

# BID

## BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BIDs)

Downtown Colorado Inc. (DCI) works with Business Improvement Districts (BID) in Colorado to build a stronger network, advocate for effective and well-managed downtown tools, share information and best practices, and provide education and professional development to professionals and communities working with the BID model.

### WHAT IS A BID?

Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) are often used to improve existing commercial centers and to develop a new area. BIDs are different from any other form of government or business organization in Colorado. They can have the power to provide economic development activities that could include security, events, marketing and advocacy, plus any physical capital improvements along with operation and maintenance of public places.

### BIDs ENHANCE COMMERCIAL AREAS

- Bicycle paths
- Benches
- Curbs
- Drainage Facilities
- Decorative Structures
- Gutters
- Fountains
- Signs
- Traffic Safety Devices
- Restrooms
- Landscaping
- Pedestrian Amenities
- Statuaries
- Sidewalks
- Street Lights

### QUICK FACTS

- 81 BIDs in Colorado
- Often partner with other organizations or local governments
- Scope often includes beautification, property maintenance, marketing, and safety/security
- Financing can be Mill Levy, Grants, Fundraising, Events, Special Assessments

(Based on Survey Responses)

### BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS (BIDs) EXAMPLES

#### Alameda Corridor Business Improvement District

Alameda Corridor Business Improvement District programs include Street Beautification (public art and landscaping), Corridor Security and Safety, and Economic Development. Alameda Corridor Business Improvement District sponsors notable events like Blarney on Belmar, weekly summer concerts, and holiday skating rink.

#### Durango Business Improvement District

Durango Business Improvement District programs include Marketing and Communications, Events, Visitor Information, Beautification, Advocacy Capital Projects. Durango Business Improvement District host notable events like San Juan Brewfest, Downtown Balloon Glow, Children's Halloween, and Singing with Santa.

## SOME COLORADO BIDs PAIRED WITH DDAs

**Downtown Grand Junction.** Downtown Grand Junction programs include redevelopment and reuse activity with a focus on housing. Infrastructure improvement to create more multi-modal opportunities, enhanced safety, and placemaking to thoughtfully expand Downtown beyond Main Street. Downtown Grand Junction is made up 3 staff positions and uses Mill Levy, Property and Sales Tax TIF.

**Downtown Partnership of Colorado Springs.** Downtown Partnership of Colorado Springs works on TIF reimbursement agreements on residential and commercial new construction, Building Enhancement Grants, State of Downtown Report, Ongoing market research data, consumer marketing. Downtown Partnership of CO Springs is made up of 4.5 staff positions and uses Mill Levy and Property Tax TIF.

LEARN MORE | [DOWNTOWNCOLORADOINC.ORG](http://DOWNTOWNCOLORADOINC.ORG)

# **BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS (BIDs)**

## **MENU OF SERVICES**

### **MEMBERSHIP**

BIDs may join DCI as a Downtown Management Organization that allows all employees of your organization to use DCI membership benefits for a single payment. As a member, receive discounts on our educational events and take advantage of our networking and professional development opportunities.

### **GUIDE TO DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT FINANCING MECHANISMS**

Learn and understand the differences between Business Improvement Districts, Downtown Development Authorities, and Urban Renewal Authorities as well as the projects and tools that other districts have successfully implemented in their area.

### **DISTRICT CONVENINGS**

At DCI's meetings for Business Improvement Districts, leaders and board members from BIDs across the state join in discussion of their latest projects, successes, and challenges and share the methods that have led to successful implementation.

### **DEVELOPMENT+ IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS FORUMS**

DIDs Forums feature engaging discussions led by area specialists to provide special districts information and a space to ask questions about topics such as financing mechanisms, engagement, and communications. Forum topics are developed based on member requests.

### **IN THE GAME VIBRANT DOWNTOWN EVENT**

DCI's annual four-day conference is the premier space to gain resources, training, and ideas in all areas related to economic development and community viability in Colorado. Take advantage of our Challenge Studios workshops where participants worked side-by-side with leading industry experts and local peer networks to craft problem-solving plans.

### **CITY BUILDER FORUM**

DCI hosts large and mid-sized communities and districts to help foster dialogue around innovation and problem solving for community and economic development in an urban setting. Through interactive dialogue and sharing, participants identify areas of collaboration, programming and creative solutions.

### **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

DCI will gather a team of specialists who will visit your community and outline a comprehensive plan of action to jumpstart your community's redevelopment projects.