

## Notes- Safety and security Summit March 25, 2022

- Introduced Lt Belinda Morales to the group. Lt Morales is the new lead for Downtown Entertainment District
- Amanda Bruno and Diana Almada requested input from the group on areas for their City task force to focus on. The idea of universal ID scanners for all the bars has not gained traction with the individual businesses and no longer something the city will be pursuing. Suggestions were made around improved lighting, security cameras, and traffic speed control.
- Ross Rulney presented concerns from the residential perspective regarding the mental health, drug addiction and unhoused population in downtown. He stated they are losing tenants over these issues. He specially pointed out Armory Park and that his team has seen active drug use and probable drug transactions in progress. Ross offered support and asked for ways he and his team can help.
  - o Lt Morales cited success at Anza Park by activating the park for more community activities and suggested Armory Park be the next area to look at. The activation requires participation for all community members—government, businesses, and community. She will present at an upcoming DNARC Meeting.
  - o Group discussed that Ronstadt Center is also contributing to this issue and is the center of much of the negative atmosphere in downtown. There were updates from Suntran on a new security company in place and staffing levels improving. Also discussion of adding portable bathrooms to the station.
  - o It was decided we, as a group, need to approach the Mayor and City Manager with solutions and offer help in achieving the collective goals.
- Group discussed DTP Connects- operating 1 day a week with limited success. Many of those approached do not want help and those who do are often waitlisted until a spot opens up
- Tom Heath provided an update to the Summit regarding other DTP Merchant efforts- Welcoming Committee led by Board member Joe Rottman and a storefront activation/beautification project to launch soon under Board VP- Liz Pocock. Also discussed DTP Staff implementation efforts of the 5 year strategic plan.