2022 NATIONALLY ACCREDITED MAIN STREET AMERICA ORGANIZATION

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STREET
ORGANIZATION

2022

**ANNUAL REPORT** 

# DOWNTOWN EXCELSIOR PARTNERSHIP, INC.

Prepared by Lyndsey M. Baxter DEP Executive Director

Approved by DEP Board of Directors February 8, 2023 DOWNTOWN EXCELSIOR
SPRINGS IS THE FIRST AND
FOREVER HEART OF OUR
COMMUNITY!



#### **LOOKING FORWARD...**

Never has the Downtown Excelsior Partnership, Inc. thought so much about the future. Now that we have seen how resilient our community can be, we are looking forward to the future of the heart of our community. Our historic district is stronger than it's been for many years, even considering the pandemic-induced uncertainties in the marketplace. While we are all aware the work is not complete and we often hear what downtown could be, Downtown Excelsior Springs is already a great place, and we are well on our way to becoming even greater.

I am proud to share this annual report with you, which provides an overview of the many accomplishments of our organization in the past year. It also shows you impact statistics and recognizes current challenges, which allow us to better determine opportunities for our downtown district.

I hope you will feel encouraged and inspired by our plans for 2023. These plans lay the groundwork to ensure continued success for our historic downtown district. Looking forward, we are focused on transformational projects that will positively impact our downtown, and in turn, the City of Excelsior Springs.

Our organization is proud to work alongside our many partners and volunteers to ensure our downtown continues to become more vibrant every day. To our partners, volunteers, and all those who experience, enjoy, and explore in Downtown Excelsior Springs: Thank you for making a difference in our downtown.

Sincerely,

Lyndsey M. Baxter Executive Director

Downtown Excelsior Partnership, Inc.



## ABOUT THE DOWNTOWN EXCELSIOR PARTNERSHIP

DEP is a community supported and volunteer driven organization for people of all walks of life who are working together to revitalize Downtown Excelsior Springs. We are united in our efforts to build a special place that future generations will be proud to call their home. We have a deep-rooted love for Excelsior Springs, an affection for its history and a passion for creating a fun, economically vibrant and visually compelling downtown.

## MISSION & VISION



DEP's mission is to provide services and support to businesses, promote positive economic development and tourism; preserving our historic and natural resources while enhancing our citizen's quality of life in Downtown Excelsior Springs.

DEP's vision is to foster an environment that encourages growth and development while enhancing the historic quality of Downtown Excelsior Springs.

## MEET THE 2022 DEP **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The DEP Board of Directors is made up of volunteer and recognized leaders across many areas of expertise. They represent the broad diversity of our business district and contribute a significant amount of time, talent and energy to further the mission of the organization.



Nate Williams Board President





Jeanine Stubbs Jim McCullough



Jill Rickart **Board Treasurer** 



Allen Amos **Board Member** 



Brenda Kilgore Board Member



Kenny Slavens Board Member



Sharon Powell City Liaison

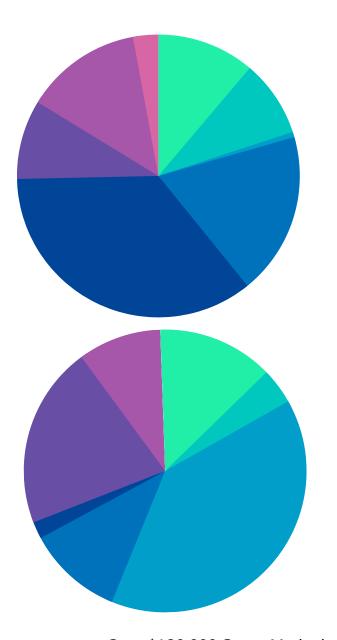


Lyndsey Baxter **Executive Director** 

#### FINANCIAL SUMMARY

For every \$1 invested by the City of Excelsior Springs in the PSA, DEP raised an additional \$8.41.

Over \$6.9 Million in reported taxable retail sales in 2022, a 3.30% increase compared to 2021 and a 101.48% increase since the CID was established.



#### **INCOME**

11.2% - Public Support

8.8% - Memberships

0.6% - Donations

18.6% - Grants

35.5% - Events

9.1% - Sponsors

13.4% - Tax Revenue

2.9% - Other

#### **EXPENSES**

13.3% - Beautification

4.1% - Economic Vitality

39.3% - Events/Marketing

11% - Operating Expenses

1.9% - Main Street

20.8% - Salaries

9.5% - Visitor Center

Over \$126,000 Spent Marketing the Downtown District in 2022 Through Publications & Events

Over \$42,500 spent on downtown beautification

DEP Events had their largest economic impact ever in 2022 based on survey responses

#### REINVESTMENT STATISTICS

The Average Price Per Square Foot Remained at \$4.97 There was a 1.97% increase in REPORTED overnight stays to our community in 2022.

8,350 Volunteer Hours is equivalent to \$250,082.50.









#### **SOCIAL REACH STATISTICS**

Through the use of our Visit Excelsior Tourism Website and Social Media Platforms, we were able to reach over 1.1 million individuals with the Visit Excelsior Springs promotional campaign.



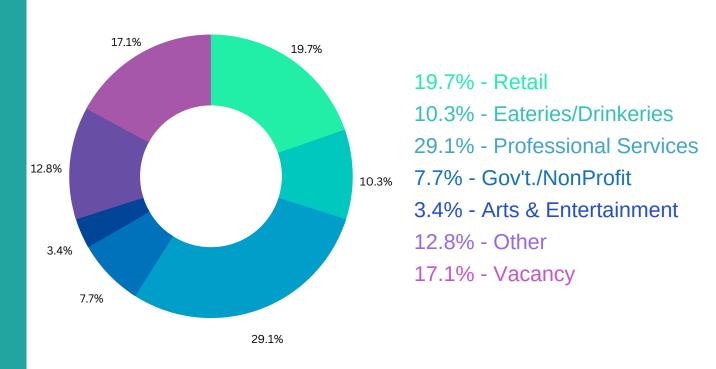






# DOWNTOWN EXCELSIOR BUSINESS MIX

There are currently 87 businesses located within Downtown Excelsior Springs.



When comparing end of year 2022 to end of year 2021 business mix, the following can be concluded....

Through business openings, closures and expansions, we had a total loss of 6 businesses and a gain of 7 FTEs.

While we lost 6 businesses, our vacancy rate only increased 0.3% due to business expansions and additional offerings.

Of our 17.1% vacancy rate, 35% are under construction, 20% are available for lease and 15% are for sale.

#### 2022 ACTION PLAN

#### Successful Completion of 69 Projects in 2022

Design Committee
New Downtown Planters

Mural Repair

Downtown Planting Day

Window Display Competition

Memory Tree in Pocket Park

Seasonally Decorated Downtown Streetscape

Provided Multiple Façade Grants

Awarded \$58,000 in ARPA Facade Grants

Completed Wayfinding Study

Secured Engineer for Lithia Landing

**Economic Vitality Committee** 

**Building Inventory** 

**Business Inventory** 

**Business Directory** 

**Shopping & Dining Guides** 

Real Estate Redevelopment Plan

Low Interest Loans

**Event Economic Impact Results** 

**Business Recruitment** 

Available Property Database

Placer.ai Reporting

Organization Committee

**Budget Development** 

**Investor Drive** 

**Quarterly Newsletters** 

Monthly Business Updates

Discover Downtown Blog

Social Media Management

**Annual Sponsorship Opportunities** 

**Updated Bylaws** 

Awarded Best Organization Pandemic Response

Grant Applications & Administration

**Press Releases** 

**Annual Report** 

**Property Management** 

Downtown Raffle

Annual Sponsorship Campaign

Volunteer Recruitment/Retention

Gift Card Giveaways

Secured \$200,000 in County ARPA Funds

Managed Downtown CID

#### **Promotion Committee**

**Event Marketing Plan** 

Tourism Marketing Plan

Chocolate Tour

Sippin' Into Springtime

Spring Open Houses

Wine Festival

BBQ & Fly-In on the River

**Benefit Dinner** 

Witch Way to the Wine

Cocktails & Candy Canes

**Home Brew Competition** 

Added Event VIP Opportunities

Mug Shots

Downtown Trick or Treating

Small Business Saturday

Downtown Holiday Open Houses

Mistletoe Market

**Elf Factory** 

Lighted Parade

**Christmas Wreath Auction** 

Lane of Lights

Holiday Homes Tour

A Miracle On Regent Street

Second Friday

#### Website Committee

Successfully Hosted Visit Excelsior Website Successfully Printed 2023 Trip Planner Implemented Website Ad Space Sales

Continually Updated Website Content Executed 2022 Marketing Calendar

Google Ad Word Campaigns

Secured \$32,000 For Image Procurement

### PLANS FOR 2023

Entertainment District

Heightened Tourism Efforts

Lane of Lights Extension

Wayfinding Signage Implementation

CDBG Streetscape Funding

Organization Rebrand

Package Marketing Opportunities

Compare Replica & Placer.ai

Complete Videography & Photography Procurement Projects

Develop Lithia Landing

Complete Mini Mural Series Project

Heightened Business Recruitment/Retention Promotional Materials

