

Council & Committee Corner



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Developer's Council News

Real Estate Development in Downtown Cleveland

On June 22, 2018, the HBA of Greater Cleveland sponsored a tour of Downtown, Ohio City, Tremont and nearby areas. With the hard work of HBA members Bill Sanderson (Knez Homes) and my paralegal Shannon Marsh, our tour was an immense success. Participants rode Lolly the Trolley and toured the inside of seven different for-sale units and apartment properties. The tour ended at The 9 with food and drinks at the Azure rooftop lounge. Participants of tours in other cities commented that the Cleveland tour was the best yet.

Participants discussed how the great recession, while tough on HBA members, benefitted downtown Cleveland. People new to the housing market were scared to buy a home and risk depreciation of value, and instead looked to apartments. Apartment seekers decided to try downtown living since the time commitment and risk were limited. This resulted in an influx of Downtown tenants, and empty downtown buildings being converted to apartments. It was a perfect storm. The results speak for themselves and apartments continue to be constructed downtown, both new and in rehabilitated spaces.



To maintain the success Downtown needs usable green space and leisure space. Downtown lacks ball diamonds, sports fields, places for dogs to run, or beach space. While the facilities at Wendy Park/Whisky Island are close as the crow flies, actual access requires driving to Edgewater beach and back east. Making these facilities walkable to downtown residents, supporting sports on existing grass, or adding a beach near the E. 9th street pier are critical to enable Downtown residents to fully enjoy the Downtown experience.

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