

## DOWNTOWN

### *DENVER*

#### **Downtown Denver Partnership**

Downtown Denver Partnership, Inc. (DDP) is a non-profit business organization that creatively plans, manages and develops Downtown Denver as the unique, diverse, vibrant and economically healthy urban core of the Rocky Mountain region. Since 1955, DDP has been the advocate for the center city's business community, bringing together leaders from a broad range of industries and markets to ensure that Downtown Denver remains an active, livable place.

The roles the Downtown Denver Partnership plays in the daily life of Downtown Denver are a unique mix, everything from leader to place maker, idea generator to recruiter, team builder to policy advocate. The Partnership's six areas of focus—Leadership, Jobs, Experience, Environment, Connections and Housing—are the basic, intertwined elements of this vibrant business organization.

The Partnership's relevance in Downtown Denver can be summed up in four messages:

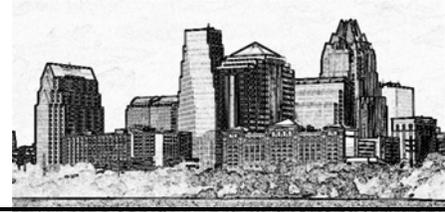
- The Partnership represents Downtown businesses, commercial property owners, and 60,000 employees in the largest business district in the Rocky Mountain region.
- The Partnership is the collective voice of Downtown businesses and property owners, and we enhance Downtown's environment to inspire the success of Downtown business.
- For almost half a century, the Partnership has provided leadership in transforming ideas into action for Downtown.
- The Partnership provides access to vital information necessary for your business to succeed, an opportunity for the voice of business to be heard, and access to decision makers.

Areas of focus: economic development Services, center city housing support office, marketing communications

**Downtown Denver, Inc. (DDI)** is the Downtown Denver Partnership's membership organization that cultivates private sector leadership and develops and implements programs to enhance Downtown Denver's business, cultural and residential environment.

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Areas of focus: membership services, advocacy, investor marketing, consumer marketing, transportation management

**Denver Civic Ventures, Inc. (DCV)**, the Downtown Denver Partnership's charitable public purpose corporation, mobilizes resources to implement civic design and development initiatives to enhance Downtown Denver's business, cultural and residential environment.

Areas of focus: events, resource development, civic design and planning, center city housing support, central Platte Valley development

**Downtown Denver Business Improvement District (BID)**, a 120-block, property owner assessment district, provides property owner leadership and involvement in the improvement and enhancement of Downtown Denver.

Areas of focus: daily cleaning, maintenance and enhancement services throughout the district, capital improvements and repairs, District-wide security, marketing and promotions support, provides resources for economic development programs.

<http://www.downtowndenver.com/index.htm>

### **Lower Downtown (LoDo)**

The 23 plus square block area of the original city of Denver is now called Lower Downtown Denver or LoDo.

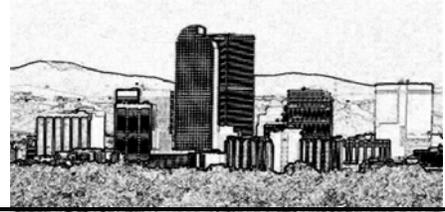
#### **The LoDo District, Inc.**

The Lower Downtown Historic District was formed by an act of City Council in March 1988. The historic status granted protection to the community's historic fiber, and to 127 contributing historic structures that remained (approximately 20 percent of Lower Downtown's buildings were demolished in the 1960's and 70's).

This protection was achieved in part by enactment of a zoning ordinance that includes building height limitations and strict design guidelines for rehabilitation and new construction. The LoDo District, Inc. was formed in 1989 when a loosely organized group of Lower Downtown property owners joined with a struggling marketing entity named the District Collaborative. This joint effort produced a diverse group of men and women whose community and philanthropic interests are focused on the needs of the neighborhood.

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The LoDo District, Inc. is a non-profit, 501(c) 3 neighborhood marketing and advocacy membership organization created to preserve and protect the historic district. The B-7 zoned historic district is bordered by 14th Street, 20th Street, Wynkoop Street and the alley between Market and Larimer Streets.

The goals of the LoDo District, Inc. are to:

- Influence public policies in this mixed-use neighborhood;
- Preserve the integrity of its national historic designation;
- Promote neighborhood businesses to residents, visitors and tourists;
- Build collaborative initiatives between LoDo members; and
- Present issue-related forums and lectures to benefit the membership and the community at large.

This mission statement reflects the LoDo District's commitment to striking a balance between growth and preservation.

Today, the LoDo District has over 300 members. There are nine active committees attending to all aspects of the neighborhood: transportation, special events, preservation and urban design, and economic development. The LoDo District publishes a weekly electronic newsletter, for members only, featuring updates on current issues, the "buzz" from the street, and a calendar of events.

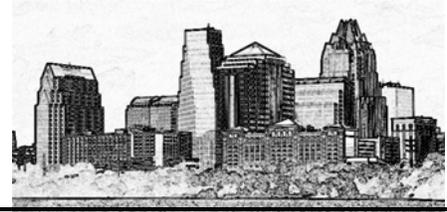
### **16<sup>th</sup> Street Transit Mall**

Denver's development in the 1970s led to the dense congestion of 16th Street, a narrow but lively spine of residences, commerce, transport and retail. The 16<sup>th</sup> Street Transit Mall project was undertaken to facilitate public transportation for both downtown and outlying areas, while consolidating and revitalizing the diverse city core.

The challenge was to create a cohesive identity for 16th Street without sacrificing its distinctive personality. The solution, emphasizing people and specialized transit, involves a nearly one-mile-long (13 blocks) integrated mall with a suburban bus node at each end. From the nodes, commuters transfer to the mall's shuttle buses for passage through downtown, reducing center city bus traffic by 50%.

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Planning began in 1978. In 1980 construction began and was completed in 1982. Today, more than 60,000 riders board the 16th Street Mall's free shuttles on weekdays, with increasing numbers on weekends and weekday evenings.

The 80-foot-wide mall uses paving, lighting and planting to articulate three zones of activity. The first is a 22-foot-wide central promenade with mature trees that shade without blocking visibility or access to shopping. This pedestrian spine is flanked by 10-foot-wide bus paths (slightly depressed for safety) and expanded 19-foot sidewalks.

Granite pavers of charcoal gray, light gray and Colorado red articulate the zones in a rattlesnake-like pattern that, pronounced at center, becomes less busy at the edges so as not to detract from building coloration or window displays. Specially designed lanterns variously light the mall for dusk, night and after-hours security, while a wide range of new street furniture fosters a sense of coherence.

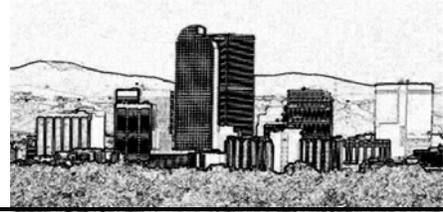
Two Downtown information kiosks are located on the 16th Street Mall. The kiosks are staffed with knowledgeable people to help residents and visitors find their way around and answer other questions. The 16th Street Mall is the primary shopping and entertainment strip of Downtown Denver.

The Denver Performing Arts Complex and Colorado Convention Center are two blocks from the 16th Street Mall, Coors Field is four blocks from the Mall, and the shuttle runs right through Lower Downtown between Blake and Wynkoop Street. The Pepsi Center arena and City Lights Pavilion are about four blocks from the Mall, across Speer Boulevard. Nearly all of Downtown Denver's 5,300 hotel rooms are within two blocks of the 16th Street Mall.

The 16th Street Mall receives daily cleaning, maintenance and support by the Downtown Denver Business Improvement District (BID), a management organization funded by Downtown property owners. The BID's purple-uniformed crew removes trash, sweeps the sidewalk and transitway, removes graffiti, installs banners and holiday decorations and keeps the Mall clean, safe and attractive seven days a week.

The Mall was designed by internationally renowned architect I.M. Pei, who also designed the Pyramide du Louvre in Paris and the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland.

<http://www.downtowndenver.com/bid/16thstmall.htm>



## **Policing Downtown**

District 6 is responsible for public safety in the central part of the city. The approximate boundaries are the Platte River to the north and west, 6th Avenue on the south; and Downing and York Streets on the east. This encompasses the neighborhoods of Auraria, Capitol Hill, Downtown Business District, Cheesman Park, City Park West, Civic Center, Five Points, Lincoln Park, North Capitol Hill, and Union Station. This also includes LoDo (lower downtown), Coors Field and the Platte Valley, which includes Six Flags Elitch Gardens and the new Pepsi Center. This is a vibrant and exciting area of the city, which is host to special events on a daily basis.

Basic staffing consists of 14 precinct cars on a 24 hour, 7 day a week, 365 day per year basis, with overlapping shifts during peak periods of calls for service. We also have a SCAT Team (Special Crime Attack Team), which is used to address ongoing crime problems within the district. There are 10 Neighborhood Police Officers (NPOs) who have 24-hour responsibility for long-term problem solving within their respective neighborhoods. Officers on motorcycles supplement the Downtown Business District and the 16th Street Mall and officers on horseback assist the entire district. Finally, there is an all weather bike patrol in the Capitol Hill area as well as several other officers who ride bicycles throughout the district in the summer months.

[http://www.denvergov.org/District\\_6\\_Station/1074aboutus.asp](http://www.denvergov.org/District_6_Station/1074aboutus.asp)

## **Quality Of Life Ordinances**

Denver's loitering law has been declared unconstitutional by the courts. It exists on the books but cannot be used. Instead, Denver has enacted two new loitering laws.

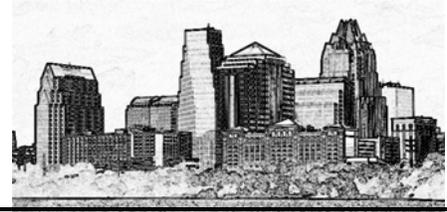
Section 38-86 makes it unlawful to obstruct a highway, street, sidewalk, railway, waterway, building entrance, elevator, aisle, stairway or hallway to which the public has access, or any other place used for the passage of persons, vehicles, or conveyances.

It is also unlawful to disobey a reasonable request or order to move issued by an individual the person knows is a peace officer, a firefighter or a person with authority to control the use of the premises.

Section 38-87 makes it unlawful for any person to significantly obstruct or interfere with a meeting, procession, parade or gathering by physical action, verbal utterance, or other means.

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Denver ordinance prohibits aggressive panhandling and establishes areas in which panhandling is not permitted. For example, panhandling is prohibited near ATMs, the 16<sup>th</sup> street shuttle, the entrance to buildings and after dark anywhere in the city.

## **Homelessness**

Mayor Hickenlooper appointed a 41-member Commission to End Homelessness. In May, the commission recommended a 10-year, \$122 million plan to address homelessness. The Plan calls for developing more than 3,200 transitional-housing units coupled with a strong network of support services. A recent survey counted roughly 4,600 homeless people in Denver, many of them homeless for the first time because of the loss of a job or high housing costs.

Startup costs for the proposal would total \$7.7 million the first year, with an estimated budget of \$12.5 million each year after that. Half of the funds would be provided by governmental sources, with nonprofit groups providing one-fourth, and corporations and individuals paying another quarter of the costs.

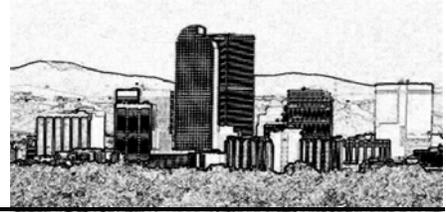
Housing is the cornerstone of the plan, which proposes building 3,193 units of transitional housing and 1,453 additional beds in emergency shelters. Once the housing is underway, the commission wants to implement a better network of support and services for the occupants - such as substance-abuse and mental-health counseling, medical care, job training and parenting skills. Transitional housing can be semi-permanent or permanent housing, usually coupled with financial assistance for people earning less than \$15,050, or 30 percent of the area median income.

Emergency shelter beds are filled nightly and emptied each morning. The commission is working with the Denver City Council on proposed zoning changes, allowing creation of new emergency shelters in governmental and nonprofit buildings. The city last year overwhelmingly rejected a proposal by homeless people to erect a tent city, vacant schools have been dropped from the plan, and the city is de-emphasizing its reliance on churches.

The plan, modeled after a successful project undertaken in Philadelphia, calls for substantial outreach programs to persuade the homeless to come in for help. For those who refuse or for those who remain chronically homeless, enforcement of city ordinances, such as those prohibiting panhandling or sleeping in the open, will be the last resort.

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## **Skate Park**

Denver's Skatepark is the largest free public skate facility in the nation. It is designed for both street skating and vertical skating, mimicking an urban environment of planters, curbs, rails, bowls, and more. Novices and experts alike can find areas to skate, including the mogul-inspired "washboard," the ten-foot-deep "dog bowl" and a half-pipe. The park will be open 365 days a year, from 5 a.m. to 11 p.m., with specialized athletic lighting illuminating the park in the evenings. It will be managed like any other city park, having free admission and regular police patrol, and allowing skaters to skate at their own risk.



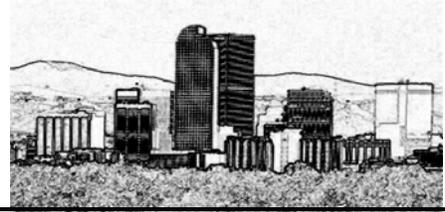
## 2003 CENTER CITY DEVELOPMENT MAP KEY

### Downtown (CBD, LODO, CPV)

- Housing (under construction only)
  - 1) Creekside Lofts
  - 2) Residences @ Prospect – Fox & Inca
  - 3) Central YMCA Building
- ◆ Other (proposed & under const.)
  - 1) Platte Valley Bridge
  - 2) Skate Park Expansion
  - 3) Legacy Plaza
  - 4) Capital Grille
  - 5) Auditorium Theater Renovation
  - 6) Convention Center Expansion
  - 7) Hyatt Convention Center Hotel
  - 8) Art Museum Expansion

### Neighborhoods

- Housing (under construction only)
  - 4) Jefferson @ Citygate
  - 5) Premier Lofts
  - 6) Tower on the Park
  - 7) Tribeca West
  - 8) Humboldt Gardens
  - 9) The Baron
  - 10) Beauvallon
  - 11) Walker's Row



## **AUSTIN**

### **Downtown Austin Alliance**

The Downtown Austin Alliance (DAA) is a partnership of individuals and businesses devoted to promoting and maintaining a safe, clean, attractive, accessible, and fun Downtown environment.

In April 1993, the City Council approved a Public Improvement District (PID) to address the unique needs of Downtown Austin. A special assessment on privately owned large properties valued at more than \$500,000 within the district is the primary source of funding for the DAA. Other partners contributing funds include the City of Austin and Travis County. The partnership has grown to include businesses, civic and cultural organizations, and many individuals.

The Alliance is structured into five primary categories with supporting committees working to get things done: Arts and Entertainment/Marketing, Economic Development, Parks, Streetscapes & Transportation, and Security & Maintenance.

One of the organization's best-known and most-loved programs is the Austin Downtown Rangers (see below). The DAA also produces Street Scenes, the Tree Lighting at the Capitol, the Congress Avenue Holiday Stroll, and Downtown Parks revitalization.

Downtown has a growing population of more than 5,000 people and 1,200 new residential units. It has always been an important part of the Austin community's tax base and a benefit to all of Austin. The dense development of Downtown exports more tax dollars than are expended within its geographical area. Since 1993, the value of the PID has more than tripled from \$520 million to \$1.76 billion.

Property owners in Downtown have twice re-authorized the PID. The last time was in 2001, with the re-authorization petition's signatures representing more than 84 percent of the value of the PID.

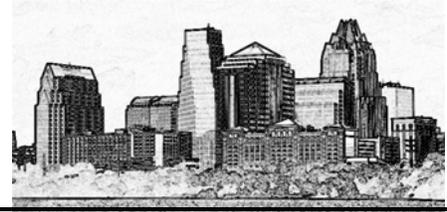
### **Austin Downtown Rangers**

In 1994, the Austin Downtown Rangers department was formed as a joint venture between the Downtown Austin Alliance and the Austin Police Department (APD).

The Rangers are not police officers and do not carry weapons or make arrests. Their purpose is to enhance public safety by being the "eyes and ears" of the APD.

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Their visible presence in the PID acts as a crime deterrent. The Rangers request voluntary compliance for minor infractions of the law.

The Rangers' continuous two-way radio communication with Police Dispatch facilitates ready access to the APD, the Austin Fire Department and the Emergency Medical Service, resulting in quick response to any emergency. Rangers patrol the PID - an area of more than two hundred square blocks - on bike and on foot from 6:30 AM to 10:00 PM, Monday through Saturday.

The Downtown Austin Alliance and the City of Austin contribute the funding necessary to support the Austin Downtown Rangers. The APD, the City of Austin, and the Austin Convention and Visitors Bureau provide formal training in safety patrol techniques and code enforcement, security issues, CPR/first aid, and community ambassadorship.

<http://www.downtownaustin.com/>

### **Downtown Policing**

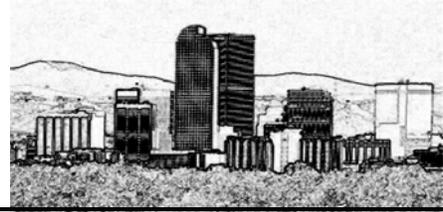
The Austin Police Department has nine area commands. Each command is set up to provide all police services within their geographic area. Downtown Austin falls within the Downtown Area Command commonly known as DTAC. The DTAC geographic area goes north from Town Lake to 29<sup>th</sup> Street and west from Interstate 35 to the Mopac expressway.

Within this area there is the downtown area that includes office high-rise buildings, numerous banks, retail shopping, loft apartments, and two entertainment districts. The area also encompasses the University of Texas and the state capital complex. The downtown area also serves as the center for numerous large public events. Some of these include a Halloween celebration, Mardi Gras, Capital 10,000 race, and the Republic of Texas motorcycle rally (this rally is now the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest motorcycle rally in the US). The population downtown during one of these events may exceed 100,000 people.

The staffing levels of the DTAC command include one commander and five Lieutenants as management. There are six patrol shifts that include one Sergeant, one or two Corporals, and ten Officers. DTAC has four patrol districts and we will always staff four patrol cars. The other Officers are assigned different duties as needed. DTAC maintains a walking beat as well as bicycles, or additional patrol cars depending on activity. DTAC staffs a Mounted patrol

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with one Sergeant and seven Officers. The horses are primarily deployed at night in the entertainment districts.

We also have a plainclothes unit named Street Response that has one Sergeant, one Detective, and seven Officers. This unit is used to address different problems that arise in DTAC such as auto thefts, burglaries, or drug trafficking. DTAC includes a Detective Unit with one Sergeant and five Detectives. They are responsible for investigating crime reports and filing appropriate criminal charges. We also maintain a three Officer unit named District Representatives. They act as community liaisons and problem solvers. The last unit is a Motorcycle unit comprised of four Officers. Their primary duties are traffic control and enforcement.

As with all major metropolitan areas we are challenged with a substantial number of homeless people. The downtown area has numerous social service facilities, which provide a variety of services to these people. The police department is constantly challenged to balance the needs of these people and the concerns of the business community. The DTAC management staff and our district representatives regularly attend meetings with social agencies and business groups in an ongoing effort to make life better for everyone in the downtown area.

One of the innovations in recent years is the creation of a Community Court separate from the standard Municipal Court system. The idea of the Community Court is to provide a means whereby public order crime violators in the downtown area are taken quickly into the court system. A major component of this court is a social service intervention to try and break the cycle of chronic repeat offenders. In addition the punishment given out by the court always involves some type of public service within the area affected by their behavior.

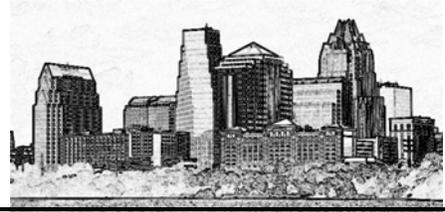
The violations DTAC commonly address are criminal trespass, aggressive panhandling, public intoxication, disorderly conduct, and drug possession/sales. Due to the proactive approach by our Officers the DTAC area has the lowest reported violent crime rate in the city.

### **Quality of Life Ordinances**

The City of Austin currently has a number of ordinances prohibiting camping in public, aggressive panhandling, obstructing the sidewalk and roadside solicitation downtown. In response to requests to strengthen these ordinances, the City undertook an extensive survey of ordinances around the country aimed at eliminating these behaviors. During that process, they also reviewed the legal issues surrounding lawsuits against some of these ordinances. Following is a

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summary of the current ordinance and staff recommended enhancements that will be considered by the City Council in November 2005.

Camping & Sleeping in Public

- Current Ordinance: Prohibits use of public areas for living accommodation purposes city-wide. Does not prohibit sleeping.
- Potential Amendment: Amend to also prohibit sleeping outdoors in the downtown business area if the person has received a warning that the behavior is not allowed.

Aggressive Solicitation

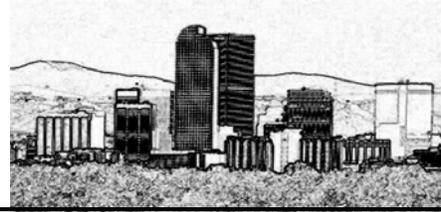
- Current Ordinance: Prohibits city-wide panhandling in a manner that is intimidating to the person being solicited and in areas in which the person being solicited is likely to feel vulnerable.
- Potential Amendment: Prohibit solicitation near a school or childcare facility at all times, between 7pm and 7am city-wide, but allow door-to-door solicitation between 9am and 9pm.

Sitting or Lying Down on the Sidewalk

- Current Ordinance: Prohibits, after a warning, a person to sit or lie down in the ROW between the roadway & abutting property line that obstructs passage of another person; provides exceptions.
- Potential Amendment: Make it an offense to sit or lie down on the sidewalk or architectural feature of a building in the downtown business area regardless of whether an obstruction is created.

Roadside Solicitation

- Current Ordinance: Restricts solicitations between pedestrians & motor vehicle occupants in the flow of traffic. Applies to all solicitations, on streets & on the adjacent sidewalk or ROW. Does not apply city-wide.
- Potential Amendment: Eliminate the area restriction and apply ordinance city-wide. Would also prohibit solicitation in a private parking area with solicitation restrictions.



## Homelessness

	Beds	Inventory in 2004	Hmls Persons	Unmet Need-Gap
<b>Individuals</b>	Emergency Shelter	388	2,073	1,395
	Transitional Housing	153		
	Permanent Supportive Housing	137		
	<i>Total</i>	<i>678</i>		
<b>Persons in Families With Children</b>	Emergency Shelter	273	1,716	913
	Transitional Housing	453		
	Permanent Supportive Housing	37		
	<i>Total</i>	<i>803</i>		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,481</b>	<b>3,789</b>	<b>2,308</b>

## Funding Sources

	\$ Amount
<b>Federal-Funded Programs</b>	\$7,092,116
<b>State-Funded Programs</b>	\$1,059,777
<b>City Funded Programs</b>	
<b>County Funded Programs</b>	
<b>Others</b>	\$1,118,496
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,270,389</b>

## Types of Services for Homeless

- Case management
- Health services
- Education/training
- Housing assistance
- Employment
- Child care
- Transportation
- Legal assistance
- Mental Health & Substance
- Outreach
- Abuse Services

## Austin Health and Human Services Department Funding Summary

	\$ Amount
<b>Homeless Services -City Social Service Contracts</b>	3,866,790
<b>County Social Service Contracts</b>	700,474
<b>ARCH - Maintenance &amp; Utilities</b>	122,780
<b>Contract Administration</b>	164,220
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,854,264</b>