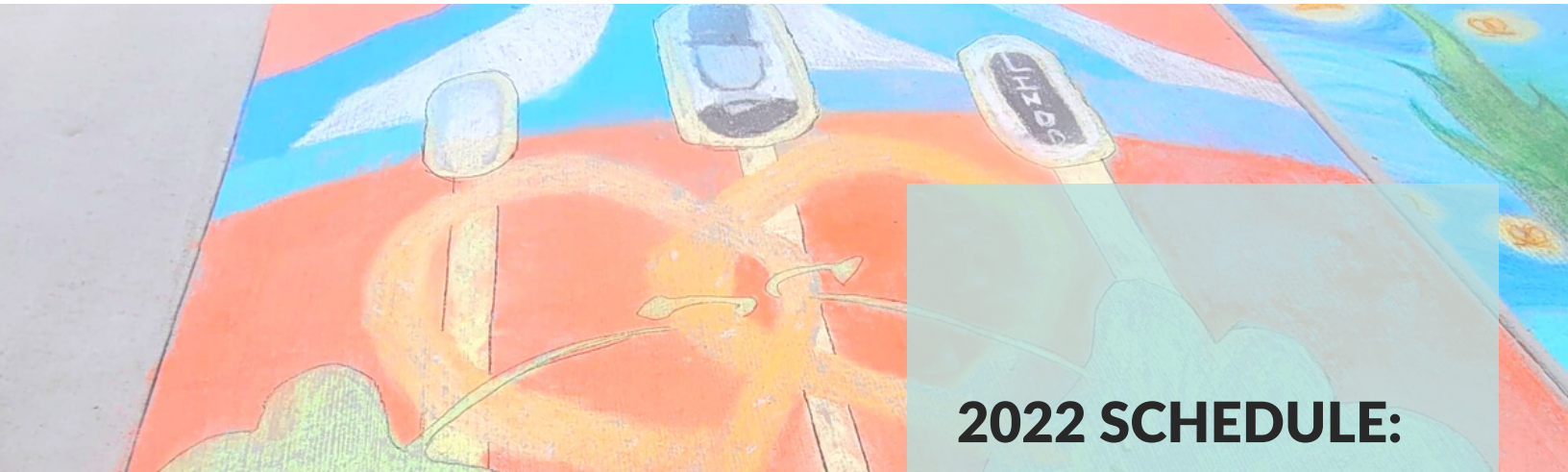


DOWNTOWN FREEPORT IN THE LOOP



May 2022



2022 SCHEDULE:

MAY DOWNTOWN MEETINGS

Downtown Design & Placemaking

- May 10, 7:30 AM
@ Greater Freeport Partnership

Downtown Business & Building Owners

- May 11, 7:30 AM
@ Top Notch Tonsor
(101 S. Liberty, Suite 4, 2nd Floor)

Downtown Promotions Meeting

- May 12, 8 AM
@ Greater Freeport Partnership

Downtown Traffic Attraction Workshop

- TBD after survey responses

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- May 6
Festival District Day/Food Truck Fri.
- May 14
Opening Day of Farmer's Market
World Migratory Bird Day
- May 21
Pretzel City Winefest
- June 3
Festival District Day/Food Truck Fri.
Music on Chicago
- July 1
Festival District Day/Food Truck Fri.
Music on Chicago

First Fridays Important Dates

This Friday is the first month of our additional festival district schedule. On the days listed below, a patron can purchase an alcoholic beverage from a restaurant/bar within the Downtown Festival District and walk within it's boundaries to shop and explore. If you want to allow festival district patrons into your store, please stop by our office to pick-up a decal to place on your window during specified dates.

The first Friday of May-October is also Food Truck Friday in the municipal lot on Douglas Street. Local food trucks approved by the City of Freeport will set up for the lunch hour to serve downtown guests and nearby employees.

Music on Chicago will maintain it's 2021 location at the Freeport Art Plaza for this year and the dates of the first Friday in June, July and August.

With so many events planned for the first Friday of each month, be sure to plan for additional traffic and pedestrians in downtown!

Festival District Dates are as follows:

May 6 - First Friday
May 21 - Winefest
June 3 - Music on Chicago
July 1 - Music on Chicago
August 5 - Music on Chicago
August 27- Eats and Beats
September 2- First Friday
September 23 - Night before Brewfest
October 7 - First Friday
October 13 - Wine & Witches



Nominate a Neighbor who has taken extra effort to plan, clean or rehab their lawn or home exterior for Freeport Beautiful for 2022! To nominate someone, fill out a short form at greaterfreeport/freeportbeautiful



Pretzel City Winefest - May 21

Pretzel City Winefest will return on May 21 to a format similar to 2019 with retail and business locations having the option to participate and offer wine samples to attendees. The festival district is also in place for Winefest making it possible for attendees to take their sample with them as they stroll between shops. Thank you to the 16 businesses who have contacted the Partnership to participate!

If you have not already, please accept the Partnership's invite to co-host the event and share it along with your special offerings to your own social media channels. We will be creating a mini booklet with the graphics provided and handing them out to each attendee as they check-in. The information on participating locations will also be posted on the Greater Freeport Partnership mobile app and web site.

For a full list of events for 2022, visit greaterfreeport.com/dtbusiness



Placemaking Consulting on Chicago Avenue

The Chicago Avenue reconstruction project will revitalize the aesthetics of our downtown core and we are all excited to see it completed this year! However, we are aware that with construction comes challenges in the way we are used to doing things - just like when we remodel our homes. To help us through this process, the Partnership is consulting with All Together, a placemaking agency from Evanston, for a design and communication campaign to remind residents and visitors that downtown businesses are open and welcoming despite the construction.

The Partnership is a conduit for communication with the City, project engineer, and contractor to ensure information flows to businesses, visitors, residents and all other stakeholders during the project.

Downtown Sidewalk Improvements

The City of Freeport is in the process of installing ADA-accessible sidewalk ramps at intersections throughout downtown. Construction at certain intersections has already started and will continue through the summer months. A priority corner is Walnut and Stephenson which has already seen attention. Construction is always inconvenient but extremely necessary, so please be patient and inform your customers as well. These upgrades will make the downtown more pedestrian friendly for all.

Downtown Planting Coming Soon

Hopefully the weather is finally turning a corner and we will see the warm-up that we deserve in May! With the warmer weather, we are excited to see the color return to downtown with the street banners that returned to the light poles (thanks to Public Works employees!), beautiful window decorations and our seasonal flower planters and hanging baskets. Thank you to Deininger Floral who will be responsible for the planting and maintenance of the downtown planters and hanging baskets during the 2022 season. The planting and watering through the summer months is funded by the City of Freeport, the Partnership, and proceeds from fundraising initiatives.



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