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CONTACT

Michael Berman
DLBA Communications Manager
Michaelb@DLBA.org
562-708-6295



DLBA Releases Results of Annual Downtown Public Safety Perception Survey for 2022

(LONG BEACH, CA – October, 3, 2022) According to the [Downtown Long Beach Alliance's](#) (DLBA) annual Public Safety Perception Survey, respondents said the top three priority issues facing Downtown remain safety in and around parking structures and surface lots, loitering in the public space and inoperable or lack of street lighting.

The 2022 results are based on 850 responses to an online survey conducted by DLBA in the second quarter. More than half of respondents live and/or work in Downtown. The data reflect both a challenging set of circumstances facing DTLB including declining perceptions of safety and highlight ongoing successes of DLBA's Clean and Safe teams.

“The perception survey reflects known challenges in our Downtown. It's another opportunity to step up our community's focus to address the needs of all stakeholders,” said DLBA Chief Operating Officer Broc Coward. “For example, the recent City Council and property owner votes to renew the Downtown Property Based Improvement District for another 10 years will enable DLBA to create even cleaner streets with greater frequency of pressure washing, make Downtown safer by adding more Safety Ambassadors and further address the needs of unhoused individuals while reducing disruptive street behaviors with additional resources.”

In addition, DLBA is encouraged to see more services being planned by the City of Long Beach to address health and safety as part of its recently developed \$3 billion budget for 2023. This includes additional LBPD bicycle patrol officers, new quality of life officers, and expansion of resources for unhoused individuals through the city's Restorative Engagement to Achieve Collective Health (REACH) team.

Key 2022 Public Safety Survey findings:

- 70 percent would “likely/most likely” recommend a visit to Downtown to a friend or colleague.
- The share of survey respondents who felt “completely comfortable” in Downtown between 7 AM and 2 PM dropped 22 percent since 2019 to 40 percent.
- More than 83 percent indicated awareness of Clean and Safe team services, an all-time survey high, including pressure washing, removal of litter, debris and stickers/graffiti, and providing directions and information.
- Respondent awareness of all DLBA services rose since 2019, with entrepreneurial grants and homeless services both rising nearly 20 percent to 54 percent and 65 percent, respectively.
- 62 percent were aware of resources available to assist the unhoused, up 5 percent over 2021

This is the fifth time DLBA has conducted the survey. While results do not necessarily reflect any statistical or empirical evidence regarding actual safety, the information is helpful in providing insight on where to focus efforts to ensure Downtown's success and continued improvement for the benefit of residents, business owners, investors, and visitors. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, DLBA postponed the survey in 2020. The topline results of this year's survey can be found [here](#).

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About Downtown Long Beach Alliance: DLBA is a non-profit, community-based organization whose mission is to cultivate, preserve and promote a healthy, safe, and prosperous Downtown. By balancing the interests of the residents, as well as businesses, the DLBA creates tangible progress by way of vested interest and solidified partnerships across local, municipal, and commercial lines. For additional information, visit www.downtownlongbeach.org, or follow on Facebook [@downtownlongbeach](#), and on Twitter and Instagram [@DLBA](#).