

the Stamford DOWNTOWNER



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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT, SANDY GOLDSTEIN *Clang, Clang, Clang Goes the Trolley*



The seamless interface between Stamford Downtown and the South End was a major goal of the city planners when they approved the massive Yale and Towne and Harbor Point projects. It was 2007 when the vision for the South End was created and brought before the Zoning Board. 4,000 units of housing were part of the plan as well as a supermarket, retail services and a limited amount of offices. The land use members were “psyched” about creating a free transportation mechanism that would “shrink” and “link” the two parts of town and make positive geographic connectivity a reality.

Enter the proposed use of a Trolley, a friendly mode of public transportation to encourage people to savor the offerings of the two adjacent parts of Stamford. The vision was that residents at Harbor Point would board, free of charge, a small, well appointed trolley to go to Stamford Downtown to dine at one of its 95 fine restaurants or shop at the Stamford Town Center or on Bedford St. or go to the Palace Theatre or cinema. Conversely, residents of the numerous Downtown apartments or Downtown patrons would board the trolley in the morning to go to the train station and others would ride the trolley to go to the waterfront or the proposed supermarket, Fairway.

During the summer of 2013, the Zoning Board under the leadership of Tom Mills, determined that 1,500 residential units in the South End and the 6,000 residential units in Stamford Downtown were enough of a critical mass to propel the trolley. After numerous Zoning Board hearings at which the details of a trolley plan were formulated, February 14th was deemed the date for the Trolley to have its maiden voyage (a Valentine’s Day gift to the city.) A celebratory opening with city officials, BLT, and Stamford Downtown members occurred. The Mayor, Carl Kuehner, President of BLT, Sandy Goldstein President of Stamford Downtown and Tom Mills, Chairman of the Zoning Board cut the ribbon and led 30 passengers onto the trolley to ride the new route that connected these two dynamic parts of Stamford.

So... when and where does the trolley go Clang, Clang, Clang? Everyone can ride FREE of charge every day of the week: Monday-Friday 7am to 11pm, Saturday 9:30am-11pm and Sunday 10:30am-9:00pm. The Trolley does 30-minute loops with the following stops: Stop 1, on the hour and ½ hour Harbor Point Sq, followed by stops at the Transportation Ctr, Gov’t Ctr, Columbus Park, Broad St @UCONN, Landmark Sq, Stamford Town Ctr (Broad St and Tresser Blvd), Grove St, Tresser and Elm, Urban Transit Way, Fairway, and Waterside School. For more detailed information and a map go to www.stamford-downtown.com. Have fun!!!!!!



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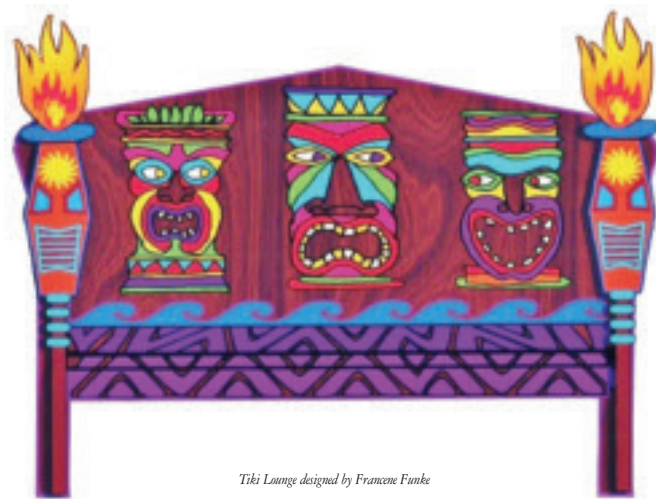
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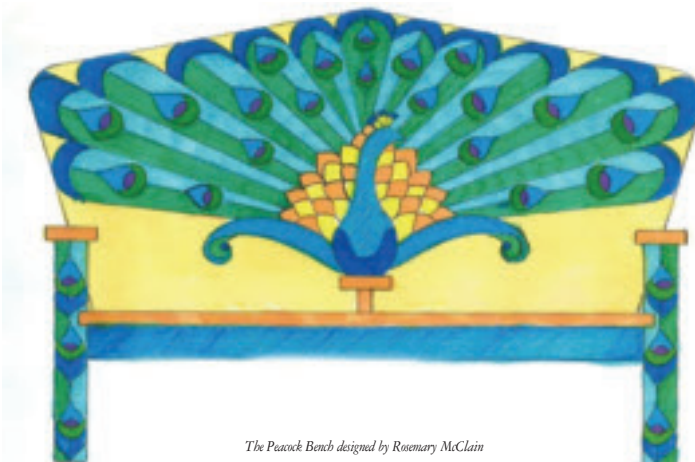
Editor: Daniel Raymer

Please Take a Seat

There will be plenty of places to take a seat in Stamford Downtown this summer as the annual outdoor sculpture exhibit, Art in Public Places, brings Street Seats in Stamford Downtown presented by Point72 Asset Management, to our Downtown streets. "This event is a favorite of DSSD staff," Lynne Colatrella, VP of Events & Marketing says, "because we are engaging local artists to use their wild and vivid imaginations to transform a practical streetscape essential into a work of art!" Over 200 designs were submitted and 40 benches will ultimately adorn the landscape of Stamford Downtown. This exhibit has also engaged young artists; three groups of advanced art students: FUTURE 5 and St. Cecilia's Elementary School both in Stamford and Flood Middle School in Stratford will each design a bench.



Tiki Lounge designed by Francene Funke

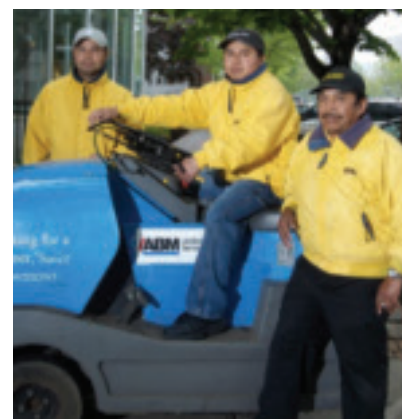


The Peacock Bench designed by Rosemary McClain

While visiting the benches, we encourage the public to take fun pictures and share them on Instagram or Facebook with the hashtag #StreetSeatsStamfordDowntown

Spotlight on the Stamford Downtown Clean Team

The Clean Team has been keeping Stamford Downtown pristine since September, 1994. The program is an essential part of the Clean, Green & Safe initiatives that Stamford Downtown implements every day. A supplement to the city's services, The Clean Team is an important part of how Stamford Downtown remains clean and attractive - 7 days a week



Stamford Downtown's Clean Team

Lester, Vincente, and Hugo make up our spectacular Clean Team. All week, they are busy cleaning litter, leaves, sand and more along the 9 ½ miles of downtown sidewalk, six downtown parks, six parklets and two city parking lots. That adds up to 6,900 miles a year, the equivalent of walking from Stamford to Los Angeles and back each year, plus a stroll to Miami for good measure. This hard work results in more than 23 tons of garbage collected annually. During the warmer

months, they are also busy watering the flowers. In the winter you might also see them with a snow shovel in hand as well.

Lester, Supervisor of the Clean Team, is a native of Guatemala, and speaks fluent English and Spanish. He has been working with Stamford Downtown for the last 4 years. His main tools of the trade include brooms, dustpans, gloves, shovels, salt and solvent; all necessary items to keep the downtown in order. He is on foot all day and therefore covers a lot of ground. He walks about 7 miles every shift, regardless of the weather conditions.

Lester remarked that most people he encounters are very friendly. He loves helping people find their way to all of the wonderful destinations that Stamford Downtown has to offer. It is one of the highlights of his job.



Lester

Thank you to Lester, Vincente, and Hugo for keeping our sidewalks safe this winter. We are all looking forward to spring!

Retail Corner

Stamford Downtown's retail and restaurant momentum cannot be stopped. From the new, cozy Irish pub, Castle, to a beer connoisseur's dream found at Cask Republic, Stamford Downtown's new restaurants continue to make us the regional dining and nightlife destination. In addition, Stamford Downtown is delighted to welcome



Castle Burger

FASTSIGNS, a premier signs and marketing firm to Stamford Downtown.

Castle

A little slice of Dublin has made its way to 488 Summer Street with the opening of Castle Bar & Grill. Adorned with portraits of James Joyce and W.B. Yeats, Castle's antique Irish décor has customers half expecting to come across one of these literary figures during their pub visits. Soccer fans can rejoice because Castle is dedicated to showing every English Premiership game and will host viewings of all games during the World Cup soccer tournament this summer.

Cask Republic

With over 50 beers on tap and another 80+ bottled beers, Cask Republic (same owners as Ginger Man),



A myriad of beer taps at Cask Republic

located at 191 Summer Street, boasts a beer list that is rivaled by few in the region. Two fireplaces set the tone in this cozy Downtown tavern, where diners find themselves surrounded by a warm atmosphere and bright staff. Food, drink and ambience make the backroom in Cask Republic the perfect location for private parties, corporate happy hours, and anything in between.



FASTSIGNS Stamford Grand Opening

FASTSIGNS STAMFORD

Welcome FASTSIGNS at 95 Atlantic Street. Boasting expertise in graphic design, printing and marketing services, FASTSIGNS produces everything from banners to building signs to trade show exhibits and vehicle graphics. With a hands on approach, the FASTSIGNS Stamford team, gives every client individual attention to bring business communications to life. Be sure to stop-in and find out how FASTSIGNS can enhance your business.

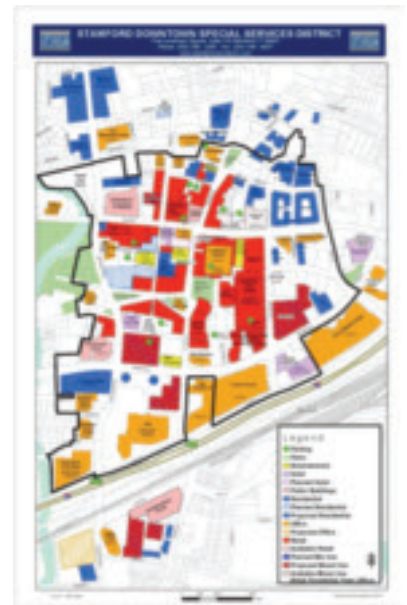
Welcome Emily Provonsha, Public Space Planner

Have you ever been inspired by a vibrant city street or an active urban park? Our newest staff member, Emily Provonsha, came to us motivated with the task of working to revitalize public spaces in Stamford Downtown. Her focus is to support walkability, circulation, and pedestrian amenities by convening city officials, business owners, and the public. She focuses on making streets and parks safer, improving wayfinding and amenities such as seating or lighting, and increasing accessibility in Stamford Downtown.

What makes a city street vibrant or an urban park active is a question often asked. While the definition of 'great public spaces' might be subjective or dependent on local context, there are a few ideas that most people can identify with.

- Safe and accommodating for all users
- Visually beautiful design features
- Reflection of local history or culture
- Basic pedestrian amenities
- Community involvement and social interaction

"It is a fun exercise to think up characteristics, so try and add to my list." requests Emily.



Stamford Downtown District Map

Celebrating 20 years of Volunteer Beautification of Stamford Downtown

On March 6th, Stamford Downtown's Streetscape Coordinator, Marion Glowka, honored nine "Garden Groomer" volunteers who have been with her since the beginning. We'd like to celebrate the dedication of these volunteers for the past twenty years, as well as Marion's leadership, in making Stamford Downtown beautiful. In addition to the nine original volunteers, there are seven individuals who have participated for ten or more years, ten for five or more years, and seven new members of the Garden Groomers family. In addition to the pansy plantings, planters, various gardens and hanging baskets, this year we invite you to visit the new "Daffodil Hill" in Veteran's Park, which was planted with the help of the FUTURE 5 organization.



Stamford Downtown Streetscape Garden Groom; Sandy Goldstein, Pat Pemberton, Barbara Miller, Judy DeRose, Susanne deMilt, Betty Roberts, Pat Langley, Jane Waugh and Marion Glowka

Visit Stamford Downtown's Blog and Facebook
stamforddowntownevents.blogspot.com facebook.com/stamford.downtown



Stamford Downtown congratulates our friend,
Tim Curtin, Stamford's Citizen of Year for 2014!
Join us May 8 at the Citizen of the Year Dinner
at the Italian Center to recognize Tim's lifelong
contributions to the City of Stamford.
For more information, visit www.stamfordcoty.org

Stamford Downtown Events, Summer 2014

KidsDrawFree in Kiwanis Park

Saturdays, April 5 through October 18, 2014

Hosted by Stamford Downtown and Alex and Ryan Virvo from GreatLocalArt.com.
Kids and their families are invited to draw for free with visiting artists and volunteers.

Street Seats in Stamford Downtown, Art in Public Places

June-August 2014

Each year Stamford Downtown hosts a distinguished outdoor sculpture exhibit designed to attract both local and regional audiences. Art in Public Places features decorated benches lining the sidewalks and parks of the Downtown as well as the Stamford Town Center.

French Market (Farmers' Market)

June-November, 2014

Bedford Street at Forest - Saturdays

Visit our farmers' market with vendors offering the freshest fruits, vegetables, flowers, baked goods and more! Straight from the farm and right to your home.

ARTWALK in Stamford Downtown

June 27-28, 2014

Art work from professional artists will be displayed in stores and businesses on a walking route in Stamford Downtown.

Alive@Five Outdoor Summer Concert Series

Thursday Evenings, July 10, 17, 24, 31, August 7, 14, 2014

5:00 pm, Columbus Park

Live music from national and regional headliners, which attracts after work crowds and families. Thursday nights in Columbus Park have become a ritual in Stamford Downtown with great music, great dancing and great times!

Jazz Up July

Wednesday Evenings, July 9, 16, 23, 30, 2014

Summer sizzles with this wonderful concert series in Columbus Park. **New This Year!**
Each week will feature music from jazz to pop to blues.

Stamford Tables Summer Restaurant Weeks

August, 2014

Please visit www.stamford-downtown.com for dates and participating restaurants. Stamford Restaurant Weeks is a great way to celebrate the summer with specially priced menus.

A Grand Summer Night, Dine Around

August 13, 2014

Organized by the "Friends of Stamford Downtown" this annual fund-raiser raises money for outdoor sculpture and salutes fine dining in Stamford Downtown. Call 203-348-5285 for an invitation.

Arts & Crafts on Bedford

September 20 & 21, 2014

Shop at our craft and artisan boutiques on Bedford Street which will be closed to traffic for the weekend.
Dine at our extended sidewalk cafés.