

# STAMFORD DOWNTOWN

MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER

## LETTER FROM STAMFORD DOWNTOWN PRESIDENT, DAVID KOORIS

At the start of the New Year, I want to share some things with you all regarding infrastructure in the Downtown. You've probably heard the "I" word in the news a lot over the past year with the Federal passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act in late 2021 and the Inflation Reduction Act in 2022 containing many infrastructure and investment provisions. This is all great news for a place like Stamford Downtown as we work to upgrade our infrastructure to accommodate future growth, and do so in a way that acknowledges the severe climate challenges of the 21st Century.

While little of this money is yet flowing to local projects via the State and Federal governments, Stamford isn't sitting around waiting. Over the last year and a bit, both the City of Stamford and Stamford Downtown have been aggressively applying for grants to provide the resources necessary to invest in our transportation infrastructure for the next generation. The last time an investment of this magnitude was made here was in the 1960s and 1970s during the era of Urban Renewal. And while that infrastructure fueled decades of office and housing development, we can recognize now that the designs of the downtown streetscape treated car as king. Changing preferences, amplified by COVID's push to enjoy the outdoors, necessitates new streets that balance the needs of cars, transit, cyclists, and pedestrians.

Over the coming years, the City will be implementing several fully-funded projects that will completely transform Downtown into a more walkable, vibrant, and safer neighborhood. Starting this Spring with the reconstruction of Lower Summer Street to make permanent the outdoor dining scene that has become a hallmark of that corridor these last two summers, several streets will be fully reconstructed including Atlantic Street from Tresser to Broad, Broad Street from Atlantic to Greyrock, and North State Street from Elm to Atlantic. Together, these projects will provide a more inviting gateway to our community from both the train station and I-95 and begin to stitch together Downtown's multiple activity centers and better connect our neighborhood to those that surround. Two additional, fully-funded projects will reimagine the area around Latham Park and the area around the Atlantic/Main Street mall garage ramp.

Infrastructure projects take time and it will be several years before these investments are complete. The concentration of these projects, though, will seemingly transform the neighborhood for the better, overnight. If you have ideas that you think should be incorporated into these projects or if you have ideas for what we should seek funds to invest in next, please share your thoughts at [dssd@stamford-downtown.com](mailto:dssd@stamford-downtown.com) and we look forward to partnering with the City to engage your voices towards the improvements of our Downtown.



Take a shopping break with La Picante, new at Stamford Town Center (outside of Barnes & Noble)

Enjoy a variety of tasty, fresh salads, pastas, tacos, and more; we are sure you will love it!



Stamford Downtown Ambassadors

### **STAMFORD DOWNTOWN'S WINTER WEATHER RESPONSE**

Stamford Downtown is working with downtown stakeholders to prepare for winter weather conditions. During winter storms, which generate two or more inches of snow, Stamford Downtown clears a four-foot path along downtown sidewalks while also clearing bus shelters and curb cuts. This program is meant to assist property owners whose responsibility it is to clear the sidewalks in front of their buildings per local ordinance.



## WINTER LIGHTS IN STAMFORD DOWNTOWN



Stamford Downtown's Winter Lighting Program has returned to enliven Connecticut's long, winter nights. The lights are now a staple of downtown and serve as a beacon to welcome visitors, potential residents and restaurant patrons. The program includes eighty street trees, cascading lights at Kiwanis Park and the lighting of the iconic oak trees at Columbus Park and the Ferguson Library. Come and enjoy the lights before their removal in mid-March.

### STAMFORD DOWNTOWN ENVIRONMENTAL MAINTENANCE & AMBASSADOR SERVICES DECEMBER STATISTICS



**2,962**  
TRASH (LBS)  
REMOVED



**786**  
HOURS CLEANING  
SIDEWALKS



**203**  
PUBLIC  
ENGAGEMENTS



**17**  
HOURS OF  
LEAF REMOVAL



**11x**  
GRAFFITI WAS  
REMOVED



**10**  
HOURS OF  
POWER WASHING

## UCEDA INSTITUTE OPENS AT 65 BROAD STREET



Carlos A. Uceda (founder) and Carlos D. Uceda (son) at the ribbon cutting for Stamford's UCEDA Institute

Opening this month is the UCEDA Institute, located at 65 Broad Street, 2nd floor. A private English language school with a 35-year history which helps immigrants throughout the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions of the U.S.

With a proven methodology in place since 1988, and a team of teachers who are more like coaches than lecturers, UCEDA is laser-focused on motivating and preparing its adult students to achieve their goals by developing effective English communication skills.

For more information, click [here](#).

# DUCK, DUCK, GOOSE!

**in Stamford Downtown • Art in Public Places • Summer 2023**

Stamford Downtown Special Services District is hosting an interactive sculpture exhibit, similar to past exhibits, *Space Invasion*, *Dinosaurs Rule* and *Horsin' Around*. Artists, through a juried selection process, will paint and decorate 24 fiberglass ducks that will be displayed throughout Stamford Downtown June through August, 2023. The exhibit will once again engage the talent of the local and regional art community and captivate the imagination of young and old alike.

We are calling on artists to submit designs for *Duck, Duck, Goose! in Stamford Downtown* for jury and possible sponsor selection and exhibit inclusion. Applications are due to the Stamford Downtown office by Monday, February 20, 2023. For more information or to download an application for *Duck, Duck, Goose! in Stamford Downtown*, please visit this [link](#).