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JOHN CANER ELECTED TO INTERNATIONAL DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(Berkeley, CA) — John Caner, the CEO of the Downtown Berkeley Association, was elected this month to the International Downtown Association (IDA) Board of Directors at its 61st Annual Conference and Tradeshow in San Francisco. Caner has served as CEO of Downtown Berkeley Association for almost 6 years, and has managed their Property Based Business Improvement District (PBID) since its inception in 2012. The IDA connects business improvement districts and other diverse practitioners across the U.S. and globe that transform cities into healthy and vibrant urban places. Caner was elected to a three-year term on the IDA board, and is also eligible for a second term. The IDA board is comprised of 50 urban professionals with representatives from four continents.

Caner is delighted to give back and gain expertise through his board role at IDA. "When I started in Downtown Berkeley I was incredibly grateful to IDA and fellow professionals in the organization who helped me and the DBA get up-to-speed with our new PBID," he said. "I also look forward to bringing back additional insights and best practices from around the world that we can consider in Berkeley. What is going on globally with the revitalization and growth of sustainable transit-oriented cities is inspiring." DBA Board Chair, Bill Schrader, shares in Caner's enthusiasm. "John has done an amazing job in getting the Downtown Berkeley PBID up to speed over the past several years. We look forward to his further knowledge assisting us in taking Downtown Berkeley to the next level of urban vibrancy."

About the Downtown Berkeley Association

Downtown Berkeley Association is a nonprofit membership organization and the Owner's Association for Downtown Berkeley's Property-Based Business Improvement District (PBID), representing 187 property owners and approximately 680 of their merchant and business tenants in a 24-block area of Downtown Berkeley. The purpose of the PBID is to create and sustain a vibrant and prosperous City Center by: 1) Producing a consistently clean, welcoming, and attractive Downtown experience; 2) Attracting and retaining new businesses; 3) Cultivating a fun and vibrant Downtown "living room;" 4) Enhancing property values, sales, and occupancies; 5) Helping Downtown businesses compete locally and regionally. Visit downtownberkeley.com for more information, or follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

About the International Downtown Association

The International Downtown Association is a world leader and champion for vital and livable urban centers. Through its network of diverse practitioners, its rich body of knowledge, and its unique capacity to nurture community-building partnerships, IDA provides tools, intelligence and strategies for creating healthy and dynamic centers that anchor the well-being of towns, cities and regions around the world. Founded in 1954, IDA is the organization professionals turn to for the industry's best networking, educational and professional development opportunities. Visit ida-downtown.org for more information, or follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

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