## IC 2021-2022

### IOWA CITY DOWNTOWN DISTRICT MISSION REPORT

2012-2022 | 10-YEAR ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

# DOWNTOWN IOWA CITY

700/ INCREASE IN PROPERTY VALUATION (2011-2021)



Visitation and loyalty to Downtown has grown steadily over the decade, peaking in 2022 with the highest recorded annual visitation, below.

# TOTAL VISITS Total Visits

775.500

**UNIQUE VISITORS** 



LOYAL VISITS (80%)
OVER 12 VISITS PER VISITOR

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TO/9/21 STATE VIOWA STATE VIOWA START OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC 1030

Customer loyalty is an ongoing emotional relationship between the place and the customer, manifesting itself by how willing a customer is to engage with and repeatedly purchase from that place versus other competitors. Loyalty is the byproduct of a customer's positive experience with a place and creates trust and attachment.

The Self Supported Municipal Improvement District investment by property owners resulted in the following community-wide impacts since 2012:



\$778,880

WORTH OF DOWNTOWN GIFT CARDS SOLD



S281,465

IN CHARITABLE DONATIONS



\$397,150 IN ARTIST PAYMENTS &

**PRODUCTIONS** 



\$145,000

IN DIRECT BUSINESS GRANTS

### **10 YEARS OF IMPACT AND LEADERSHIP**

- Construction of Park@201
- Retail strategy adopted
- Strengthened branding & event structure

Downtown Gift Card starts @

in first year



Chauncev breaks

- **Public Art Director** hired
- Revised sign code
- Expanded SSMID renewed through 2026

Party proves new festival model to Graduate Hotel

**COVID** precaution

Winter cafe business grants provided

**Downtown Delivery** 

Northside street opens for alfresco dining



Entertainment

Museum opens

Support of new **South District** SSMID

lighting

launched

Back to 3%

vacancy rate

• SSMID / ICDD est.

City RFP for

Old Field

House bar

vacancy

continues

from 2011

Wilson's Site

New ordinances passed to govern Ped Mall

Shelter House ioins ICDD board

**Downtown Peace** Officer hired

Property evaluation program begins Tailgate opens

- Park@201 Opens
- Ul Museum plans shift from Downtown to Hubbard Park
- MidWest One Bank
- Pullman, Lululemon open
- Cleaned up alleys with new garbage provider
- historic restoration
- **Public art mitigates** construction
- **Washington Street** renovation
- Residential redevelopment of WestBank property
- Murals of IC launch
- **MERGE** opens
- CoSign signage program launched
- Micro retail events grow
- Hilton Garden Inn opens
- Rooftops added: Joe's Place and Vue opens

- **Ped Mall renovation**
- Union property changes ownership — 1st time in 90 years
- lowa alley study conducted (private courtyard)
- Hyatt opens

Nighttime Mayor hired Element Hotel opens

16 business close Growth in art industry & business ecosystem 💮 🚯 (the Mill & Active Endeavors) / II Ped Mall renovation business and many properties sell

Chauncey opens

Prairie Kitchen Store

**Englert Theatre** 

**Enhancing community**wide collaboration with Think IC, ICAD & ICA **Business Partnership** 

Downtown recovery plan conducted

Online Market launches Target opens

**US** Bank lot permitted for new apartments

lowa alley resurfacing

advances

Riverside Theatre relocates; The James opens

Downtown Gift Card sales climb to

per year

In 2022,

Dear Downtown Stakeholder.

We are celebrating IO years of the Downtown Iowa City Self Supported Municipal Improvement District (SSMID) this year and couldn't be more thankful for this local community. This is what IO years has meant to us:

- Personally connecting with our community and neighbors through events, service, and joy of shared experiences;
- Enhanced collaboration with downtown partners, such as the University of lowa, City of lowa City, economic development and social service agencies;
- Targeted initiatives to support an efficient economic recovery, business recruitment, and preservation of downtown retail space from the impacts of COVID;
- Sharing a belief in the importance of local spending, a strong arts economy, shared prosperity and access, and honing an authentic place for those that
- Working together to keep this community clean, green, safe and vibrant for all community members for years to come.

This IO-year Anniversary Mission Report outlines the incredible impact the Iowa City Downtown District (ICDD) spearheaded to drive our mission of serving our stakeholders. We are extremely fortunate to announce that the state of the Downtown District, the steward of the SSMID funding in our 10th year of operation, is on firm footing, our occupancy rate is at an all time high, downtown businesses are seeing record levels of visitation, and we continue to improve our clean and safe partnerships. While global economic uncertainty remains, we are confident with the ICDD's organization framework that we can tackle most any challenge that comes our way. Thank you for being great partners over these past 10 years — the honor is yours to celebrate!

With Gratitude,

Charlie Nusser, President, ICDD Board of Directors Nancy Bird, Executive Director



### IN 2022, DOWNTOWN **IOWA CITY ADDED:**

**Elementary school** (Tamarack Elementary)

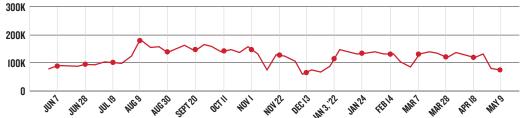
Private arts high school (ICON opening next year)

**New Kirkwood Community** College space in addition to University of Iowa facilities

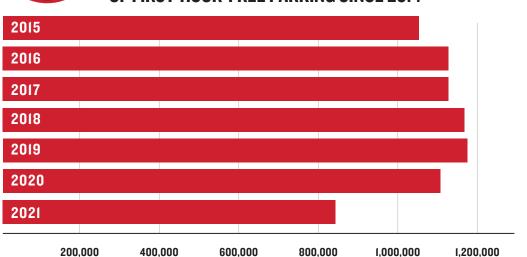
NATIONAL LANDMARK DISTRICT **DESIGNATION** 

**CULTURAL & ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT DESIGNATION** 

### VISITS TO DOWNTOWN IOWA CITY JUNE 7, 2021-MAY 9, 2022







ROOMS

there are hotel rooms in Downtown Jowa Lity



### THANK YOU TO OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President: Charlie Nusser, Hands Jewelers

President-Elect: Jason Zeman, Corridor Entertainment Group

Treasurer: Greg Turner, Midwest One Bank Secretary: Cady Gerlach, Shelter House

Past President: Nick Lindsley, Neumann Monson Architects

Jeet Saini, Om Gifts Jay LeaVesseur, Graduate Hotel Jigna Jani, AKAR Nancy Ginsberg, MC Ginsberg Ding Ding, Teamo Tea Michelle Galvin, Velvet Coat Susan Felker, Prairie Kitchen Store Nina Lohman, IC Downtown Arts Alliance / Prompt Press David Kieft, The University of Iowa Diego Lasansky, Lasansky Art Gallery Jason Paulios, IC Public Library Mary Kate Pilcher Hayek, Hayek Moreland Smith & Bergus LLC

### **EX-OFFICIO**

Rachel Kilburg, City of Iowa City Kim Casko, Iowa City Area Chamber of Commerce Tom Banta, Iowa City Area Development Group Monica Nieves, Iowa City/Coralville Area CVB Nancy Bird, Executive Director, ICDD Anna Vanheukelom, UI Student Government Liaison Abby Resko, Summer of the Arts Chastity Dillard, Neighborhood Centers of Johnson Co.

### THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS:

University of Iowa City of Iowa City Iowa City Area Business Partnership **Iowa City Area Development Group** Think Iowa City Shelter House

### **THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:**

Midwest One Bank **GreenState Credit Union** Hills Bank Performance Food Service Flv CID Graduate Hotels Hilton Garden Inn John's Grocery Im0n **Urban Acres** Iowa Beverage **Easton Design** Nusser Paterno Team Urban Acres Locals Love Us Ricard Rangel Jr -Lepic Kroeger Realtors Bradley & Riley Vetters Culligan

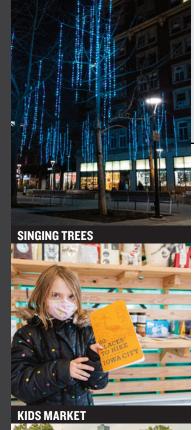
### THANK YOU TO OUR STAFF:

Nancy Bird, Executive Director Betsy Potter, Director of Creative Services Christopher Hunter, Director of Special Events Joe Reilly, Nighttime Mayor

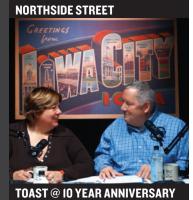


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(319) 354-0863 downtowniowacity.com











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### **GEORGE'S MURAL**

### UP NEXT

### **DOWNTOWN IOWA CITY CULTURAL & ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT**

Recently designated as a Cultural & Entertainment District by the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs, the ICDD plans to use this fantastic opportunity to establish a new collaborative to put "The Greatest Small City for the Arts" on the national landscape. The ICDD will be launching a committee of stewards for this designation to amplify the draw and engagement of artists, innovators, creatives, and entrepreneurs that have directly resulted in the continued growth of new industries in the lowa City area.

### **DUBUQUE STREET AND STUDIO 13 ALLEY** RECONSTRUCTION

As part of the City of Iowa City's 2014 Streetscape Update, **Dubuque Street between Iowa Avenue and Washington** Street and the adjoining alley will undergo a complete reconstruction from new wide sidewalks, new street furniture and cafe alignment, replanting of trees, street repaving and upgraded utility work. It is anticipated that this block will be reconstructed at a quicker pace than previous projects because the intersections have already been completed. Nonetheless, this is a major impact to downtown businesses. The ICDD support a "survive to thrive" construction campaign and engaging public art to encourage patrons to continue to visit.

**ENHANCING WINTER ACTIVITIES DOWNTOWN** As identified in the 2021 Downtown COVID Recovery Brief, the ICDD will explore a winter attraction for 2023 with area partners similar to those hosted for longer periods of time during the summer.

### **REVIEW OF SSMID BOUNDARIES AND LEVY RATE**

The ICDD will explore the SSMID boundary and levy rate to respond to the following: I. Several property owners on the eastern and southern edges of the ICDD boundaries are interested in joining the downtown SSMID and expanding the boundary; 2. Rising costs and a possible service decrease may warrant for an increase in the SSMID levy from \$2/\$1,000 taxable value to up to \$2.50 as allowed for in the SSMID petition after 2021; and 3. To determine whether property owners would be interested in new services.

### **IMPLEMENTATION OF BETTER TOGETHER 2030 COMMUNITY-WIDE VISION PLAN**

Work with our economic development peers to continue to foster authentic places and partnerships by implementing the recently released "all in" vision plan. With a strong call from the community to strengthen full service and authentic neighborhoods from their grass roots, the ICDD can support by encouraging the success of individuals working to make a difference as needs arise. Follow the progress at icareatogether.com

### 2022 GROWTH UNDERWAY

DOWNTOWN / NORTHSIDE MARKETPLACE ARE ANTICIPATED FROM KNOWN, POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS