

2024 Annual Report

RELEASED OCTOBER 2024

DOWNTOWN'S MOMENT:

THE ART OF URBAN TRANSFORMATION



Letter from the President

he title of this year's Annual Report—Downtown's Moment: The Art of Urban Transformation—says it all. Not since the late 1970s and early 1980s has there been such focus, intentionality, and determination to define the next chapter of this residential neighborhood, cultural hub, tourist destination, and business dis-

trict. Expanding on Governor Wes Moore's declaration that this is "Maryland's decade and Baltimore's time,"it is unquestionably Downtown's moment!

On behalf of the Boards of Directors and the exceptional Downtown Partnership of Baltimore (DPOB)/Downtown Management Authority (DMA) team, we are grateful for the support and public-private partnerships fueling Downtown's transformation, as highlighted in this 2024 Annual Report. It is my privilege to lead an organization that, for over 40 years, has been the primary champion

of Downtown and its economic vitality. As Downtown thrives, so does our great city and the entire State of Maryland.

We are witnessing unprecedented investment in Downtown, with nearly \$7 billion in development projects underway or planned between 2018 and 2028. As one of the fastest-growing neighborhoods, with over 41,000 residents within a 1-mile radius of Pratt and Light Streets, the area is increasing its position as a vibrant mixed-use district where residential, commercial, and cultural assets intersect, driving economic growth and urban vitality. The new ownership and lease renewal of the Baltimore Orioles, the sell-out success of the fully renovated CFG Bank Arena, the diverse activation of the new Lexington Market, the reimagination of Harborplace, the rise of new restaurants and small businesses, and the relocation of eleven state agencies with over 6,000 employees into the Central Business District confirm the vitality underway and the promise ahead. This spring, we were thrilled to welcome Comptroller Brooke Lierman and her team into 67,000 square feet of newly refurbished office space at 7 St. Paul Street.

Building on the success of our Black Owned and Operated Storefront Tenancy (BOOST) Program, we launched our second cohort in 2023. In late May, we partnered with MCB Real Estate to introduce a specialized version of BOOST, activating an iconic waterfront site and giving local small and minority-owned businesses the chance to open retail stores in this prime location. We also launched a large-format digital sign district, adorning buildings with billboards that complement the architecture and showcase the energy and optimism that define Baltimore's future.

The revitalization taking place throughout Downtown is no coincidence; it is part of a carefully crafted blueprint. In 2022, Downtown Partnership worked with the Urban Land Institute (ULI) to outline strategies for a competitive and vibrant urban core. With ULI's recommendations, we secured state grant funding for critical capital projects. This year, we began planning and engaged the community on key initiatives, including the Eutaw Streetscape, Liberty Dog Park, and the Strategic Operations Center (SOC), all aimed at revitalizing public spaces and strengthening connections between Downtown assets. The Liberty Dog Park will transform a traffic median

into a lively urban plaza with greenery, walking paths, and seating. The SOC, developed with the University of Maryland, Baltimore and key partners, will serve as a 24/7 command center supporting a clean, safe Downtown through collaboration with law enforcement, health providers, and community partners.

The transformation of Downtown Baltimore, as reflected in this year's theme, is an example of true artistic endeavor the combination of creativity, imagination, skill, and purpose. Looking ahead to 2025, Downtown Partnership of Baltimore

intends to build on the momentum, working with our valued partners to amplify the impact of our initiatives. We reaffirm our commitment to being faithful stewards of the resources entrusted to us and to working with all who believe in Downtown's full potential.

> Shelonda Stokes, President DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP OF BALTIMORE

"It is my privilege to lead an organization that, for over 40 years, has been the primary champion of Downtown and its economic vitality."

Letter from the Mayor

has been a year of unprecedented action in downtown Baltimore. In collaboration with partners across the City, we have continued to work diligently together to begin implementing Downtown RISE, our 10year Vision and Strategic Action Plan for the revitalization of downtown Baltimore.

Last year, in partnership with Downtown Partnership of Baltimore and Governor Wes Moore, the unveiling of Downtown RISE set forth a bold vision and ambitious roadmap that charts a new direction for downtown Baltimore. Thought leaders, entrepreneurs, business owners, residents and community stakeholders all came together to share their needs, their desires, and their vision for the future of Downtown. The result of this work was both an immediate-term

Strategic Action Plan and a 10-Year vision that imagines Downtown as the heart of our dynamic city and seeks to effectively steward the historic investment that is being infused both in terms of capital and human resources. Downtown RISE is ambitious, comprehensive, inclusive, and seeks to catalyze the economic growth and development of downtown Baltimore in a way that engages and uplifts the whole of our City.

This year, we have leveraged the energy and momentum of that historic moment into tangible results that are paving the way for a vibrant and thriving future. I am incredibly proud, not only of the initial progress we have achieved, but also of the



"Downtown RISE is ambitious, comprehensive, inclusive and seeks to catalyze the economic growth and development of downtown Baltimore" processes we have implemented to get here. We have embedded equity and collaboration into the fabric of our vision and work. We have enlisted diverse stakeholders, partners, and thought leaders to ensure that the future of Baltimore is one where everyone is included and everyone thrives, together.

The initial results speak for themselves. We have continued to achieve foundational benchmarks in our four key focus areas: Economic & Community Development; Infrastructure Development; Arts, Culture & Entertainment; Public Safety & Cleanliness.

We have catalyzed economic opportunities and investment in small businesses with Downtown BOOST Harborplace Local Tenancy Program, which brought 7 black-owned businesses to Harborplace. We have envisioned new infrastructure and community assets with the unveiling of blueprints for the transformation of Liberty Dog Run into a vibrant community greenspace. We have increased public engagement and transparency with the launch of the

Downtown RISE Website and Implementation Matrix.

The future of Baltimore is bright. We are proving every day, through action, that when we work together towards a shared vision, the ambitious becomes achievable.

Baltimore's moment is now. Our dynamic history, entrepreneurial spirit, transformative vision, and collaborative effort are laying the foundation for a sustainable, equitable, and thriving future for all who visit, work, and live here.

> Mayor Brandon M. Scott CITY OF BALTIMORE

TOGETHER WE RISE

Downtown Partnership of Baltimore is a proud partner in Downtown RISE – Baltimore's Downtown Action plan, serving as a blueprint for downtown Baltimore's next chapter. **Throughout this report**, you will see the many contributions toward a Downtown that is even more dynamic, inclusive, and prosperous.

Organization Overview

owntown Partnership of Baltimore (DPOB) is the City's leading organization responsible for promoting, advancing, and stimulating the economic health and vitality of Downtown. As an essential service provider to the benefits district of the Downtown Management Authority (DMA), we work to enhance the quality of life for the growing number of Downtown residents, business owners, and employees and the tens of thousands of visitors who stay and recreate in the Downtown corridor. For over 40 years, Downtown Partnership has been the catalyst for investment in the present and future of Downtown, working with city and state partners, as well as colleague organizations, to realize its full potential for the benefit of residents of Baltimore and the entire region.

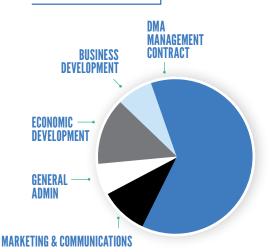
Downtown Partnership of Baltimore is a 501(c)6 organization that manages the Downtown Management Authority District and the Downtown Partnership of Baltimore Foundation. This management model allows us to diversify revenue sources while collaborating with two distinctive boards and their diverse members in order to remain missionfocused and fully aligned with the delivery of our strategic priorities aimed at bringing about Downtown Baltimore's second renaissance.

DPOB FY24 BUDGET

MEMBERSHIP REVENUE:

\$981,500 [Board Dues, Other Memberships, Corporate Partners]





STATE GRANT FUNDING

As the lead steward of Downtown Baltimore and custodian of the Central Business District, Downtown Partnership of Baltimore continues to successfully secure substantial State Capital Grants to enhance the urban landscape. FY23 funds were awarded through the State Departments of Commerce and General Services, with operational support from the Mayor's Office. FY24 funds were allocated through the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). These significant grant dollars support DPOB in its role as both a service provider to the Downtown Management Authority, as well as a catalyst in promoting investment to drive economic growth and vitality.

FY23 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE: \$1.5 million

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

• \$1.5 million for safety and security in FY23 with rollover to FY24

FY23 DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES \$10 million

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

- \$3.6 million for Eutaw Streetscaping
- \$4 million for Liberty Dog Park
- \$800k for new trashcans and planters
- \$1.6 million for transit upgrades

FY24 DHCD:

\$12 million

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

- \$3 million Security and Operational Support
- \$9 million Capital Improvements: \$1million Public Restrooms, \$1million Equipment, \$4million SOC, \$3million Parks & Plazas

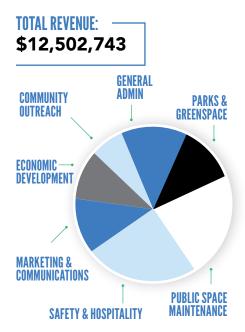
FY25 DCHD: \$12 million

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

- \$3 million Security and Operational Support
- \$4 million Business Development
- \$3 million SOC
- \$2 million Parks & Plazas

DMA FY 24 BUDGET

TAX REVENUE: \$6,884,992



OTHER MAJOR GRANTS

- \$4 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to support DPOB's contributions to Downtown RISE by providing litter prevention and graffiti removal services, technical assistance and funding for small businesses, and creative placemaking opportunities within the Downtown Management Authority
- \$300,000 from the Mayor's Office of Homeless Service (MOHS) to supplement DPOB's outreach efforts and fund four full-time Outreach Managers
- \$250,000 from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development to support the revitalization of the historic 600 N. Howard Street property into The Xander providing new residential and retail space within the Bromo Arts District

*Not all funds listed were received in FY24 and may not be reflected in revenue totals.



TOGETHER WE RISE:

... in Infrastructure Development

- Downtown Wayfinding Signage Enhancement & Management
- Transit Stop Exterior Enhancements
- Liberty Dog Park, Renovation, Expansion and Enhancement
- Tree Plantings, Tree Wells, Planters & Landscaping

Operations

PUBLIC SPACE MAINTENANCE

fforts to further enhance the urban landscape of Downtown Baltimore are led by DPOB's Clean Streets Ambassadors and Downtown Cleaning Corps (DCC). The DCC program is a workforce development initiative of the Mayor's Office of Employment Development (MOED). Six Downtown Cleaning Corps members made the transition to fulltime employment with the Partnership in the course of the year, adding additional capacity to DPOB's ability to provide essential beautification services within the Downtown Management Authority. Working seven days a week, the teams' focus includes garbage removal, gutter and curb detailing, graffiti removal, power washing, and other quality-of-life improvements in collaboration with the Department of Public Works.



DOWNTOWN CLEANING CORPS & CIAA

In collaboration with the Mayor's Office of African American Male Engagement (MOAAME), the Downtown Cleaning Corps Program was able to extend temporary employment to sixteen former squeegee workers during the 2024 CIAA Men's & Women's Basketball Tournament. Not only did these individuals provide additional services to keep the streets clean for visitors, they were also invited to attend a tournament game at CFG Bank Arena, an experience that many would not have been afforded without access to the program.





Liberty Dog Park

Two years ago, DPOB partnered with Mayor Scott's administration and the former Economic Alliance of Greater Baltimore (EAGB) to engage the Urban Land Institute (ULI) in assessing and defining the priorities that would most contribute to creating a successful and competitive future for Downtown. After extensive research into Downtown's underutilized assets, engagement with broad stakeholders, and consideration of persistent issues and near-term opportunities, the team developed several strategies to "Activate the Public Realm." In essence, this means streetscape improvements and activation of public spaces to create renewed vitality and better connection of our Downtown assets. The upcoming Liberty Dog Park and Open Spaces Project aims to deliver just that. Much more than just a dog run, it represents the transformation of a modest-size traffic median into an innovative dog park and vibrant urban plaza with ample greenery, walking paths, seating, and shade, creating a beautiful and inviting new community space. The future Liberty Dog Park will significantly improve aesthetics and livability, boost property values, and support our aim to better connect surrounding public assets.



TRASH CAN PILOT

In early 2024, Downtown Partnership launched a trash and recycling bin pilot in its aim to accelerate its Clean and Green initiatives. The installation of the three-bin system from CITIBIN, at 400 E. Pratt Street was made possible through the State of Maryland's \$10 million Capital Grant awarded to DPOB in FY23. These bins feature enhanced pest abatement and include a unit to store full bags while they await pickup. The pilot proved successful and DPOB will be installing CITIBIN receptacles in hightraffic areas throughout FY25.



BY THE NUMBERS

501 TONS of Garbage Collected 57,113 TRASH PICK-UPS Made on over 300 Cans **1,400** BULK ITEMS REMOVED from Downtown Alleys **3,430** HOURS of Cleaning and Maintenance Services

1,31 HOURS

of Additional Cleaning and Maintenance Services Provided through DCC Program

TOGETHER WE RISE:

... in Public Safety & Cleanlines

- Debris Receptacles:
- Larger Trash Receptacles
- in High Traffic Areas
- Cigarette Waste & Dog Waste
- Ally Beautification
- Graffiti Removal
- Public Restrooms
- Power Washing





Operations

PARKS AND PLAZAS



mproving the urban landscape is crucial for making Downtown Baltimore a preferred neighborhood for residents and stakeholders. The dedicated Park Stewards at DPOB manage various tasks, such as planting 300 flowerpots and 35 flower beds each season, maintaining four unique parks—including Center Plaza, Hopkins Plaza, Preston Gardens, Liberty Dog Run, and Pratt Street Plazas—and ensuring the bioswales along Pratt Street are well-kept.

FY24 HIGHTLIGHTS

Increased Staffing

Parks increased staffing on Saturdays and Sundays to provide more cleaning services and event support on the weekends.

Baltimore Convention Center

Parks secured an ongoing landscape maintenance contract with BCC to ensure the convention visitors are welcomed into a beautifully maintained environment.

Parks Survey

Parks rolled out a new survey system that allowed users to submit quick feedback through a one-question form accessible via a QR code posted in each public space.

Updated Signage and Receptacles

DPOB also refabricated and replaced damaged and faded signs in the dog park and bio-retention areas and installed additional waste stations in Center Plaza.

Pest Abatement

Through a contract with American Pest Management, a significant reduction in the number of rodents has been seen in Hopkins Plaza as supported by innovative count technology tracking the number of times a rat goes in and out of a particular bait station.



BY THE NUMBERS

10,122 BAGS OF TRASH collected from within our parks

4/b HOURS providing event support for

programming

within our

parks

11, 275

GALLONS OF WATER used to water plant life during the growing season

4,650

spent on cleaning, detailing, and maintenance

19

LARGE SCALE PLANTINGS occurred, consisting of 5,189 plants being planted throughout the DMA

HOMELESS OUTREACH



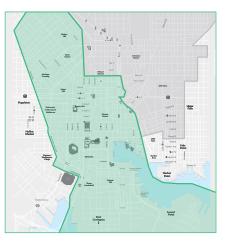
owntown Parntership of Baltimore's Homeless Outreach Team provides critical services to displaced individuals and families, assisting them in accessing pathways that lead to stable housing. These include temporary shelter, healthcare, mental health and substance abuse support, and job training. Working with partners within the Mayor's Office of Homeless Services, the Homeless Outreach Team has provided for the basic needs of hundreds of individuals, including children and women, while creating the possibility of a better life.

DPOB's Outreach Team's Service Area extends beyond the boundaries of the 106-Block Downtown Management Authority. This dedicated team offers street outreach services to the 11th and 12th city council districts of Baltimore

City, in accordance with the MOHS grant, using

both foot patrols and

company vehicles.



BY THE NUMBERS –

1,988 LIFE-ALTERING SERVICES rendered to a total of 273 individuals

INDIVIDUALS received goods to support their wellbeing including clothing, food, hygiene kits, baby essentials, etc.

636

319

INDIVIDUALS connected to housing or shelter (of any kind)

216

INDIVIDUALS transported or connected to transportation services

153

INDIVIDUALS connected to counseling and treatment services for mental health and/or addiction support

88 FAMILIES connected to shelter

Operations

HOSPITALITY & SAFETY



TOGETHER WE RISE: ... in Public Safety

& Cleanliness

 Establishing a Security Operations Center to address safety and security concerns within Downtown Baltimore

ew requirements are more essential to the growth and vitality of Downtown than confidence in public safety. DPOB's Downtown Baltimore Guides, supported by private security and law enforcement agencies provide hospitality and safety services 7 days per week, 365 days per year to residents, Downtown employees and visitors. The members of this dedicated team focus on enhancing the quality of life throughout the Downtown neighborhoods and are often the first to respond to situations and needs that arise. DPOB regularly analyzes data from the Police Department to appropriately deploy assets to locations where the potential for higher crime is greater.

The Block

Downtown Partnership of Baltimore worked with Maryland Senator and Senate President Bill Ferguson in securing the commitment of the Maryland State Police Officers to patrol the 400 block of East Baltimore Street, commonly known as The Block, on Fridays and Saturdays from midnight to 4am, typically a time of increased incidents requiring law enforcement. The result has been a 22% decrease in crime since implementation of this partnership in December 2023.

Squeegee Collaborative

The Squeegee Collaborative is a public-private partnership that has been working together for over 2 years to help address the challenges related to disconnected youth panhandling on street corners. DPOB and President Shelonda Stokes have been key partners in this work since the beginning. Squeegee activity is a complex issue that sits at the intersection of poverty and race, and thus requires complex solutions and a long-term commitment to supporting and uplifting disconnected youth. Since implementation began in January 2023 the city saw an 85% decrease in criminal activity related to squeegeeing in year 1, and as of August 2024, a decrease of an additional 59%. On top of that, there have been 94 job placements since January 2023.

Convening Safety Groups

Addressing the public safety concerns of the growing number of Downtown residents, office workers, retailers, and visitors is among Downtown Partnership of Baltimore's core areas of focus. During 2024, DPOB's Public Safety Team initiated regular meetings with Baltimore Police Commissioner Richard Worley and his command leadership, as well as the Downtown Security Committee, and partner organizations such as the Market Center Merchants, Waterfront Partnership, Midtown Baltimore, Light Street Stakeholders, and Visit Baltimore among others, to identify problem areas, deploy concentrated resources at specific times and locations, and devise real-time proactive solutions to reducing the prospect of crime and violence throughout Downtown corridors.

BY THE NUMBERS

34,134 Business or residential Check-ins



12,485 Hours of Law Enforcement support **23,736** Hours of private Security support

STRATEGIC OPERATIONS CENTER

Kickoff Luncheon

In March 2024, Downtown Partnership of Baltimore, in collaboration with the University of Maryland, Baltimore, convened an intensive luncheon, working with key partners of the Strategic Operations Center. This collaborative endeavor involves the creation of a centralized hub to ensure coordinated responses to safety, quality-of-life incidents involving social and mental health services, emergencies, and critical operations by tracking and reporting incidents through a data-driven approach, and decreasing crime using edge-based self-learning technology. The broad coalition of partners who attended the working luncheon included more than eighty representatives from the Baltimore Police Department, Capitol Police, Office of Emergency Management, Maryland Department of Homeland Security, Office of the Governor, Office of the Mayor, University of Maryland Medical System, Baltimore City Sheriff's Office, and the Greater Baltimore Committee.

Research and Development

The key to defining the Strategic Operations Center (SOC) is considering innovative approaches to crime monitoring and intervention employed by other cities and jurisdictions. In 2023, a coalition of representatives visited Baton Rouge, Louisiana, to study the Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) and its operations, facilitated by the Baton Rouge Sheriff's Department. They asked detailed questions and observed both the RTCC and a forensic unit to inform the collaborative structure of the SOC.

SOC COMMITTEES

Eleven committees were established during the SOC Kickoff Luncheon as a way to inform and guide the planning of the future Strategic Operations Center.

- 1. Leadership
- 2. Legal & Policies
- 3. Tech & Software
- 4. Design & Construction
- 5. Fiscal
- 6. Change Management
- 7. Interoperability
- 8. Data Analytics
- 9. Community Engagement
- 10. Marketing
- 11. Training



entral to Downtown Partnership of Baltimore's mission is the promotion, advancement, and stimulation of the economic health and vitality of Downtown. As such, DPOB's Economic Development team serves as a vital resource, facilitator, and connector for businesses large and small intent on flourishing in the heart of Downtown Baltimore. Identifying and enabling access to capital funding resources for startups and Black Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC) entrepreneurs ensures that Downtown's retail landscape is inclusive and diverse, adding to the energy and vitality of the Central Business and broader Downtown community.

DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS



Bard Building

Demolition of the long-vacant Bard Building is underway as a part of \$7.4 million of state funding to transform the land into temporary green space until Baltimore City Community College can determine a permanent use for the property.



National Wetlands The National Aquarium Harbor Wetland is a free, outdoor exhibit in the Inner Harbor that recreates the salt marsh habitat that once existed in Baltimore.





Combining historic preservation with innovative design and functionality, the revitalization of the historic Fidelity & Deposit building at 210 N. Charles Street will provide 231 residential units and 30,000 square feet of commercial space in the heart of Downtown.



Crook Horner Lofts

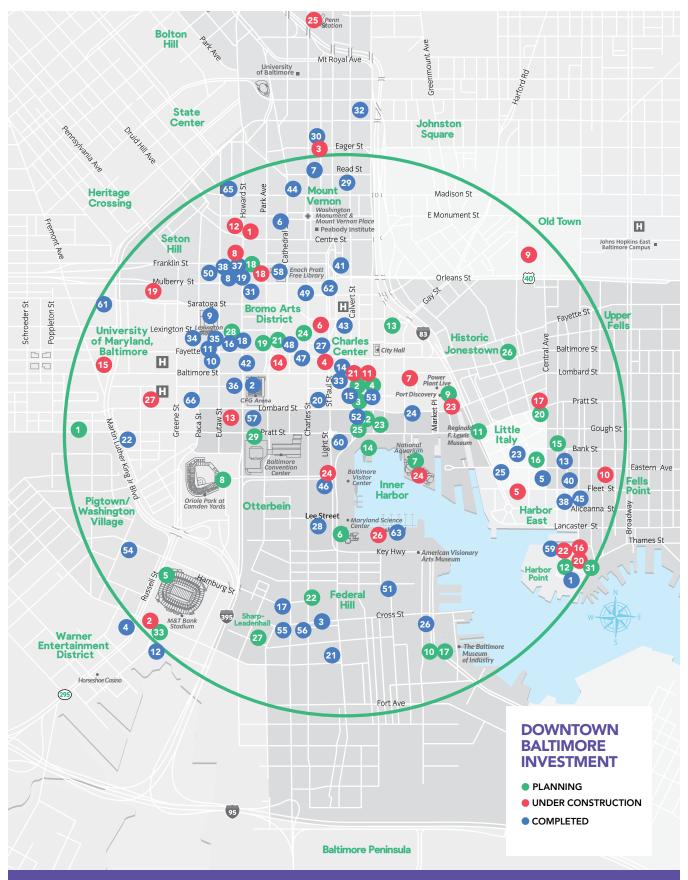
The Crook Horner Lofts, a renovated 1890s plumbing warehouse in the Bromo Tower Arts & Entertainment District, features 15 live/work lofts and two commercial spaces. It aims to support the growing tech, entrepreneurial, and artistic communities, revitalizing the North Howard Street corridor.

Explore the Interactive Development Map to learn more about the \$6.9 Billion dollars of investment at GoDowntownBaltimore.com

TOGETHER WE RISE:

... Economic & Community Development

 Promotion of Residential Demand in the Downtown Core



One-mile radius of Pratt & Light Streets, which is used to collect economic development data for Downtown Baltimore.

Economic Development

BOOST

Since 2021, the Downtown Black Owned and Operated Storefront Tenancy (BOOST) Program has supported the long-term success of Black-owned businesses in Downtown Baltimore. Initiated in response to the increased storefront vacancies and economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, BOOST provides crucial grant funding and expert advisory support through a robust cohort model. The program aims to level the playing field for minority entrepreneurs who have historically had limited access to capital, and to revitalize Downtown Baltimore's retail sector with an energetic and equitable recovery.

Building upon the success of the first BOOST Cohort, DPOB announced the recipients of Cohort 2 sponsored by Guinness Open Gate Brewery (pictured below) and supported by BGE during a ribbon cutting ceremony in July 2023.







BOOST Cohort Holiday Mixer: In a continued effort to encourage collaborations and strengthen connections, DPOB hosted a meet-and-greet event to bring together Cohort 1 and 2 over a pint at Guinness Opengate Brewery in December 2023.

BOOST BUSINESSES

Bmore Empowered 344 N Charles St. Cohort 2

Codetta Bake Shop 300 W Redwood St. Cohort 1

Cuples Tea Boost Boutique at Harborplace 301 Light St.

Décorelle + the dede shop 305 N Howard St. Cohort 2

Elite Design Group + Elite Secrets Bridal 339 N Charles St. & 100 N Charles St. Cohort 1 From Baltimore With Love 7 N Howard St. Cohort 2

Media Rhythm Institute 20 N Howard St. Cohort 1

Milton's Daughter's Boost Boutique at Harborplace 301 Light St.

Morelife Organic Juice 201 E Pratt St. Harborplace

Motion Athletics 201 E Pratt St. Harborplace

Nkvskin 113 N Charles St. Cohort 1 **Pandora's Box** Boutique at Harborplace 301 Light St.

Sacred House 417 N Howard St. Cohort 2

Smith Co Location in process Cohort 2

Storybook Maze Boost Boutique at Harborplace 301 Light St.

The Black Genius Art Show 106 N Eutaw St. Cohort 2

Yelé Stitches Boost Boutique at Harborplace 301 Light St.

TOGETHER WE RISE:

... Economic & Community Development

• Continued Support of Boost Program Round 3 and 4

BOOST HARBORPLACE LOCAL TENANCY PROGRAM

Downtown Partnership of Baltimore, in collaboration with MCB Real Estate, hosted an open house tour at Harborplace in late September, to showcase the space potential to prospective BOOST tenants. During these tours, business owners had the opportunity to explore retail spaces earmarked for the BOOST Harborplace Local Tenancy Program, available through a two-year license agreement. This initiative not only revitalizes a key Baltimore landmark but also fosters the growth of local Black-owned businesses by providing capital, support services, and a prominent platform to grow their businesses and brands.

After a thorough selection process, DPOB and MCB Real Estate announced the seven Black-owned businesses selected for the program this past May. All of them are currently open, two with stand-alone shops in the Pratt Street pavilion, and the other five in a combined storefront known as the BOOST Boutique at Harborplace in the Light Street pavilion.





Economic Development

OPERATION STOREFRONT

For nearly a decade DPOB has offered flexible grants to retail businesses to support operating costs related to sustaining and growing their business in the Downtown Management Authority area. DPOB was recently awarded ARPA grant funds to support awards up to \$200,000 to assist business with staff costs, interior improvements, marketing, inventory and supplies, as well as other business operations and start-up costs.

Codetta Bakery 10 S. Howard Street

Ikonic Entertainment 316-318 Guilford Avenue

Jody Davis Design 110 W. Saratoga Street

Refocused Vegan 429 N. Eutaw Street, Ste 1N

Stem & Vine 326 N. Charles Street **The Buttonwood** 527 N. Charles Street

The Empanada Lady 10 South Street

The Quintessential Gentleman (The QG) 31 S. Calvert Street

Zanders 135 E. Baltimore Street



FACADE IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

DPOB offers a Facade Improvement Program to assist businesses and property owners in making exterior improvements to their storefronts. The average grant award is \$35,000, and the property must be located in the Downtown Management Authority area. Awarded funds can be used for activities such as signage and lighting, exterior painting, repair or installation of windows and doors, and historic restoration and/or renovations.



Baltimore Community Lending 301–309 N. Calvert Street

Beauty of a Woman 204 W. Saratoga Street

Elite Secrets Bridal 100 N. Charles Street

Sweet Kam 407 N. Charles Street

The Place Lounge 315 W. Franklin Street

Uomo Design 119 W. Mulberry Street

PROJECT CORE

The FY24 Project Core award was \$250,000 to support the revitalization of 600 N. Howard Street into The Xander featuring 19 apartment units and first floor commercial space.



TOGETHER WE RISE:

... Economic & Community Development

- Continued Support of Operation Storefront for Retail Vitality & Combating Vacancy
- Downtown Restaurant Recovery Program

n January 23, 2024, the first of over 6,000 state employees, who will eventually make their work-home in Downtown Baltimore, arrived to the enthusiastic welcome of Downtown leadership and a contingent of city and state officials, including Lieutenant Governor Aruna Miller and Department of General Services Secretary Atif Chaudhry. Maryland Comptroller Brooke Lierman and 350 employees of her state agency moved into 67,000 square feet of refurbished office space at 7 St. Paul Street. The relocation of state employees to the Central Business District represents the leadership, collaboration, and commitment of past and current State and City leaders who have recognized the importance of fully optimizing Downtown's many assets, while also contributing to its renewed vitality—a further demonstration of Governor Wes Moore's assertion that this is "Maryland's decade and Baltimore's time."





STATE CENTER MOVE TIMELINE

Agency	Square Footage	Location	FTE *	Estimated Move
Public Defender	32,034 NSF	201 N. Charles St	90	TBD
Human Services	149,024 NSF	25 S. Charles St	775	Completed
Assessments & Taxation	47,391 NSF	115 Market Pl, Stes 123 and 200 (aka 700 E. Pratt Street)	205	Completed
Aging	16,876 NSF	36 S. Charles St	60	January 2025
Comptroller	67,586 NSF	7 St. Paul St	334	Completed
Planning	19,329 NSF	120 E. Baltimore St	67	Completed
Budget & Management	(44,240 NSF)	300 E. Lombard St	322	TBD
Labor, DOIT	(126,432 NSF)	100 S. Charles St	842	September– November 2024
Health	(463,000 NSF)	300–400 N. Greene St	2,656	Q 2 2026
Disabilities, Telephone Relay	(4,000 NSF est.)	TBD	15	May 2025
General Services, Tax Court	(126,000 NSF est.)	TBD	700 est.	TBD

*schedule as of September 2024

Economic Development

owntown Partnership is not just a supporter, but works in collaboration with the Bromo Arts District's Board of Directors to elevate the success of the vibrant state designated Arts and Entertainment District. In addition to managing the arts district, the Bromo Executive Director is also a part of DPOB's Economic Development team.



BROMO ARTS DISTRICT

The Bromo Arts District is a multi-block, multi-sensory experience hub in the heart of downtown Baltimore, powered by the area's most creative artists, patrons, and organizations. In an 11-block stretch, with the legendary Howard Street at the core, Bromo is home

legendary Howard Street at the core, Bromo is home to more than 30 galleries, music venues, theaters, collectives, and unique retail. And hundreds of artists that live and work here. Restaurants, bars, community centers, and shopping are also nestled in the vibrant neighborhood. Over 400 events take place in the district annually, providing visitors with unique

opportunities to engage with the local arts scene. Downtown Partnership is not just a supporter, but an active partner in the success of Downtown's vibrant state-designated Arts and Entertainment District. The Bromo Arts District's Executive Director is housed on DPOB's Economic Development team.



Bromo Art Walk

TOGETHER

... in Arts, Culture,

• Continue to strengthen the

Bromo Arts District and major

Entertainment

& Placemaking

cultural assets

Drawing over 4,000 visitors to the district annually, the biannual Bromo Art Walk—a multi-block, multi-sensory night on the town—reflects its vibrant cultural and artistic community in Downtown Baltimore. During the Art Walk, over 30 creative venues feature the work of more than 100 artists, complemented by live performances, exhibits, and open studios.



International Placemaking Conference Kickoff Event

DPOB was a proud sponsor of International Placemaking Week, a global gathering of public space leaders that emphasizes handson learning, off-site exploration, and innovative social events. The Bromo Arts District was among the Baltimore locations for this past year's Placemaking Week, providing a dynamic forum for over 600 attendees.



Arts District

Mural Install

Multiple murals were added to the Bromo Arts District in the past year including the Ashley Mural (pictured) by local artist Jay Schlossberg-Cohen at 222 N. Eutaw Street and two at Lexington Market Plaza as part of BRUSH Mural Fest 2023. These public art creations evidence the power of public art to give voice to experiences and perspectives, while enhancing neighborhoods with the vibrancy of original art.



DIGITAL SIGNAGE

The introduction of a large-format digital sign network north of Baltimore's Inner Harbor, in collaboration with Orange Barrel Media and Capitol Outdoor Media, has provided the opportunity to prominently promote the many organizations, events, and initiatives that are doing so much to add vitality and economic impact to Downtown, our city, and region. The 11 digital billboards throughout Downtown also provide a free marketing resource for small and local businesses and spotlight local artists who call Charm City home. DPOB receives 20% of time on each digital sign to display community content such as public information from government and non-profit partners and promote small businesses, while receiving 5% of annual gross revenue from advertising sales on each sign in the ASSC; 1% to DPOB for program administration, and 1% to each of Baltimore's four Arts & Entertainment Districts.

BY THE NUMBERS

432K AVEERAGE WEEKLY TRAFFIC IMPRESSIONS

(18+ with max speed of 10 mph)



SIGN LOCATIONS

300 S. Charles Street Southeast, Online

100 S. Charles Street Southwest, Coming Soon

100 S. Charles Street Northeast, Online

36 S. Charles Street Southeast, Online

30 Light Street Southwest, Online

100 E. Pratt Street Northwest, Online **100 E. Pratt Street** Northeast, Online

204 E. Lombard Street Southeast, Coming Soon

601 E. Pratt Street Northwest, Coming Soon

124 Market Place Northeast, Online

55 Market Place Southeast, Online

TOGETHER WE RISE:

... in Arts, Culture, Entertainment & Placemaking

• Implementation of Large-Format Billboard/Signage

Business Development

he purpose and strength of Downtown Partnership of Baltimore is its close partnerships with over 400 companies that contribute to the diverse and growing economic landscape of Baltimore and its region—from major corporations to small and emerging businesses. Membership offers exclusive business development opportunities such as networking events, crosspromotional opportunities, and economic development programs.



VIP Tours

Building on the success of the first members-only development tour of CFG Bank Arena, DPOB hosted a soldout behind-the-scenes tour of the M&T Bank Stadium at the start of its renovations in February 2024.



Coffee, Lunch, and Drinks with DPOB

These members-only networking events provided a more intimate platform for forging new professional connections. This year, DPOB hosted events were brought to you by Maryland Health Connection, Associated Black Charities, Mt. Vernon Marketplace, B&O Railroad Museum, Maryland Stadium Authority, and United Rentals.



State of Downtown

The 2024 State of Downtown Breakfast, sponsored by Gallagher Evelius & Jones, brought together over 550 local leaders for the launch of the State of Downtown Report, a yearly summary of Downtown's progress sponsored by MCB Real Estate. Dr. Tracey Loh, a placemaking expert at Brookings Metro, was the keynote speaker and shared trends and insights into urban revitalization and the future of downtown districts nationwide.



2023 Annual Meeting

The 2023 Annual Meeting, presented by Baker Donelson, celebrated the 40-year impact of Downtown Partnership of Baltimore, bringing together over 600 corporate and community leaders at the Baltimore Convention Center.

DPOB President Shelonda Stokes shared the stage with distinguished leaders, Senator Ben Cardin, Senator Chris Van Hollen, Governor Wes Moore, Mayor Brandon Scott, and Councilman Eric Costello, who all echoed the same sentiment — that Baltimore is on the verge of its second renaissance, given the collective investment and commitment of private, city, state, and federal partners.



Corporate Partners

Partnership is in our name and our Corporate Partners are essential allies in furthering our mission to promote, advance, and stimulate the economic health and vitality of Downtown. We want to take a moment to acknowledge our major partners in FY24.



Marketing



one of Downtown Partnership's services and priorities is to communicate and promote Downtown, its varied retail, cultural, residential and tourism assets. and the major initiatives to define a new era of growth and vitality. The Marketing & Communications team is passionate about telling the story of Downtown, highlighting momentum through a multichannel approach that leverages earned media alongside strategic advertising and robust outbound communications.

PR HIGHLIGHTS

Downtown Partnership's mission to promote, advance, and stimulate the economic health and vitality of Downtown has been greatly bolstered by the power of collaboration and strategic public relations. DPOB has effectively harnessed the media's reach, garnering over 1 billion earned media impressions. This exposure has amplified DPOB's voice, highlighted our efforts, and engaged the community in the dynamic transformation shaping our beloved City.

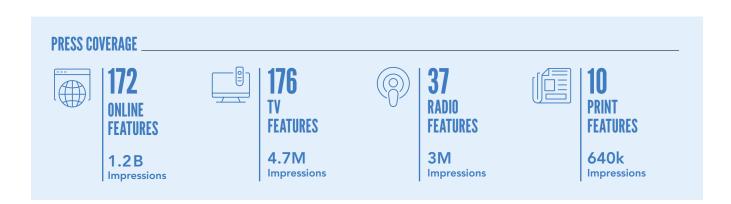


Discovery Days

The annual Downtown Discovery Days, in early January provide an opportunity to encourage and promote all Baltimoreans to explore their city in new ways. The reduced admission pass provides access to Baltimore's worldclass venues, historical attractions, and award-winning museums located throughout the Downtown district.



Baltimore Restaurant Week Downtown Partnership takes the lead in promoting Baltimore Restaurant Week an opportunity to showcase our City's eclectic and award-winning restaurants offering reduced-priced menus and supporting local business owners. Hosted biannually in the winter and the summer, Restaurant Week features approximately 75 businesses offering prix fixe menus for brunch, lunch, and dinner.



CELEBRATING 40 YEARS

December 2, 2023 marked the 40th anniversary of the creation of Downtown Partnership of Baltimore. Over the past year, DPOB has been remembering the past four decades through a variety of means. The 2023 Annual Meeting featured a mini-museum of archival photographs, retired uniforms, and momentous documents. Additionally, DPOB was pleased to introduce key 40 for 40 businesses who each committed to \$5k sponsorship for the notable milestone. These supporters have been highlighted in a series of web articles that connect the mission to the members.



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MARKET CENTER MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION		Mercy BALTIMORE.MD	MILES & STOCKBRIDGE		
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THANK YOU TO OUR 40 FOR 40 SPONSORS





Marketing

DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP EVENTS & PROMOTIONS



Let's Go O's Rally

Downtown Partnership led the community celebration to support the Baltimore Orioles' remarkable 2023 season, during which they made it to the American League East Division playoffs. The post-season celebration was an opportunity to express appreciation to the hometown team, featuring food vendors, DJ sets, giveaways, and a visit by the Oriole Bird and Mr. Splash.



Pratt Street Market

The Pratt Street Market, presented by PNC Bank, returned this year from May through September, offering Downtown employees, residents, and visitors an opportunity to gather at the Pratt & Light Streets plaza and enjoy local vendors and food trucks featuring a range of lunch options.



and the BGE Building, Center Plaza is a unique greenspace and a backyard for many Downtown residents. DPOB hosted three winter events from December 12–13—Not So Silent Night, Date Night, and Drinks with DPOB featuring heated tables, music, and local food and drink vendors to enhance seasonal enjoyment.



Charles Street Promenade On June 8, 2024, Baltimore's historic main street was closed for pedestrianonly traffic, allowing all to experience Baltimore's retailers, restaurants, and cultural establishments in a festivallike atmosphere, featuring street-front activations, musical performances, and sidewalk displays.

HAPPENINGS AT HOPKINS!



Spring Break Skate For the second year, Hopkins Plaza was transformed into a popup roller rink during the last week of March, activating this signature Downtown plaza for families and students on break and roller skaters of all ages.



Friday Nights Live Every fourth Friday of summer 2024, DPOB brought Hopkins Plaza to life with live music, drinks, and a rotating lineup of food and artisan vendors for Friday Nights Live.



Yoga in the Park Beginning in early April, DPOB presented Yoga in the Park at Center Plaza, in collaboration with Bikram Yoga on the Go, allowing participants of all levels to connect mind, body, and soul through low-cost fitness classes.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM LAUNCH

In early 2024, Downtown Partnership officially launched a volunteer program aimed to support beautification, events, arts & culture, and professional development opportunities. Over the past six months, DPOB has welcomed 50 volunteers who have assisted at Spring Break Skate, Charles Street Promenade, and the Spring Downtown Clean Up in conjunction with the Mayor's Office.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Downtown Partnership of Baltimore engages regularly with our many stakeholders to listen and learn, to share evidence of progress, and to invite their participation in the programs and events aimed at enhancing the quality of life and vitality of Downtown neighborhoods. The organization seeks to be a resource for employees, residents, and visitors alike, committed to ensuring the concerns of all who have a vested interest in Downtown's success are heard and addressed. Together, we are creating a promising future for Downtown, and all that it represents and offers.





Keynotes and Panels

President Shelonda Stokes represented Downtown Baltimore across the region through nearly 25 speaking engagements, notably a keynote presentation on near-campus vibrancy at the University of Maryland, Baltimore's President's Symposium, a panel discussion on pathways to create greater economic equity within Black communities at The Baltimore Banner's Legacy Builders event, and hosted discussion with Mayor Brandon Scott and Howard County Executive Calvin Ball during the GBC's inaugural Baltimore Region Investment Summit.



Candidate Forum

The 2024 Downtown Baltimore Candidate Forum brought together Downtown residents and business leaders to hear from the leading candidates for Mayor, City Council President, and 11th District Councilmember who shared their visions and agendas for the future of Downtown Baltimore. The forum was presented in collaboration with the Downtown Residents Advocacy Network, Center City Residents Association, Charles Street Development, Market Center Merchants Association, and Downtown Partnership of Baltimore.



Community Meetings

DPOB hosts quarterly Community Meetings designed to keep the public informed and engaged with significant developments in Baltimore. These serve as informational sessions for stakeholders and open forum platforms for discussing major impacts on Downtown.



Welcome Wagons

During the past year, DPOB hosted 6 Welcome Wagons, reaching over 400 employees. These specially curated meetings provide a comprehensive introduction to Downtown Partnership of Baltimore and insights into how organizations can benefit from being more connected to the Downtown community.

Our Staff

They say the people make the place, and in our case, the vital work we do to better the City of Baltimore would not be possible without the unwavering dedication of our exceptional team. We proudly refer to them as 'Team DPOB,' the driving force behind everything we do.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Shelonda Stokes President

Cheis Garrus Chief Financial Officer

Maria Martins-Evora **Chief Operations Officer**

ADMINISTRATION

Donald Askew Clean Team Ambassador, Supervisor

Emily Breiter Director, Economic Development & Arts Initiatives

Susan Brown Vice President, Marketing and Communications

Jitiba Cottman Receptionist / Dispatcher Operator

Thomas Clements Supervisor, Clean Team

Kimberly Daniels-Bell Manager, AP Accounting

Joseph Diffenbaugh Supervisor, Downtown Baltimore Guide

Geon Floyd Manager, Homeless Outreach

Regina Green Director, Payroll

Joy Handy-Lane Senior Executive Assistant

Corey Hargrove Manager, Homeless Outreach

Linda Henry Project Manger, Operations

Linda House Vice President, Strategic Partnerships

Jewelry Huntley Building Maintenance Assistant

Carl Johnson Supervisor, Parks, Plaza, and Greenspaces

Flora Jones Manager, Homeless Outreach

William Marcus Senior Vice President, Hospitality and Safety

Kayela McNeal Administrative Assistant

Brandon A. Merritt Supervisor, Downtown Baltimore Guide

Yemisi Okunola **Digital Content Creator**

Peter Plangetis Staff Accountant

Faneca Porter Manager, Homeless Outreach

Germaine Prince Commercial Revitalization Manager

Anthony Reid Systems Analyst

Steven Robinson Vice President, Parks, Plazas, and Greenspaces

Nicole Rohrer Director, Marketing

Chrissy Schifkovitz Director, Business Development

Derrick Scott Finance Director, Grant Administration

Amy Seitz Director, Economic Development

Sydni Snaggs Director, Community Affairs

Jameel Talley Supervisor, Downtown Baltimore Guide

Nick Usher Vice President, Community Outreach

Lagusia Wade Director, Public Space Maintenance

Lashonda Wright Director, Park, Plazas, and Greenspaces

PARKS PLAZAS **& GREEN SPACES**

Stacey Anderson

Demetri Easter

Austin Lockwood

Wendell Matthews

Ryan Rodgers

Alvin Rooks

Nathaniel Salter

Jermaine Sewell

Chaz Sewell-Bey

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COMMITTEES

Helping to further DPOB's Mission Through Leadership

The Partnership's committees are chaired by Executive Committee members who provide guidance and collaborative support in areas of strategic importance to DPOB's mission.

Finance Committee

The finance committee, chaired by Carrie Schreiber, Truist Bank, works alongside the CFO to support and oversee financial planning and budgeting for Downtown Partnership of Baltimore, Downtown Partnership of Baltimore Foundation, and Downtown Management Authority, offering guidance, best practices, and financial oversight.

Safety Committee

This committee, chaired by Mac Tisdale, First National Bank, works in partnership with DPOB's Safety & Hospitality leadership to utilize data and performance metrics that assess crime rates in the DMA and specific micro-zones. The objective is to enhance public safety by efficiently allocating resources in real time for improved safety outcomes.

Clean & Green Committee

The work done on this committee, chaired by Monica LaVorgna, Bozzuto, is is meant to directly support and enhance the beautification efforts of DPOB Public Space Maintenance and Parks teams.

Partners Committee

This convening of city-focused economic and marketing agencies, chaired by Ferrier Stillman, Tydings & Rosenberg, is dedicated to fostering greater collaboration to enrich Baltimore City's vibrant business landscape. The objective? To identify opportunities for collaborative problem-solving in areas of common interest, harnessing our collective strength through cooperative efforts.

Economic Development Committee

Chaired by Michele Whelley, M.L. Whelley Consulting, and composed of local stakeholders and real estate experts, this group advises and develops strategies for business relocation and retention efforts, supports residential leasing and sales efforts, offers economic approaches to remediating blight, and facilitates both large and small-scale development efforts.

Ad-Hoc Subsidiary Review Committee

Born out of the work of the Strategic Planning committee, this group chaired my Mark Pollak, Ballard Spahr, was formed to help review subsidiary organizations' relationships to Downtown Partnership and/or the Downtown Management Authority, including the Bromo Arts District, Market Center Merchants Association, and Center Plaza Foundation.

Board

DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP OF BALTIMORE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

* Denotes Executive Committee Member

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Zed Smith*, Vice Chair The Cordish Companies

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Frank Remesch CFG Bank Arena

J. Thomas Sadowski MEDCO

Phylis A. Seman CBRE Group, Inc.

Onahlea Shimunek* Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel David J. Shuster Kramon & Graham, P.A.

Chris Simon BTST Services/Blk Swan

Del. Stephanie Maddin Smith Maryland House of Delegates —District 45

Ferrier R. Stillman* Tydings

C. William Struever Cross Street Partners, LLC

Scott Szeliga CohnReznick LLP

Colin Tarbert Baltimore Development Corporation

Charles G. "Chuck" Tildon, III University of Maryland Medical System

J. MacGregor Tisdale* First National Bank

Stacie E. Tobin Venable LLP

Brian S. Walter* M&T Bank

Mark Wasserman, Emeritus Status Retired

Kerry R. Watson, Jr. Baltimore Orioles

Juan Webster Sagamore Pendry Baltimore

Michele L. Whelley* M.L. Whelley Consulting, LLC

Jayson T. Williams Mayson-Dixon Companies

Peter Zanger RSM US LLP

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Kevin Anderson Maryland Department of Commerce Lynn L. Berger JLL Property Management

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Gabrielle M. Duvall, Esq. Southern Management Companies, LLC

Cary M. Euwer, Jr. Metropolitan Partnership, Ltd.

Margaret Evans Healthcare Property Management, Thomas Park

Myron Feaster Pinkard Properties

Suzanne Fischer-Huettner The Daily Record

Andrew Hinton City Center Resident's Association

Dr. Bruce E. Jarrell University of Maryland, Baltimore

Courtenay Jenkins, III* Cushman & Wakefield of Maryland, Inc.

Judson H. Kerr, III PMM The Atrium Luxury Apartment Homes

Onahlea Shimunek* Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel

Eric C. Thompson Truist Financial

Mark Wasserman, Emeritus Status Retired

Justin A. Williams Baltimore City Mayor's Office

Ann Winder The Place Lounge

Honoring Outstanding Commitment to our Community

Each year, Downtown Partnership highlights the people and businesses who have demonstrated outstanding commitment to Downtown Baltimore. This year, we are excited to celebrate the following awardees, who embody the true spirit of dedication to our great City.



PNC Bank

Community Impact Award

The Downtown Partnership of **Baltimore Community Impact** Award recognizes and honors organizations and individuals that have had a defining influence on the economic health, growth, and vitality of Downtown Baltimore, our City and region. PNC Bank is the recipient of the 2024 Community Impact Award, having demonstrated a consistent and measurable commitment to enhancing the quality of life of Baltimore residents in particular by their efforts to advance initiatives in the areas of economic opportunity, art and culture, education and youth empowerment, and environmental stewardship. The Community Impact Award is both an honor bestowed and a call to action for all to similarly demonstrate the values and impact of the designated recipient.



Current Space GALLERY, STUDIO, OUTDOOR PERFORMANCE SPACE

Cultural Influence Award

The Downtown Partnership of Baltimore Cultural Influence Award recognizes and honors organizations and individuals that have had a defining influence on the cultural and artistic vitality of Downtown Baltimore, our City and region. The recipient of the Cultural Influence Award for 2024 is Current Space, an anchor organization in the Bromo Arts & Entertainment District, which has flourished over its 20-year history as a studio, gallery, performance space, and meeting place for a diverse community of artists, residents, visitors, and friends. The Cultural Influence Award recipient demonstrates a consistent and measurable commitment to enhancing the quality of life of Downtown Baltimore residents in particular by their efforts to create or enable enriching cultural and artistic experiences, support and promote local artists, and provide greater access to creative programming, especially for underserved communities.



RECIPIENT

Faith P. Leach CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, BALTIMORE CITY

Downtown RISE Award

The Downtown Partnership of Baltimore Downtown RISE Award recognizes and honors an individual or organization that has made significant contributions to the revitalization and growth of Baltimore's Downtown area. The 2024 Downtown RISE award is bestowed on Chief Administrative Officer of Baltimore City, Faith Leach, is the architect of Downtown Rise and is pivotal in advancing the four pillars of the Downtown **RISE** initiative: Infrastructure Development, Arts, Culture, and Entertainment, Public Safety and Cleanliness, and Community Engagement. By driving economic investment, fostering cultural vibrancy, and enhancing the overall livability of the Downtown core, Chief Administrative Officer Leach embodies the spirit of Baltimore's ongoing renaissance.



Join us for a day of celebration with **1000+** of the region's top entrepreneurs, business owners, angel and venture capital investors, legislators, economic development professionals, and so much more.

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The University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) congratulates the Downtown Partnership of Baltimore on 40 years of community service and looks forward to our continued collaboration as we work together to build a better Baltimore.

UMB is Maryland's public health, law, and human services university, dedicated to excellence in education, research, clinical care, social justice, and public service.

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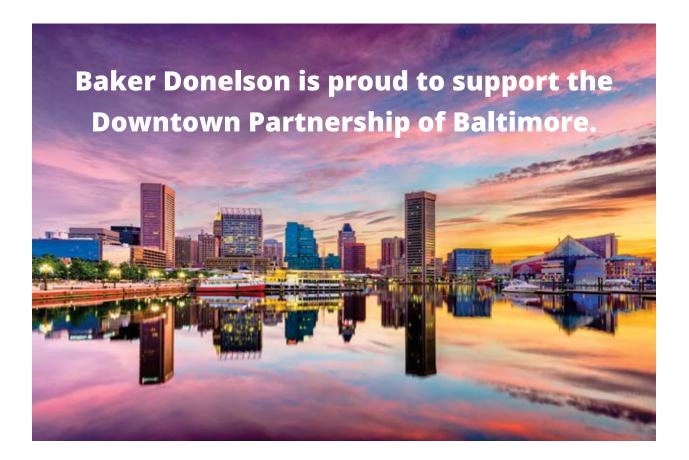
Downtown Partnership of Baltimore

We have called Baltimore home for more than 100 years and are thrilled to have DPOB as a partner in making the city a great place to live and work.

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