



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Department of Metropolitan Development announces awardees of One-Time Indianapolis Cultural Districts Fund

October 1, 2025

Indianapolis, IN – Today, The Indianapolis Department of Metropolitan Development (DMD) announced the awardees of the one-time \$500,000 Indianapolis Cultural Districts Fund at the Metropolitan Development Commission (MDC) meeting.

This one-time fund, passed by the City-County Council during the 2025 Spring Fiscal, celebrates community, culture and public spaces by supporting both existing and emerging cultural districts. Investing in cultural districts helps to revitalize community spaces, stimulate small business growth, attract tourism, and showcase the stories and connections within our city.

Applications were open from August 1 to August 31, for potential or emerging Cultural Districts aiming to introduce new projects and identities to neighborhoods, as well as for existing Cultural Districts seeking to expand on previous efforts. All applicants were required to be established organizations with proof of community support and representation of their Cultural District. New districts were asked to provide descriptions of their current cultural assets, organizational capacity, and emerging opportunities within their district.

DMD congratulates the award recipients (listed below) and extends gratitude to all Indianapolis emerging and existing Cultural Districts and the neighborhood organizations who represent them:

Existing Cultural Districts to receive funding:

- **Broad Ripple; Broad Ripple Village Association (BRVA)**

Awarded for its Pathways to Performance initiative through marketing efforts, installation of festival string lighting on Broad Ripple Ave and artist support for Broad Ripple's Third Thursday events.

- **Fountain Square; Fountain Square Neighborhood Association (FSNA) & Fountain Fletcher District Association (FFDA)**

Awarded to support a collaboration that brings together two complementary efforts of FSNA and FFDA to enhance the public realm and key public assets in Fountain Square.

- **Massachusetts Avenue; Mass Ave Cultural Arts District Inc.**

Awarded to launch a phased implementation of the Mass Ave NEXT vision, focusing on foundational elements to enhance connectivity, experience and identity along the corridor.

- **Wholesale District; Downtown Indy Inc.**

Awarded for publicly accessible art projects within the Wholesale District.

- **Indiana Avenue; Madam Walker Legacy Center**

Awarded for the curation of engraved bricks/ stars honoring influential leaders and artists along the Indiana Avenue Walk of Fame that will extend from the historic Walker Building to the Indianapolis Urban League.

New districts to receive funding and awarded cultural district status:

- **Riverside; Riverside Civic League**

Awarded for cultural programs, fundraising events, and historical landmarks in the Riverside District.

- **East 38th St Corridor; East 38th Street Community Development Partners (E38CDP)**

Awarded for the design & installation of signage and branding along the Wellness Walking Trail that highlights social determinants of health and connects residents to resources.

- **10 East Arts; John Boner**

Awarded for the installation of public art in vacant storefront windows, alleys, and building rooftops.

- **Little Flower; Little Flower Neighborhood Association**

Awarded for the design and installation of corridor identity, branding and public art.

- **Community Heights; Community Heights Neighborhood Organization's (CNHO)**

Awarded for the installation of light pole banners with neighborhood branding.

- **Franklin Township; Franklin Township Historical Society (FTHS)**

Awarded for the design & installation of signage and branding along a walking trail that highlights the history of Franklin Township and provides fieldtrip experiences for surrounding schools.

- **Irvington; Irvington Community Council & Irvington Development Organization Inc.**

Awarded to support a collaboration that brings together Irvington Community Council and Irvington Development Organization Inc. to enhance the identity of the Irvington district.

- **SoBro – East 46th Street; Midtown Indianapolis Inc. on behalf of SoBro Neighborhood Alliance**

Awarded for the design & installation of signage and branding along 46th Street from the Monon Trail to Nickel Plate Trail with a focus on wayfinding to highlight Arsenal Park, public transit, points of attraction, and the many businesses on 46th Street.

- **Cottage Home; Cottage Home Neighborhood Association (CHNA)**

Awarded for equipment, decor, and tools to support the annual Cottage Home Block Party, a free event for all residents of Indianapolis.

Three new districts will receive cultural district status only:

- **Fletcher Place; Fletcher Place Neighborhood Association**
- **Garfield Park; Big Car Collaborative**
- **Midtown Arts District; Butler University**

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**CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS DEPARTMENT OF METROPOLITAN
DEVELOPMENT**

The Department of Metropolitan Development works to shape the city's identity by strengthening people and places, building upon our history, and fostering visionary development. The DMD team envisions Indianapolis as a growing, vibrant, and beautiful city where people and businesses thrive in an inclusive, world-class community.

DMD Communication Office
DMDCommunications@indy.gov
317-327-6709



This email was sent to: auboni.hart@indy.gov

This email was sent by: Dept. of Metropolitan Development
200 E. Washington Street Indianapolis, IN 46204 USA

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