



**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Louisville Downtown Management District**  
**Advisory Council**  
**March 07, 2024**

**Members Present:**

Todd Warren, Chair  
Chris Cieminski  
John Ford  
Dirk Gowin  
John Hunzicker  
Blair McBride (Virtual)  
Phil Scherer (Virtual)  
Lt. Caleb Stewart  
Dale Woods

**Staff/Consultants Present:**

Sydney Girault  
Ken Herndon  
Frank Kalmbach  
Brandon Person  
Leslie Proasi

**Members Absent:**

Sean Crofton  
Zack Davis  
Mariah Gratz  
Brad Walker

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Mr. Todd Warren, Committee Chair.

The meeting minutes from the December 7, 2023 meeting were reviewed.

**Mr. Chris Cieminski made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Mr. Dale Woods seconded. All approved.**

**BID Operations Recap**

Mr. Brandon Person presented on update on BID operations. New stats have been created to capture public compliments and greetings. There is also a new stat to capture litter removal which are individual pieces of litter collected during the day by non clean-team Ambassadors. Outreach contacts are also being tracked – these show basic interactions by the Outreach Team Ambassadors, which have always been done, now they are just being tracked for reporting purposes.

Compared to last year, biohazard clean up has decreased 19%. Business contacts are up 863% - Mr. Person noted that there has been a push for Ambassadors to get to know all the downtown businesses and increase contact with them. This number has also increased in part due to the additional number of ambassadors now on the streets. Hospitality assistance has decreased 16%, primarily due to the weather, not as many people are out on the streets. Police, Fire and EMS assistance has increased from zero to nine, this is due to the measures now in place for the Outreach Team Ambassadors. Trash collection is down 20%, partly due to the new leaf vacuum which resulted in fewer trash bags. Zone checks have increased 16%, primarily due to more Ambassadors on the streets.

The committee discussed graffiti removal. Overall, graffiti is down but there has been an increase in recent months. Part of the issue is due to property owner engagement. If there is no response, Ambassadors are not able to go onto private property to remove the graffiti.

Safety escorts have increased significantly from Jan 2024 to Feb 2024. Mr. Person noted this service is utilized primarily by tourists (75%) and the remaining amount by locals (25%).

### **LMPD Crime Report**

Lt. Caleb Stewart provided an update on crime activity in the CBD, reviewing the three-month periods of Aug – Nov 2023 and Dec 2023 – Feb 2024. He noted that there are still a few issues with the reporting system, but most appear to have been resolved. The number of auto thefts, burglaries, robberies, and aggravated assaults are similar in number with the previous period. There were two homicides in both periods. Downtown cameras have been invaluable in helping identify those involved with the homicides. Theft from autos continues to be high. Mr. Kalmbach noted that car break-ins continue to be an issue with out-of-town guests and drives a lot of the perception of downtown safety. There is not much that LMPD can do as most of these are break-ins are to cars that have been left unlocked. Lt. Stewart noted that there are now trailer camera systems that actively monitor and set off alarms if movement is detected in parking lots and garages. Mr. John Ford noted that these have been helpful in the parking lots they have used them in.

Street racing has not been as much of an issue. Lt. Stewart noted this is partly due to the time of year and also because of the help of a new ordinance which has allowed officers to charge the individuals blocking the traffic.

Mr. Blair McBride commented that he noticed officers using the end-lights on their police cars to keep a steady light on, increasing their visibility on the streets. He noted that this was incredibly effective. Lt. Stewart appreciated the feedback and noted that this was a new option and would encourage the use.

### **Special Projects Update**

Mr. Ken Herndon updated the Committee on current placemaking activities. Mr. Herndon has been contacting planter sponsors to take orders for the coming year. There are a few new sponsors joining the program and a few that will not be participating this year. Mr. Herndon anticipates there will be about the same number of planters out on the streets as last year.

Light pole painting continues. LDMD is about to be finished with the initial funds provided by Public Works. Mr. Herndon has informed Public Works that another \$90k would be needed to finish the remaining poles. LDMD is waiting to hear if they would like to do more.

Wayfinding signage is wrapping up. All signs have been installed but one will be re-located and a few others are being adjusted. The new signage is aimed at pedestrians instead of vehicles.

Mr. Herndon noted that the replacement of brick planters on West Main has been completed. Public Works is repairing the uneven pavers around trees and will replace asphalt patches with pavers on Main Street between 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Street.

The second CitySpot, the Bark Park on 4<sup>th</sup> Street, has been completed. The third location will be at the corner of 5<sup>th</sup> and Main Street, primarily sponsored by PNC. A fourth CitySpot location is being considered for 4<sup>th</sup> and Liberty and is being sponsored by Chase Bank.

Mr. Herndon is working with KICC and Louisville Tourism on a potential artwork project to be installed in the tunnel on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street next to KICC.

Mr. Herndon has been contacting property owners to discuss covering plywood with artwork but has had limited success. Two panels on 4<sup>th</sup> Street, at the intersection with Guthrie, have been approved for installation.

Mr. Herndon is also working on 4<sup>th</sup> Street landscaping updates with irrigation system repairs and new plantings.

### **Open Discussion**

Mr. Dirk Gowin gave an update on planned lighting improvements along River Road.

Mr. Woods noted that the glass panes on the 2<sup>nd</sup> street side of the Yum! Center have bullet holes. This is not helping the perception of safety of Downtown and needs to be addressed by the City.

The issues with getting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street bridge painted was discussed. Mr. Kalmbach noted he has not had any luck with KYTC, who maintain the state roads.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:55 am.**