# Let's Thrive in 2025!













#### **Mission and Vision**



#### To create a thriving downtown!

- An experiential destination with a variety of restaurants, retail, entertainment and art.
- A complete ecosystem that is walkable and welcoming for residents who live downtown and in the surrounding neighborhoods, as well as our visitors.
- A place that honors our history, authenticity, diversity, and artistic heritage.
- A place that embraces what is unique about our community in order to build success instead of trying to replicate other downtowns.

#### **Meet our Team**



Jennifer Fukala

Executive Director



**Sarah Michaels**Events and Promotions



Sarah Rose
Communications and
Administration



Officer Ultan Gallagher
Downtown ROPE
Elgin Police Department



#### Our Board for 2025



Brian Pinon
President



Chris Davis
Vice President



Mark Novelli Secretary and Promo. Chair



**Joy Symonds** Treasurer



**Dr. Wil Dumas**Downtown Market
Chair



**Tom Brockner** 



Patricia Williams



**Steve Kroiss** 



Kerri Liu



Marc Mylott
Community Development
City of Elgin

# 2024 Highlights...

# DOWNTOWN ELECTICAL ELETTICAL E



483,485 reach +137%











DOWNTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION OF ELGIN'S

2024 YEAR IN REVIEW













117,303 views



#### **2024 WINS!**

Hosted Lt Governor
Julianna Stratton for a
visit to Elgin!

New and Improved
DuPage Court!

Downtown Zoning
Amendments!

848 Events hosted in Downtown Elgin in 2024!

(up from 602 in 2023)

83 Holiday Events Hosted Downtown during Holly-Days!

(up from 34 in 2023)

DNA awarded 3
Mainstreet Awards!

More redevelopment projects confirmed!

62 S Grove, 11-17 Douglas, 18 Villa, Ziegler Court First Dispensary
Opened in Elgin









## Thank you, Partners and Sponsors!









#### Welcome New Businesses

Shawarma Stop

restaurant

Stop n Dip

Dessert/coffee

High Haven dispensary

plants & decor

**Royal Plant** 

Care

Florist

Elgin Vintage clothing

MotoMax Powersport vehicles

XV Glam Makeup artist BarbaRoja haircare The Dive Bar

**White Orchid** 

**Designs** 

7/23/2025 Let's Thrive in 2025!



#### More Businesses Coming soon!!!!

The Yoga Studio – fitness

Churros n Chocolate – dessert

Morbid Mementos – retail

New Biz Signage program: Reached over 250,000 people to date



### Let's Thrive in 2025!

# DOWNTOWN EUCEUM EUCE

## **IL Mainstreet Partnership**

State level downtown revitalization support program with 22 designated communities.

- Consulting, Resources, Advocacy, & Expertise
- Grants: Stakeholders and DNA
  - DCEO RISE Grant in 2024 FOR \$500,000
  - Marketing Grant \$5,000 secured in 2025
- Annual Conference and Educational Programming
- National Accreditation DNA to submit application







Let's Thrive in 2025!





# 

BREAKOUT SESSION
PARTNERING WITH YOUR
VISITORS BUREAU ON MAINSTREET!

124
ILLIN©IS
MAIN STREET
CONFERENCE



# ELGIN Promotions

# " Elgin is Home" Project

**Art Installation –** corresponding webpage and community engagement portal

Video Series – 6 videos total

 Target audiences- Middle-class mom's and the Hispanic community

#### Goal:

Create a campaign that changes people's perceptions about Downtown Elgin and the community.

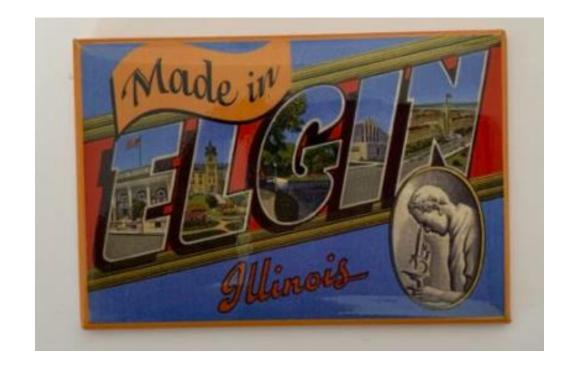


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## **Seasonal Campaigns**

#### April: "Made in Elgin"

- Focus: highlight businesses that product a product locally
- Register as a "Made in Elgin" business
- "Made in Elgin" Logo
- Campaign will feature blogs, social media promotion of participating businesses, a Spring Makers Market and sidewalk sale











## Holly-Days Campaign

- Beverage Crawl and City Tree lighting on Small Business Saturday
- Holiday Murals
- Holiday Gift Market
- Holiday Events Calendar
- Gift Guide in partnership with Explore Elgin
- Krampus Krawl DNA taking the lead role on this event in 2025













# **Economic Vitality**

### **Economic Development projects**

#### **Advocating for TIF**

- Goal Extension of the Central Area TIF for another 12 years
- Direct Advocacy for renewal with taxing bodies
- "Resources and incentives for properties to be ready to recruit businesses."
- Mainstreet America



#### **New Zoning**

- Landing Page https://www.downtown elgin.com/new-zoning/
- Regional promotion throughout the year
- Info meetings and technical assistance – Feb 10<sup>th</sup>



#### **Incubator program**

- Program to help growing businesses scale and locate downtown
- Focus on developing multiple revenue streams
- Goal: Shared production and retail space







7/23/2025



# Neighborhood Outreach

#### In partnership with:

- Gifford Park Asso.
- South-West Area Neighbors
- North-East Neighborhood Asso.
- Watch Factory Neighborhood
- Elgin History Museum
- Heritage commission
- EPD ROPE Officers





# Wayfinding and Mobility







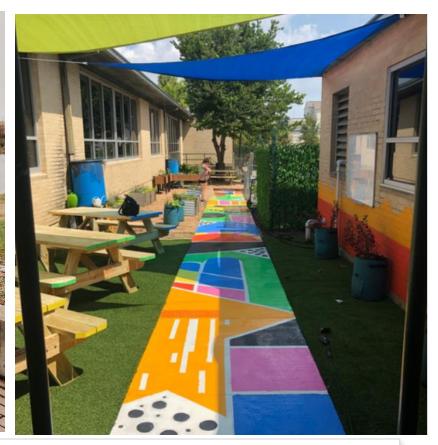




• 2024: Downtown signage audit resulted in cleanup of obsolete signage and install of parking wayfinding







#### In 2025

- Better Block space activation in partnership with Youth Build
- Signage improvements continue to identify priorities and gaps
- Participate in downtown mobility study and provide support with major downtown projects



# Downtown Art and Branding









### **Core Programs**

#### **DNA Support Services**

Who: Existing and prospective downtown business and property owners.

- Promotional participation
- Liaison services
- Website listings UPDATE NOW
- Ribbon cuttings and press releases
- Supply inventory rental program
- SizeUpElgin portal

www.downtownelgin.com/business-support-services/

#### Stakeholder meetings

Who: Business owners, property owners and downtown residents.

Where: 31 S Grove Ave, suite 100

- January- Kick-off Mixer
- February New Zoning
- April Market/Summer
- July Summer/ Fall
- October NOCS / Holiday plans



# Thank you!



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