

Downtown Berkeley Positive Change

June 2016

Downtown Berkeley PBID Renews for 10 years



On May 31 the ballots were counted and the Downtown Berkeley Property-Based Business Improvement District (PBID), managed by the Downtown Berkeley Association (DBA), was renewed for another 10 years by a property owner vote of 86.8% weighted by assessment. This renewal commences on January 1, 2017, and includes the extension of the PBID three blocks south on Shattuck from Dwight to Carleton, and one block west on University from MLK Jr. Way to Grant St. The PBID will continue its cleaning, hospitality, landscaping, and marketing services, and will expand role to include placemaking to bring additional vitality to the Downtown.



Bay Area Book Festival Brings 50,000+ to the Downtown

The Bay Area Book Festival (BABF) is returning to Downtown Berkeley June 4 and 5, bringing over 50,000 book lovers to the Downtown. The indoor/outdoor festival features almost a hundred vendors tents with street closures through the Downtown core on Addison, Center, Allston, Harold Way and Miliva. (See map at logistics section of www.baybookfest.org) In addition 300 leading authors in keynotes and panels, a family-friendly Children's Area in Berkeley's Civic Center Park with stage performances and games. Lacuna, a popular public art installation and outdoor library will be offering 50,000 free books to the public, and hundreds of exhibitors lining the streets of Downtown Berkeley.



New Downtown Hotel Unanimously Approved

On May 26, the Zoning Adjustments Board (ZAB) unanimously approved a new hotel at the Bank of America site. The \$112 million construction project will replace the suburban style Bank of America building with a 334-room hotel with two restaurants, a bank space, amenities and 14,000 square feet of conference space (including both leasable and support facilities). The ZAB also encouraged the developer to open with the top floor bar/lounge that is open to the public. The first phase of the construction project, is expected to begin later this year.

Center St. Garage Closes for Rebuilding on July 1



The City of Berkeley has announced the Center Street Garage is closing for reconstruction on June 30. The new garage opening in the Fall of 2017 will be a tremendous boost to the Downtown: increasing parking capacity by over 60% from 440 to 720 spaces, adding a 300 space bike station and attended bathrooms, and making entry/exit and movement between floors much easier. See below chart for comparison.

The DBA and the City have been working with local parking managers to make sure that Downtown Berkeley is open for business during reconstruction with adequate replacement

parking. With construction the public is loosing 390 spaces (40 of the current 440 are used for the City fleet.) The City and DBA have secured 406 daytime and 693 evening/weekend additional parking spaces in or near the Downtown during reconstruction, by adding stacked parking, extending hours, and accessing unused spaces in a number of garages. (See chart below). The DBA is also providing a map and directory of these resources at: www.downtownberkeley.com/transit-parking-map.

The Parking Maps/Directory will be available at the construction site also. Visitors can also readily find parking resources via the ParkMe smartphone app.

Center St Garage Rebuild (July '16-Fall '17)

	CURRENT GARAGE	NEW GARAGE (July '17)	
Spaces	440	720	
Ramps	Single Helix	Double Helix	
Exit/Entrance Lanes	4	6 (variable)	
Car Charging	4	19	
Seismically Safe	No	Yes	
Attended Bike Station	No	Yes	
Attended Restrooms	No	Yes	
Solar Panels	No	Yes	



Additional Parking Supply

Parking Garage/Lot	Day	Night/ Weekend	Date Available
Allston Garage Stacked	150	150	July 1
Kittredge Garage Stacked	50	50	July 1
Oxford & Berkeley Way Stacked	45		July 1
Equity Residential Parking	25*	25*	Now
Telegraph-Channing Garage	100	100	Now
Durant & Center Angled Parking	36	36	TBD
Promenade Garage		122	July 1
Golden Bear Center Surface Lot		60	Now
Golden Bear Garage		150	Sept 10
TOTAL ADDITIONAL PARKING	406	693	

^{*} Monthly Parkers Only









New Openings in Downtown

There are four new restaurants open for business in Downtown Berkeley. B&B Kitchen & Wine Bar (2116 Shattuck Ave) has taken the place of Burritos Inc, and is a modern restaurant with a sleek interior. It has a full bar and will be open for lunch and dinner, as well as brunch on the weekends. Ike's Place (2172 Shattuck Ave) offers creative sandwiches with even more imaginative names. Sweetgreen (1890 Shattuck Ave) is all about fresh and fulfilling salads for a health conscious lunch or dinner. Tasty Pot (2115 Kittredge St) offers Asian influenced hot soups and noodle dishes with fresh ingredients.