



Annual Report

2018-2019

St. Joseph Downtown Community Improvement District
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Message from the Director:



The St. Joseph Downtown Community Improvement District continues to enhance the viability of the downtown community by making investments to create a district where it is a pleasurable experience to live, work, play and visit.

Formed on September 6, 2011 as a special taxing district to improve the downtown area., funding for the district is derived by a half cent sales tax and a property tax equalivant to fifty cents per one hundred dollars of property valuation. The total tax that was generated in the fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2019 was \$89,565.41.

The investment is paying off! More and more community members and visitors to our downtown are commenting on the great progress that we are making to contribute to a flourishing downtown district. In the year 2018-2019, the District contributed \$83,127.93 toward the cultural and economic activities that are prevalent today.

We invite tourists and residents from the community to walk down the streets of our historic downtown. Discover all the beautiful architecture that is being brought back to life. Interact with the numerous residents who have made downtown their home, be entertained with the numerous events, unique shops and marvelous restaurants that we have to offer.

Thank you for reading about all the great projects funded by the St. Joseph Downtown Community Improvement District in 2018-2019.

Rhabecca Boerkircher

Executive Director

Our Mission

The mission of the St. Joseph Downtown Community Improvement District is to create and promote economic and cultural opportunities within the district by providing businesses and residents a means to fund new services and capital improvements.

The St. Joseph Downtown Community Improvement District was a supporter of downtown events, services and economic development. Here are the projects that they supported in 2018-2019.

Rock the Park; “Sounds of Summer” Concert Series and Red Rally: The Rock the Park concert is the kick-off of the concert in the park season. This year, the classic 80’s band BOCC began the season by playing to a large crowd. The CID was a diamond sponsor for the event for \$500.00.



The “Sounds of Summer” Concert Series celebrated its 21st season in 2019 and large crowds came out to enjoy the music. The St. Joseph Community Improvement District was a gold sponsor of the event for \$600.00. The Downtown Association teamed up with the Uncommon Character group to present the Red Rally event in recognition of the Chiefs tenth year at training camp at MWSU . The CID provided prizes for the Andy Reid and Patrick Mahomes look a like contests held in conjunction with the event.



Imagine 11 Concert Series: Imagine Eleven is eleven summer nights to bring your lawn chair or blanket and enjoy a Sunday evening of music and food in a family friendly, alcohol free event. Coleman Hawkins Park offers a comfortable outdoor music experience. The series offers a wide variety of music covering different styles and decades. Feel like clapping along or dancing? Go ahead! Local and regional musicians and bands inspire, encourage, and uplift the spirit of the community. Proceeds from the event benefit the Center, a non-profit mental health facility. The CID gave the series a grant of \$5,000.00 to help fund the concerts.



Joestock Festival: The St. Joseph Music Foundation hosts a Joestock Festival every Labor Day Weekend. This two day event features area local bands and musicians. The St. Joseph Downtown Community Improvement District contributed \$500.00 to this festival to assist with marketing expenses.



Holiday Lights: The holidays are always a magical time downtown. In 2018, a group of business people downtown worked to raise money to purchase new holiday decorations and create a festive environment downtown. The St. Joseph Downtown Community Improvement District contributed \$5,000.00 toward this endeavor.



Christmas at the Chateau: How will three sisters save the Shakespeare Chateau, historic mansion and beloved family home from a corrupt bank that threatens to foreclose on Christmas Day? Especially when one of them falls in love with one of the bankers! This full length feature film was written by St. Joseph resident Jason Hudson and filmed entirely downtown and at the historic Shakespeare Chateau on Hall Street. Featuring local talent, this film premiered at the Missouri Theater during the holiday season of 2018. The CID invested \$1,000.00 to sponsor and promote the film.

Sculpture Walk: The St. Joseph Downtown Community Improvement District is a supporter of public art. Once again, the district was the platinum sponsor of the 2018-2019 Sculpture Walk and contributed \$15,000.00 to the project. This is the sixth year for the project that is spearheaded by the Allied Arts Council. The Peaceful Ruler horse statue was added to the permanent collection of sculptures last year and is displayed in front of the Convention and Visitors Bureau. Get a brochure and vote for your favorite this year!



Grants:

Four years ago, the St. Joseph Downtown Community Improvement District began a grant program to provide gap financing for property owners making substantial improvements to their properties. This year, the district awarded two \$10,000.00 grants for property development. The first grant was given to Bobbi Jo and Spencer Hausman for the remodel of their building at 720 Felix Street. The grant helped them obtain their goal of adding more stylists to their business by remodeling the second floor space of the building.



The second grant was given to Bottlecage Investments to assist with the funding needed to complete their renovation of a retail specialty space. They opened the store on April 13, 2018. They offer a wide range of wines, cheeses and specialty food items., and are a great addition to the downtown retail offering.





Concessions Building: The St. Joseph Downtown Community Improvement District has a lease from the City on the concessions building at 7th and Felix Street. The building is a wonderful asset for downtown festivals and events. Organizations can rent the building for real restrooms for their events and sell concessions to help support their causes. The district spent \$3,620.00 to assist with the utilities and insurance on the building.



The St. Joseph Downtown Community Improvement District partnered with the City of St. Joseph, the St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce, Mosaic Life Care, Buchanan County, the St. Joseph Downtown Association and Downtown First to fund an office and staff to work on common goals for downtown. The office is located at 713 Edmond St. and the District paid \$15,600.00 to assist with funding for this organization.

Downtown Beautification

The St. Joseph Downtown Community Improvement District is committed to making downtown an attractive place to live, work and visit. With this goal in mind, the district invested \$3,250.00 for trash pick-up in the downtown district.



The St. Joseph Downtown Community Improvement District also pays for the maintenance of the Gateway Park, the planting of the large concrete flower pots located in various places downtown and the black pots on Felix Street. For maintenance, plantings and snow removal at the concession building, the district spent \$5,004.50 in 2018-2019. They also paid an outside contractor \$600.00 to water the planters.



The CID also contracted with Hillyard Technical Center this year to produce dividers for some of the downtown benches. The cost for the bench dividers was \$1,500.00.

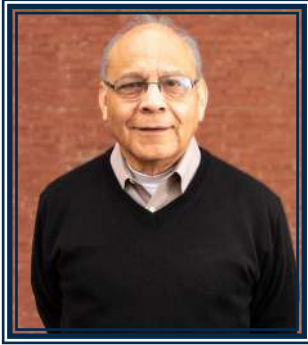


Marketing: In an effort to better communicate what is happening downtown, the St. Joseph Downtown Community Improvement District maintains a website **downtownstjoemo.com**. Maintenance of the site this year was \$3,237.00. The district also facilitates a facebook page.

Downtown St. Joseph is changing...for the better! Individuals and companies are investing the resources necessary to rehabilitate the architecture that makes us unique as a community. The arts and entertainment district continues to develop with locally owned businesses, restaurants and great entertainment options. Downtown has evolved into a very “fun” place to be!

Leadership Commitment

The St. Joseph Downtown Community Improvement District Board of Directors reflects a diversity of professions and viewpoints. Directors either own property or represent a property owner in the district. Board Members are:



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