



# 2020-2021 IMPACT REPORT



















# **Chairman and Executive Director's Message**

Thirty years ago, downtown property owners banded together with the support of the City of Corpus Christi to create the Corpus Christi Downtown Management District. Three decades later, this FY 21 Annual Impact Report shows how that legacy has been carried forward. With support from the community, our neighbors, and new leadership across all levels of government, we have advanced our founder's quest to work collaboratively and create the most vibrant Downtown on the Gulf of Mexico.

2021 was a restorative year for the DMD, finding ways to bring the community back together after a yearlong hiatus due to COVID-19. With the addition of five new team members over the course of the year, our freshly energized team worked strategically to make substantial improvements that positively impacted the greater downtown area.

We launched initiatives like the weekly Downtown Run Club, establishing an entire new segment of downtown stakeholders while leveraging our beautiful natural resources. We brought sparkle back to Chaparral Street and increased safety with Mayor Guajardo's ¡Illuminando! Downtown Initiative presented by Corpus Christi Medical Center. Through many partnerships with the City of Corpus Christi, we were able to invest in public spaces at levels unprecedented in recent history.

The restorative nature of 2021 enabled business to once again flourish, with the opening of 10 new businesses, no business closures, and 47 new potential business inquiries. In an effort to understand post-COVID demand and market impact, we studied residential and parking needs, finding the demand remains strong. The outdoor patios we developed in partnership with the City made downtown an iconic outdoor dining destination, earning recognition in Texas Town & City Magazine. We were even able to take the holiday season to new heights!

Our greatest labor of love this year was the development of our new Five Year Strategic Plan, which sets a challenging and bold agenda for the future of our organization and community. And while we always aim to look forward, this Annual Impact Report highlights additional accomplishments our team delivered to our community this past year. Please join us in celebrating these achievements as we look forward to even more innovation in 2022!

#### Sincerely,



Alyssa Barrera Mason Executive Director



Glenn Peterson Chairman of the Board

### WHO WE ARE

The Corpus Christi Downtown Management District (DMD), established in 1993, is a professional Downtown Management District representing property owners and stakeholders within the area bounded by Kinney Street to I-37, and Lower Broadway to the Corpus Christi Marina L and T-Heads. In 2013, the property owners voted to renew the district through 2023. In 2015, DMD led stakeholders through a branding process naming this destination as the Marina Arts District while retaining DMD to refer to the organization and the programs and services we provide.

#### **Vision Statement**

A sparkling Marina Arts District and Greater Downtown area anchored by a beautiful bay front and marina, leading corporations, premier restaurants, hotels and cultural venues, exciting cultural events and festivals, growing residential population and a thriving arts, live music and entertainment scene which attract thousands to visit, live, work, and play. \*New Vision & Mission Statement crafted in FY 2022.







#### Mission Statement

Our mission is to create a successful, vibrant bayfront and seaside District, rebranded as the Marina Arts District and positively impact the greater Downtown area by proactively and strategically working with our partners to:

Provide Enhanced Cleaning, Beautification, and Safety Services

Develop and Improve the District

Market and Promote the District

Build and Manage an **Effective Downtown** 

#### FY 2021 DMD Staff

Alyssa Barrera Mason **Executive Director** 

Erica Tamez Executive Assistant &

Special Projects Coordinator

Alan Albin Finance & Administration

Manager

Eric Jaramillo Clean Team Operations

Manager

Roger Montelongo Planning & Urban Design

Manager

Jason Alaniz **Economic Development** 

Manager

Christa Vivanco **Economic Development** 

Assistant

Alexis Hill Public Relations &

Programming Manager

Savannah Garza Brand & Social Media

Coordinator

#### FY 2021 DMD Board

Glenn R Peterson, Chairman

Dee Dee Perez, Vice Chair

Janet Maxwell, Treasurer

Josh Richline, Secretary

Jaime Nodarse Barrera

Cherylyn Boyd

**Robert Charles** 

Raymond Gignac

**Eric Gutschow** 

**Krystof Kucewicz** 

Casey Lain

**Brad Lomax** 

Lesley Lomax

Caitlin Shook

Cheryl Votzmeyer

Realty Exchange Group

Hotel Corpus Christi Bayfront

**Business Interiors of Texas** 

Richline Technical Services

Texas A&M University

Corpus Christi

Stonewater Properties

**IBC** Bank

Gignac & Associates

Rockit's Whiskey Bar & Saloon

Omni Hotel (TRT Holdings)

House of Rock

Water Street Restaurants

Bar Under the Sun

**Shook Enterprises** 

Representing Clower

Management

# DISTRICT OPERATIONS

Objective: Create a cleaner, safer, more beautiful and accessible District and Greater Downtown Area.



#### **Improve Cleanliness & Perceptions of Cleanliness**



17,000

Hours Spent Servicing the District by an 8-Person Clean Team

Implemented a Clean Team Ambassador of the Quarter Recognition Program.



40,000

Bags of Debris Collected

55,600

**Block Faces Swept** 

988

Cigarette Buttlers Emptied

Clean Team Benchmarks	FY 18	FY 19	FY 20	FY 21
Bag of Debris Collected	32,283	46,108	34,213	39,998
Block Faces Swept	22,907	45,179	45,099	55,592
Biohazard Removal	-	3,053	5,887	4,537
Trash Can Maintenance	-	1,221	3,812	4,537
Graffiti Remediated	645	650	458	695
Street Team Hours	15,550	15,830	16,475	16,971





# Improve Safety & Perceptions of Safety

2,159

Off Duty Police Bike & Walking Patrol Hours 100+

Trees Lit Year Round as part of the illuminando! Downtown Initiative with Mayor Guajardo and Corpus Christi Medical Center

- Partnered with property owners on Peoples Street to install string lights during monthly ArtWalk.
- Conducted monthly Downtown Lighting/Walkability Audits to report 202 lights out to AEP.
- Improved the Safety Partnership by recruiting more members and moving to a monthly meeting combined with the Merchants Association.





#### **Infrastructure Strategies**



5

Streets Converted to Two-Way Streets in Partnership with the City of Corpus Christi

\$400,000

Invested in Downtown Two-Way Street Conversion Project



Starr Street, Peoples Street, Schatzell Street, Lomax Street, John Sartain Street

#### **Beautification Strategies**

\$150,000

Invested in Beautifying Downtown Parks



- Concrete replaced in Artesian Park.
- Relandscaping of a key feature in La Retama Park.



11,000

**Planter Upkeeps** 

1,800

Flowers Refreshed

- Implemented 43 seasonal banners on Chaparral.
- Expanded Downtown Holiday Decorations in Artesian Park, La Retama Park, Chaparral Street and the Marina to improve the festive look of downtown over the holidays.
- 33 trash cans acquired for Corpus Christi Marina.





#### **Chaparral Street Mural**

Commissioned local artist, Cameron Walls, to activate the east side of Chaparral & Peoples St. with a colorful, coastal mural.

2,656

Square Foot Mural Added to Chaparral Street





# **DEVELOP & IMPROVE** DOWNTOWN

Objective: Attract new businesses, development and residences; increase sales activity and street level occupancy and improve existing buildings and urban design.



#### **Attract New Business Strategies**

\$8,000,000

Committed for Future Developments

\$540,000

Awarded & Paid to Downtown Businesses Through TIRZ #3

Meetings Held with Potential New Businesses

**Property Updates on** DowntownTX.org

**New Businesses Opened** 



#### **Facilitate Building Rehabilitation** & Infill Development

New Residential Units Can be Absorbed Over the Next 10 Years Downtown

Meetings Hosted with Real Estate Brokers/Agents, Developers, & Downtown Stakeholders







#### **Opened & Closed Street Level** Restaurant/Bar/Entertainment/Service Businesses

Benchmark	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Opened	8	11	12	9
Closed	2	1 (7*)	12**	0
Net Gain	6	10	0	9

- \* Of the closed businesses, all but one have a new occupant or have redevelopment plans in the works with expected openings in 2020.
- \*\* All of the business closures were directly related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### **Increase Downtown** Office Occupancy

Familiarization Trips to **Comparative Set Cities** Kansas City & San Antonio



#### Improve Right of Way Management

8

Sidewalk Cafes Created to Provide COVID-19 Relief \$50,000

Funding Provided by Texas
Cares Act for Pop-Up Patios

\$100,000

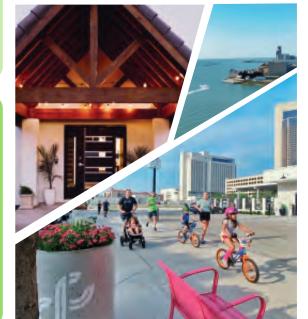
Additional Funding Secured for Expansion of Outdoor Dining Program from City Recovery Grant





Street Level Vibrancy Benchmarks					
Benchmark	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	
Vacant Storefront	28	24	27	24	
Entirely Vacant Buildings	18	17	22	20	
Vacant Square Feet	174,974 sq. ft.	166,274 sq. ft.	164,974 sq. ft.	173,378 sq. ft.	





#### **Facilitate Parking Improvements**



Conducted Parking Occupancy Study to Identify

11%

Increase in Need for Parking in Marina Arts District, Downtown, & Water's Edge District on the Weekends

Worked with Walter P. Moore
 Engineering Consultant to create and Parking Garage Feasibility Scope.

# COMMUNICATIONS & EVENTS

Objective: Increase sales, visitors and investment in the District and improve DMD visibility through strategic marketing and developing/managing events.



#### **Communications**

**News Article Features** 

Continued to optimize social and a YouTube Channel.

63,000

GoDowntownCC.com

Strategically crafted the Go Downtown CC website menu to provide access to tools for users

21,600

Followers on Instagram

682,000

People Reached on Instagram

25,100

Followers on Facebook

1,710,000

People Reached on Facebook

#### **Downtown Run Club**

Launched Downtown Run Club, a social run club for t-shirt by participating in the weekly district run and rotating, post-run happy hour specials at downtown establishments.



Run Club Group Members on Facebook

Average Weekly Runner **Attendance** 

**Sponsored Events** 

#### **Merchants Association**

Merchants Association's mission is to create a collaborative working group of merchants that pool resources to increase sales & enhance the Downtown experience.

**Association** 

Members

#### **Brand & Marketing**

20,300

Views on Discover **Downtown Video Series** 

5,426

**Newsletter** Clicks

\$9,100

Raised from Downtown **Commemorative Ornament** 

Developed and virtually launched Downtown Corpus Christi Shopping Guide.

Celebrated 20,000 followers on Instagram with a giveaway

Social Media	FY 17-18	FY 18-19	FY 19-20	FY 20-21
Marina Arts	135,315	114,398	24,000	-
Website	Views	Views	Views*	
Go Downtown	6,005	8,242	24,635	63,273
CC Website	Views	Views	Views	Views
Facebook	17,659	19,416	22,059	25,102
	Followers	Followers	Followers	Followers
Instagram	3,649	8,973	15,045	21,682
	Followers	Followers	Followers	Followers
E-newsletter	5,874	5,886	5,886	6,014
	Subscribers	Subscribers	Subscribers	Subscribers

\* Successfully redirected all Marina Arts District website viewers to the Go Downtown CC website.





#### **Merchants Association Members**

2020 Vintage K Space Contemporary

Art Museum of South Texas The Exchange

Axis Tattoo

BUS

Cassidy's Irish Pub

Chels Marie Boutique

Commons General Store

Harrisons Landing

House of Rock

Impact Marketing

La Playa By The Bay

Mesquite Street Pizza & Pasta Co.

Nueces Brewing Co.

Art Center of Corpus Christi Enjoy Corpus Christi Tours Peace of Mind Massage Therapy

> Rebel Toad Brewing Co.

**Taylor Cravey** Photography

The Gold Fish

The Point of Corpus Christi

Water Street Market

#### **Special Events**

83,600

5

People in the Marina Arts
District for 4th of July Weekend

Major District Events Supported

Facilitated new tradition "Jolly Roger Night" on the first day of Buc Days to kick-off our self-guided Pirate Pub Crawl.



14

5

16.4K

Pirate Pub Crawl Locations Collaborations with Local Influencers

People Reached on Social Media

#### **Holiday Series**

32,000

189,000

People Attended DMD Holiday Events Peoples Were Reached on DMD Social Media

- Marketed Downtown Corpus Christi as a holiday destination for visitors and residents.
- Acquired 66-foot Christmas Tree from Visit Corpus Christi.
- Programmed 6 holiday events with the support of the Downtown Advisory Council, Port of Corpus Christi, H-E-B, NEC Co-op Energy, and Mayor Paulette Guajardo
- Created a holiday photo contest & giveaway on Instagram to encourage more foot traffic in the district.





#### **OCTOBER 2020 - APRIL 2021**

#### **Hybrid ArtWalk**

Combining in-person events & virtual vendors, Hybrid ArtWalk created a safe experience to support local in the age of COVID-19.

**78** 

540

**Vendors Hosted** 

**Website Views** 

35

Participating Merchant Events



**MAY - JUNE 2021** 

#### **ArtWalk Pop-Ups**

To ease back into a fully in-person experience, ArtWalk became small, curated markets in open-air environments.

**25** 

21 30,900

Vendors Hosted

Participating
Merchant Events

Attendees





**JULY 2021 - CURRENT** 

#### **ArtWalk Block Parties**

Expanding the ArtWalk footprint and forming an ArtWalk committee of merchants & local creatives, the market transitioned to a block party model on Peoples & Lomax Street with live music, more vendors, and merchant programmming.

94

**32** 

87,300

**Vendors Hosted** 

Participating
Merchant Events

Attendees







## ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT

Objective: Proactively pursue the DMD mission by building an organization with adequate resources, technology and professional staff and engaged leadership, board members, stakeholders and volunteers.



#### **Municipal Management District Administration**

Developed and Year Strategic Plan



# City of Corpus Christi 2020-2021

The City of Corpus Christi is the biggest financial contributor to downtown revitalization and our organization. The City matches dollar for dollar of the property owner levy. In 2016, the City added \$100,000 for security and pioneered the TIRZ #3 partnership, which has expanded to \$787,882.

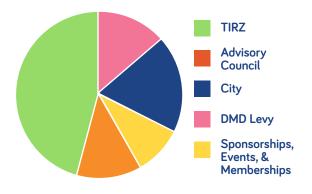
Interlocal: \$215,000







#### **Revenue by Sources**



#### Income **Expenses** City/Public Support **District Operations** \$681,816 City Interlocal Agreements \$315.000 Develop and Improve \$328,764 TIR7 \$787.882 \$1,102,882 **Total** Marketing and Events \$45,852 **Private Sector Support** Assessment Income \$221,954 Organizational \$581,420 **Advisory Council** \$170,000 Management Merchants Association \$12,418 Sponsorships/Grants \$111,522 Events, Memberships \$1,767 **Total** \$517,611 \$17.309 **Deficit** Total

#### **Downtown Advisory Council 2020-2021**

\$1,637,852

DMD developed bold partnerships with the City of Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority and muralists to make the District and the Greater Downtown Area more accessible and beautiful leading to big results!

**-** \$50.000 **-**





PORTCORPUS CHRISTI\*

**-** \$10.000



**Total Revenue** 









Expenses

\$1,637,852

\$5.000







Special thanks to our event sponsors!













#### **Organizational and Staff Capacity**

**5** 

**Team Members Added** 



### 1200

Miles Traveled by 4 DMD Staff to Attend Internation Downtown Association Conference



 Silver ADDY Awarded by American Advertising Federation for the 2020 Support Local Campaign.

- Expanded the team to include a Planning & Urban Design Manager and an Economic Development Assistant.
- Deployed Working Genius Framework in office to improve collaboration and effectiveness.
- Executive Director obtained Economic Developer Certification (CEcD) for the International Economic Development Council and attended the Annual Conference in Nashville.
- Brand and Social Media Coordinator was awarded The Bend Magazine 2021 Reader's Choice Award for Digital Artist/Illustrator.

- Continued participation in Leadership Corpus Christi, Past President of the Board, Graduate of Class 49, Accepted to Class 50
- DMD Staff completed LGBTQ+
  Community Ally Safe Zone
  Training provided by Coastal Bend
  Wellness Foundation
- Joined Urban Land Institute San Antonio Chapter to initiate the formation process for developing a ULI Chapter in Corpus Christi in FY 2021 2022.





#### **Technology and Facilities**



- Moved to new office space, increasing team morale and productivity.
- Procured 3 software programs to help expand our team's capacity in spatial planning, modeling development scenarios, and tracking district wide attendance.



#### **Information Management**



Published 2019-2020 Annual Report and virtually launched State of Downtown Video featuring the Annual Report highlights.

13,700

People Reached from Virtual State of Downtown



