

DOWNTOWN FREEPORT IN THE LOOP



October 2022



2022 SCHEDULE:

Reminder: All meetings are open to ALL business and building owners! Please join us!

OCTOBER DOWNTOWN MEETINGS

Downtown Design & Placemaking

- **October 11, 7:30 AM**
@ Greater Freeport Partnership

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **October 13**
Wine & Witches
- **October 27**
Partnership Annual Dinner
- **October 29**
Bootiful Saturday
- **November 19-20**
Mistletoe Walk
- **November 26**
Small Business Saturday

Chicago Avenue Updates

As this is being written, the cement trucks are hurriedly making their way through downtown! The remaining sections of sidewalk are being poured the first week of October with layer of pavement on the road to follow from Douglas to Spring! The remaining block, Spring to Jackson Street, will continue to be under construction for a few more weeks as infrastructure is connected.

While these improvements are the most critical to our walkability, remember there are other great features to come. Light poles are on back order but could be installed yet this year. Furniture will be reinstalled after winter.

The beautiful new stamped sidewalk will need extra care over the winter to keep it's wonderful appearance. Fehr Graham will be following up with business owners with care instructions soon. The Partnership looks forward to scheduling photo and video shoots before the snow flies to showcase the improvements and be ready for spring promotions in 2023. Thank you to the many businesses who have been featured in our downtown highlight series to continue the positive messaging for the project and each other!

**CHICAGO
AVENUE**

**STREETSCAPE
PROJECT**

**SUMMER
20
22**

Downtown Business Web Site

Not surprising, downtown businesses are special! That is why there is a special web site dedicated to the communication with downtown business owners and property owners. The web site includes all meeting information, schedule of upcoming events, archives of these newsletters, posters and handouts. If there is anything you need or have a question about, it is on the web site!

greaterfreeport.com/dtbusiness

Design & Placemaking

The Design & Placemaking Committee will be meeting Tuesday, October 11th at 7:30 am at the Partnership office. Beginning in October, we will start planning for 2023 project and initiatives. More details on Main Street onboarding will be forthcoming. Andrea is meeting with IL Main Street this week.

Upcoming Event Details

Several events are scheduled in the next few months. Here are a few details for each!

Wine & Witches October 13 - The event is advertised from 4-7:30 pm, but festival district from 11 am to 11 pm. Reminder: Attendees are invited to walk with their beverage from restaurants and bars into public right-of-way and retailers displaying festival district decal. The event is free to public and 18 businesses participating! The Partnership will have a hand-out with a list of all participating businesses as well as on the Partnership app.

Bootiful Saturday October 29- Free to the public for a family-fun event! Lindo Theatre will show Addams Family 2 at 10 am and then trick-or-treaters are invited to walk through downtown to collect candy from participating stores and businesses. A list will be available on the app and the Facebook event. Please let us know if you plan to participate so you can be listed!

Window Decorating - If you would like to enter the holiday window decorating contest, please tell Katie by November 1. All windows must be complete for judging by November 14.

Mistletoe Walk November 19-20 - The Hero Tree lighting will be Sunday at noon and the Partnership will arrange for live music Sunday as well. Anthony Hord and the Pretzel City Strummers Live will be performing on Sunday. We appreciate your ideas and help in a few areas! We have heard several of you comment about the desire for a trolley or other special transportation. We have not been able to find a reasonable vendor who can accommodate us for the event. If you have contacts or ideas for a trolley/horse carriage or other vendor, please contact Katie! Also, if you are interested in helping to provide music or other special features on Saturday, we would be happy to help promote them with the event.

Additional entertainment and ideas are always welcome!



No Promotions Committee Meeting in October

Instead, please contact Nicole to set-up a one-on-one meeting to discuss your goals for 2023. It has been great to hear from five businesses so far and look forward to hearing the thoughts of others! The Promotions Committee will meet on November 10 at 8 am to plan for 2023 with all the feedback collected.

Historic Tour

Freeport is a beautiful demonstration of historic architecture and relevant historical context. Using theclio.com, visitors and guests can locate and learn about several structures in Downtown Freeport and their significance to our area. You are welcome and encouraged to take the tour yourself as your curiosity allows and promote it to others who may stop into your place of business.

If you are interested in adding your building to the list of stops on the Historical Tour, please contact Andrea Schultz Winter, Cal Wescott or Erik Zuberbuhler for more information.

Partnership Contact Information:

Executive Director - Mark Williams
mwilliams@greaterfreeport.com 815-233-1356

Design & Placemaking - Andrea Schultz Winter
awinter@greaterfreeport.com 815-233-1354

Business Engagement/Support - Bill Clow
bclow@greaterfreeport.com 815-233-1353

Events - Katie Gentz
kgentz@greaterfreeport.com 815-233-6301

Marketing/Promotion - Nicole Haas
nhaas@greaterfreeport.com 815-801-3676

