways and around the perimeter of Campus Martius Park and within Grand Circus Park, Capitol Park and Paradise Valley. Winter season lighting enhances the physical characteristics of Downtown parks and streets by brightening the streetscape for the residents, workers and visitors in the community.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Information sharing is an essential element of an effective safety and security program. To support the Project Lighthouse effort, the BIZ equipped its Ambassadors and the Detroit Police Department’s Downtown precincts with Lighthouse radios, connecting them 24/7 to a network of public and private stakeholders.
The BIZ also approved the investment in the employment of off-duty Detroit police officers to proactively patrol the Downtown as a crime-prevention effort.

**PARK AND STREET LANDSCAPING**

In our role as a Downtown caretaker, the BIZ maintains landscaping, green spaces and parks covering the equivalent of 15 football fields. This efforts employs about 25 people, nearly 90% of whom are Detroit residents.

**INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING**

While the BIZ provides services to maintain Downtown public spaces, we are committed to continuous improvement. As we look to the future of Detroit, we support infrastructure planning efforts to foster economic and environmentally sustainable growth.

Data collection began in July 2015. It is not a full annual analysis. Numbers include BIZ and contract areas.
Campus Martius Park

Harmonie Park/Paradise Valley

Capitol Park

Grand Circus Park
Downtown Detroit is home to internationally recognized and historic public spaces that help attract businesses, residents and visitors and continue to serve as a catalyst for new investment and development. As showcased in USA Today this past year, Campus Martius Park, the signature Downtown Detroit park, has won several national awards and recognition for being one of the top 10 parks in the nation that has helped revive its city’s urban core.

In partnership with the City of Detroit, we operate, maintain and program the five Downtown Detroit parks — Campus Martius Park, Cadillac Square, Capitol Park, Grand Circus Park and Harmonie Park/Paradise Valley. Our activation of these public spaces continues to attract millions of visitors annually, with over 50 different sponsors in 2015. The parks’ vibrancy and activation have helped drive $2 billion of real estate development since 2004.
Downtown development continued to build momentum in 2015. As one project was completed, many more were announced. DDP convenes civic leaders, businesses, and stakeholders to meaningfully participate in advancing Downtown development and policy initiatives. We provide comprehensive strategies to implement a collective vision centered on residential density and improved connectivity to job centers, destinations and neighborhoods.

In 2015, we continued to enhance Downtown growth by focusing efforts on infrastructure to support transit-oriented development. The following projects — Downtown Infrastructure and Non-Motorized Transportation Strategy, Capitol Park Renovation, and Grand Circus Park Development Vision — highlight our work over the past year and our collaboration with public and private entities.

DOWNTOWN INFRASTRUCTURE AND NON-MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION STRATEGY

In coordination with the City of Detroit Department of Public Works, we are implementing a plan to improve the Downtown’s core public area infrastructure, to support more walkable and bikeable streets, catalyze economic development and connect to city-wide districts and neighborhoods. Proposed improvements were developed with broad support from the Downtown business and developer community and include widening sidewalks, striping bike lanes, converting one-way streets to two-way traffic, incorporating a green infrastructure pilot project and facilitating the creation of outdoor cafe seating and patios. The project is being coordinated with and is intended to support the opening of the M-1 RAIL streetcar in 2017.

GRAND CIRCUS PARK DEVELOPMENT VISION

The team created a development vision for Grand Circus Park. The vision proposes a growing residential neighborhood focused and centered on the park, with densities and amenities comparable to Philadelphia’s Rittenhouse Square district. If implemented, the development plan anticipates at least 3,000 additional residents.

CAPITOL PARK RENOVATION

We undertook an extensive community engagement and conceptual design process with Capitol Park area stakeholders leading to the creation of a redesigned park that will better serve the growing residential population and support ground floor businesses as the district continues to mature as a Downtown destination.

Rendering of Capital Park Renovation
Safety and Security

Safety is always a principal concern in any urban core, and ensuring our Downtown is safe and secure is a top priority for DDP. We work actively with the City of Detroit, Detroit Police Department and numerous other public and private community stakeholders on comprehensive strategies and their implementation. Those strategies and partnerships have created the infrastructure needed to support a unified approach to securing Downtown that includes successful solutions, such as the deployment of privately funded police officers under the city’s secondary employment program and Project Lighthouse.

With 33 locations, Project Lighthouse was created as a neighborhood watch program and provides shelter, safety and other resources and information for those in temporary need of assistance. Solutions like this foster the sharing of resources and information between security professionals and community partners to ensure safety and security concerns are addressed for Downtown.

- ▼35% Decrease in stolen vehicles
- ▼18.5% Decrease in larcenies (personal property and vehicle)
- ▼4% Decrease in violent crime (robbery and assault)
Entrepreneurship, startup culture and incubators seemed to be on the minds of Detroiters in 2015. Detroit was ranked in the top 40 metropolitan areas for startup activity, according to a study done by the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation this past year.

Established in 2012, Build Institute has assisted over 700 graduates in turning their business ideas into a reality. Through a network of grassroots programs, Build provides access to tools, education and a support network for hopeful entrepreneurs to get started in the right direction.

Since December 2013, Build has endorsed 15 small businesses and raised $57,450 in micro-loans with a 100 percent repayment rate through the Kiva Zip loan platform.

Build Institute has attracted participants from every zip code in Detroit and has helped activate hundreds of business ideas in neighborhoods across the city including Grandmont Rosedale, Southwest Detroit and Livernois. Build graduates are regularly chosen for programs such as Hatch Detroit, Motor City Match, NEIdeas and Revolve Detroit, further strengthening equitable entrepreneurship in the community.

Build Institute
Demand for living in Detroit is growing every day. The LIVE Detroit program is designed to help support and promote city living through information and tools to simplify the home-finding process. A citywide organization dedicated to retaining existing and attracting new residents to Detroit, LIVE Detroit offers a wide variety of residential resources, including rental listings, a database of Detroit home buying resources, neighborhood profiles and essential information for city residents.

In 2015, the program received a Knight Cities Challenge grant to convene programs nationwide that work to promote city living and to fund programming for 2016. Building on the success of the Live Downtown incentive program, LIVE Detroit will also be launching an expanded employer incentive program for Detroit companies citywide to support residential investment.
Detroit Bike Share

Detroit’s first public bike share system is set to launch in spring 2017 and will provide a healthy, safe and affordable transportation option of self-serve bikes and stations around greater Downtown Detroit. The number of people biking in Detroit has increased dramatically in recent years, from thousands of people participating in group rides such as Slow Roll and Tour de Troit, to those using bikes to commute to work, run errands or get around town. The Hudson-Webber Foundation’s 7.2 SQ MI report noted that approximately 250 bikes pass through greater Downtown on a typical weekday afternoon and, in recent years, the League of American Bicyclists listed Detroit as the fastest growing biking city for commuters in the country.

Detroit Bike Share was announced in 2015, with Henry Ford Health System/Health Alliance Plan as the system’s title sponsor and the City of Detroit as a key partner in securing federal funding. In addition to helping get people where they need to go, Detroit Bike Share will explore how this mobility solution can increase economic integration and help connect Detroitersto opportunity.

$3.9 Million
$3.9 Million dollars raised

350 Bicycles

35 Stations

*Numbers reflect planned installation to take place in 2017.
Detroit Experience Factory

Operating for 10 years, the Detroit Experience Factory (DXF) has become a leading resource for both visitors and existing Detroiterers to discover and experience the city. DXF uses interactive experiences and innovative resources to help newcomers and locals get more connected to the people, places and projects in Detroit. It operates Detroit’s Downtown Welcome Center and has taken over 70,000 people on experiential tours of Detroit since the beginning of the program in 2006.

DXF works with a variety of clients including corporations, nonprofits and individuals to provide customized and public tour options throughout the city. These interactive experiences include introductory overviews, deep dive neighborhood explorations, strolling suppers, scavenger hunts and more.
Downtown Detroit Partnership holds multiple signature events each year in an effort to engage, inform and inspire those in and around the Downtown community.

More than $100,000 was raised at the annual Detroit Aglow fundraiser.

Events

DDP’s Annual Meeting has become a must attend event for change-makers and leaders in Downtown and throughout Detroit. The 2015 event attracted nearly 1,000 attendees who heard from DDP CEO Eric Larson, DDP Board Chair Cindy Pasky and former Washington, D.C. Mayor Anthony A. Williams.
DETROIT AGLOW

This year marked the 32nd annual Detroit Aglow event, where DDP’s leadership and stakeholders came together to celebrate our vibrant city and DDP’s progress. This event is DDP’s premier fundraising event of the year and provides operational support for DDP programming and services. Over 800 people attended the event, and over $100,000 was raised.

STAKEHOLDER MEETING

DDP hosted two stakeholder meetings in 2015, focusing on important updates relative to Downtown development projects and DDP programs and activities. With over 200 people in attendance at each meeting, we discussed many topics such as Downtown and parking infrastructure plans and the commitment of the Shell Eco-Marathon event to the city in the coming years.

Nearly 1,000 were in attendance at the 2015 Annual Meeting
Since the establishment of Downtown Detroit Partnership, we have collaborated with many other organizations to further our vision for Downtown. Through these key relationships, we have been able to expand the reach of our organization’s achievements illustrated in a few projects below.

**CHEVROLET DETROIT BELLE ISLE GRAND PRIXT**

DDP has been an integral part of supporting the event’s return to Belle Isle Park. A subsidiary of DDP, the Chevrolet Detroit Belle Isle Grand Prix has helped facilitate reinvestment in one of Detroit’s most significant assets. Since 2007, more than $13 million has been invested in Belle Isle as a result of the race returning to the island. The Grand Prix has annually generated over $47 million in total spending for the region since its return. DDP has also provided and continues to deliver trash pickup and removal services through the Downtown Ambassador program.

The primary workforce utilized to provide these services at the Grand Prix is Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit. DDP has been partnering with Goodwill since 2006, and the program has employed well over 1,062 individuals. Each year, DDP also hosts a Chalet at the Grand Prix for our board of directors, members and partners to experience the heart-thumping race up close. We hosted 375 people at the DDP Chalet during the 2015 Chevrolet Detroit Belle Isle Grand Prix. This year’s race will be held June 3-5, 2016.

**DETROIT HOMECOMING**

The Crain’s Detroit Business Detroit Homecoming event was first held in 2014 in an effort to bring together former Detroiters to reconnect, recharge and reinvest in Detroit. DDP is the nonprofit partner and fiduciary of the event. DDP serves as an advisory partner and supports Crain’s with grant administration services for their corporate and philanthropic partners. In 2015, DDP supported the planning and execution of this year’s Homecoming event. In addition, we also provided grant writing and promotional assistance.

**GROW DETROIT’S YOUNG TALENT**

Grow Detroit’s Young Talent program was launched in 2014 by the City of Detroit. The program was created to provide citywide summer jobs to employ young adults between the ages of 14 and 24 for six weeks in July and August. In 2015, DDP became a recruiting partner with the program to expand the number of employers and jobs for the upcoming year to reach a goal of 8,000 youth placements. The partnership with DDP contributes to the cultivation of participation among new and existing businesses.
Downtown Detroit Partnership is a member based nonprofit committed to creating a vibrant and world-class urban core in Downtown Detroit. Membership with our organization allows companies to become informed, develop connections and have their voices heard. By becoming a member of DDP, businesses join a powerful network of corporations and individuals supporting our Downtown. Our members are an integral part of the community and have a voice in our diverse and growing city.
Our Members

AAA of Michigan
ABM Industries Inc.
American Building Maintenance
Apparatus Solutions, Inc.
AT&T Michigan
Barris, Sott, Denn & Driker, PLLC
Bassett & Bassett
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan
Bob Maxey Ford Inc.
Bodman PLC
Business Leaders for Michigan
Butzel Long
Campbell Ewald
Chase
City of Detroit
Clark Hill PLC
Comerica Bank
Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan
Compuware Corporation
Crain Communications
Deloitte LLP
Detroit Athletic Club
Detroit Economic Club
Detroit Economic Growth Corporation
Detroit Free Press
Detroit Jazz Festival
Detroit Lions
Michigan.com
Detroit Medical Center
Detroit Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau
The Detroit News
Detroit Public Safety Foundation
Detroit Regional Chamber
Detroit Renewable Energy
Detroit RiverFront Conservancy, Inc.
Detroit Symphony Orchestra
Detroit Transportation Corporation
Detroit-Wayne Joint Building Authority
Detroit-Windsor Tunnel
Dickinson Wright PLLC
Doeren Mayhew
DTE Energy
DuMouchelle
Dykema Gossett PLLC
Eastern Market Corporation
Farbman Group
FCA USA LLC
First Independence Bank
FirstMerit Corporation
Foley & Lardner LLP
Ford Motor Company
The Fulkerson Group
Garan Lucow Miller PC
General Motors
Gensler
Ghafari Associates
Giffels-Webster
Greektown Casino-Hotel
Hamilton Anderson Associates
Henry Ford Health System
HNTB Corporation
Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP
Hudson-Webber Foundation
Ilitch Holdings, Inc.
Invest Detroit
Jackson Lewis PC
Jefferson East, Inc.
John S. and James L. Knight Foundation
KPMG LLP
Kresge Foundation
Lambert, Edwards & Associates
Larson Realty Group LLC
LeClerc Display Company, Inc.
Iovio george
Mariners Inn
Means Group Inc.
MGM Grand Detroit
Michigan Auto Law
Midtown Detroit, Inc.
Newmark Grubb Knight Frank
NextEnergy
Olympia Development of Michigan
The Parade Company
Penske Corporation, Inc.
Pewabic
Piedmont Office Realty Trust, Inc.
Prime Companies
PVS Chemicals, Inc.
PwC
Quicken Loans, Inc.
Ram Realty Services
REDICO
Rivertown Detroit Association
Rock Ventures LLC
The Roxbury Group
Rush Group, LLC
Sargent Consulting Group, LLC
Schostak Brothers & Company, Inc.
Second Ebenezer Church
Rivertown Inn & Suites
Skillman Foundation
SPEC Associates
Strategic Staffing Solutions
State of Michigan
Sterling Group
Stokas Bieri Real Estate
The Stroh Companies, Inc.
The Taubman Company LLC
Trowbridge Law Firm PC
Turner Construction Company
UHY LLP
University of Detroit Mercy
Ventra Group LLC
Walbridge
Wayne County
Wayne State University
WDIV-TV 4
White Construction
YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit
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President and Chief Executive Officer
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President and Chief Executive Officer
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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
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*Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan*

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Attorney
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Managing Member
Pierce, Monroe & Associates, LLC

Steven J. Zanella
President and Chief Executive Officer
MGM Grand Detroit

VICE CHAIR

George P. Barnes, Jr.
President and Chief Executive Officer
Heritage Vision Plans; Owner, Heritage Optical Center

SECRETARY

Mark M. King
Manager, Economic Development
DTE Energy

TREASURER

Richard J. Hosey III
Owner
Hosey Development

Debra Homic Hoge
Global Director, Real Estate and Global Business Services, Planning and Financial Support
General Motors

Downtown Detroit Partnership Team
Downtown Detroit Partnership Team

Eric Larson
Chief Executive Officer

Kelly Kozlowski
Chief Operating Officer

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Chief Financial Officer

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Chief Business Development Officer and BIZ Director

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Chief Public Spaces Officer

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