



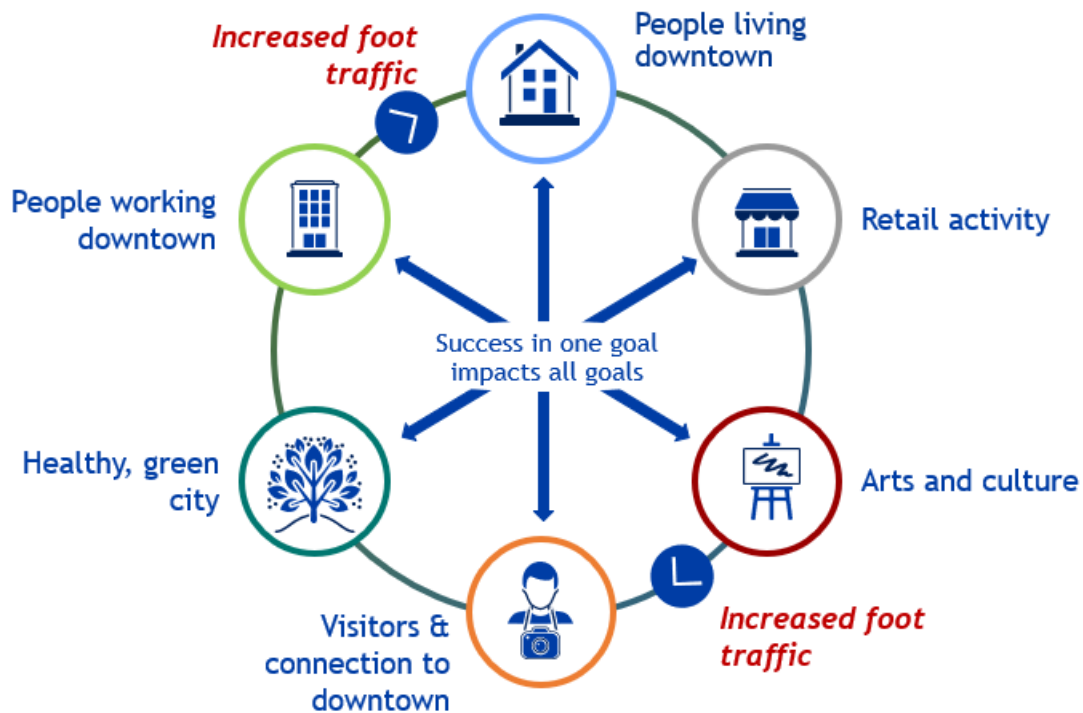
# Seattle Downtown Activation Plan

Mayor Bruce Harrell is working to draw people to the heart of Seattle while designing a downtown of the future that works for everyone, including workers, families, small business owners, neighbors, visitors, and tourists. Today's announcement introduces key priorities of the Downtown Activation Plan, as well as immediate and short-term actions being taken to make downtown a safe, welcoming, and activated place for everyone.

## Downtown Activation Plan Goals

- Create a downtown that is **safe and welcoming** for all.
- Transform downtown into a thriving **residential neighborhood** for people from all walks of life to enjoy.
- Create a vibrant and diversified downtown **worker ecosystem** that makes people want to work downtown.
- Re-envision downtown as Seattle's hub for **arts, culture, and entertainment**.
- Reinvigorate downtown as the **commercial heartbeat** of the city.
- Make downtown a **top destination for visitors** from the Puget Sound region and beyond.
- Commit to our ethos as the Emerald City by promoting a **healthy, sustainable, and green city**.

## Virtuous cycle increases downtown stability

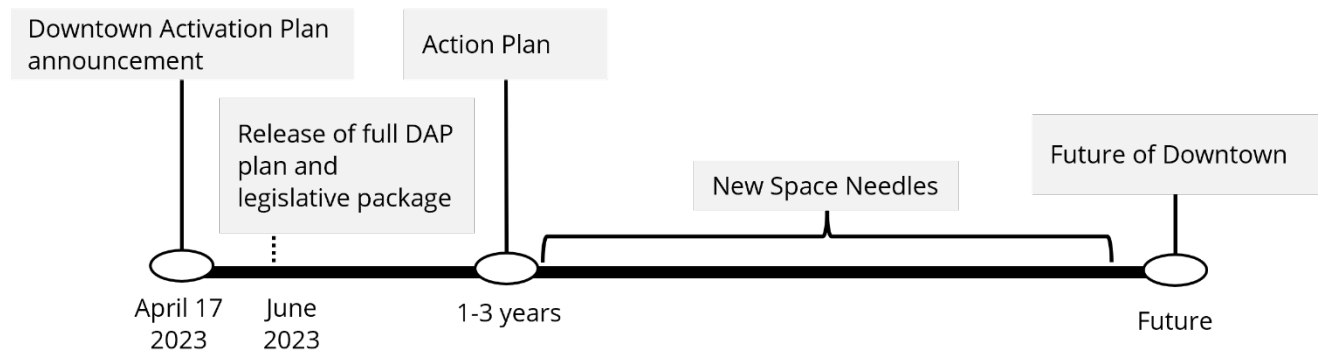


*Public health and safety work cuts across all the Downtown Activation Plan goals*



# Seattle Downtown Activation Plan

## Downtown Activation Plan Timeline



## Immediate actions, short-term initiatives, and first steps for Downtown Activation Plan Announced on April 17, 2023

- Fill up to 20 vacant storefronts by early summer through the [Seattle Restored](#) program, a special city government effort to help small businesses, entrepreneurs, and local artists.
- Reopen City Hall Park on June 15, 2023, with new programming, safety, and lighting enhancements, 24/7 security every day of the week, and activities designed to draw people to the park, including movie days, jumbo chess board, concerts, food trucks, and more.
- Increase the number of Metropolitan Improvement District ambassadors who help keep downtown streets clean, safe, and welcoming for everyone. Additionally, earlier this month, Mayor Harrell proposed legislation granting a 10-year renewal of the MID with expanded service boundaries to include part of the stadium area south of Pioneer Square.
- Encourage more frequent closings of downtown streets for special events, such as on-street Pickleball competitions, the First Thursday Art Walks in Pioneer Square, street festivals and music concerts.
- Increase opportunities for food truck operators and pop-up food vendors to establish a presence downtown by waiving street-use permit fees.
- Request the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board issue “Sip ‘n Stroll” permits for First Thursday Art Walks so patrons can carry a beverage as they walk from gallery to gallery.
- Improve street and sidewalk lighting in areas of downtown where crime and disorder is concentrated.
- Increase trash and litter removal and expand graffiti abatement with a focus on the Chinatown-International District.
- Update [land use policies](#) to create upwards of 30,000 jobs and more housing units in neighborhoods adjacent to downtown and activating the stadium area south of Pioneer Square by allowing more hotels, restaurants, bars, and entertainment centers.



# Seattle Downtown Activation Plan

- Explore the potential for repurposing downtown office buildings to housing and other uses, including through a competition [hosted by the Office of Planning and Community Development](#).

## Fentanyl Executive Order

*Announced on April 17, 2023*

For downtown to recover and grow, it must be safe and welcoming. The fentanyl and synthetic drug crisis is responsible for too many deaths, along with the crime and street disorder that make everyone feel unsafe. While there are no quick fixes, Mayor Harrell's Executive Order advances sustainable solutions focused on disrupting fentanyl distribution with a law enforcement approach aimed at narcotics traffickers and an evidence-based public health approach for drug users.

### **This order will:**

- Direct the Seattle Police Department to prioritize efforts to disrupt the distribution and sale of narcotics in concert with other law enforcement partners, furthering enhanced collaboration between the Seattle City Attorney's Office, King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, the United States Attorney for the Western District of Washington, the DEA, FBI, and Department of Homeland Security.
- Launch a pilot expansion of the Seattle Fire Department's Health One program to include an overdose response unit dedicated to quickly engaging overdose survivors to increase acceptance of services or referrals for support.
- Pilot a research-based drug abatement program known as "contingency management," an effort designed to encourage individuals with substance use disorder to accept treatment services by providing incentives (usually gift cards). The 12-week program rewards drug users for abstinence and, in a unique manner, is administered where people live instead of a medical clinic.
- Site, explore funding for, and work with public health partners to establish a post overdose diversion facility where people can be brought after non-fatal overdoses to recover, get stabilized on medications, and access resources.
- Expand access to treatment services and overdose reversal medications, particularly in high overdose locations.
- Form a Public Health Work Group and Law Enforcement Task Force to analyze current strategies and programs and design improvements.

### **These actions and Executive Order build on over a year of Mayor Harrell's holistic approach to improving downtown, which has included:**

- Police emphasis patrols on Third Avenue, the Pike-Pine corridor, Little Saigon, and Belltown, increasing officer visibility downtown, along with special police focuses on retail theft and those distributing and selling deadly synthetic drugs.
- Unified Care Team efforts to resolve downtown encampments and keep sidewalks accessible and open, leading to a significant reduction in tents downtown. Further, collaborative work with the King County Regional Homelessness Authority's Partnership



## Seattle Downtown Activation Plan

for Zero program aims to connect those living downtown unsheltered with a housing solution.

- Outreach to those in need through social service programs like the Third Avenue Project and We Deliver Care.
- Groundbreaking the Pike-Pine corridor streetscape improvements and transitioning downtown intersections to prohibit right turns during red lights to improve walkability and pedestrian safety.
- Beautification efforts including litter and trash pick up and a comprehensive graffiti removal plan.