

# About the BIZ

The Downtown Detroit Business Improvement Zone (BIZ) creates a clean, safe and vibrant Downtown through services provided to property owners, businesses, residents and employees. The BIZ, in collaboration with Downtown Detroit Partnership (DDP), is dedicated to enhancing the attractiveness and overall appeal of the Downtown Detroit Central Business District.

The BIZ is led by a volunteer Board of Directors, which represents the community of Downtown property owners who decided to invest in a special assessment to supplement city services and advance Downtown.

# Services provided through the BIZ

- Community and Business Engagement
- Data
- Downtown Ambassadors
- Downtown Supplemental Lighting
- Infrastructure and Planning
- Park and Street Landscaping
- Safety



\$42,056,676

projected investment by the BIZ over 10 years (2014-2024) 15

members of board of directors

11

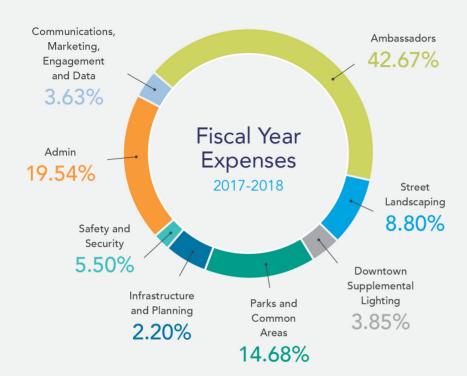
Residents and visitors see the success of BIZ programs and services, such as the graffiti-free buildings, clean and safe streets and efficient recycling and trash collection.

In the future, we not only want to maintain the high level of service, but look to innovative approaches to keep pace with a rapidly expanding Downtown."

Eric Larson Chief Executive Officer Downtown Detroit Partnership



# **Financials**



Over 80% of funding goes directly to programs, with less than 20% in administrative expenses

Annually, the BIZ budget continues to be balanced

# 2006

# **February**

Super Bowl XL comes to Detroit resulting in the launch of the Clean Downtown program by a group of private donors to beautify Downtown Detroit

# March

Acknowledging the importance of the Clean Downtown program, Downtown Detroit Partnership continues to manage the program BIZ Milestones

### October

2013

Michigan Public Act 126 was signed into law to update and streamline the process for creating a Business Improvement Zone (Amended 2001 Act)

The BIZ offers a great value proposition to Downtown property owners - as well as for evervone who lives. works or visits Detroit. Part of enjoying a thriving and dynamic city is the ability to feel connected - and the BIZ Ambassadors do this so well by providing a warm welcome to all."

Tricia Keith, Chair, Downtown Detroit Business Improvement Zone: Executive Vice President, Chief of Staff and Corporate Secretary Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan



# Downtown Detroit **Ambassador Impact**

91%

of Ambassadors are Detroiters



569

Tons of trash removed



2,914

Graffiti tags removed



4,499

Motorists assisted



48,570

Pedestrians assisted

From 2017 to 2018. there was



96% increase in tons of trash removed



7% increase in hours worked

as a result of efficiencies created in operations.

33%

of the Ambassador workforce represent youth, seniors, veterans and people with disabilities, criminal backgrounds and other challenges

2014

# February-March

Detroit City Council public hearing was held to establish a Downtown Detroit Business Improvement Zone and approves establishment of BIZ with the proposed Zone plan

# April

Downtown Detroit BIZ was approved by an overwhelming majority of assessed property owners

# August

First meeting of the Downtown Detroit BIZ Board of Directors

# December

First BIZ Annual Meeting of Assessed Property Owners convened

# 2015 June

Building on the success of the Clean Downtown program, the Downtown Detroit Ambassador program was launched

It was my first week of work in Detroit that past week. I parked at a meter and ran into Christina from your Ambassador team. She gave me a slew of advice about parking Downtown, including the website to extend metered parking, parking lots that are less expensive and possible public transportation."

- Downtown Employee

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I just wanted to say that Omar of your Ambassador team really takes pride in what he does. Not only was he helpful with letting us know about the changes in the food trucks, he cleaned up our area so that we would have a really good lunch hour. Keep up the good work with this kind of employee."

- Downtown Resident

## **Downtown Statistics**

21

New development projects

1,041
Total new

units

119%

Increase of residential units

73,305

7.3%

Workers Downtown Change since 2011

\$20.58

\$20.07

Office rental rate

Service rental rate



48226 & 48201 ZIP codes





Local businesses and property owners have contributed nearly \$12 million into the BIZ since 2014. This shows how imperative the ongoing support and commitment is to the future of a strong Downtown. The BIZ continues to lead by example where others cities across the country use Downtown Detroit as a model."

Gina Cavaliere, Chief Community Impact Officer and BIZ Director

# 2016

2017

Business Outreach for M-1 Streetcar Impact Mitigation transitioned to the BIZ Connect, a sidewalk level business network Continuing the refinement of BIZ services, activity in the BIZ near-doubled from 2016 to 2017

### October

Racheal Allen, Operations Manager for the Downtown Detroit Ambassador program, was presented with the Block By Block Rookie of the Year Award, recognizing excellence in Operations Managers

### November

Ambassador program was presented with the Spirit of Detroit Award by Detroit City Council

# 2017-2018 Highlights

- 3D Downtown Development Map
  For the 2018 Fall Stakeholder Meeting, the existing
  two-dimensional map was upgraded to a threedimensional map of Downtown's developments and
  pipeline projects.
- Community Engagement Parks and Public Spaces
  An engagement strategy was developed
  surrounding the Downtown parks and public spaces
  that will be synthesized into recommendations for

2019

- BIZ Connect Event Series
  In its third year, the BIZ Connect events again
  brought businesses and community members
  together to learn about resources available through
  the Detroit Police Department (DPD), DDP and
  other community partners.
- 4 2017-2018 Downtown Detroit
  Perception Survey
  The BIZ contracted with Michigan State University

The BIZ contracted with Michigan State University Office of Survey Research to improve and expand the reach of the Downtown Detroit Perception Survey to more Detroit residents.

resource card was released with important contact

Detroit Police Department Meet and Greet - Downtown Resource Card
During a BIZ Connect meeting, the BIZ hosted
DPD and community members to meet the new
DPD beat officers. In conjunction, a new Downtown

information for public entities.

Infrastructure Improvements
Throughout Downtown new infrastructure
improvements have been made including, 220
new permanent trash cans, 19 new dog waste
receptacles and a recycling pilot in Cadillac Square aiming to expand in the coming year.

- 7 Mental Aid First Aid Training
  The BIZ and DDP leadership and
  Ambassador and security teams earned
  "Mental Health First Aid USA" certificates
  from the National Council for Behavioral
  Health
- A comprehensive supplemental lighting A comprehensive supplemental lighting program has been developed, including new winter lighting and other lighting elements to be installed in spring 2019, based on Wayne State University's dark study.
- Personalized Business Support
  The BIZ team continues to focus on oneon-one meetings with businesses to better
  understand their needs, allowing the team
  to tailor engagement that is beneficial for
  all types of businesses.
- Project Lighthouse Mobile Location and Program Updates

The BIZ has established a mobile Project Lighthouse location connecting directly to other Downtown security professionals, including DPD and utilizing the existing radio system to communicate in an emergency. This supports Project Lighthouse, Downtown's neighborhood watch program.

The BIZ partnered with Detroit Experience Factory for the second year to bring Small BIZ Tours to Detroiters, featuring 15 Downtown businesses.

# Total BIZ Assessment The Downtown Detroit BIZ assessment is based on each property's assessed value and floor area. 2.18% Change from 2016-2017



2016

2017

2017

# 2018

For the second year, the BIZ is on track to neardouble activity from 2017 to 2018

# September

Racheal Allen and the Ambassador Program named a 2018 Change Maker of Detroit by WXYZ Channel 7 Action News

# **2024**April

Renewal by vote of assessed property owners is needed to continue the services provided by the BIZ

2014

2015

2014







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