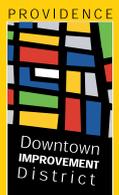




2017/18 Annual Report

PROVIDENCE DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT



Clean & Safe

The Providence Downtown Improvement District's (DID) most visible work is performed by the Clean and Safe teams, recognized by their bright yellow and black uniforms.



REGULAR CLEAN SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Sidewalk sweeping
- Litter collection
- Emptying of trash cans
- Gum removal
- Weeding
- Maintaining inventories of issues for the city to address, such as potholes and broken lights

SEASONAL PROJECTS:

- Sidewalk pressure washing
- Graffiti removal
- Painting of street furniture
- Minor brick sidewalk repair
- Snow shoveling from curbs
- Installation of holiday wreaths

SAFETY AMBASSADORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- Patrolling the district on foot and on bicycle
- Assisting pedestrians and motorists
- Serving as liaisons with the business community
- Distributing marketing materials
- Communicating about parking regulations
- Sharing information with the public at special events
- Maintaining regular contact with the Providence Police
- Supporting the Downtown Providence Parks Conservancy's programs in Burnside Park



Photo: Marianne Lee

Downtown Providence District Management Authority

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS FY 2017: JULY 1, 2016—JUNE 30, 2017*

OPERATING REVENUES

ASSESSMENTS- TAXABLE	\$987,444
ASSESSMENTS- TAX-EXEMPT	\$340,624
CONTRIBUTIONS	\$24,500
CONTRIBUTED SERVICES	\$42,620
OTHER INCOME	\$37,186

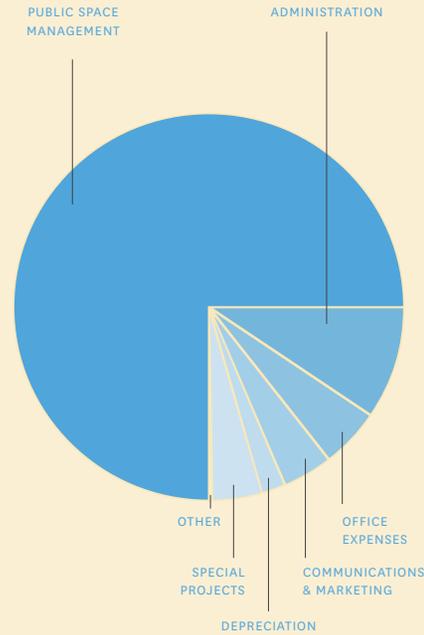
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE
\$1,432,374

OPERATING EXPENSES

PUBLIC SPACE MANAGEMENT	\$1,021,681
ADMINISTRATION	\$128,218
OFFICE EXPENSES	\$66,909
COMMUNICATIONS/MARKETING	\$55,340
DEPRECIATION	\$29,375
SPECIAL PROJECTS	\$54,139
OTHER EXPENSES	\$3,178

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES
\$1,358,840

NET OPERATING INCOME \$73,534



Clean & Safe

FY 2017 STATISTICS
JULY 1, 2016—JUNE 30, 2017

GRAFFITI REMOVED

1,106

STICKERS REMOVED

1,436

5,482

SAFETY TEAM BUSINESS CONTACTS

HOSPITALITY ASSISTANCE

13,158

TRASH COLLECTED (POUNDS)

764,475

* These figures are based on the Providence Downtown Improvement District's annual audit conducted by Citrin Cooperman. For a copy of the complete report, please contact the DID office.

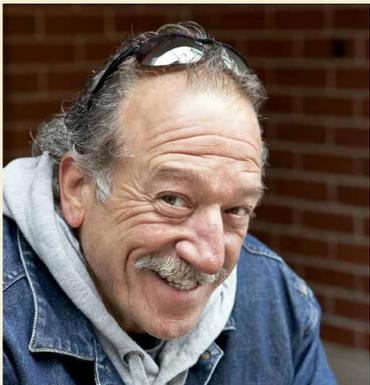
Landscaping



Photo: Rachel Hillin

Carefully selected flowers and plants accentuate the historic architecture that makes Providence so distinctive. From late May through October, the Clean Team is responsible for the planting and ongoing maintenance of a colorful landscaping & beautification program, which reinforces the city's welcoming image. Financial support from several community partners has allowed the program to expand to feature 292 hanging flower baskets, 70 planters, and 11 ground gardens throughout the district. With the completion of the ADA streetscape project in the Financial District, the hanging baskets have a visible presence on decorative light posts in that area for the first time.

In memory of Frank Zammarelli



We mourn the loss of Frank Zammarelli, longtime DID operations manager, who passed away in June 2017. His seasonal landscaping program transformed the downtown environment, and he relished the challenge of juggling multiple projects while maintaining the flowers. He had an unusual ability to connect with his employees, and he was known for managing a loyal team. During his 12 years with the DID, Frank and his staff earned several accolades, most recently receiving a Special Recognition Award from the Providence Warwick Convention & Visitors Bureau in November 2016. Frank is deeply missed, and he leaves a lasting legacy downtown.

Quality of Life

Working with our partners, we have developed a comprehensive plan to address complex quality of life issues such as congregating on sidewalks, engaging in criminal and illegal behavior, panhandling, and trespassing on private property. Our recommendations include support for social service outreach workers, participation in Amos House's A Hand Up program that provides short-term work opportunities for people who had previously been homeless, and educating the public about donating to local agencies instead of giving money directly to panhandlers.

DID ambassadors have also been trained on relevant civil and constitutional laws, as well as the Homeless Bill of Rights. Thanks to an expanded downtown police presence and increased coordination between social service agencies, the community's response has been positive.

We collaborate with other community leaders so that downtown remains a safe, healthy, and welcoming place to gather and socialize.

Co-chaired by the DID and the Providence Police, the **Downtown Security Network** brings public and private security forces together to address quality of life issues.

Through the **Hospitality Resource Partnership**, property owners, club managers, city staff, and others coordinate to develop a safe yet vibrant nighttime economy. The group addresses concerns such as underage drinking and overcrowding, and advocates for the creation of a city task force to solve them.

The DID has also connected with residents, business owners, the city administration, and festival coordinators to ensure that outdoor events are managed properly, and the public is informed about road closures and other impacts.

Photo: Joelle Kenner

Streetscape & Capital Improvements

FINANCIAL DISTRICT STREETScape PROJECT

In 2017, the DID helped facilitate the completion of a major streetscape project on Westminster and Weybosset streets in the Financial District from Turks Head Plaza to Dorrance Street. Working closely with the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) and the Providence Department of Public Works, we advocated for upgrades such as road paving, installation of new decorative street lights, the addition of a crosswalk between the Arcade and the Industrial Trust Building, and replacement of sidewalks that were in poor condition with new accessible sidewalks and curbs.

FRANCIS STREET SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

We also coordinated with RIDOT and the city administration on safety enhancements on Francis Street, extending from the intersection with Memorial Boulevard to Exchange Terrace. The design changes are intended to discourage cars from making illegal left turns and prevent pedestrians from walking into oncoming traffic. RIDOT installed large overhead traffic lights, expanded the sidewalk on the east side of the street, added landscaping, and placed a gate by the sidewalk on the west side of the street to limit pedestrian access.

WAYFINDING SIGNAGE

In 2017, a public/private partnership that included the DID installed more than 70 dark blue vehicular wayfinding signs between Smith and Point streets. The project helps people find parking near their destinations, while branding the area in a positive way. Funding came from a variety of sources including a Commerce RI Main Street Streetscape grant.

LIVING ALLEYS

We are engaged in a project to improve pedestrian conditions in some of the smaller streets downtown. Middle Street served as a prototype, with several property owners combining efforts to use a shared dumpster and trash compactor.

Economic Development

As Downtown Providence evolves, the DID continues to serve an important leadership role, ensuring that our 83-block district is a clean, safe, and attractive place to work, live, visit, and invest.



To celebrate the growth and variety of residential options in the neighborhood, the DID and The Providence Foundation organized a **Downtown Living Tour** on June 10, 2017. Twelve properties participated in the event, which attracted more than 350 participants.

RESIDENTIAL LIFE

The **Downtown Neighborhood Association** gives current residents a strong voice on city issues. The group meets on a monthly basis and encourages a sense of civic responsibility through volunteer projects such as riverwalk cleanups.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Over the past two years, the rehabilitation of historic buildings and the completion of major streetscape improvement projects have transformed the capital city, paving the way for new construction.

32 Custom House: 10 apartments above retail, located in the Financial District.

75 Fountain: Redevelopment of a 4-story 165,000 square foot landmark office building.

225 Weybosset: 12 unique apartments with carefully preserved historic details.

Case Mead Lofts: Adaptive reuse of an office building at 68-76 Dorrance Street as 44 microloft apartments.

G Reserve: redevelopment of the 12-story Union Trust building at 170 Westminster Street.

JWU School of Engineering & Design: 3-story engineering and science academic center.

Roger Williams University: new Providence campus at One Empire Plaza.

Sampalis Building: 15 studio and 1-BR apartments at 199-205 Weybosset.

Planned and/or under construction:

- 78 Fountain Street
- Homewood Suites by Hilton
- Hotel Beatrice
- Lapham, Trayne, and Wit buildings
- Marriott Residence Inn

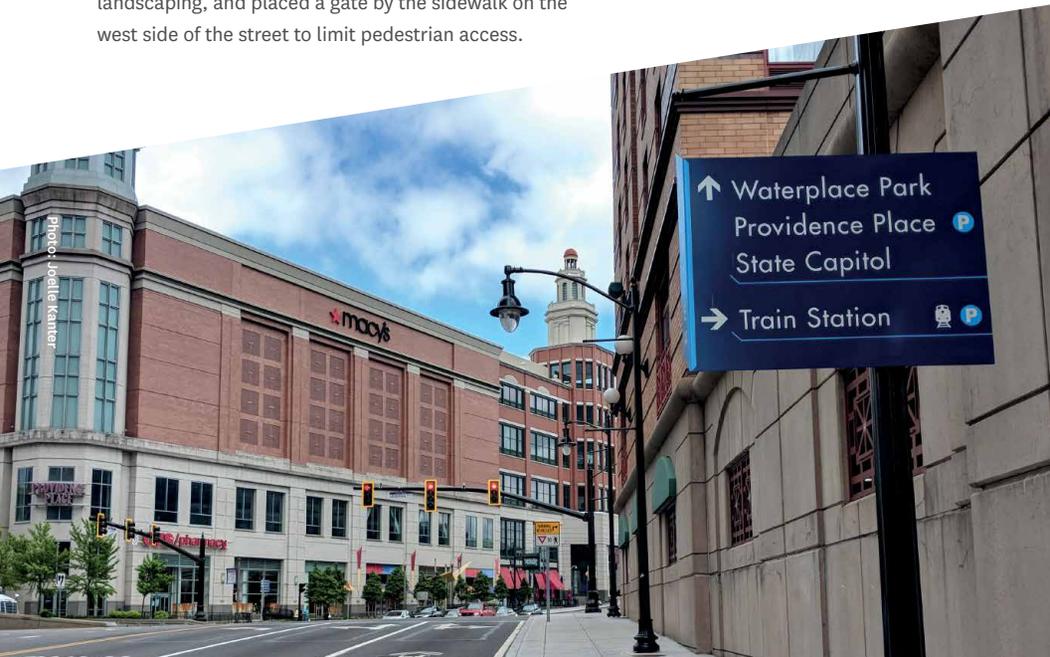


Photo: Eli DeFaria

Photo: Joelle Kanter



CURRENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Joseph R. Paolino, Jr., Chairman
- Evan Granoff, Vice-chairman
- Matt Marcello, Treasurer
- Robert Gagliardi, Secretary
- Aarin Clemons
- Emily Crowell
- Joseph DiBattista
- Steve Durkee
- Susan Lapidus
- Richard Lappin
- Michael Voccola
- Jason Witham

EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

- Lt. Roger Aspinall
- Lisa Paratore
- Leo Perrotta
- Richard Pezzillo
- Carla Ricci
- Shey Rivera
- Karen Santilli
- Cliff Wood

STAFF

- Frank LaTorre, Executive Director
- Alison Izzi, Finance Manager
- Timothy Hamlin, Operations Manager

MISSION

To continuously enhance the quality of life in Downtown Providence.

Since February 2005, the Providence Downtown Improvement District (DID) has provided supplemental clean and safe services downtown. We advocate for major initiatives—like streetscape and sidewalk improvement—and we also manage downtown landscaping, hospitality, marketing and economic development projects. Our programs enhance existing services, giving special attention to the area bounded by Route I-95 Memorial Boulevard, Citizens Plaza, the Providence River, and the former Route I-195.



30 Exchange Terrace, 4th Floor
Providence, RI 02903
(401) 421-4450
downtownprovidence.com
@ provdowntown