



Downtown Vallejo

Central Core Restoration Corporation

Promoting a clean, safe and vibrant downtown Vallejo

May 2014

Welcome!

Downtown is experiencing a resurgence of interest and growth not seen in years. Great things are happening including a thriving art scene, weekly art and music events, an ever-improving Farmer's Market, and new businesses moving in. Your CCRC board is working hard through city and community partnerships to help improve the downtown district!

Annual Meeting

CCRC's annual meeting, to which all property owners and downtown stakeholders were invited, was held in January with great response. We were privileged to hear from the City's Economic Director Mark Sawicki, and also from Jim O'Connell of the Vallejo Police Department. Thanks to all who made it-- it's good to see our property and business owners come together with city agencies to improve the downtown through increased communication and collaboration.

Changes to the Board

CCRC board member John Dooley has submitted his resignation from the board and is off to new adventures. We wish him the best of luck and are grateful for his dedicated service to CCRC and to Vallejo!

We welcome new board member Mark Reed to the board who was voted in at our March meeting. Mark is a downtown property owner and the proprietor of the Townhouse Cocktail Lounge. CCRC appreciates his willingness to serve. Thanks, Mark!

Downtown Update

ArtVallejo.com

Check out artvallejo.org for a calendar listing of art, music and other creative goings-on downtown! The Vallejo Arts Alliance is working to promote downtown Vallejo through creative community collaboration. Check out 2nd Fridays for [Monthly Art Walks](#) and enjoy the many new galleries, art, food and music. VisitVallejo.COM also has a good calendar of upcoming events!

Tree Trimming

Thanks to local contractor Art Durden with EZ Tree for a beautiful job pruning the trees! Over 100 trees were pruned within the downtown district, ensuring public safety and the health of the trees. This is a recurring service provided by CCRC. Tree pruning is scheduled every two years for safety and maintenance. Thank you Art!

Security

Significant progress has been made in the battle against blight and nuisance issues. We are very pleased to employ Black Talon Security in continuing to improve safety in the downtown.

City Hall and Vallejo News

Welcome New City Officials

Kathleen Diohep, Economic Development Manager

Lonell Butler, Chief Building Official

Fire Chief Jack McArthur

[Parking Permits](#) will be addressed at a future City Council meeting. It is proposed to charge \$20/month for a limited number of downtown parking passes. The cost and number of passes is being reviewed as the proposal has generated some concern among downtown residents and property owners.

[Bicycle Police](#): With more officers and the city recovering from bankruptcy, 14 officers have been designated as bike patrol officers to supplement the existing patrol force, to be dispatched not just downtown but citywide. Black Talon will continue to provide daily patrols on weekdays per their usual schedule.

Property Report

Mr. Ric's building has been sold and is being renovated with the intention of becoming a neighborhood coffee shop, with sandwiches, art by local artists, and live music.

250 Georgia is newly tenanted for the first time in 8 years by San Francisco artists from the tech sector.

List Your Property

Send us your vacancy information in the following format: 200 characters or less; no pdf flyer format please; include one image sized 263 x 161 pixels (pdf or jpg); and please DO NOT USE ALL CAPS. ☺

Thanks!

Vallejo in the News:

Preservation Magazine featured a story about the Temple Art Lofts and downtown Vallejo in their April Edition. [Link to story](#) here. In a seven-page article, the magazine describes how affordable housing for artists is helping to revive the city following closure of Mare Island Naval Shipyard, and the city's 2008 bankruptcy.

Preservation is the monthly magazine for the National Trust for Historic Preservation, a private, nonprofit in Washington, D.C. that strives to save historic places and promote new uses for them. The article also cites other historic buildings in Vallejo's downtown finding new life, including the Odd Fellows Hall that now houses **The Hub** arts center, the **Artizen Arts Center**, and the **Empress Theatre**. The story also mentions Rar Farmer's **Koham Press** bookstore, Kent Fortner's plans to open **Mare Island Brewery taproom**, and the **Vallejo Art Windows** projects.

Art playing an instrumental role in revitalization can also be found in other areas, such as Detroit and New Orleans, according to the author who states, "I do think that artist-oriented places can be an important part of revitalizing a place."

CCRC Mission Statement

Our mission is to revitalize Historic Old Town Vallejo as the Main Street of commercial and cultural activity that promotes shopping, working, dining, and living in a secure and progressive environment.

Saturday Farmer's Market News

CCRC welcomes new market manager, Matthew Sylvester as we continue to work closely with Pacific Coast Farmer's Market Association to provide Vallejo with an ever-improving certified farmer's market. A new marketing campaign has been implemented and the second in a series of seasonal Comcast commercials will be airing soon. CCRC and PCFMA are working to make the market even more family-friendly, and to improve and expand its quality and selection. In the past few months we have:

- Hung banners advertising the Market downtown
- Coordinated a Comcast Marketing Campaign
- Worked with the market to develop a program for local artisans at the market
- Added a food court seating area so folks have a place to enjoy the market, music, and their community
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If you are interested in becoming a vendor or have questions regarding the market, contact Regional Manager Greg Pursley at 925-771-2906/ gregpursley@pcfma.com, or Director John Silveira at 925-771-2903 / john@pcfma.com.

Downtown Stuff to Do

Farmers' Market EVERY Saturday from 9-1
300-400 Block of Georgia St

Empress Wednesday Night Music

Wednesdays from 7-10, \$7 in Advance/ \$9 Door
Empress Theatre, 330 Virginia St
Blues, Americana, roots, Rock, R & B
(707) 552-2400 or EmpressTheatre.org

The Hub at 450 Georgia Street offers classes, workshops, open mic nights, musical performance, and entertainment. They also host Poetry by the Bay and feature many wonderful local artists. Check out a full calendar of events at thehubvallejo.com

The Townhouse at 401 Georgia hosts Acoustic Open Mic night every Wednesday, 8-12 pm, and features bands every 3rd Friday. For details on this and other events call (707) 553-9109, or visit www.facebook.com/townhouse.vallejo

2nd Friday Artwalks, every second Friday of the month from 5-10 pm. Maps are available at the Hub, Artizen, and online at vallejoartwalk.com.

PROJECTS

Wayfinding Signs

Wayfinding signs, featuring directions to downtown's most oft-visited amenities such as the ferry building, museum, theatre and parking, and including references to Vallejo's rich history, were approved by the Beautification and Design Review board in February. Sites have been finalized and the signs are going to print shortly. Installation dates are pending, stay tuned while we fine-tune!

(sample)



*"Whether you think you can or think you can't,
you're right." Henry Ford*



Community Resources & Partners

Black Talon Security Dispatch 707-975-2166
Security is provided in the downtown 5 days a week, 10-6.

Neighborhood Law Program 707-648-4146
NLP lawyers Eli Flushman and Ryan Griffiths work with the Vallejo Police Department, Code Enforcement Division and other departments, to abate the City's most unfavorable nuisances and improve the quality of life in Vallejo.

City of Vallejo
www.ci.vallejo.ca.us 707-648-4527
City Council meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at City Hall, 555 Santa Clara St.

SeeClickFix.com is a non-emergency direct link to Public Works, to report street problems from potholes and damaged sidewalks to burned-out street lights and graffiti.

Fighting Back Partnership 707-553-7345
Partnering with business, residents, and government to improve neighborhoods, strengthen families, and support youth development for a safe, healthy and thriving community.

Next Door Neighborhood www.nextdoor.com
An online meeting place to help build stronger, safer neighborhoods.

New Business Developments

The Vallejo Symphony has moved its administrative offices to 714A Marin St.

Dots in Common Gallery has moved from Capitol St. to 714B Marin St.

William Sievert Gallery is new at 700 Marin St.

The Forest Service has opened its first urban Ranger Station at 419 Georgia St. dedicated to disseminating information about public lands. (Check out the Visions of the Wild Festival coming to Vallejo in September at visionsofthewild.org).

Cuban Rhythm and Rumba is now open at 1718 Sonoma Blvd and offers instruction in: Cuban Salsa, Afro-Cuban, Salsa-tone workout, Salsa – Merengue – Bachata Mix, Bachata, Rumba, Mambo, and more. Also offering Choreography, Quinceaneras, Private instruction, Rehearsal space. 707 334-8801

Check out our online Business Directory at downtownvallejo.com for updated listings of downtown businesses.

Contact Us

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Erin Bakke, Executive Coordinator

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CCRC Meetings

are held at 3:30 on the second Thursday of each month in the 2nd floor conference room at 301 Georgia Street. The meeting agendas are posted at this location and also at www.downtownvallejo.com. The public is invited to attend.

We always welcome applications for new board members to serve as vacancies arise and as alternate directors. Please contact CCRC via phone or email if you are interested in helping build our downtown!

Scenes from Downtown:

Second Friday Art Walk



Wednesdays at the Empress



Koham Press Bookstore

