

For Immediate Release

October 9, 2025

Media Contact

CONTACT: LYDIA WEYRICH, 740-398-4377, lydia@irvinpr.com

Safer Downtown to manage Capital Crossroads and Discovery District SID services

Columbus, Ohio – Downtown Columbus, Inc. announced today that its safety initiative, Safer Downtown, will assume administration and coordination of clean and safe services for the Capital Crossroads and Discovery District Special Improvement Districts (SIDs).

The boards of directors of both the Capital Crossroads SID and the Discovery District SID have approved Safer Downtown's plan for SID service delivery. The transition of services is underway now and scheduled for completion by November 1, 2025, with services continuing uninterrupted.

"Safer Downtown has demonstrated the kind of innovative collaboration that will serve our community well in the years ahead," said Columbus Mayor Andrew J. Ginther. "Integrating SID services into Safer Downtown will further enhance our ability to keep Downtown vibrant, safe and growing."

Downtown Columbus, Inc. has hired Robin Davis as executive director of Safer Downtown. Davis will lead the SID transition and ongoing service delivery as a part of the new role.

Davis worked in the City of Columbus Mayor's Office for eight years, first in communications, then as deputy chief of staff for Mayor Andrew J. Ginther. She worked closely with stakeholders from residents to CEOs, as well as with the Columbus Division of Police on numerous safety initiatives. Since leaving the Mayor's office, she has been integral in the work of Safer Downtown as well as other strategic plans.

"Service continuity is our top priority during this transition," said Robin Davis, executive director, Safer Downtown. "Residents, workers and visitors should expect the same level of on-the-ground support they rely on today. Teams are active, the Safer Downtown Command Center is up and running, and we are coordinating closely with partners to maintain the high standard of service the community has come to expect."

SID assessments, which property owners pay, will be used exclusively for services within SID boundaries. Assessments fund on-the-ground ambassadors, outreach to unhoused individuals, special duty police and other services that keep each district clean and safe. The City of Columbus is both a funder of Safer Downtown and a property owner within both Downtown SIDs.

"Downtown Columbus is at a critical moment," said Jeff Edwards, president and CEO of Edwards Companies. "Having Safer Downtown provide SID services creates a force multiplier in the safety and cleanliness of our districts at a time when we are growing rapidly."

“Downtown residents welcome continued investment in services that keep our neighborhood welcoming, clean and vibrant,” said Mindy Justis, advocacy chair and spokesperson for Downtown Residents Association of Columbus. “This is a positive step forward in strengthening quality of life and community connection during a pivotal time in our growth.”

In addition, Downtown Columbus, Inc. will provide significant value to Safer Downtown and each Special Improvement District through resources funded independently of SID assessments. These include enhanced security through the expanded Safer Downtown camera network, 24/7 camera monitoring through the Safer Downtown Command Center, marketing and research capabilities, office space, and administrative and operational support for SID operations.

The Safer Downtown operating model supports a unified approach to Downtown safety and cleanliness as Downtown prepares for growth to 40,000 residents and 120,000 workers by 2040.

“As Downtown Columbus grows, we need safety and cleanliness services that can scale with our ambitions,” said Greg Davies, president and CEO of Downtown Columbus, Inc. “With Robin at the helm of Safer Downtown, we’ll deliver a high-value, integrated approach while maintaining the hyperlocal focus that makes SID services so effective.”

-END-

About Safer Downtown

Managed by Downtown Columbus, Inc., Safer Downtown is driven by a coalition of public and private sector partners to ensure Downtown Columbus remains safe as it grows. Launched in 2024, Safer Downtown has led the continued expansion of a network of Downtown security cameras and opened the Safer Downtown Command Center to monitor camera feeds 24/7. Safer Downtown partners meet regularly to share safety updates, review data and advance Downtown safety improvements.

About Downtown Columbus, Inc.

Downtown Columbus, Inc. is a private nonprofit organization whose mission is to lead city-changing projects and collaborations that improve the connectivity, livability, and inclusivity of the Downtown Columbus experience. Downtown Columbus, Inc. drives development and progress of the Downtown Columbus Strategic Plan, working across sectors toward the vision for Downtown Columbus to become a neighborhood of connected, people-first urban districts that can be enjoyed by all. Learn more at downtowncolumbus.com.