



# Great News

FROM THE GREATER DOWNTOWN COUNCIL

## CELEBRATE SUMMER

- DOWNTOWN
- CANAL PARK
- FITGER'S

**There's** something for everyone as we take to the streets and sidewalks for the annual Downtown Sidewalk Days Wednesday, July 17 through Saturday, July 20. Whether it's searching for great bargains, sniffing out the tastiest treats, admiring classic cars, dancing to rocking music or parading with your pet, you'll find it all at this year's event.

As in the past, Sidewalk Days allows the community spirit in the Downtown to come alive. Businesses take time to prepare for the event as some even order special merchandise for the summer sale, and it's a great opportunity to get downtown employees, visitors, and residents in a festive buying mode.

Although Superior Street will be blocked off from Lake Avenue to 5th Avenue West, the event's boundaries extend to a much broader area. From First Street to Fitger's, and Canal Park to

**SIDEWALK DAYS** JULY 17-20  
DOWNTOWN DULUTH

ENJOY GREAT DEALS, MUSIC, FOOD & FUN!

- CLASSIC CAR SHOW
- STREETDANCE
- "PAWS ON PARADE" PET PARADE
- AND MUCH MORE!

DOWNTOWN • CANAL PARK • FITGER'S

the Historic Old Downtown, businesses throughout the greater downtown are planning to join in on the summer celebration.

And don't miss out on some of the after-hours events. The Second Annual Classic Car

Show hits Superior Street Wednesday evening, the street dance on First Street is scheduled for Friday evening and new to the line-up this year is the "Paws on Parade" pet parade Saturday morning. It's great deals, food, music and fun...for everyone.

GDC

## Board of Directors and Staff

- Chair**  
Michael Polzin  
*Minnesota Power*
- Vice-Chair**  
Barbara Perrella  
*Labovitz Enterprises*
- Secretary/Treasurer**  
Daniel Maddy  
*Fryberger Buchanan Law Firm*
- Immediate Past Chair**  
John Lawien  
*Wells Fargo Bank*
- 
- Board Members**  
Mark Allison  
*U.S. Bank*
- Abbot Apter  
*Mercury Investment Co.*
- Karen Arthur  
*Handy Ma'am Services/Canal Park Business Association*
- Bill Bennett  
*LHB Engineers & Architects*
- Tom Cotruvo  
*City of Duluth, Ex Officio*
- Donna Ekberg  
*Lizzards*
- Pam Kramer  
*Local Initiatives Support Corp. (LISC)*
- Mike Lang  
*St. Mary's Medical Center*
- Stephen Marder  
*UMD Center for Economic Development*
- Kay Nierengarten  
*Great Lakes Aquarium*
- Tami Tanski-Sherman  
*Fitger's Brewery Complex*
- Bonnie Simenson  
*Anne Childs*
- John Ivey Thomas  
*John Ivey Thomas Associates, Inc.*
- Merry Wallin  
*Duluth News Tribune*
- Tom West  
*The Budgeteer News*
- 
- Staff**  
Kristi Stokes  
*President/C.O.O.*
- Susan Rogge  
*Administrative Assistant*


# REPORT FROM THE MAYOR'S DOWNTOWN T

**As stakeholders** in the downtown community, members of the Greater Downtown Council and the Mayor's Downtown Task Force are working together to help build a stronger, more vibrant central business district. Below you will find the recommendations from the Task Force, many of which will be adopted into the plan of work for the GDC in the months ahead.

## TASK FORCE REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Draft and lobby passage of an ordinance related to bus stop zones and pedestrian transit zones.
2. Recommend the Police Department issue citations for such "quality of life" crimes (for example, panhandling, public urination, public drinking) by repeat offenders under the state statute, when possible, rather than the city ordinance.
3. Continue the Police Department's "high enforcement zone" in the downtown in coordination with the City Attorney's office and the Court. This includes continuance of the Police Department's current level of staffing in the downtown and Canal Park areas.
4. Explore a scaled-down version of a Downtown Community Court Program.
5. Build partnerships with non-profit agencies already serving the downtown area.
6. Create a "business watch" program and encourage businesses to increase the presence of employees in uniform.
7. Minimize (to one, if possible) the number of busses stopping at one time at stops on both sides of 200 West block of Superior Street in order to reduce traffic and pedestrian congestion. This will include ongoing participation with the DTA and its consultant in exploring ways to improve the movement of people in and through the downtown.
8. Develop a downtown employee-parking program. This should include satellite parking lots or a DECC parking program.
9. Eliminate the open space in front of The Greenerly.
10. Create stronger transit connections between Downtown, Canal Park, Old Downtown/Fitger's and the Medical District, including an expanded, year-round use of trolleys.
11. Pursue development of the concept and funding for a multi-modal transit center in the greater downtown area that includes the DTA, Greyhound and light rail that is integrated with pedestrian and car traffic.
12. Codify the structure and use of the incremental parking revenue fund.
13. Continue to utilize the GDC Parking Committee as an advisory committee to the Duluth Parking Commission so that downtown parking issues remain a focus.
14. Better utilize parking fine revenue, directing it to downtown parking improvements.
15. Develop a program that allows for one hour of free parking at all downtown ramps.
16. Add parking directional signage on the streets for all parking facilities, including reader board signage.
17. Change one-way avenues in the downtown by either:
  - a) adding diagonal parking on each side of the avenue, or
  - b) converting avenues to two-way thoroughfares.
18. Reserve the first level of ramps (or the most convenient level) for short-term customer parking.
19. Maintain 25 cent meter rates for one-half hour and the 10-minute grace period in order to encourage customers' use of meters, while stepping up enforcement of those downtown employees who have historically abused meters.
20. Convert two-hour meters at the Phoenix Lot to one hour to prevent abuse by employees who plug meters throughout the workday.
21. Add short-term diagonal, on-street parking wherever possible, particularly on the 200 Block of West Superior Street.
22. Promote the "cool factor" of living downtown. The abundance of positive attributes should be leveraged in advertising campaigns to promote downtown living.
23. Commission a study to determine the level of demand for housing in the downtown area. This would significantly help a potential developer weighing their investment risk.
24. Compile an inventory of space available for residential development as information to potential developers.
25. Convey to the development community a "can-do" attitude towards development of new units in the downtown area. As an example, the building Official is encouraged to use his administrative relief power on non life-threatening safety issues to assist with the significant challenges of renovating older structures.
26. Develop solutions to the high, up-front costs of renovating existing buildings. This is particularly critical with small-scale projects. This includes identifying funding sources to assist developers in paying for the high cost of meeting code requirements.
27. Improve the coordination of economic development and business recruitment efforts as it relates to downtown occupancy. Develop a one-stop shop; this includes a sophisticated web site with clearly defined links and a level of detail that provides the user with adequate and timely information.
28. Develop an ongoing procedure to assure that the needs of corporate offices and public building tenants in the downtown are satisfied so we retain their presence in our downtown.
29. Improve the entrance to Lake Place Park.
30. Make improvements to the Northwest Passage, such as lighting, signage and basic maintenance.
31. Expand the skywalk system to the Technology Village.
32. Make the viaducts at Lake Avenue and Fifth Avenue West more pedestrian friendly.
33. Connect the Bayfront Festival Park with the Munger Trail system and extend the Lakewalk into Lakeside and Lester Park.
34. Improve area maps to better highlight all connections to Downtown from Canal Park, Medical District and the Bayfront Festival Park.

# TASK FORCE

35. Support a DTA “Ride the Bus Free” program for downtown users, from Fifth Avenue West to Fitger’s.
36. Identify funding for the Streetscape Plan.
37. Recommend that a common motto and colors be used throughout the Downtown, Canal Park, Medical District, First Street and Old (Historic) Downtown (the Duluth Triangle). The motto should be “Downtown Duluth on the Lake” and colors should be nautical blue, yellow, red and white.
38. Display new banners with these colors—following the streetscape Plan design—when the City’s existing banners (for the holidays and Grandma’s Marathon) are not up.
39. Create natural décor enhancements by replacing and planting more trees, installing hanging planters and lighting trees in the winter months.
40. Identify a source of park benches that downtown businesses can purchase to place outside their business during business hours. This would allow for a consistent look at the businesses’ expense, not the City’s. 

## DTA STUDY EXAMINES DOWNTOWN OPERATIONS

**The Mayor’s** Downtown Task force made forty recommendations, many of which have an impact on the DTA transit system. Some, like the lunch-time trolley, have already been implemented (both trolleys run from 11 to 2 so they travel by downtown and Canal Park locations every 15 minutes). Others, like the study on the DTA’s downtown operations, are underway. Normally, the DTA would be doing its Federally required system evaluation in 2003, but in light of the momentum created by the task force, the Transit Authority has been able to move most of that work into this year. The overall study will examine all the DTA routes and financing and make recommendations as to future system changes. Additionally, the DTA added a major work task called the Downtown Interaction Study. This portion of the study will closely examine all aspects of the DTA’s downtown operations as well as the Task Force recommendations.

The DTA has contracted with the firm of Abrams - Cherwony & Associates to assist with the study. Ed Abrams from this firm has been meeting with local groups and individuals to gather information. The GDC is participating with Kristi Stokes on the Technical Committee and Tom West (GDC Board & Duluth Budgeteer), Erick Kjolhaug (Explorations), and Mark Jeronimus (ACE Hardware) on the Policy Committee. A joint meeting of the GDC Board and the Task Force along with the DTA and Abrams was also held on July 2nd.




*Consultant Ed Abrams discusses the Downtown Interaction Study with members of the Mayor’s Task Force and GDC Board.*

The focus of the study is to:

- 1) Enhance the operation of the transit system within the greater downtown area.
- 2) Diminish the people congestion at major stops where it exists.
- 3) Facilitate transfers to multiple destinations so as to diminish wait times.
- 4) Increase through routing as needed and practical.

Also the DTA is looking at the connectivity issues both with Canal Park and the Medical District.

When the City of Duluth went through the streetscape design along Superior Street in the mid 1980’s, the DTA constructed transit centers in the downtown. As part of this endeavor, the DTA bus stops were consolidated and the transit centers built. Ridership at the centers has been higher than anticipated and now congestion along the sidewalk is a concern for both transit riders and non-riders. Surveys will be conducted in the coming weeks to gather additional information from riders and their use of the system.

The DTA’s consultant, with the assistance of the technical and policy committees, will be able to review the current situation, offer alternative recommendations and analyze the impacts of those alternatives. A draft technical report on downtown transit service and impacts that can be used as a policy guideline for both the DTA and City will be developed. This report will contain both short and long-range recommendations. 

*For more information contact Jim Heilig at the DTA (722-4426 ext. 316).*

### DULUTH TRANSIT AUTHORITY PUBLIC INPUT MEETING

**AT SUPERIOR STREET  
DOWNTOWN TRANSIT CENTER  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 2002  
2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

.....

#### **“WALK-IN” MEETING**

**Tell our consultants what you think of current bus services, the downtown transit center and what you want for bus service and transit center improvements.**

**You can stay for a minute—or longer. If you can’t make the meeting, please write or call us with your comments.**

Duluth Transit Authority  
2402 Michigan St., Duluth, MN 55806  
(218) 722-4426 ext. 316

# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE DOWNTOWN

## SUMMER ORGAN CONCERT

July 14th, Aug. 11th, 18th, 25th  
Sacred Heart Music Center  
Sundays at 3 p.m.

## HOT SUMMER COMEDY REVUE "THE VIRGINIA MONOLOGUES"

Renegade Comedy Theatre  
Now thru August 31  
Thursdays—7 p.m.  
Fridays & Saturdays—7:30 p.m.

July 14 (Sunday)  
ANIMAL HOMES  
1-3 p.m.  
Great Lakes Aquarium

## LIVE MUSIC AT LAKE SUPERIOR PLAZA

Mondays 4:30-6:30 p.m.  
July 15—No Room To Pogo (Ska/Reggae/Grove)  
July 22—The State Champs (Rock & Roll)  
July 29—Charlie Parr (Folk/Blues)  
August 5—Brian Dack (Acoustic/Folk)  
August 12—The Party Store Minnows (Country/Folk)  
August 19—TBA  
August 26—TBA

July 17-20  
(Wednesday thru Saturday)

## SIDEWALK DAYS Downtown Duluth

Wednesday—5-8 p.m.  
Classic Car Show  
Friday—Street Dance on First Street  
Saturday—Pet Parade "Paws On Parade" (Superior Street from 5th Avenue West to Lake Avenue)  
10:30 a.m.—Registration  
11 a.m.—Parade



July 17-21  
(Wednesday thru Sunday)  
FITGER'S SIDEWALK SALES:  
Fitger's Brewery Complex

## MUSIC ON BAYFRONT PLAZA

Bayfront Plaza  
Wednesdays at 6 p.m.  
July 17—Hawkridge (bluegrass)  
July 24—Fatt Cat (variety)  
July 31—Country Junction  
August 14—The Uncolas (50's & 60's)

## CITY SOUNDS Duluth Public Library Plaza

Thursdays at 7 p.m.  
July 18—The Windjammers  
July 25—The Duluth Community Band  
August 5—North Shore Big Band  
August 8—The Downbeats

## LIVE AT LAKE PLACE CONCERTS

Fridays from 12:15-12:45 p.m.  
July 19—Bill Isle  
July 26—Crazed Fan  
August 2—Stel and Lefty (blues/folk)  
August 9—Court Jesters Brass Band  
August 16—David James (comedy & magic)  
August 23—Alexis Simmons  
August 30—Swede Anderson's German Band

July 19 (Friday)  
32ND ANNUAL PARK POINT 5-MILER  
6:30 p.m.  
Park Point Pavilion

July 20 (Saturday)  
2002 ROCK THE PARK FESTIVAL  
10 a.m.-9:30 p.m.  
Bayfront Festival Park

ORIGINAL FAMILY MELODRAMA  
"FALLEN FROM GRACE OR THE VILEST VILLIAN'S VENDETTA"  
(Saturdays and Sundays)  
Now thru Aug. 31  
Shows are at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.  
Tugboat Children's Theatre

DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET  
Holiday Center (outside)  
Mondays, July 22 thru October 7  
4:30-6:30 p.m.

July 27 (Saturday)  
GREAT LAKES AQUARIUM BIRTHDAY BASH



July 29 (Monday)  
SUPERIOR STREET SPRINTS  
6:00 p.m.

August 1 (Thursday)  
BOSTON BRASS CONCERT  
7:30 p.m.  
Harbor Side Ballroom—DECC

August 2 (Friday)  
"BIG TIME JAZZ ORCHESTRA"  
2:45 p.m.  
DECC—Harbor Side Ballroom

August 2 (Friday)  
TWIN PORTS WIND ENSEMBLE  
7:30 p.m.  
DECC—Harbor Side Ballroom

August 2-3 (Friday-Saturday)  
4TH ANNUAL 5 ON 5 SOCCER CHALLENGE  
Park Point

August 2-4 (Friday-Sunday)  
TALL SHIP NIAGRA TOURS  
9 a.m.-5 p.m.

"THE MIRACLE WORKER"  
Duluth Playhouse  
August 2-4  
Friday & Saturday 7:30 p.m.  
Sunday 2 p.m.  
August 7-11  
Wednesday-Saturday 7:30 p.m.  
Sunday 2 p.m.  
August 15-18  
Thursday-Saturday 7:30 p.m.  
Sunday 2 p.m.

August 3 (Saturday)  
PORT OF DULUTH FESTIVAL  
Live entertainment—Shangoya  
DECC

August 3 (Saturday)  
YWCA DULUTH INTERNATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL  
10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.  
Leif Erikson Park

August 3 (Saturday)  
CONCERT IN THE PARK  
11:45 a.m.  
Bayfront Festival Park

August 3 (Saturday)  
ALL STATE BAND CONCERT  
1:30 p.m.  
DECC Auditorium

August 9-11 (Friday-Sunday)  
BAYFRONT BLUES FESTIVAL  
Bayfront Festival Park


August 14-19  
(Wednesday-Monday)  
FITGER'S 118TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION  
Fitger's Brewery Complex

August 16 (Friday)  
JEWEL  
DECC Auditorium

August 21 (Wednesday)  
FREE ANTIQUE APPRAISAL  
Noon-3 p.m.  
Depot

August 22-25  
Thursday-Sunday  
PORSCHÉ 356 REGISTRY HOLIDAY  
Car Show on Saturday  
8 a.m.-Noon  
Bayfront Festival Park

August 24-25  
GINGERBREAD ARTS & CRAFT SHOW  
Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Sunday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
DECC

August 26 (Monday)  
BONNIE RAITT W/ LYLE LOVETT AND HIS LARGE BAND  
DECC Auditorium 



Enjoy **LIVE**  
**MUSIC**  
RIGHT HERE  
on the **PLAZA**  
Mondays 4:30-6:30pm  
Thru August 2002

GREATTER DOWNTOWN COUNCIL

**What happens** when you combine extended hours at stores and restaurants, music, farmers markets and in-line skating races? You have more reasons to stay downtown after the work-day is over.

These new events are all taking place this summer in conjunction with PRIME TIME DOWNTOWN, which offers extended evening shopping hours every Monday Night. Enjoy music at the Lake Superior Plaza starting at 4:30 each Monday, focusing on the fabulous talent of our local artists. And stop by the farmers market for some of the freshest locally grown produce. The market is scheduled to kick-off July 22nd in front of the Holiday Center, and this year's season is shaping up to be a good one!

In addition, kids in-line skating races will take to Superior Street on the evening of July 29th, so bring out the entire family for an evening of fun competition, shopping, eating, music and markets!

Take advantage of the extended hours to enjoy everything that Downtown Duluth has to offer— at a time that works for you.

## BEACON BANK

**A new** financial institution has entered the Duluth market. Beacon Bank, headquartered in Shorewood, Minnesota, opened its doors earlier this month at its new Downtown Duluth location at 401 West Superior Street. The bank has pumped about \$500,000 into the downtown economy as it prepared for the opening and built-out its anchor street level spot in the Palladio Building. This is the first northern branch for the established community bank, which also has an office in Excelsior and plans to add another Duluth location by the end of the year.



Beacon Bank Duluth President Tim Meininger says they have a reputation of providing high level, personalized customer service and they look forward to building upon strong relationships that have been established in this market. Eight employees are on staff at this time, but the workforce is expected to grow to approximately 14 by year's end. **GDC**

## National Night Out

**Help generate** support for strengthening your neighborhood by participating in National Night Out, August 6th, 2002.

Gatherings are planned at various locations throughout the community to help create stronger ties between neighbors. Stronger neighborhoods build safer neighborhoods!



## WANTED: Walking Volunteers

**The** Greater Downtown Council is exploring a "Business Watch" program with the assistance of the Duluth Police Department. We are looking for individuals who would be interested in helping to keep our downtown neighborhood safe and friendly by adopting a block or more.

Through this program, volunteers are asked to walk their block during a given time in the afternoon, serving as ambassadors in the downtown. From providing directions to a tourist to reporting suspicious activity, these volunteers can play a key role in developing a stronger neighborhood. *Are you willing to contribute a minimal amount of time to benefit your downtown?* Contact the GDC at 727-8549 or [info@downtownduluth.com](mailto:info@downtownduluth.com). **GDC**

## Rated "E" for Everyone

**Downtown's** Aad Temple Shrine Building is going through a transformation as youth and adult volunteers unite to turn the space into a skate park with a coffee shop, gym/auditorium and game room.

The group, Youth For Christ, is responsible for leading the charge after recently purchasing the building at 201 East First Street. Executive Director Mark Pavola says the 10-thousand square foot skate park will be built and designed by skaters and local skate industry leaders. He says the group's whole focus is to build relationships with kids, from having them involved in the park's design to learning the responsibilities of running it. And best of all, Pavola says it is rated "E" for everyone. That means youth who cannot pay the minimal admission fee will be able to earn a work pass by helping out at the facility. They hope to open the doors to the year-around park in September. **GDC**



118 East Superior Street  
Duluth, Minnesota 55802 • 218-727-8549  
[www.downtownduluth.com](http://www.downtownduluth.com)

PSRT-STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
DULUTH, MINN.  
Permit No. 212



## Welcome New GDC Members

- American Express Financial Advisors
- Community Health Information Collaborative
- The Depot
- Duluth Regional Care Center
- Harbor Security Shop

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## July/August Calendar

### JULY 17-20

Sidewalk Days

July 17, 5-8 p.m.—Classic Car Show

July 19, Street Dance on First Street

July 20, “Paws on Parade,” 11 a.m.

*Downtown Duluth*

### MUSIC AT LAKE SUPERIOR PLAZA

Every Monday from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

**JULY 15, 2002**

No Room To Pogo (Ska/Reggae/Grove)

**JULY 22, 2002**

The State Champs (Rock & Roll)

**JULY 29, 2002**

Charlie Parr (Folk/Blues)

**AUGUST 5, 2002**

Brian Dack (Acoustic Folk)

**AUGUST 12, 2002**

The Party Store Minnows

(Country Folk)

**AUGUST 19, 2002 (TBA)**

**AUGUST 26, 2002 (TBA)**

### TUESDAY, JULY 30, 2002

GDC Board of Directors Meeting

7:30 a.m.

*Chamber of Commerce*

### AUGUST 27, 2002

TUESDAY

GDC Board of Directors Meeting

7:30 a.m.

*Chamber of Commerce*

