

## Downtown Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes June 16, 2025

Present: Steve Rubin, Monica Conners, Mike Hudson, Tom Castagnoli, Katie Wood, Tom Miers, Jen Louden, Rick Hitchcock, Brien Nagle, Greg DeGeeter.
Via Zoom: Peggy Frank, Patrick Kelly, Joe Costello, Doug Krieger, Meghna Bansal.
Staff & Guest: Shannon Kunicki, Mike Panas.

The minutes for the May 5, 2025, meeting were submitted. A motion was made to approve by Katie Wood, seconded by Tom Castagnoli, unanimously approved.

**New Business:** Councilman Patrick Kelly has been reassigned as the council representative for DAC. Councilman Benny White will no longer serve on DAC.

**Washington St Bridge**: Jen Louden gave a brief update on the Washington St bridge construction. The bridge is on target and will be finished by 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Keep an eye out for grand opening celebration coming soon.

**Wayfinding Signs:** Rick Hitchcock gave an update on the Wayfinding signs for downtown. The first package will be the directional signs for downtown. The bid has been awarded and they are moving ahead and expected to be installed late summer. The second package includes the more artistic/decorative signs. Bids are ready to be sent out. Once fabricated public works will install at end of year or early next year. The final set will be the directories in downtown and the directional signs for outside of the downtown.

**5<sup>th</sup> Avenue:** Jen Louden gave an update on the process of the City partnering with the Urban Land Institute to study 5<sup>th</sup> Ave Station. They conducted a stakeholder engagement on June 10 & 11. They will be scheduling a workshop to present their findings possibly by end of August early September.

**NDP Update**: Monica gave a quick update. The 88-corridor strategy is being developed with key stakeholders. On the commercial business side, there are two new businesses moving to Naperville as well as an expansion. Dine Naperville will be working with AlphaMedia to do some additional Geofencing advertising this summer.

**DNA:** Katie gave a brief update on the happenings downtown. The merchants are looking forward to the bridge being complete. The duck sculptures are out with great reviews. This past weekend was the car show, however there was also a huge amount of people for a protest. The teen

takeovers are hitting the downtown hard, police are preparing for them and continue to issue tickets that are warranted. A new event started Tuesday, Music on the River. New openings coming up, White Sheep in June, and Rosebud reopening this summer Alo, and George's Place in the old Bevs.

Safety & Comfort:

**Walkabouts:** These will be scheduled with DAC members, the police department and members of the CETP. The group will identify any safety concerns, infrastructure issues and anything else that would need improvement. Look for an upcoming evening on a possible Tuesday or Wednesday from 7-11pm. Look for Doodle to be sent out for date and time options.

**Parking Deck Security**: Steve reported that he had received three security firm bids for patrolling the upper parking decks downtown. There would be two security guards present on Friday and Saturday night from 7pm til midnight. There was a suggestion to do a 2-3 week trial basis to see how successful it would be. A motion was made Tom Miers to proceed with engaging security firm for the upper parking decks funded through SSA for a 2 month trial in July and August, seconded by Tom Castagnoli, unanimously approved.

**Library Parking Deck:** Tom Castagnoli, as chairman of this committee, is putting together the information to move forward with the Library parking deck. Tom spoke with the Mayor and Doug Krieger and got the impression that they are supportive of the library deck. His goal is to meet library board, riverwalk commission, and DAC to put together a report to present to the council. The primary driver for the parking deck needs to be the library and Tom is going to be meeting with Nate Wilson to discuss. The goal rolling to have all the information together and present to council by January 2026, which would fall in line with the Capitol budget plans of Reengineering in 2027 and Construction in 2028. The next library deck committee meeting is scheduled for June 23<sup>rd</sup> at the library.

**Statistics Package**: Steve and Monica are developing an ongoing package that would show trends positive or negative moving forward. Every month we meet the data can be compiled and shared with the group. The data shows there are vacancies, visitor traffic data shows that we are second behind Oak Brook. Reflects nicely on downtown and shows parking is necessary to continue to increase the foot traffic. There is information as to where people are coming from and demographics. This information will be PDF'd and sent out to the committee.

Motion to adjourn by Tom Castagnoli, seconded by Rick Hitchcock, unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 5:01pm.