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Downtown Boston Business Improvement District Renewed in Overwhelming Vote

Popular program-and-service organization reauthorized for five years

BOSTON (June 14, 2013) – On Thursday, June 13th, property owners in Boston’s first Business Improvement District (BID) overwhelmingly voted to renew the organization by a 117-7 vote. Many of those present cited the improved cleanliness, safety, and atmosphere that the BID has helped bring to the Downtown Crossing area.

“The response tonight was inspiring as member after member shared stories about the new look and feel of this neighborhood and the role the BID has played,” said John Rattigan, Chairman of the BID Board of Directors and Partner at DLA Piper.

At the meeting, property owners large and small lauded the BID’s many popular initiatives such as the Downtown Ambassadors, who provide cleaning and hospitality services, and the “Summer Block Parties” which bring food, drink, and live music to the Summer Street Plaza on Thursday evenings in the spring and summer.

“The BID has been an integral part of this neighborhood’s revitalization,” said longtime downtown property owner Ron Druker of the Druker Company, who owns several prominent buildings in the district. “Its many programs and services are a big reason why downtown has emerged as one of Boston’s best places to live, work, and play. I voted enthusiastically to renew.”

The vote authorizes the BID for an additional five years, and in compliance with state legislation, makes all eligible property owners full participants effective January 1, 2014. This increase in membership will allow the organization to ramp up its efforts and continue to transform the once-struggling area.

With renewal accomplished, the BID’s leadership will continue to focus on working with city leadership to improve downtown.

“The city has been instrumental in our success, and we look forward to continuing our partnership,” said BID President Rosemarie Sansone. “Our renewal is indicative of the considerable progress we’ve made, and great motivation for the future.”

The Downtown Boston Business Improvement District (BID) is a private, non-profit corporation created and maintained by property owners. The BID's mission is to transform downtown Boston through programs and supplemental services.