ANNUAL

REPORT 2019

A Year in Review for the
Traverse City
Downtown
Development Authority



TRAVERSE CITY DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

WELCOME TO OUR ANNUAL REPORT

The Traverse City Downtown Development Authority (DDA) was established in 1978 and is a component unit of the City of Traverse City. We serve as the stewards for Downtown Traverse City, focusing on providing critical public infrastructure and other improvements that enhance the Downtown experience, promote economic development and business growth, serve as a catalyst for private investment, and contribute to the year-round vitality and unique sense-of-place of Downtown Traverse City.

To further our mission, the DDA has formal agreements with the City of Traverse City to manage Traverse City Parking Services (TCPS), the Traverse City Arts Commission (TCAC), and the Downtown Traverse City Association (DTCA), our long-standing merchant association.



DDA ANNUAL REPORT

INDEX

INTRODUCTION	04
DDA FUNDING	06 - 08
STRATEGIC PLAN	09
PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT	10 - 13
COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENTS	14 - 15
DDA LOOKING AHEAD	16 - 18
TRAVERSE CITY PARKING SERVICES	19 - 24
SARA HARDY DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET	25 - 28
TRAVERSE CITY ARTS COMMISSION	29 - 34
DOWNTOWN TRAVERSE CITY ASSOCIATION	35 - 43
DIGITAL ANALYTICS	44 - 45
COMMUNITY IMPACT	46 - 49

2019 Downtown Annual Report 2019 Downtown Annual Report

THE STATE OF DOWNTOWN TRAVERSE CITY

A MESSAGE FROM....

Downtown Traverse City is universally recognized as the beloved heart of Northern Michigan, with a magnetic appeal that attracts people of all ages from across the world. Achieving this designation was not by accident – we earned it; through prudent and thoughtful investment, collaboration with business owners, community stakeholders and City leaders, and adhering to a comprehensive and strategic plan. But there is more to do.

2019 marked another remarkable year for Downtown Traverse City. This report – our "State of Downtown Traverse City" – highlights everything we accomplished in 2019 and also looks forward to 2020 and beyond.

Downtown Traverse City continues to be a vibrant and unique place, home to extraordinary

one-of-a-kind shops and restaurants, great public space, and new opportunities to live. Recently named one of the "Best Small Cities for Startups", Downtown Traverse City is now home to an emerging tech industry and energetic entrepreneurial spirit.

Through intentional leadership, advocacy and collaboration, the DDA continues to make substantive investments to strengthen and build Downtown Traverse City, including:

Mobility: Sponsoring Destination Downtown, our public transportation commuter program.

Safety: Hiring our first Community Police Officer for the Downtown.

Infrastructure: Constructing new boardwalks along the Boardman River.

Arts and Culture: In partnership with the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, the Mazinaadin Exhibition was unveiled in the Clinch Park Tunnel.

Advocacy: Securing grants to help implement important new infrastructure projects and green initiatives.

Laying the Foundation for the Future: Developing formal plans for the Lower Boardman River and stormwater.

As we mark another strong year for Downtown Traverse City, we invite you to join us and participate in efforts that continue to build, enhance, and protect our Downtown. Help us ensure that the DDA is prepared and has the resources needed to foster a Downtown that attracts and retains vibrant, talented citizens – keeping Traverse City, and its economy, strong for generations to come.

See you Downtown,

Jean Derenzy, DDA Chief Executive Officer Leah Bagdon-McCallum, DDA Board Chairperson





DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Leah Bagdon-McCallum, Chairperson **Gabe Schneider**, Vice Chairperson

Scott Hardy, Treasurer

Steve Constantin, Secretary

Jim Carruthers, Traverse City Mayor

Collette Champagne

Debbie Hershey

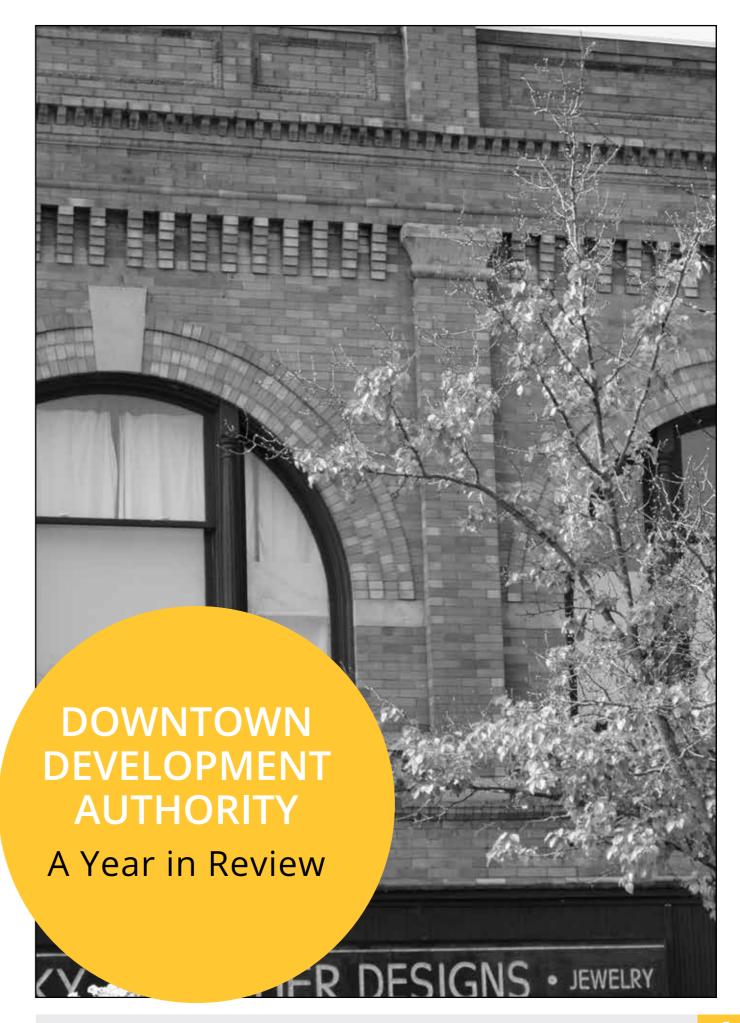
T. Michael Jackson

Jeff Joubran

Pete Kirkwood

Richard Lewis

Steve Nance



HOW THE DDA IS FUNDED

The DDA has an Operational Budget and two Tax Icrement Financing Budgets (TIF 97 and Old Town TIF) to carry out its mission.



OPERATIONAL BUDGET

The Traverse City DDA Operational Budget is funded through a 2 mill levy on property owners within the DDA District. Additional funding comes from intergovernmental contracts, fees, and the Downtown Traverse City Association. The DDA Operational Budget supports administration, professional services, office supplies/rentals, and professional development.

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING

The DDA has two Tax Increment Financing (TIF) plans, TIF 97 and Old Town TIF. TIF is used to fund public infrastructure projects in the DDA District. The two TIFs are charged an administrative fee that serves as revenue for the Operational Budget. Annually, the City of Traverse City General Fund receives a percentage of TIF revenues from both TIF 97 and Old Town TIF. In Fiscal Year '18-'19, TIF generated nearly \$200,000 for the City General Fund.

PARKING ADMINISTRATIVE FEE

The DDA has an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Traverse City to manage Traverse City Parking Services (TCPS). The administrative fee to manage parking is taken straight from the Parking Enterprise Fund and covers the cost of administration. Therefore, TCPS is self sustaining. No City General Fund dollars are provided to the DDA for staffing of the organization or the Parking Department.

TCPS operates with a separate annual budget that is generated through parking revenues. The City of Traverse City General fund receives 10% of parking revenues annually, which resulted in \$307,000 in Fiscal Year '18-'19.

TRAVERSE CITY ARTS COMMISSION

In July 2019, the DDA entered into an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Traverse City to manage the Traverse City Arts Commission. The DDA received \$15,000 from the Public Art Fund to manage the Arts Commission.

DOWNTOWN TRAVERSE CITY ASSSOCIATION

The DDA has an agreement to manage the Downtown Traverse City Association (DTCA), a non-profit organization that is responsible for the marketing and promotion of Downtown Traverse City. The DTCA is a merchant association and is funded through membership dues, program revenues, and sponsorships. Funds are used to execute special events, the Downtown Gift Certificate Program, and the overall promotion of Downtown. The DTCA provides nearly \$70,000 annually to the DDA for administration.

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING

WHAT IS TIF?

Short for "tax increment financing", TIF is a state-authorized funding tool used by Downtown Development Authorities to develop, construct, and maintain critical public infrastructure that supports and promotes economic development within a Downtown.

DOWNTOWN'S INVESTMENT FUND HELPING TO BUILD A BETTER FUTURE TRAVERSE CITY

HOW DOES TIF WORK?

Under TIF, the DDA captures property tax revenue on the incremental increase in assessed property values within a defined district over time. These captured tax revenues are used to fund public infrastructure improvements within the TIF district.

HOW ARE TIF DOLLARS USED?

TIF dollars are used to support public infrastructure projects within Downtown. Previous public infrastructure projects funded under TIF include the Hardy and Old Town Parking Garages, the Pine Street Pedestrian Bridge, boardwalks along the river, numerous streetscaping projects, and improvements to Clinch Park.

In addition, TIF dollars are used to leverage other funds. For example, TIF dollars were used as the required financial match by MDOT for bridge reconstruction projects.

WHAT HAS BEEN TIF'S IMPACT?

Public infrastructure projects funded by TIF have helped spur the creation of over 1,000 new jobs (professional as well as retail and service industry jobs) in Downtown Traverse City. Studies have shown that investing in Downtown Traverse City and utilizing tools such as TIF have consistently increased property values and the tax base for the City, County, and region.

WHY IS TIF SO IMPORTANT?

TIF captured just over \$1 million dollars from other taxing jurisdictions and regional authorities (e.g., Grand Traverse County, BATA, NMC, etc.). While Traverse City's population hovers around 15,000 people, roughly 50,000 people from throughout the region come into the City each day. This influx of people places great stress on the City's infrastructure. TIF is the only regional municipal revenue sharing tool in place that uses funds from regional taxing jurisdictions to fund and maintain public infrastructure projects within the Downtown that serve residents and workers from throughout the region.





The DDA continues to diversify funding opportunities to support community goals and the Strategic Plan. The following grants were awarded in 2019.

\$71,250

USDA GRANT

A \$71,250 Rural Development Grant was awarded to the DDA from the US Department of Agriculture for the business tech incubator, 20Fathoms.

\$15,000

SEED GRANT

The DDA was awarded a \$15,000 SEED grant from Rotary Charities for the Lower Boardman River Leadership Team initiatives.

\$100,000

NMRE GRANT

The DDA was awarded a \$100,000 grant from Northern Michigan Regional Entity (NMRE) to develop a program and strategy to curb the over-consumption of alcohol.

\$1,000

MCACA GRANT

A \$1,000 minigrant from the Michigan Council of Arts & Cultural Affairs (MCACA) was awarded to the DDA for the Traverse City Arts Commission's Pitch Night Program.

STRATEGIC

PLAN

The DDA Board of Directors adopted a 5-year Strategic Plan in 2019. The plan identifies the Mission, Vision, Values, and six Areas of Focus.

OUR MISSION

To create, support, and promote critical infrastructure and other improvements that enhance the Downtown experience, promote business growth, serve as a catalyst for private investment, and contribute to the year-round vitality and unique sense-of-place of Downtown Traverse City.

OUR VISION

Serve as the regional hub for commerce, culture, arts, and entrepreneurship. By 2030, Downtown Traverse City will make needed infrastructure and institutional investments that provide for added business, residential, and retail capacity in the Downtown. These investments will attract new private investment and create jobs.

OUR VALUES

The Values of the DDA Board guide decisions, processes, and operations. The Values, along with the Mission and Vision serve as "filters" for decision making. The Board's Values are:

- Long-term sustainability of the DDA and the Downtown District.
- Inclusivity and collaboration in developing and implementing this Strategic Plan.
- An economically healthy and vital DDA and Downtown District.
- **Transparency** in the DDA's strategies, priorities and plans for Downtown.





AREAS OF FOCUS

- REAL ESTATE & PLACEMAKING
- MOBILITY PARKING & TRANSPORTATION
- **MARKETING & PROMOTIONS**
- BUSINESS RECRUITMENT & RETENTION
- PARTNERSHIP & COLLABORATION
- **LEADERSHIP**



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

The DDA continues to work towards providing an inviting and inclusive Downtown. To that end, community engagement activities where meaningful dialogue and public participation are being incorporated into ongoing planning initiatives, continue to be supported.

In addition, the DDA continues to manage social media and a number of websites to better engage the community through the digital platform.

DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS

The DDA, Parking Services, and the Downtown Traverse City Association all received new websites in 2019. These websites provide a more visually engaging experience for the user and navigation between the new sites is more seamless.





dda.downtowntc.com

The DDA website allows users to easily find information about how the DDA is funded, current projects, information about meetings, and the history of the DDA.





parking.downtowntc.com

The Parking Services website allows the user to navigate through their parking needs efficiently by allowing the user to find rules and ordinances, where to park, violations, and additional services.





downtowntc.com

The Downtown Traverse City Association's website focuses on marketing and promoting Downtown Traverse City. Users can find information on shopping, dining, special events, and purchase Downtown Gift Certificates.

The DDA has also launched **lowerboardman.downtowntc.com** in support of ongoing planning initiatives for the Lower Boardman River. The Traverse City Arts Commission's projects and programming may be found at **tcpublicart.org**.



DEVELOPING A UNIFIED PLAN FOR THE LOWER BOARDMAN RIVER

In 2018, the DDA kicked-off a comprehensive planning process to develop a Unified Plan for the 1.6 miles of the Boardman River that meanders through Downtown Traverse City.

Over the last year, the Lower Boardman River Leadership Team, an ad hoc committee made up of citizens and community stakeholders, was charged with guiding the planning process and worked to establish the values and a comprehensive vision for the river. These elements will provide the framework for the Unified Plan and help shape final recommendations and policies. To learn more, visit lowerboardman.downtowntc.com or visit the Facebook page.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Brett Fessell, Grand Traverse Band/Co-Chair
Jennifer Jay, City Resident/Co-Chair
Elise Crafts, Business Owner & City Resident
Christine Crissman, The Watershed Center
Jean Derenzy, DDA CEO
Frank Dituri, City DPS Director
Pete Kirkwood. DDA Board Member

Rick Korndorfer, Property Owner & City Resident
Deni Scrudato, City Resident
Russ Soyring, City Planner
Mike Vickery, City Resident
Tim Werner, City Commissioner
Cindy Winslow, Grand Traverse Band

LOWER BOARDMAN RIVER PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

As part of the comprehensive planning process, the Lower Boardman River Leadership Team facilitated a series of community engagement activities that kicked off in June 2019



Nearly 30 civic engagement sessions were planned in addition to the Leadership Team's monthly meetings and presentations at City Commission, Planning Commission, and the Parks & Recreation Commission.

- **■** June 2019: Public Engagement Kick Off Event
- **■** June 2019: Community Scavenger Hunt
- June 2019: Two-day Sessions of Stakeholder Meetings
- June September: Online Survey (over 500 respondents)
- August: Two Week Engagement Marathon 18 meetings at various locations and community events
- August: Public Comment Chalkboard Jay Smith Walkway
- October 2019: Facilitated FishPass Question & Answer Sessions











COMMUNITY

ENHANCEMENTS

The DDA facilitates and contributes to a number of programs that enhance the beauty, vitality, and sense-of-place of Downtown Traverse City.

DOWNTOWN FLOWER PROGRAM

The flower program brings additional life and beauty to Downtown Traverse City. In 2019, the DDA partnered with the Master Gardeners Association and MSU Extension to implement a flower program along Front Street. Eighteen planters at the "bump-outs" and on-street bike rack locations were planted with native species.

In addition, the DDA is responsible for installing over 60 hanging baskets in Downtown Traverse City during the summer months. The petunias are locally grown and potted by Eden Hill Nursery.





LOOKING AHEAD

The DDA will embark upon several programs and planning initiatives in 2020.



UNIFIED PLAN

The Unified Plan for the Boardman River is anticipated to be completed in July 2020. The plan will include a series of recommendations that address policies, capital improvements, best practices, programs, and funding.



WEST FRONT GARAGE

The DDA will continue to explore the feasibility of a parking garage at the site of 145 West Front Street. The project will serve the parking needs of West Front Street and serve as a catalyst for private investment in the area.



ROTARY SQUARE

The DDA was awarded a \$1,000,000 grant from Rotary Charities and a \$2,000,000 State of Michigan appropriation to plan for a Civic Square in Downtown Traverse City. The DDA is exploring various locations and looking to secure property in 2020.



GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

In 2019, the DDA had a study conducted on how to address stormwater in our community. Opportunities will be explored to better protect the waterways throughout Grand Traverse basin. The study may be found at dda.downtowntc.com



WALKABILITY

Walkability has always been a top priority for the DDA. As planning is underway for future streetscape projects, the DDA will look into the feasibility of incorporating snowmelt systems.



BRIDGE WORK

The DDA will utilize TIF dollars to match MDOT funding for improvements to and the reconstruction of the City's bridges, which all reside in the DDA District. TIF dollars will be utilized for the project.



RESPONSIVE RETAIL PROGRAM

The DDA intends to develop Responsive Retail Program, which includes the retention and protection of existing businesses by utilizing an Action Plan that addresses key issues and opportunities facing Traverse City's Downtown retail.

TIF 97 EXTENSION

A PLAN REVIEW

TIF 97 was established in 1997 to encourage private business development and promote good land use by building and maintaining public spaces and infrastructure in Downtown Traverse City.

Set to expire in 2027, several of the critical public infrastructure projects that remain in the original TIF plan require more time to complete. A 13-year extension will allow the DDA to implement these needed projects, and continue the vibrant and thoughtful growth of our Downtown.

Each public infrastructure project listed in the TIF 97 Plan was identified in 1997 through an extensive public engagement process. The goal of the plan was to support and promote economic development through strategic investment in new and improved critical infrastructure and better land use.

Individual taxpayers remain unaffected by TIF 97, as they would pay the same rate if TIF 97 is extended. In addition, local governments and authorities subject to TIF will continue to receive some property tax.

Should TIF 97 not be extended, future infrastructure projects, as well as needed maintenance and upgrades to existing infrastructure, would come directly from the City's General Fund. Taxpayers within the City would assume the cost of public infrastructure projects within the Downtown, rather than just the Downtown property owners, as it exists today. This would likely mean that hard choices would need to be made and critical infrastructure as well as needed maintenance and upgrades throughout the Downtown, as well as the entire city, may be eliminated or deferred.



TIF 97 Begins

- CITY STREETSCAPES
- (1998, 1999, 2001, 2007, 2012, 2015, 2017)
- HARDY PARKING GARAGE (2003)
- PEDESTRIAN DIRECTORIES (2004)
- COMPREHENSIVE WAYFINDING (2007)
- CITY OPERA HOUSE IMPROVEMENTS (2012)
- CLINCH PARK IMPROVEMENTS (2013)
- PINE STREET PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE (2016)
- GARLAND STREET (2016)
- BOARDMAN RIVERWALK (2017)
- PUBLIC RESTROOMS (2018)
- COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER (2019)

TIF 97 Extends

VOTE BY CITY COMMISSION

- STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE
- WEST END PARKING GARAGE
- BRIDGE REPAIRS
- LOWER BOARDMAN
- CIVIC SQUARE
- FARMERS MARKET

2040

2019 Downtown Annual Report 2019 Downtown Annual Report

PROPOSED DDA BOUNDARY EXPANSION

In 2019, the North Boardman Lake District (NBLD) approached the DDA to consider expanding the current DDA District along Eighth Street (see map below). The DDA continues to work with the NBLD and City leaders on the potential expansion of the district as well as future opportunities for redevelopment.



A HEALTHY EIGHTH STREET

Since the community charette process, Envision 8th, there has been a growing desire to achieve more along the the Eighth Street corridor that advances the health and well-being of the local community. Recent planning efforts, policy decisions, and infrastructure investments (including streetscape design) have transformed the corridor into a more welcoming, robust street for people that includes choice, opportunity, and connectivity.

In an effort to apply best practices to healthy placemaking, the DDA teamed up with the Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation to conduct a study on the Eighth Street Corridor that would serve as a framework for future planning. To learn more about the steps toward a healthier Eighth Street, the full report conducted by Perkins and Will may be found at dda.downtowntc.com.

The focus for healthy placemaking will be driven by the following

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

SOCIAL ACTIVITY SUPPORT

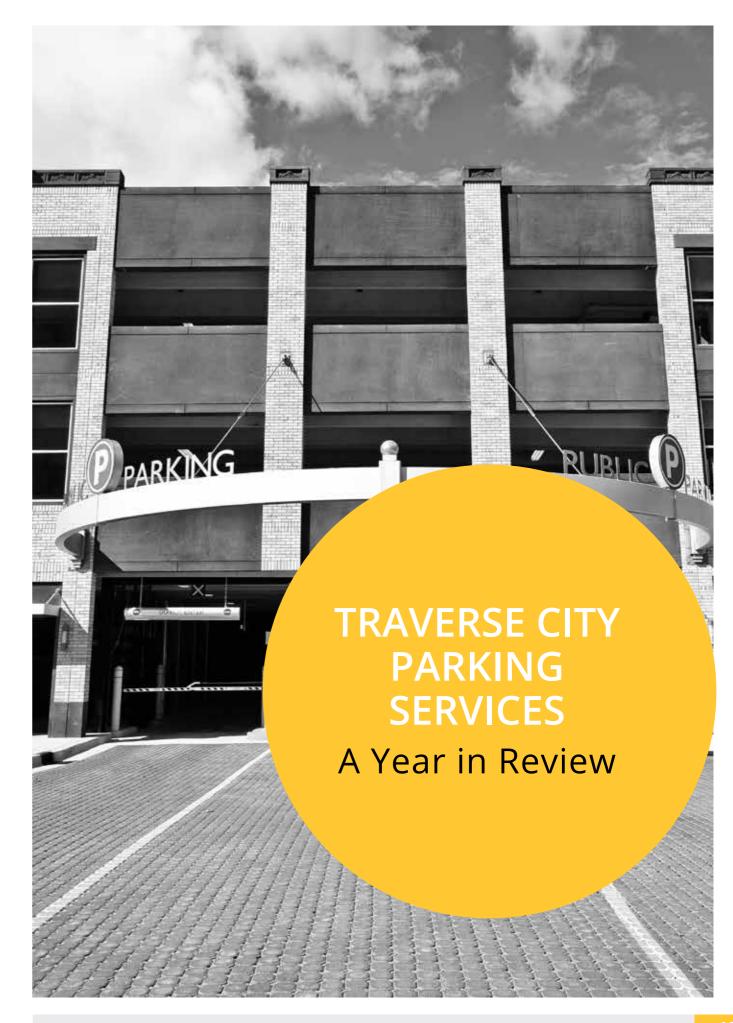
HEALTHY FOODS

HOUSING OPTIONS

TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS

HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

SAFETY





DDA PARKING SUBCOMMITTEE

The DDA established the DDA Parking Subcommittee in 2018 to review strategies and provide recommendations to the DDA Board of Directors. The Parking Subcommittee is comprised of five DDA Board Members and two members-at-large. The primary purpose of the Committee is to establish a Parking Master Plan based on Transportation Demand Management (TDM) objectives.

The Committee provides recommendations to the DDA which includes the following:

- Capital Improvement Plans to maintain, improve, and invest into equipment and technology that improves the services provided
- Recommendations for expanding or reducing parking allocation through private property and shared-use leases
- Review and recommend zoning changes related to parking requirements and parkonce initiatives
- Review parking supply and support recommendations that improve utilization
- Define and formalize performance-based pricing guidelines

- Define Parking Benefit District guidelines
- Define incentive guidelines for new developments
- Support and expand biking options and infrastructure
- Support transit initiatives
- Support and expand mobility services (i.e. Destination Downtown and Bayline programs)
- Support incorporating Transportation Demand Management objectives in new public and private developments

DDA PARKING SUBCOMMITEE

Scott Hardy, DDA Board Member/Chair Rick Brown, Member at Large Steve Constantin, DDA Board Member Debbie Hershey, DDA Board Member T. Michael Jackson, DDA Board Member Jeff Joubran, DDA Board Member Todd Knaus, Member at Large



TDM THREE YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

In 2018, the DDA adopted a three year implementation plan that relates to the Transportation Demand Management Study. The plan is updated annually and will demonstrate the need for better land use and an increase in multimodal transportation opportunities. Learn more about the 2019 accomplishments in the following pages and how they relate to the three year implementation plan.

- 2019
- Parking rates
- Loading zones
- Bike share programs
- Residential overnight parking
- 2020
- Develop zones based on demand
- Implement performance based pricing
- Evaluate data for residential permits
- 2021
- Evaluate and adjust performance based pricing
- Evaluate data to adjust meter activation times (evening, seasonal, late morning)
- ONGOING
- Increase bike parking maintenance (inverted u's, in-street racks, permanent shelters, fix-it stations)
- Increase communications and provide counseling services
- Support eliminating redundant curb-cuts
- Add new private lots for permit and evening parking shared-use which may include payby-phone

MULTIMODAL

TRANSPORATION INITIATIVES

Traverse City Parking Services continues to implement programs that support multimodal transporation opportunities for our residents and visitors.





BIKE INFRASTRUCTURE





BIKE SHELTER Traverse City Parking Services installed a covered bike fix-it station and bike shelter at the entrance of the Hardy Parking Garage on the 300 block of E. Front St.

BIKE RACKS Traverse City Parking Services replaced bike racks and refurbished bike racks along the Front Street corridor.

BATA PARTNERSHIP

The DDA has partnered with the Bay Area Transit Authority (BATA) to utilize parking dollars toward programs that increase transit usage.

DESTINATION DOWNTOWN

The DDA launched Destination Downtown as a commuter program on March 1, 2019. The Destination Downtown Program provides unlimited use of all BATA City and Village routes for the purpose of commuting to and from work. In 2019, there were over 2,600 rides through the Destination Downtown Program.

For more information on the Destination Downtown Program and how to obtain a commuter pass, visit parking.downtowntc.com

BAYLINE

The Downtown Development Authority (\$5,000), Traverse City Parking Services (\$25,000), and Downtown Traverse City Association (\$500) sponsored the BATA's Bayline, an east/west route running every 15 minutes that is fare free to the public. In 2019, there were 205,740 rides on the Bayline.

BUS SHELTERS

Traverse City Parking Services, in collaboration with BATA, split the costs for six new BATA bus shelters in Downtown. Five of the shelters were installed at Wellington & E. Front St., Park & E. State St., Maple & W. Front St., Parking Lot E, and E. Eighth St. The sixth location will be determined at a later date.

PARKING UPDATES

Traverse City Parking Services maintains the parking facilities and infrastructure relating to the parking system. In addition to several specific projects targeted in 2019, Parking Services continues to facilitate large infrastructure improvements and ongoing maintenance to its parking assets.



MAINTENANCE

Traverse City Parking Services is responsible for maintaining a number of the City's major assets. The two parking garages in Downtown Traverse City are routinely scheduled for crtical maintenance. In 2019, the Hardy Parking Garage saw the replacement of two boiler systems and new roofing. Ensuring that these projects are executed is critical to maintaining the life of the structures.

Additional maintenance was performed on meter posts, including refurbishing, repainting, and replacement, within the Downtown District.

The reconstruction of the leased Parking Lot P, located along State Street, was completed in 2019. The project expanded parking from 28 spaces to 54 spaces.

BY THE NUMBERS

TCPS managed nearly **935 metered spaces** and issued **6,740 monthly permits** for the Hardy & Old Town Parking Garages and surface lots.

The Traverse City Parking System is **responsible** for approximately \$20,000,000 in parking facilities, including two parking garages, surface parking lots, parking equipment and infrastructure, bike racks and bike shelters.

The Traverse City Parking fund pays for operations, maintenance, and infrastructure improvements. The system runs as an enterprise fund, meaning it is self-sustaining and does not require City General Fund tax dollars. In fact, TCPS contributed \$307,600 to the City's General Fund in Fiscal Year '18-'19.



TRAVERSE CITY PARKING SERVICES

...spent \$268,194 ON PLOWING the parking lots and sidewalks in Downtown Traverse City during Fiscal Year '18-'19.

... provides nearly **200 BIKE RACK**S in Downtown Traverse City.

...manages and maintains 3,058 PARKING SPACES.



RESIDENTAL PARKING PROGRAM

The City of Traverse City approached the DDA to implement a Residential Parking Program (RPP) based on information gathered over the course of a previous pilot program. After extensive community conversations, the City approved the Residential Parking Program in October 2019.

The DDA hosted a number of public forums in February and March 2019 to gather input from the neighborhood residents on their parking needs. The RPP is intended to supplement resident parking needs on a temporary or as-needed basis. The program does not eliminate on-street parking for public use, but aims to limit use by non-residents by enforcing posted time limits.

The Residential Parking Program only takes effect when 51% of a particular neighborhood block expresses interest in the program. The intent of the permits are to allow residents to park within a reasonable distance of their home. Information on the Residential Parking Program may be found at parking.downtowntc.com.



2019 Downtown Annual Report 20

MARKET MISSION

The Sara Hardy Downtown Farmers Market is operated by the DDA and is managed on-site by SEEDs, a local non-profit organization.

The Market Mission is to create a sales venue for local area farmers, provide opportunity for consumers to purchase quality farm-grown goods, to provide a community gathering place, and to promote and stimulate economic development, and create traffic in the Downtown area.



MARKET UPDATES

- The 2019 Market welcomed food trucks on Wednesdays and Saturdays.
- The DDA worked with Taste the Local Difference who managed a **food demonstration program** with local chefs at the Wednesday Market.
- The DDA planned a new layout for the Wednesday Markets that created wider aisles for the customer.
- Wednesday Markets **featured a local non-profit organization**. The venue serves as an opportunity for non-profits from the region to engage with the local community.

FARMERS MARKET ADVISORY BOARD

Tricia Phelps, Chair

Lori Buchan, Vice-Chair

Meghan McDermott, Secretary

Joann Brown, Market Vendor

Scott Hardy, DDA Board Member

Linda Grigg, Market Vendor

Gary Jonas, Customer Respresentative
Sue Kurta, Market Vendor
Courtney Lorenz, Market Vendor
Nic Welty, Market Vendor
Tim Werner, City Commissioner
Brenin Wertz-Roth, Customer Respresentative

MARKET DATA BY THE NUMBERS

6,722 ACRES

of diversified farmland in production by vendors

America loses an acre of farmland every hour to development

21 MILES

average distance food travels from our farms to the market

That's fresh! Most food eaten in the U.S. has travelled nearly 1,200 miles

1,844 CUSTOMERS

visit our market on an average day

Visitors have twice as many encounters at a market than at a chain supermarket

597 EMPLOYEES

are supported by our vendors' businesses

Small businesses create new meaningful employment opportunities

\$31 SPENT

on average, at neighboring businesses during market day

That's money recycled back into the local economy



74% OF VISITORS

came to the area specifically for the market

Markets increase foot traffic in the area

61% OF VISITORS

plan to shop nearby during market day

Markets are good neighbors



\$24 SPENT

by each customer, on an average market day

The Local Economy Wins

16 VENDORS

women-owned farms

Our market offers economic opportunity to all members of our community



FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

The Sara Hardy Downtown Farmers Market participates in a number of food assistance programs (see below) that provide easy access to fresh and healthy foods.

The DDA also worked with the National Cherry Festival and IronMan on promotions to encourage shopping at the market during event time. "Market Dollars" were funded by the respective organizations and provided to loyal customers of the market.



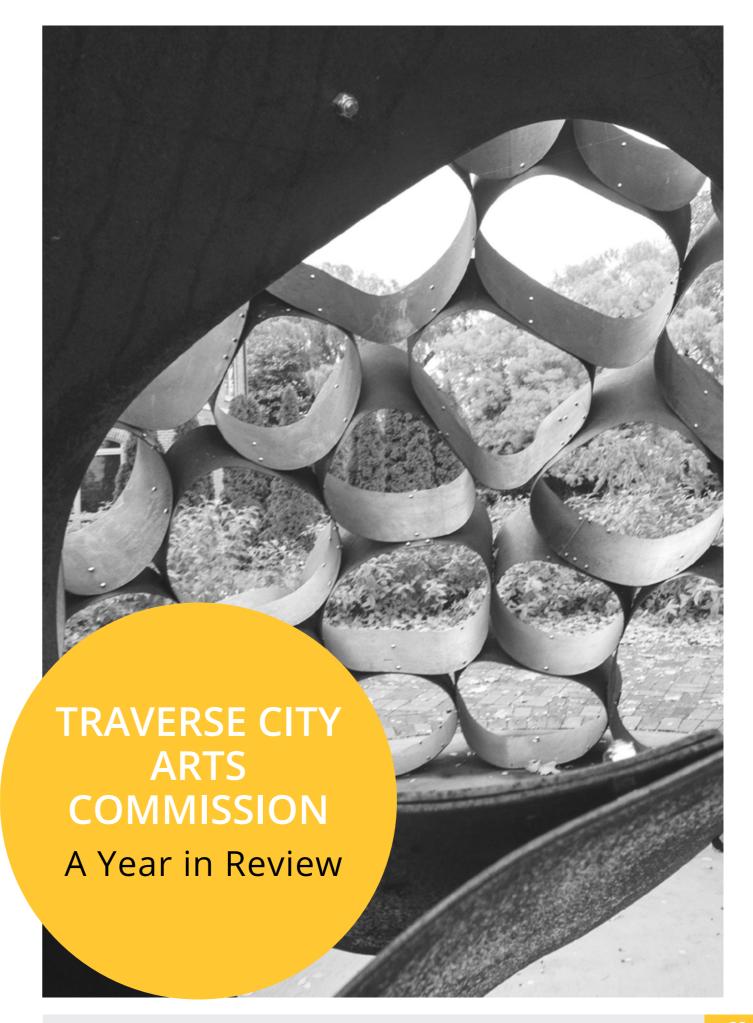
MUNSON MEDICAL CENTER FRUIT & VEGETABLE PRESCRIPTION PROGRAM \$15,660

NATIONAL CHERRY FESTIVAL MARKET DOLLARS \$1,500 \$8,432

PROJECT FRESH \$4,489

SENIOR PROJECT FRESH \$6,872 DOUBLE UP FOOD BUCKS \$9,142

IRONMAN MARKET DOLLARS \$2,000





TRAVERSE CITY ARTS COMISSION

The City's Public Art ordinance and Arts Commission was formed in 2014 and provided an opportunity for public art programs to be publicly funded through an allocation from the City and the DDA annually. For more information on the Traverse City Arts Commission and its programs visit tcpublicart.org.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The City Commission of Traverse City finds that public art advances the interests of Traverse City and enriches the cultural and aesthetic quality of life in our community by:

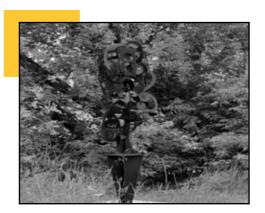
- Contributing to the general welfare by providing access to cultural resources that engage and inspire the mind and senses by creating high aesthetic expectations.
- Stimulating community dialogue between people of all ages by challenging familiar experience.
- Increasing the City's desirability by enlivening the appearance and appeal of public spaces, creating a more culturally-driven urban environment.
- Aiding in the enhancement of property values and promoting economic growth.

ROBERT SESTOK EXHIBTION

The Traverse City Arts Commission is working with TART Trails to develop an art trail along the Boardman Lake Loop. The "Boardman Lake Art Trail," at the east end of Tenth Street near Boardman Lake, will serve as public space with rotating exhibitions. The Arts Commmission teamed up with Michigan Legacy Art Park to secure four sculptures from Detroit artist, Robert Sestok, to exhibit. The sculptures are constructed of welded steel and were installed in June 2019.

ROBERT SESTOK

1946, UNITED STATES



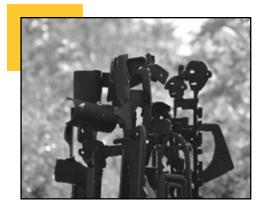
MACHINE



THIRD MAN



REMEMBERING GORDON NEWTOWN



VAN BRUNT STREET

The Sestok Sclulpture program was funded by the Traverse City Arts Commission's Public Art Trust Fund.

2019 Downtown Annual Report 2019 Downtown Annual Report



MAZINAADINEXHIBITION

In 2019, the Arts Commission commissioned public art with the intent to be retrospective and culturally reflective of the Woodland Indians of the Great Lakes and specifically the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians.

Through meetings with Tribal Council members, it was established that the Clinch Park Tunnel served as a preferred location to maintain an indigenous presence through public art. The mouth of the Boardman River is a traditional meeting place for native peoples and it is in this spirit and purpose that this project aimed to honor a historical connection to place.

The Arts Commission worked closely with Tribal members to accurately and artistically honor their heritage. The Mazinaadin (Make an Image) Exhibtion was installed in October 2019. Nineteen murals by artist Bobby MaGee Lopez have unique meaning and each honor the Anishinaabe ancestral connections to the area.

The Mazinaadin Exhibition serves as an example on how art can transform a space. The hand painted murals were digitally printed and mounted on a panel system. Included in the project were upgrades such as a new LED overhead lighting system, power washing, painting, and a new LED lighting system around the permiter of the mural panels.

BOBBY MAGEE LOPEZ

1980, UNITED STATES





The Mazinaadin Exhibition became a reality through a generous grant from the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians 2% grant program. Additional funds came from the Traverse City Arts Commission's Public Art Trust Fund.

THEN & NOW PROJECT

The Traverse City Arts Commission worked with the Traverse Area Historical Society and the Traverse Area District Library to launch the Then & Now project, a series of ten plaques featuring photos from "then" next to the landscape of "now." The plaques were installed throughout Downtown Traverse City in October 2019. The photos were selected from Traverse City's historical archive and photographic restoration was provided by The Camera Shop.



The Then & Now project was funded by the Public Art Trust Fund and funds from the Downtown Traverse City Association.

UP NORTH PRIDE

The Arts Commission collaborates with area organizations to create more visability about public art programs. Since 2018, the Arts Commission and Up North Pride have teamed up on a public art project during Pride month in June. In 2019, rainbow crosswalks were installed along the route of Up North Pride's Visibility March and provided thought provoking discussion about art, diversity, and inclusivity.



The Up North Pride project was funded by the Public Art Trust Fund and funds from Up North Pride.

TRAVERSE CITY ARTS COMMISSION

Debbie Hershey, DDA Board Member/Chair Charlotte Smith, City Resident/Co-Chair Ashlea Walter, City Commissioner/Co-Chair Roger Amundsen, City Resident Megan Kelto, City Resident
Chelsie Neimi, City Resident
Matthew Ross, City Manager Appointee

LOOKING AHEAD

Looking ahead in 2020, the Arts Commission is working toward fostering a more robust public art program.



PITCH NIGHT

The Arts Commission will launch Pitch Night on March 5, 2020, a one-night event intended to engage and inform artists and the community about public art through a fun, dynamic, fast paced, democratic event wherein one artist will be selected and funded for an art installation in Downtown Traverse City (pictured above). Pitch Night will take place at the Workshop Brewing Co. and will be free and open to the public.



UP NORTH PRIDE PROJECT

The Arts Commission will team up with Up North Pride in June 2020 to install a pop-up public art installation and also a community mural along Union Street.



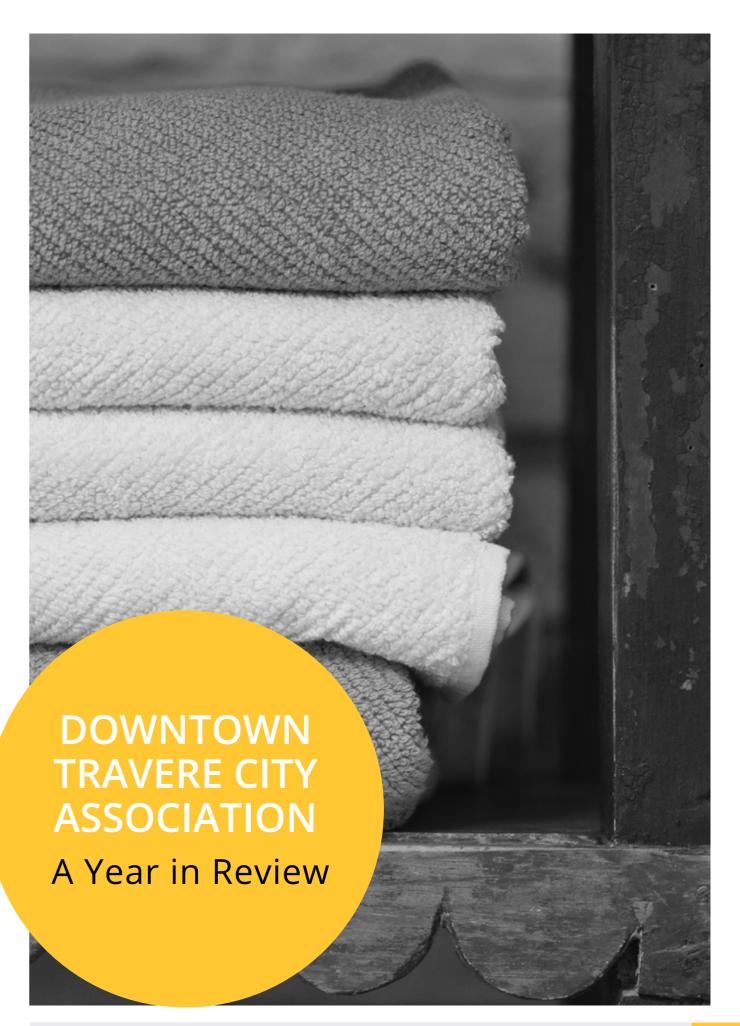
BOATHOUSE SCULPTURE

A private donation, in memorial of an individual, was made to the Arts Commission in 2019. The donation, along with funding from the Public Art Trust Fund was utilized to commission a sculptural mural by artist, Daniel Roache. The artwork will be installed on the Boathouse in Hull Park and feature a nautical theme. The installation and dedication ceremony are being planned for May 2020.



ART ON THE TART

TART Trails is working toward the construciton of the Boardman Loop in 2020 and the Arts Commission will work alongside the TART team to establish an Art on the TART program in various locations on the Loop.



DTCA MISSION

The Downtown Traverse City Association (DTCA) is a voluntary merchant association whose mission is to advance, protect, and perpetuate the commercial, professional, financial, and general business interests of Downtown Traverse City.

ABOUT THE DTCA

The DTCA is a voluntary membership organization for the businesses that reside in Downtown and serves to market and promote the area as the top shopping, dining, and entertainment destination in Northern Michigan. The West End, Warehouse, Old Town, and Front Street Districts are all served by the DTCA. The mission and goals of the organization could not be met without the nearly 200 members that choose to support the organization through annual dues. Over 90% of the restaurants and retailers are members of the DTCA and put their hard earned dollars toward programs that support the district. A robust website, brochures, merchant directories, social media, and community events are just a few of the programs under the the DTCA that help drive foot-traffic and sales in the downtown.







SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS

LOCAL BUSINESS SUPPORT YOU

- Did you know that non-profit organizations receive on average 250% more support from small business owners than they do from large businesses?
- YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE: Studies show that if the residents of an average American city were to shift 10% of their spending from chains to local businesses, it would bring an additional \$235 million per year to the community's economy.
- When you buy local, you support yourself and others in the community. When buying from local businesses, they in turn support other local businesses.
- Local businesses reinvest into their communities. Throughout the US, only about 33.6% of the revenue from national chains is reinvested in the community, whereas there is an approximately 64.8% return from local business.

Additionally, a recent study in Austin, Texas found that \$100 spent at a local bookstore produced \$45 worth of economic activity, and \$100 at a chain bookstore brought back only \$13.



2019 Downtown Annual Report 2019 Downtown Annual Report

SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT

The DTCA organizes over 20 community events each year that engage the entire community. Each event works to develop traditions, create unique experiences, build relationships, and drive economic activity. Check out some fun facts and community partner numbers below.

DID YOU KNOW?

- ☐ The DTCA Board, DDA staff, and volunteers constructed a new float to carry Santa in the 2019 Downtown Light Parade. The float boasted more than 9,500 lights!
- Since inception of the DTCA's Shop Your Community Day program, Downtown merchants have given back more than \$300,000 to local charities.
- The DTCA's annual fundraiser, the Downtown Chili Cook-Off, only generates one bag of trash due to the use of compostable items!













DTCA EVENT PORTFOLIO

Downtown Chili Cook-Off

Presidents' Day Weekend Sale Event/Lookin' for Lincoln

Celebration for Young Children

Art Walk (2)

Old Town Arts & Crafts Fair

National Cherry Festival Arts & Crafts Fair

Downtown Street Sale

Friday Night Live (4)

Downtown Art Fair

Fall Sale/Happy Apple Days

Downtown Halloween Walk

Shop Your Community Day

Downtown Light Parade/Santa's Arrival

Black Friday/Small Business Saturday

Walking in a Window Wonderland

Downtown Cocoa Crawl

Ladies' Night

Men's Night

SPONSORS

Big gratitude is extended to those that provide finanical and in-kind services that benefit the the DTCA's community events.









































THANK YOU

DTCA MEMBERSHIP

4Front Credit Union 123 W. Front St. 2nd Level Goods 7 Monks Taproom Acoustic Brewing Co. American Spoon Foods Amical Apogee Art & Soul Gallery Backcountry Outfitters BATA **Bay West Precious** Metal Exchange BCD Interiors Becky Thatcher Bishop & Heintz Blue Tractor Cook Shop **Bookie Joint** Boyne Country Sports Brenton Law Group Brew **Brilliant Books** Bubba's Burritt's Fresh Markets Cali's Wardrobe & Home Captain's Quarters Central United Methodist Church Chemical Bank Cherry Hill Boutique Cherry Republic Children's World City Opera House Copy Central Corbin Design Covell Funeral Home Crepes & Co. Critters Crooked Tree Arts Center Daisy Jane Dingeman & Dancer Diversions Eleven Ella's Espresso Bay Events North Fifth Third Bank Firefly First Community Bank Flea Flight Path Creative Forrest, A Food Studio Fox & Fern Events

Front Row Centre, LLC Front Street Ventures Fusion Fine Art Framing Fustini's Oils & Vinegars Glitz & Spurs Golden Shoes Gourdie Fraser Grand Traverse Pie Co. Great Lakes Bath & Body Greenhouse Cafe Green Island Groundwork Hagerty Handz on Art Harbor View Farm Havstacks Higher Art Gallery Higher Self Book Store Horizon Books Hotel Indigo Identity Resort Wear Independent Bank James C. Smith Fine Jewelery Kayak, Bike, & Brew, Kilwin's Lakes & Grapes Liana's Lilies of the Alley Little Bohemia Living Light Massage Livnfresh Low Bar Lularoe Catherine Schripsema M22 Mackinaw Brewing Co. Mama Lu's Mammoth Distilling Mary's Kitchen Port Max[']s McMillen's Mercer Group Metal Arts & Home Decor Michigan Artists Gallery Michigan Retailers Assn Middle Coast Brewing Midwestern Broadcasting Co. Millie & Pepper Miner's North Jewelers Mode's Bum Steer

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney Morsels Espresso + Eatables Mr. Bill's Shirt Co. My Secret Stash National Cherry Festival Nada's Gourmet Deli Nest of Grand Traverse Nifty Things! Nolan's Tobacco & Lounge North Peak Brewing Co. Northern Lights Home Decor Northern Title Agency Old Town Playhouse Olson, Bzdok, & Howard PC Omelette Shoppe & Bakery On the Rocks Orvis Streamside Oviatt House Paddle TC Park Place Hotel Park Street Cafe Patisserie Amie Peace, Love & Little Donuts Peppercorn Piche DDS Pine Street Development Plamondon Shoes Popkies Poppycocks Priority Health Rare Bird Brewpub Red Ginger Rehmann Reynolds Jonkhoff Funeral Home Robert Frost Rocket Fizz Roth Shirt Co. Running Fit Scalawags Whitefish & Chips Schmidt Rogers Sincerely Betty Slate Sondee, Racine, & Doren

Sorellina State Savings Bank State Theatre & Bijou By the Bay Sugarkissed Suhm-thing Sunglass Shoppe Sweet Pea Sweet Tartlette SZ Ventures Taproot TART Trails TBA Credit Union TC Lofts The Camera Shop The Cheese Lady The Cherry Stop The Coin Slot The Cooks' House The Corner Loft The Dish Cafe The Exchange The Franklin The Good Bowl The Hair Code Salon The Little Fleet The Towne Plaza The Travel Authority, Altour The Wooden Gallery Toy Harbor Trains & Things Hobbies Transnation Traverse Connect TC Business News TC Development TC Record Eagle TC Tourism Traverse Vision Traverse, Northern Michigan's Magazine U&I Lounge Unparalleled Apparel Visitors Media Votruba Leather Goods West Bay Beach Resort West Bay Handmade What to Wear Wilson Antique Mall Workshop Brewing Co. Yana Dee Yen Yoga & Fitness

DOWNTOWN TRAVERSE CITY ASSSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Misha Neidorfler, Morsels/President

Susan Fisher, Traverse City Film Festival, State & Bijou Theatres /Vice President

John McGee, Slate & Sorellina /Secretary

Dawn Gildersleeve, Cherry Republic/Treasurer

Jake Kaberle, Burritt's Fresh Markets
Liz Lancashire, Fustini's Oils & Vinegars
Margaret Morse, Hotel Indigo
Blythe Skarshaug, Copy Central
Amanda Walton, Toy Harbor

40 2019 Downtown Annual Report 2019 Downtown Annual Report



DTCA PARTNERSHIPS

& VOLUNTEERS

The DTCA worked with several partners, non-profit and community organizations, and volunteers in 2019 to promote a number of the programs that support Downtown Traverse City. Many thanks to those that donated time, product, and services!

123 Speakeasy Aerie

Alexandra Friar Allison Beers Amanda Walton Ann Miller Anna Beers

American Spoon Apache Trout Grill Apogee TCMI

BATA
Bay Area Recycling

Benjamin Marentette Betty's Hot Dish

Bill Carman Bill Froehlich Bill Hershey Bill Ludwig

Blue Tractor BBQ Blythe Skarshaug Bob Coltman

Boots for Kids Brew

Cathy Foster Central High Drumline Cherryland Ghost-

busters

Cherryland Human Society

Cherry Republic Chrissie Reitmeyer Colleen Lewis

Company Dance Crooked Tree Arts

Center

Dawn Gildersleeve Debbie Hershey Declin Johnson Dena Wilson Deep Blue Water Samba

School

Design Dance Co. Don Eastway DTE Energy

Espresso Bay Francisco's Market Fustini's Oils & Vinegars

George Felski Grand Traverse Pie Co.

Grind Coffee Co. Higher Art Gallery

Higher Self Bookstore Jake Kaberle James Behne

Jan Warren Jean Sarasin

Jeffrey Libman Joan Franklin Joann Brown

John Herbst John McGee John Wells

Jordan Byron Karen Wells

Karyn Kotimko Katherine Brege Kathy Tuckerman Katie Carman

Katie Miller-Roskamp Kelly Brown Kelly Conlon

Kilwins Kirsten Mesner

Lake Leelanau Rowing Club Laura Scott

Leaders & Lopers 4H Club

Leah McCallum Leland Brown Lilies of the Alley

Liz Lancashire Lorna Laskev

Lorna Laskey Margaret Morse Marion Coltman

Mary Turner Matt Turner

Maureen Ruddy Meg Weichman

Metal Arts & Home Decor Millie & Pepper Minervas

Misha Neidorfler Morsels Espresso + Eat-

ables Munson Medical Center My Secret Stash

Myra Schaub Natalie Martin

National Cherry Festival Nick Beadleston Noah Froehlich

Norte

Omelette Shoppe Oviatt House B&B Painting with a Twist Paperworks Studio

Park Street Cafe
Pat Herbst
Peace, Love, and Little

Donuts
Pete Kirkwood
Pets that Pull
Quinn McDonald

Rare Bird Brew Pub

Red Mesa Grill

Richard Lewis Rose Carman Running Fit

Sage Brown Scalawags Whitefish & Chips

Scott Hardy

Senator Wayne Schmidt

Sheri Constantin Stand out Stilting

Steve Constantin
Steven Marchany

Sunglass Shoppe Susan Fisher

Susan Fisher The Cheese Lady The Franklin

Tina Zinn Todd McMillen Toni I Sober

TBAISD-Career Tech Center

TC Arts Commission TC BBQ

TC BBQ TC Brew Bus

TC Firefighters Local 646
TC West High Drumline
Traverse Area District Lib

Traverse Area District Library Traveres City Film Festival

Traverse City Light & Power Traverse City Pit Spitters Traverse City Tourism

Trevor Tkach Tyler Bevier United Way

Warehouse Kitchen + Cork Yana Dee

AND THE AWARD GOES TO ...

The DTCA hosts their Annual Meeting each year in June to highlight the past year's accomplishments and gather with our Downtown neighbors and friends. The evening is topped off with honoring the recipient of the Lyle DeYoung Award, an award dedicated to a group or individual that has provided significant dedication to Downtown Traverse City.



LYLE DEYOUNG AWARD ROTARY CHARITIES

Rotary Charities was honored with the annual Lyle DeYoung Award in 2019 for their countless efforts towards making a more healthy and vibrant Downtown Traverse City.

In 1989, the historic Park Place Hotel was bought out of bankruptcy court for \$2.6 million, beginning Rotary's commitment to Downtown Traverse City. They believed retention and renovation of the hotel would serve the greater good and be a catalyst for other re-development and investment. With time and significant investment to the tune of over \$13,000,000, the newly renovated Park Place Hotel opened its doors in 1991 and gave a much-needed boost to the rebirth of Downtown Traverse City. Later, Rotary sold the property to Regency Hotel Ventures which still owns and operates the property today.

Rotary Charities made a \$1 Million pledge to the State Theatre Project in 1997 with plans to renovate the theatre and adjacent building. However, in 2007, Rotary Charities gave the Traverse City Film Festival the keys. And most recently, Rotary Charities awarded the DDA with a \$1 Million grant to make the dreams of a Civic Square in the heart of Downtown Traverse City a reality.

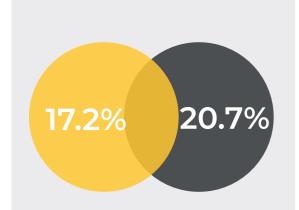
GOLDEN SHOVEL AWARD PAULA HAGEN

Clean winter sidewalks are a priority in Downtown TC. The DTCA honored Paula Hagen of Espresso Bay with the Golden Shovel Award in 2019. Paula is extremely dedicated to keeping a clean and safe sidewalk, and word on the street is that she is going for the award for year #2, a feat that has never been done before!

WEBSITE ANALYTICS

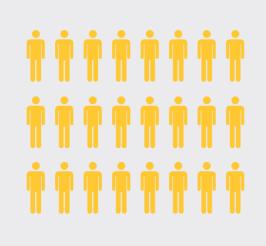
Having a strong digital presence is important as we promote Downtown Traverse City and communicate with our many constituents.





USERS & SESSIONS

2019 saw an increase of **new users** of downtowntc.com of 17.24%. The number of **individual sessions** on our site increased 20.68%



DEMOGRAPHICS

The average user of downtowntc.com is a female (60%), 25 - 34 years of age (25.68%), on their mobile device (63%).

SOCIAL MEDIA

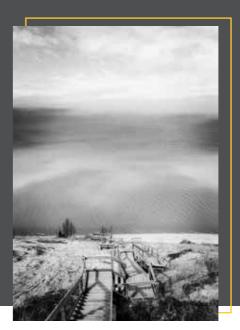
FACEBOOK

@DowntownTC(Official)

21K fans
2.3K new fans
17K engagements
2.4K comments
1.1K shares









INSTAGRAM & TWITTER

@downtown_tc @Downtown TC

19K twitter followers
23K instagram followers













COMMUNITY IMPACT

The DDA, the City of Traverse City, and our regional economic development organizations have worked to make Downtown Traverse City a home for entrepreneurs.

NEW BUSINESS, EXPANSIONS, AND MORE

2019 brought several new businesses to Downtown Traverse City.

APOGEE MADDY'S

BENEDICT MCMILLEN'S FRAMING (EXPANDED)

■ THE CHERRY STOP ■ PARK STREET CAFE

FORREST, A FOOD STUDIO

FRESH WATER TEXTILES SPA

TC BBQ

GOODBOY PROVISIONS TABLETOP UNDERGOUND

■ GRIND ■ WESTBAY HANDMADE

NEW PRIVATE INVESTMENT

GITCHE GUMEE (EXPANDED)

A number of new developments and building rehabilitations are underway in the DDA District that are increasing housing and mixed use.

160 E. STATE (OLD CITY HALL) 415 E. FRONT (HONOR BANK)

222 E. STATE (MIXED USE) 250 E.FRONT (CHASE BUILDING)

304 W. FRONT (4-FRONT CREDIT UNION) 101 E. FRONT (HANNAH LAY)

205 GARLAND (BREAKWATER) 312 S. UNION (MSU CREDIT UNION)

2019 Downtown Annual Report 2019 Downtown Annual Report





COMMUNITY IMPACT

Walk Score and Bike Score saw no change from 2018 to 2019. As efforts continue to increase the walkability and bike infrastructure in the Downtown core, the DDA looks forward to seeing scores rise in the future.

90-100

Walker's Paradise

70-89

Very Walkable: Most errands accomplished on foot

50-69

Somewhat Walkable: Some errands can be accomplished on foot

25-49

Car-Dependent: Most errands require car

0-24

Car-Dependent: Almost all errands require a car

90-100

Biker's Paradise

70-89

Very Bikeable:

Biking is convenient for most trips

50-69

Bikeable:

Some bike infrastructure

0 - 49

Somewhat Bikeable:

Minimal bike infrastructure

ACCOLADES

Each year, our beloved community is honored with accolades from various publications and media outlets that discover the beauty of the Grand Traverse region. Take a look at some of the reasons why we all know how special this place is that we call home.



50 Best Cities to Live in the US September 2019



14 Idyllic Fall Family Vacations
Across the US
September 2019



20 Beach Towns You Need to Visit This Summer June 2019



17 Amazing Places to Take Your Summer Vacation May 2019



Top 10 Places to Visit in Michigan July 2019



12 Best Michigan Vacation Ideas for All Seasons April 2019



Top Travel Destinations in North America for 2020 December 2019



48 of the Best Road Trip
Destinations in the U.S. for
Families
February 2019

THE TEAM

THE DDA EMPLOYS OVER
TWENTY INDIVIDUALS
FROM OUR COMMUNITY,
INCLUDING OUR CORE
TEAM SHOWN HERE.
ADDITIONAL SUPPORT
STAFF WORK FOR THE
PARKING DEPARTMENT.



JEAN DERENZY
Chief Executive Officer



HARRY BURKHOLDER
Chief Operations Officer



COLLEEN PAVEGLIO
Director of Marketing &
Communications



NINA TALARICO
Office Manager



NICK VIOX
Events & Projects
Coordinator



NICOLE VANNESS

Parking Director



AMY RUSSELL
Parking Operations
Supervisor



TRAVERSE CITY DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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