



# River District

## River District Public Spaces Team Honored with Award of Excellence



The International Downtown Association recognized the River District with the Downtown Achievement Award of Excellence for its resourceful approaches related to its Public Spaces Team. A jury of peer professionals reviewed, deliberated and evaluated all entries in the 2023 Downtown Achievement Awards. The Award of Excellence acknowledges an excellent response to an urban place management challenge, demonstrating application of industry knowledge and exceeds the jury criteria.

The River District's Public Spaces Team was entered in the category of Public Space Management and Operations which IDA identifies as one of the seven professional urban place management practice areas. This category features

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

*Place Enhancement Working Group*  
Tuesday, October 24,  
11:00 a.m.  
via Zoom

*Place Management (Clean & Safe) Meeting*  
Thursday, Nov. 9,  
9:00 a.m.  
River District Office,  
610 Bercut Dr. Ste. B

*River District Board Meeting*  
Wednesday, Nov. 15,  
3:30 p.m.  
Location TBA

RSVP to  
[info@riverdistrict.net](mailto:info@riverdistrict.net)

**River District Private Security Number**  
**(916) 779-5363**

unique organizational approaches and projects in the areas of clean, safe and hospitality, placemaking and activation and facilities management.

“We are immensely proud of our Public Spaces Team, which is supported by the City of Sacramento. This innovative program employs individuals with lived experience being unhoused in our district, and helps them navigate the challenging course back into employment. This program offers not only workforce training but life skills, as team members work towards their own goals, all while helping to keep our district clean and safe,” Greta Lacin, President of the River District, said.

Initiated during the Covid-19 pandemic by previous River District executive director, Jenna Abbott, the Public Spaces Team is a collaboration between private property and business owners in the River District PBID (Property and Business Improvement District) and the city of Sacramento. The team members work full time in the district, providing litter abatement, general cleaning and maintenance, and light landscaping services within the geographic boundaries of the PBID. Due to their previous lived experience, often including homelessness and struggles with addiction, the team members are uniquely qualified to interact with residents of encampments, encouraging them to keep their areas cleaned up and to seek assistance with housing, mental health and addiction treatment.

In addition to job training and employment, the team members work with the River District’s Public Space Manager to identify their personal and career goals. Regular training sessions are provided in areas such as computer skills, budgeting, resume building and CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) principles.

“The River District has demonstrated skillful application of urban place management principles with their project, the Public Spaces Team,” said David Downey, IDA President and CEO. “The River District Public Spaces Team should serve as a framework to all member communities within IDA.”

Washington, DC-based IDA is the premier organization for urban place professionals who are shaping and activating dynamic city center districts.

## First Market-Rate Apartment Community Now Occupied!

On September 1, the River District's first market-rate apartment home community welcomed its first residents! The project is a conversion of a hotel, the former Hawthorn Suites. Named Track 281 Apartments for the number of units and the area's rich history of trains and railyards, the community is now home to the River District's own executive director, Devin

Strecker! Track 281 hosted the recent River District Rendezvous, allowing community members to view model units as well as the clubhouse and amenities. While construction continues on several buildings, leasing is ongoing. For more information, visit <https://www.track281-sacramento.com>.

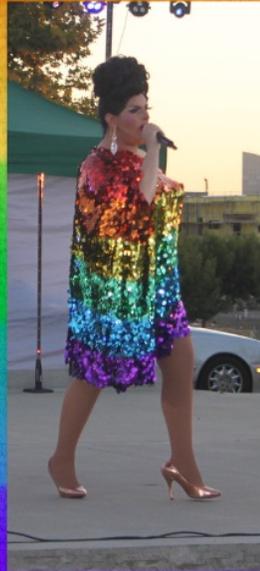


*Track 281 Apartments in the River District includes studio, one, and two-bedroom units with quartz countertops, hardwood-inspired floors, and stainless-steel appliances, as well as vaulted ceilings and private patios in select units.*

## Coming Out Day at Township 9 Park



The River District's Community Foundation celebrated National Coming Out Day on October 11 with a festival at Township 9 Park, inviting the LGBTQ+ community and allies to an evening of entertainment, art, books, food, mocktails/alcohol-free beer, and mental health resources. 14 community partners and 11 local vendors participated in the event, which was free and open to all ages. SacRT extended service on the Green Line to Township 9 Station to the event, so that community members could easily access the location for free. The event was sponsored by [One Community Health](#), [River City Bank](#), [Councilmember Katie Valenzuela](#), [29th Street Capital](#), [Love Liberated](#), [Golden Rule Services](#), [Atrium 916](#), [Gender Health Center](#), the [Sacramento LGBT Community Center](#), and the River District.



## Hanami Line Artwork Concept Unveiled



*The initial concept presented by Reed Madden celebrates the Japanese tradition of cherry blossom viewing (Hanami) with a sculpture that can both be a tree and an oversized cherry blossom flower. The 'blossom' will turn gently in the wind and will have colorful LED lights and colored glass that will provide pools of light and color regardless of the time of day. The artists estimates the sculpture will be completed and installed in April of 2024.*

A 20-foot tall sculpture that evokes an open cherry blossom will anchor the new grove of cherry trees coming to the Sacramento River waterfront in Robert T. Matsui Park. The Sacramento City Council recently approved a contract with Reed Madden Designs of Richmond for the new piece of public art, part of a larger renovation for the park just north of downtown which will include more than 100 Japanese cherry blossom trees (referred to as the Hanami Line), a new performance space, and other landscaping improvements.

"Public spaces are a wonderful opportunity to showcase something beautiful and tell a story," said Mayor Darrell Steinberg. "I am so excited to see this whole project come together."

Jeffery Reed and Jennifer Madden, both architects, are a married couple who operate a metalworking shop in Richmond. They have created public art for many Bay Area cities, including San Mateo, Tiburon, Richmond, Palo Alto, and Berkeley. They also have work in Florida, Arizona, Southern California, and Iowa.

[Click here for more.](#)

## Dos Rios Light Rail Station Future Uncertain

Despite a planned groundbreaking of April, 2023, construction has yet to begin on the proposed Dos Rios Light Rail Station on N. 12th Street, south of Richards Blvd. Recently, Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (SHRA) announced that the grant funding, provided by the California Strategic Growth Council (SGC), was in jeopardy as there was no way to close the budget gap caused by increased labor and construction costs, as well as soil contamination remediation, by the project's deadline. SGC asked SHRA to propose "alternative transportation options" that could utilize the \$17 Million grant funding.

SacRT offered several expanded bus routes as alternatives, and the Sacramento Air Quality District has proposed a 'mobility hub' that would include EV chargers and an EV carshare program. However there is great concern that funding any of these alternatives would make the construction of the Dos Rios Light Rail Station even less likely.

For more information on the proposed station, visit the SacRT's [webpage on the project here](#), or contact [devin@riverdistrict.net](mailto:devin@riverdistrict.net). We urge stakeholders to voice their support of the Dos Rios Light Rail Station by contacting SHRA, SacRT, and your local elected officials.



*In December of 2018 it was announced that the Dos Rios Light Rail Station project (with associated affordable housing development) was the recipient of a \$23 million Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) Grant by the California Strategic Growth Council. The TCC Program funds development and infrastructure projects that achieve major environmental, health, and economic benefits in California's most disadvantaged communities, and the addition of the Dos Rios Light Rail Station align perfectly with these goals.*

**The River District Public Spaces Team**



*Members of the River District's Public Spaces team include Tim Hargis, Bernard Cooper, Darrell "Mo" Moore, and Kile Sullivan.*

The River District's own Public Spaces Team, also known as the clean and safe team, works from 7:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., seven days a week, to reduce the district's litter, debris and graffiti. They also work with the unhoused population to keep encampments as clean as possible.

#### **2023 Quarter 3 Litter Abatement Statistics (July, August, September)**

- 4,412 bags of litter collected - includes 1,043 bags from encampments
- 403 bags of green waste collected
- 2,004 bulky items removed
- 91 hazardous items removed (paint, gas, batteries, syringes)
- 192,600 lbs. or 96.3 tons - total litter disposed

Sacramento Protective Services (SPS) provides security services, and can be reached via our Private Security Dispatch at (916) 779-5363.

#### **2023 Quarter 3 Security Statistics (July, August, September)**

- 1,388 Officer observations
- 608 Dispatch service calls
- 7 Incident report/arrests

For removal of litter, debris or hazardous waste from public property, contact our team by calling (916) 321-5599 or emailing [cleanandsafe@riverdistrict.net](mailto:cleanandsafe@riverdistrict.net).

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## **Klipz Barbershop Opening at Township 9**

As the River District continues its



transformation into a district where people live and work, we are excited to see the first Barbershop opening soon! Located at Cannery Place, 600 Chill Ave., proprietor T.J. is a resident of the River District and looks forward to serving the community! The Barbershop will initially be open by appointment only.

## Free Trees Available!

The Sacramento Tree Foundation is on a mission to increase the tree canopy of Sacramento's River District. Trees make our communities more livable and lovable by beautifying our streets, cleaning our air, cooling our buildings, and so much more!

Property Owners can request FREE trees through our Sacramento Shade program. You can fill out an application here: <https://sactree.org/programs/free-shade-trees/>

In addition to providing free trees, Sacramento Tree is searching for locations to host volunteer tree planting events. Free trees will be provided to the property, and volunteers will help get them in the ground!

When hosting volunteer plantings, we aim to plant 25-30 trees. This could be at one location or multiple locations depending on their proximity to each other. If you're interested or have any questions contact our Community Liaison, Romi Holmes, at [Romi@sactree.org](mailto:Romi@sactree.org).





# COFFEE WITH KATIE

OCTOBER 21ST 10AM - 12PM

CLTRE CLUB  
1409 16TH STREET, SACRAMENTO



Come ready with any questions, concerns, or suggestions you have about the state of the city!

**SCAN FOR SURVEY!**



Councilmember Valenzuela wants to meet you over coffee! On October 21st from 10am to 12pm, come ready with any questions, concerns, or suggestions about the state of the city. FREE coffee and pastries will also be provided! Location: CLTRE Club, 1409 16th St.



# 311

CUSTOMER SERVICE

## 311 is not just for residents . . .

There is an entire portal dedicated to **businesses** at [311.cityofsacramento.org/s/business-home](http://311.cityofsacramento.org/s/business-home). This portal allows businesses to better interact with City staff. Register to get access to funding, training, procurement opportunities, and more! The goal of this system is to improve our relationships with businesses, provide various ways to engage and get your questions answered.

Here is how to get started:

- 1 Register for an account**  
An account will let you track and manage your requests and will ensure we have the right contact information.
- 2 Add your business to your profile**  
Adding your business will allow us to find opportunities specific to your business and respond to requests for service.
- 3 Create a request**  
Submit requests for funding, training, technical assistance, and more! Our business services are available under the category "Business Resources."



**Pro Tip:**  
Add the keyword "MBARK" when submitting your request for personal follow up!

City of  
**SACRAMENTO**

### RIVER DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## RIVER DISTRICT STAFF

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**Maurice Scott**, Business Community Liaison, [maurice@riverdistrict.net](mailto:maurice@riverdistrict.net)

### *Clean & Safe Team:*

**Shawna Bowman**, **Jesse Yniguez**, **Tim Hargis**, **Darrell Moore**, **Kile Sullivan**, **Bernard Cooper**, **David Bowman**, **Santos Peinado**

The River District is committed to building a community that values and promotes diversity, equity, and inclusion. We recognize that we have a responsibility to establish a culture that celebrates and promotes equitable opportunities for everyone. Through collaboration, advocacy, and strategic investments, we strive to foster a welcoming and inclusive neighborhood that supports local commerce, cultural diversity and sustainable growth.

The River District | PO Box 630, Sacramento, CA 95812

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