

# ANNUAL SBID REPORT



# ABOUT THE WALNUT CREEK DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION

Walnut Creek Downtown (WCD) is a non-profit (501c-6) association of over 650 businesses. WCD works with its members, partners, stakeholders and the community to promote and enhance business vitality within the downtown. WCD acts as an advocate on behalf of the downtown business community through aesthetic and environmental enhancement projects producing special events, and providing marketing opportunities for its members.

The Business Improvement District (BID) and South Business Improvement District (SBID) were established in 2005 and 2010 respectively. The Business Improvement Districts (BID/SBID) encompass a boundary area from Mt. Diablo Blvd to the South and Cole Ave. to the North, and includes streets from the East and West from Broadway to N. California Blvd.

WCD leverages the SBID funds to increase the visibility and vitality of the downtown. These funds, together with the event revenues, pay for a wide range of projects and activities that includes the following efforts: advocacy, beautification, events, and marketing.









OUR MISSION: LEAD AND COLLABORATE WITH OUR MEMBERS, PARTNERS, AND COMMUNITY TO PROMOTE AND ENHANCE DOWNTOWN WALNUT CREEK.

# POINTS OF INTEREST - PROGRAMMING

#### **ADVOCACY & COMMUNICATION**

An interactive member resource webpage was added to the **WCD website**. The page includes job postings, links to past newsletters, quick access to marketing benefits, downtown construction updates, how to get involved in WCD & easy links to sponsor opportunities.

The newly developed **WCD-WCPD Surveillance Program** provides WCPD direct access to information provided by downtown businesses (video, photos, etc.) for crime prevention and investigations.

#### **COMMUNITY**

The downtown shone a little brighter on **Earth Day** 2022! WCD and the Public Works Department, coordinated twenty volunteers who assisted with trash pickup and landscaping. We're proud to foster civic pride in the downtown neighborhood.

#### **PROGRAMS**

The **Downtown Stages** were incorporated into WCD events by using the WaterLight Plaza as an activation space for Restaurant Week, Arts Around August, WC First Wednesday and Celebrate the Season. Community partners such as Festival Opera, DRAA & Community Arts used the plazas to entertain & promote their own programming.

The **Painted Pianos** included twenty volunteers to paint newly added baby grand pianos in Broadway Plaza & Plaza Escuela. The design on the Plaza Escuela piano was created to compliment their future branding elements. The weather, older pianos and vandalism was more challenging this season, causing WCD to remove some pianos early.

The **Retail Alliance** continues to gain momentum & enthusiasm to actively seek & connect with potential new businesses interested in locating in Walnut Creek. A member of the City's Economic Development Team attends the monthly meetings as a direct connection to the business community to share updates and information.

**WC First Wednesday** expanded its event footprint to include an additional block of Cypress Street (N. Main St. to Broadway) to accommodate more vendors and entertainment. Due to the increased event production expense, WCD held only one street festival as opposed to 4-6 programs in the past.

**Oktoberfest** returned to downtown Walnut Creek in a new location, Civic Park East. Over 5,000 attendees enjoyed the all-day event. This year's event found securing volunteer support challenging; WCD seeks to remedy that with developing an event committee and early volunteer engagement.

The 2022-23 season of **Walnut Creek on Ice** was the first year that WCD produced the event on its own after a 16-year partnership with the Walnut Creek Chamber of Commerce & Visitor's Bureau.

# ADVOCACY & COMMUNICATION



#### **MEMBER ADVOCACY**

The association acts as an advocate for its members addressing topics that directly affect their business. WCD's efforts perform as the liaison between the businesses, community partners and government agencies.

WCD represents its members by participating in local community meetings with the Homeless Task Force, Bar/Restaurant/WCPD, City Council, Arts Alliance, Wellness Alliance, Coalition for Walnut Creek, Walnut Creek Chamber of Commerce & Convention & Visitors Bureau, and City departments.

#### **BUSINESS EDUCATION**

The Stay Connected Webinar Series provided members with a space to learn and discuss topics in the workplace. This year the series addressed the pandemic-related topic of "Navigating the Labor Shortage" featuring a panel of local business owners and professionals who shared information on how to set a business apart to attract the best talent.

WCD partnered with Pareto Labs to provide its members a new business education resource to improve performance and grow their business. This online business learning platform contains a wealth of video content to help business owners and entrepreneurs learn practical business skills.

#### **MEMBER & PUBLIC NEWSLETTERS**

Walnut Creek Downtown Association maintains two email subscriber lists with over 5,000 subscribers. One is exclusively for downtown business members and associate members, and the other is an opt-in public list. Weekly newsletters are sent out to allow the community to stay connected, receive alerts about downtown happenings, meetings, programs, social events and promotions.

#### MEMBER RESOURCES WEBPAGE

WCD staff has created a NEW webpage dedicated to member resources. The Member Resources Page will be available in early 2023 and will include a job board, marketing guidelines, directory listing, business education, links to past newsletters and more!





#### WCD-WCPD SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM

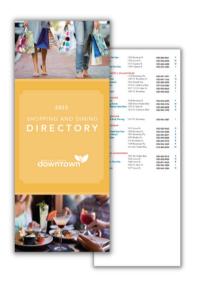
Together, WCD and the Walnut Creek Police Department have created a Downtown Surveillance Program to connect the business community directly with WCPD, to share information and video that assists with crime prevention and investigations. The program uses a Microsoft Teams Group to encourage businesses to communicate quickly and effectively with their neighbors and law enforcement to keep our community and the downtown safe.

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

#### **OUTDOOR DINING**

WCD has continued to be involved in the outdoor dining program through Downtown NEXT. Staff and Board Directors participate as advisors for the development of the Permanent Outdoor Dining Structure (PODS) program, host webinars with City staff, and facilitate meetings with business owners/operators.

#### **SHOPPING & DINING GUIDE**



The Shopping & Dining Guide is published annually to encourage the community members and visitors to shop, dine, and spend their time locally in downtown Walnut Creek. The guides are available to the public at three kiosks located at the parking garages on Broadway and South Locust Street, and at the corner of N. Main Street and Mt. Diablo Blvd.. The quide is also available to view and download from the WCD website.



#### **RETAIL ALLIANCE**

The Retail Alliance has taken steps towards being more involved in the downtown's economic vitality. Business owners/operators are

reviewing the newly released retail study and identifying strategies to develop stronger retail presence in the traditional downtown.



## BEAUTIFICATION

#### **BIG BELLY ART**

WCD oversees the 85+ posters installed into the downtown Big Belly units.



#### UTILITY BOX ART WRAPS

WCD continues to oversee the maintenance of over 30 artistic wraps on utility boxes throughout the downtown.



# COMMUNITY

#### EARTH DAY CLEANUP

A new addition in 2022 included a downtown beautification on Earth Day with a community cleanup including trash pickup downtown, landscaping around City Hall and cleaning planter boxes.



#### COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY

#### MEASURE O CAMPAIGN

WCD participated in the successful Measure O campaign to ensure the continuation of the City's amazing quality of life. Staff and Board Directors distributed flyers to neighborhoods, identified signage locations, rallied support from the business community and hosted booths at events.

On Community Service Day, WCD participated in a landscape clean-up around Civic Park. Volunteers also painted two pianos at Plaza Escuela and Broadway Plaza, to add to the Painted Pianos program.

## **PROGRAMS**

#### **DOWNTOWN STAGES**

Beginning in May, Downtown Stages consisted of three separate locations: Cypress Mini Plaza, Water Light Public Plaza, and Plaza Escuela. The popup entertainment program lasted through October.







Local musicians, artists, dancers, poets, and other entertainers shared their talents and spread good cheer all season. WCD collaborated with community partners Festival Opera, the Lesher Center and Community Arts to plan activations at the stage locations.

#### **PAINTED PIANOS**

The 3rd Season of Walnut Creek's Painted Pianos program, featuring nine pianos, took place May through October.





Painted Pianos is a unique art project designed to entice community members to sit, enjoy and share their music throughout the city.

The downtown activation promotes local artists who share their talents through paint and various artistic mediums on a variety of donated pianos provided by Steinway Pianos and private donors.







# **EVENTS**

# ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP EVENT

An evening at Telèferic Barcelona hosted by Brian & Lyn Hirahara. This annual membership event offered attendees the opportunity to network al fresco style with the Mayor, business owners, neighbors, community partners, and fellow members of the downtown business community.

**72** attendees



#### RESTAURANT WEEK

14 participating restaurants





Celebrated a week of food and drink at the world class restaurants and bars in downtown Walnut Creek. Limited-time only, prix-fixe menus were offered at special prices to entice guest's appetite and delight their palate. Walnut Creek's Restaurant Week gave residents and visitors an opportunity to explore the lively dining scene in East Bay's Most Popular Dining Destination.

#### **Beer & Chocolate Pairing**

with Ol Beer Café and Love + Chocolate.

#### Cocktail Making Class

including cocktail tasting, food bites from Broderick Roadhouse and discussion with Humboldt Distillery.

#### Yoga & Coffee

hosted by Rooted Coffee Company in collaboration with Yoga Flow SF.

#### WC UNCORKED

Guests sipped, savored, and strolled throughout downtown Walnut Creek and experienced the best restaurants, fashion, jewelry, and artisan shops while sampling a variety of regional wine, beer, and spirits.

participating businesses & restaurants

14 featured wineries

featured breweries & distilleries





#### Food, Wine, Entertainment & More!





Uncorked featured food bites, live entertainment, and hydration stations along the Uncorked route.

745 tickets sold

Thank you to our Uncorked Sponsors: Mancini's Sleepworld, Bartable, and Broadway Plaza

#### ARTS AROUND AUGUST



events

ongoing programs The 2nd annual, month-long program featured activities celebrating the performing, visual, and culinary arts. The event goal is to showcase the wide variety of arts in Walnut Creek, while driving people downtown to shop, dine and stay.

13 organizations and community partners worked together. with the City of Walnut Creek and downtown businesses throughout August.

Programming Included: Summer Concerts, Family Days at The Lesher Center, Moveable Feast, Movies, Festival Opera and Fantasy Forum Performances, Public Art Tours, Visual Arts, and more!

#### **BROADWAY PLAZA** SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

WCD hosted the bar service at four concerts, as a fundraiser for the organization. Broadway Plaza's Summer Concert Series was held every Thursday evening in August. drink tickets

#### MOVEABLE FEAST

restaurants

74 tickets sold

An upscale, progressive food and beverage tour of three downtown participating restaurants that took place every Wednesday in August. This year's program increased the nightly capacity to 25 and featured City Council members as tour quides.

redeemed

The eclectic art found throughout the downtown was shared by Bedford Gallery docents between each restaurant.



#### FIRST WEDNESDAY STREET **FEST**

One of the largest outdoor Walnut Creek festivals of the summer to kick-off of the Arts Around August celebration.



2.000+ attendees

> 40 vendors

This year's street fest extended its layout on Cypress Street between Broadway featuring boutique vendors, local artists, delicious street food, art activations and live entertainment. Despite the heat of a very hot summer evening, attendees enjoyed the familyfriendly event for hours and danced the night away at two stages featuring four local musical acts.

#### WALNUT CREEK OKTOBERFEST



Oktoberfest returned to the downtown in 2022! The beloved Fall tradition was recreated at Civic Park East with a day-long, family-friendly festival. Community members and visitors from near and far participated as attendees, volunteers and vendors.









**Gourmet Food Biergarten** Franconia Weingarten **Beer Stein Contest** VIP Lounge **Live Music** Kinder Platz

**Local Vendors Bark Lounge** 

5,500 áttendees

vendors

local breweries volunteers

Fun was had by all while enjoying live entertainment, dancing and singing, clinking glasses in the biergarten, shopping at local vendors and tasting delicious food.



A special thank you to General Plumbing Supply for sponsoring our Oktoberfest beer and wine glasses and EBMUD for sponsoring and providing the water station. We are also grateful for our community sponsors - Broadway Plaza, Steven's Printing, Orangetheory Fritness, and Diablo Regional Arts Association.

#### TRICK OR TREAT

The 13th Annual Spooktacular Trick-or-Treat began at Broadway Plaza Event Pavilion and continue into the traditional downtown. Taking place the Friday before Halloween,



participating businesses

650 attendees

this event provides additional foot traffic into the downtown

businesses and allows the community to join together for a family-friendly trick-or-treating experience.



#### **CELEBRATE THE SEASON**

WCD celebrated the holiday season with a rainy Sip, Shop & Stroll using Water Light Plaza as the starting location. Participating businesses offered



tastings, special discounts, giveaways, and holiday activations. Despite the rain, WCD created an engaging and profitable event for the business community.

189 attendees

47

participating businesses, artists, and restaurants

#### Sip, Shop & Stroll!

Holiday festivities included wine, beer, and cocktail tastings, exclusive discounts, an ugly sweater contest, choir and dance performances, a 360-photo booth, caroling karaoke, and an ornament workshop!



#### WALNUT CREEK ON ICE

The beloved outdoor skating rink returned to Civic Park for its 17th season from December 9th-January 16th. In partnership with the City of Walnut Creek, WCD produced a successful 5-week season bringing skaters, visitors, shoppers and diners to the downtown.









**22,000** skaters

**50** birthday parties

14 theme nights

5 weeks open

#### THE 17TH SEASON

The season was full of special events and theme nights, birthday parties, corporate events, private ice rentals, and much more!



Walnut Creek on Ice thanks its Gold Sponsor, Mechanic's Bank, Silver Sponsor, ParkSmart, eight dasher board sponsors and media partners for their support during the 2022-2023 Season.

# **MARKETING**

#### WEBSITE



#### **TOP PAGES:**

Shopping & Dining Events Support Local Campaign Join Us/Membership

WalnutCreekDowntown.com

70,637 website visitors

#### WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER



This Week in the Creek is a weekly newsletter sent to the public that showcases our downtown businesses, upcoming events, and community updates. Community members and visitors are encouraged to opt-in to receive our newsletters!

3,400 subscribers

open rate

(vs. industry average: 30%)



@walnutcreekdowntown

14.6k 30.1K followers page visits

105k

reached

5.3K

reel views

@walnutcreekonice

1,092 followers

17.4k reached



**FACEBOOK** 

@downtownwalnutcreek

page followers

reached

page visits

@walnutcreekonice

1.9k page followers

45k reached

page likes





Diablo Publications Walnut Creek Magazine Your Town Monthly Online Blogs Community Partner Newsletters



Comcast TV: Celebrate the Season Walnut Creek on Ice



# PROPOSED BUDGET 2023-2024

#### **ASSESSMENT REVENUE**

WCD projects the SBID assessments for 2023-24 to be \$102,972. The assessment bills and collection of assessments are administered annually through an outside vendor, HDL, in June.

#### RESERVE OR DEFICIT

As of this report, WCD anticipates a loss of approximately \$3.365 for FY 2024. The total is a combined dollar amount from the North and South Business Improvement Districts. WCD is optimistic that vacancy rates will continue to improve and we are planning for a full calendar of events to continue to restore additional revenue.

#### OTHER REVENUE SOURCES

In addition to revenue generated by the BID & SBID assessment fees, the other major source of funding for WCD are event revenue and sponsorships. This projected total income for FY 2023-24 is \$196,000. This revenue projection does not consider expenses which are detailed in the attached budget related to the events/programs.

#### **EXPENSES**

The advocacy, beautification, events and marketing produced by WCD benefit both districts. The attached budget spreadsheet summarizes the estimated costs of the programs previously described as well as staffing and other administrative costs.

# 2022-2024 BUDGET

#### WCD 2022-2024 Budget

| INCOME                                   |                                | FY 2022-2023         | FY 2023-2024 |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Associate Membership Dues                |                                | \$9,250              | \$15,000     |
|  | Associate Membership Dues      |                      |              |
| BID Income                               |                                | \$239,973            | \$247,172    |
|  | BID                            | \$140,000            | 144,200      |
|  | SBID                           | \$99,973             | 102,972      |
| Program/Event Net Income                 |                                | \$130,930            | \$196,000    |
|  | Broadway Plaza Summer Concerts | \$14,811             | \$17,000     |
|  | Business Education Series      | \$500                | \$500        |
|  | Celebrate the Season           | \$621                | N/A          |
|  | Digital Advertising Sales      | \$2,400              | \$4,000      |
|  | Downtown Stages                | \$0                  | \$1,000      |
|  | Ice Rink                       | \$53,163             | \$55,000     |
|  | Oktoberfest                    | \$6,669              | \$65,000     |
|  | Painted Pianos                 | \$1,500              | \$5,000      |
|  | Restaurant Week                | \$4,079              | N/A          |
|  | Trick or Treat                 | \$2,893              | \$3,500      |
|  | Walnut Creek First Wednesday   | \$0                  | \$5,000      |
| Poimburcoments                           | WC Uncorked                    | \$29,398<br>\$14,896 | \$40,000     |
| Reimbursements                           |                                | \$14,896             | \$2,000      |
| TOTAL INCOME                             |                                | \$395,049            | \$460,172    |
| EXPENSES                                 |                                | \$335,049            | 3400,172     |
| ADMINISTRATIVE                           |                                | \$373,571            | \$409,759    |
| Banking, Bookkeeping & Payroll Expenses  |                                | \$21,123             | \$22,000     |
| EIDL Loan Payment                        |                                | \$0                  | \$7,692      |
| City BID Administrative Fee              |                                | \$23,997             | \$24,717     |
| Financial Audit & Tax Returns            |                                | \$1,000              | \$1,000      |
| Insurance                                |                                | \$13,870             | \$14,000     |
| Meetings, Annual Retreat                 |                                | \$1,490              | \$1,500      |
| IT                                       |                                | \$19,885             | \$21,000     |
| Meals/Entertainment/Mileage              |                                | \$2,909              | \$2,500      |
| Miscellaneous                            |                                | \$5                  | \$50         |
| Office Rent/Parking                      |                                | \$8,331              | \$8,400      |
| Office Supplies                          |                                | \$2,938              | \$2,250      |
| Postage                                  |                                | \$893                | \$750        |
| Professional Development/Related Travel  |                                | \$4,065              | \$5,000      |
| Reimbursements                           |                                | \$500                | \$500        |
| Storage Rental                           |                                | \$6,337              | \$6,400      |
| Subscriptions & Dues                     |                                | \$7,276              | \$7,000      |
| Telephone, Internet                      |                                | \$5,166              | \$5,000      |
| Wages/Payroll Taxes                      |                                | \$253,786            | \$280,000    |
| MARKETING                                |                                | \$22,840             | \$30,300     |
| Banners                                  |                                | \$840                | \$1,000      |
| Kiosks                                   |                                | \$0                  | \$800        |
| Marketing, Graphic Design & Agency Fees  |                                | \$22,000             |              |
| Shopping & Dining Guide                  |                                | \$0                  |              |
| Website                                  |                                | \$0                  | \$500        |
| OTHER PROGRAMS                           |                                | \$12,366             |              |
| Annual Membership Meeting                |                                | \$5,763              |              |
| Business Education Series                |                                | \$0                  |              |
| Car Show                                 |                                | \$1,030              |              |
| Downtown Stages                          |                                | \$163                |              |
| Painted Pianos                           |                                | \$4,821              | \$3,500      |
| Tree Lighting Ceremony                   |                                | N/A                  | \$0          |
| WC First Wednesday                       |                                | \$89                 |              |
| Utility Box Wraps                        |                                | \$500<br>\$0         | \$500        |
| WC Together Merchandise                  |                                |                      |              |
| TOTAL ON-GOING EXPENSES FY2022-2023 LOSS |                                | \$408,777            | \$449,809    |
|  |                                | ¢12.720              | \$13,728     |
| NET INCOME/(LOSS)                        |                                | -\$13,728            | -\$3,365     |

# POINTS OF INTEREST - FINANCE

#### 2022-2023 BUDGET

Overall, event sponsorships were lower than expected as contract commitments for Fall programming were required in Spring 2022, when Covid-19/Omicron impacts were still uncertain.

#### 2023-2024 BUDGET

#### **REVENUE**

WCD anticipates an increase of **Associate Memberships** due to new membership levels have been created, ranging from \$250 to \$5,000.

An annual 3% increase to the **BID & SBID** assessment fees will result in an additional revenue of \$7851. The additional funds support expanded event/destination marketing & new programming (Spring Uncorked & Cars & Coffee).

The **Celebrate the Season** event will not take place in 2023 as the outdoor event has become logistically challenging due to uncertain Winter weather, for the attendees & WCD staff.

Staff anticipates an increase in **Oktoberfest & WC First Wednesday** revenue due to sponsorship support.

**Restaurant Week** will not occur in 2023 due to low restaurant participation; effort will be put towards restaurant programming like the Movable Feast concept in 2024.

In an effort to focus on successful programs, two **WC Uncorked** events will be produced in 2023, providing an increase in the 2023-24 revenue.

#### **EXPENSES**

Repayment of the Covid-19 **EIDL Loan** will begin in August 2023 resulting in an annual expense of \$7692.

**IT subscriptions** assist with automating marketing efforts & program registrations, however, their monthly dues continue to increase, impacting this annual expense.

**Payroll wages** increase in order to attract & retain an adequate amount of quality staff necessary to implement valued programming & events. A marketing administrative contractor has been added to the team to support marketing efforts impacted by staff vacancies.

# POINTS OF INTEREST - FINANCE (CONT'D)

#### 2023-2024 BUDGET

#### **EXPENSES**

**Professional development** is imperative to educate & inform staff of current industry trends. Increased travel expenses to conferences and seminars impacts this important line item.

The annual **Shopping & Dining Guide** was not printed over the last three years due to a decrease in demand for printed material. An online interactive map & a small print run will be implemented in FY2023-24.

New webpages will be added to the **WCD** website to provide improved information and engagement with WCD members (Member Resource Pages) and the public, requiring more staff time for website development & update content.

To attract more talent & use of the **Downtown Stages**, additional marketing funds will be required to promote the program to the public.

While WCD had hopes of returning the community **Tree Lighting Ceremony** to Civic Park, the program proved to be too expensive to implement.

## **BID ASSESSMENT LEVY**

THE MEMBER DEFINITIONS AND ASSESSMENT RATES ARE AS FOLLOWS, INCLUDING AN ANNUAL 3% INCREASE:

#### **NON-PROFIT**

Businesses registered as a nonprofit corporation with the state or with 501(c) (3) status and listed as an exempt organization on the California Franchise Tax Board website.

#### **GROUND FLOOR BUSINESS**

Any for-profit business located on the ground floor of a building.

## UPPER-LEVEL BUSINESS: NON-RESTAURANT TYPE

Any for-profit business located on a floor level above the ground floor of a building who does not derive 90% or more of its revenue from the sale of prepared food. Prepared food means foods or beverages which are prepared on premises by cooking, chopping, slicing, mixing, freezing, or squeezing, and which require no further preparation to be consumed, other than heating.

### UPPER-LEVEL BUSINESS: RESTAURANT TYPE

Any for-profit restaurant, takeout food establishment, or any other business that receives 90% or more of its revenue from the sale of prepared food and/or alcohol to be consumed on or off its premises, located on a floor level above the ground floor of the building.

## SOUTH BID RATES

| MEMBER                                       | FY22-23                 | FY23-24                 |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Non-Profits                                  | Exempt                  | Exempt                  |
| Ground Floor Business                        | Based on<br>Sq. Footage | Based on<br>Sq. Footage |
| Upper-Level Business:<br>Non-Restaurant Type | \$185                   | \$191                   |
| Upper-Level Business:<br>Restaurant Type     | Based on<br>Sq. Footage | Based on<br>Sq. Footage |

| SQUARE FOOTAGE     | FY22-23  | FY23-24  |
|--------------------|----------|----------|
| 0 to 1,000         | \$185    | \$191    |
| 1,001 to 2,500     | \$330    | \$340    |
| 2,501 to 3,500     | \$429    | \$442    |
| 3,501 to 5,000     | \$528    | \$544    |
| 5,001 to 7,500     | \$792    | \$816    |
| 7,501 to 10,000    | \$1,320  | \$1,360  |
| 10,001 to 15,000   | \$1,650  | \$1,700  |
| 15,001 to 20,000   | \$2,310  | \$2,380  |
| 20,001 to 30,000   | \$3,300  | \$3,400  |
| 30,001 to 50,000   | \$3,960  | \$4,079  |
| 50,001 to 100,000  | \$6,600  | \$6,799  |
| 100,001 to 500,000 | \$13,200 | \$13,596 |

# THE YEAR AHEAD > 2023

#### **ADVOCACY**

#### **MEMBER RESOURCES WEBPAGE**

Enhanced member benefits and resources for downtown businesses

#### DOWNTOWN CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Dedicated marketing and advocacy support during the 18-month project

#### PERMANENT OUTDOOR DINING STRUCTURES

Liaison between City and businesses to access program quidelines and timelines

#### **BEAUTIFICATION**

#### **NEW HOLIDAY DÉCOR**

In an effort to build civic pride and enhance the visitor experience, WCD would like to explore ideas for holiday décor. Examples include festive lighting that increases pedestrian activity making the area feel vibrant and safe, while creating an inviting atmosphere. Photo opportunities taken in front of holiday décor can be shared through social media to increase attraction to downtown Walnut Creek, and make it a must-see place to shop and dine during the holidays.

#### **FVFNTS & PROGRAMS**

#### FEB 16

#### PASSPORT TO WALNUT CREEK

Annual member networking event

#### APR 22

#### **EARTH DAY**

Downtown beautification

#### APR 26



#### WC UNCORKED

Springtime wine, beer, and spirits stroll

#### MAY •



#### **CLASSIC CAR SHOW**

WCD x Rotator Taproom

#### JUN 22

#### WC UNCORKED

Summertime wine, beer, and spirits stroll

#### AUG



#### ARTS AROUND AUGUST

First Wednesday street fest

#### OCT



#### **OKTOBERFEST**

13-14

Fall celebration in Civic Park

#### OCT •



#### TRICK OR TREAT

Halloween trick-or-treat in the downtown

#### NOV



#### **WALNUT CREEK ON ICE**

Returning to Civic Park for the 18th Season **JAN** 

#### MARKETING

#### **ENHANCED ANALYTICS**

Expanded data collected via Google Analytics and marketing partners

#### **UPGRADED SHOPPING & DINING GUIDE**

Interactive map featuring downtown businesses located on the WCD website

#### WALNUT CREEK ON ICE NEWSLETTER & SOCIAL MEDIA

Year-round communication engaging this regional demographic via a new e-newsletter and expanded social media

#### APRIL-OCTOBER



#### **PAINTED PIANOS**

Music and the arts for all to enjoy

#### MAY-OCTOBER



#### **OUTDOOR STAGES**

Scheduled and organic entertainment

#### AUGUST •



#### ARTS AROUND AUGUST

3rd annual celebration of visual, performing, and culinary arts

## **STAFF**

Walnut Creek Downtown staff currently consists of three full-time staff and a part-time Intern.

#### Kathy Hemmenway

**Executive Director** 

#### Donna Labriola

Events & Community Relations Manager

#### **Kelsey Wendt**

Administrative & Event Coordination Assistant

#### Karli Trapani

Intern, Administrative & Events

## BOARD COMMITTEES

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Exercises all the authority of the Board in the management of the business and affairs of WCD between meetings of the Board.

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Advises WCD staff on the association's budget including forecasting and banking, while overseeing the association's assets and liabilities.

#### **RESTAURANT COMMITTEE**

Downtown restaurant owners/operators examine current industry challenges and opportunities, staffing, security and purchasing trends, while building a strong, vibrant dining destination.

#### **RETAIL ALLIANCE**

Develops recommendations to help strengthen retail offerings downtown. The task force reviews current retail trends, key demographic indicators, rents, vacancy levels, retail mix, and zoning regulations to enhance and preserve retail in the downtown.

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors plays a critical role in the success and direction of the organization through their commitment to the city, and their civic and business leadership.

#### **EXECUTIVE TEAM**

**Brian Hirahara,** President BH Development

**Tracy Dietlein,** Vice President Macerich/Broadway Plaza

**Gary Skrel,** Treasurer The Psomas Group

**Jenny Perry,** Secretary
The Ballet School Performing Arts

**Barney Fonzi,** Past President Diablo Magazine

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### **Brad Barnett**

Toyota Walnut Creek

#### Jim Fidelibus

James Brian Studios

#### **Bob Power**

ParkSmart, Inc.

#### **Reimbund Maks**

New Vintage Mortgage

#### **Bonnie Waters**

Changes Salon & Day

#### Joanna Sibley

Board & Brush

#### Jonathan Bartlett

Deliciouz

#### Dan Batlin

**Buon Vino** 

#### Rolla Ghaben

Broderick/Lita/World Famous Hot Boys

#### Kristy Lincoln

Love +Chocolate

#### **Sue Rainey**

Former Mayor

#### **Bob Linscheid**

WC Chamber of Commerce & Visitor's Bureau

#### **Peggy White**

Diablo Regional Arts Association



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