

**Downtown Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 5, 2025**

Present: Steve Rubin, Monica Conners, Mike Hudson, Tom Castagnoli, Peggy Frank, Katie Wood, Tom Miers, Doug Krieger.

Via Zoom: Kaylin Risvold, Jen Loudon, Benny White, Patrick Kelly, Mikal Mayes, Joe Costello

Staff & Guest: Shannon Kunicki, Mike Panas.

The minutes for the April 7, 2025, meeting were submitted. A motion was made to approve by Katie Wood, seconded by Peggy Frank, unanimously approved.

Washington St Bridge: Jen Loudon gave a brief update on the Washington St bridge construction. The bridge is coming along and is expected to be finished by 4th of July.

Wayfinding Signs: Katie Wood gave an update on the Wayfinding signs for downtown. Bids for information signs are due soon. Expected to be installed late summer. The decorative signs bid will go out soon. Once fabricated public works will install at end of year or early next year.

Century Walk/Naperville Art Forum: Doug Krieger stated that there is no update on Century Walk discussion. However, The Naperville Art Forum is moving forward. They will be allowed to put pieces on city and non-city property as well as private property, with permission. Going forward Any new art to go up in the city will be through the Art Forum. The City has taken the title to all art on City property and has a contract for a maintenance plan.

5th Avenue: City is partnering with the Urban Land Institute to study 5th Ave Station. June 10-11th they will conduct a stakeholder meeting as well as public meeting. Their task force is made up of development professionals and offers a best practice approach to help plan for the project. Final report is expected 6-8 weeks from the stakeholder meetings. There were no restrictions for ULI on 5th Ave except for federal grant locations.

NDP Update: Monica gave a quick update. The 88 corridor study completed by AECOM will be presented to the full board and will be released for public viewing. The NDP will be hosting over 100 attendees from the Chicago conference of the American Competitiveness Exchange, with a reception and tour of Naperville. This a trade delegation made up of international trade officials from the Americas and Europe. Dine Naperville will host Asian America Pacific Islander Restaurant week May 16-25th.

DNA: Katie gave a brief update on the happenings downtown. Buses of visitors from Munster, IN came in for the day. New SSA is in progress for funding the next five years. New openings coming up Barnes & Noble opening April 23, Avocado Theory in early May, White Sheep in June, and Rosebud reopening this summer Alo, and George's Place in the old Bevs. Mother's Day brunches are sold out as well as the bouquet event. Rubber duck race to benefit the Riverwalk foundation will coincide with the summer art sculptures, Rubber ducks, going out on June 2. Jefferson Street will have some construction due to new façades on the North side of the street. DNA meeting on May 13.

Projects & Actions:

DAC is creating three sunset committees:

- 1. Parking Deck Security:** Steve will send out for new bids for outside security on the parking decks. Once received, he will send out all bids to committee for discussion on how to proceed.
- 2. Library Parking Deck:** Chaired by Tom Castagnoli, the committee met at Nichols library to discuss tactics on moving forward. Tom will schedule meetings with the Mayor and D. Krieger and new city council members to get their opinion. The need for parking is there and will continue to grow with the impending projects slated for downtown in the next few years, and they would like to get ahead of it. The next meeting is scheduled for June 23, 2025.
- 3. Statistics Package:** Steve and Monica talked about how the NDP is going to evolve numbers to identify trends and better information to react. Monica gave a brief overview of Placer Ai, which collects cell phone data and visualizes it. The data shows that out-of-market visitors are heavily concentrated compared to downtown residents. We will continue to collect data and tracking trends.

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 3 evening on a Friday or Saturday from 7-11pm. Look for Doodle to collect days and times.

Crowd Protection: Steve wants to make sure that we keep supporting the effort of the police department looking into crowd protection for large events throughout the city. More focus needs to be placed on this to prevent what happened in Germany and New Orleans.

Open Discussion: North Central College graduation commencement will take place on May 4, 2025.

Recommendation that letter to Andy Hynes from DAC in support of taking down the "No Left Turn" at the stop light at Chicago Ave and Ellsworth. Staff will come up with letter.

Next meeting June 16, 2025

Meeting Adjourned at 4:48pm