

Annual Report 2022

FISHTOWN DISTRICT ANNUAL STAKEHOLDERS VIRTUAL MEETING
TUESDAY | JANUARY 17, 2023 | 6PM

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89743543582

There are 4 board positions open and elections will be held at the meeting. All nominations need to be sent to Marc@Fishtownbid.org by, Monday. Jan. 16, 2023



"Community is much more than belonging to something; it's about doing something together that makes belonging better."

The Board of Director, Advisory Board members, and Executive Staff of the Fishtown Kensington Area Business Improvement District are overwhelmed with pride at what we have been able to accomplish in 2022, and we are excited to see the seeds we have sown for success grow and flourish in the coming years. This collaboration has led to exciting new development, increased residential and

commercial density, expansive capital improvement projects, quality of life measures, unprecedented grant awards, communal events and creative public safety measures. As a result, the accolades and expansion haven been rapid, leading to Laura Smythe and Matalie Kosteini of the Philadelphia Business Journal to proclaim that people and businesses are "gravitating to our emerging micro-city".

We are proud of the difference we have made in our "Clean and Safe" programs, which consists of having two (2) cleaning crews (Ready, Willing & Able, and Impact Services) that cumulatively remove trash from the sidewalk and curb-line each morning for the entire district on a six (6) day a week basis. They even help us remove illegally dumped refuse and empty public trash cans. The Fishtown District installed new, artistic "Fish-Head" trash cans and engaged Graffiti Removal Experts who patrol our corridor to identify and remove graffiti tags, as well as signs and stickers that adorn our utility poles. However, maintaining a clean corridor is only part of our commitment. It is our obligation to ensure that all people that live and work in the Fishtown/ Kensington communities feel physically and emotionally safe. Accordingly, we took the unprecedented step of starting our "Fishtown Ambassadors" program and installed security cameras at several intersections throughout Frankford Avenue to allow an added measure of neighborhood protection, increasing law enforcement response times, and identifying possible suspects

The Fishtown District embraces its role in protecting the time, talent and treasure of our stakeholders, and planning for the future growth of this eclectic hamlet. We engaged ISA Architects to formulate a Masterplan to not only beautify our commercial corridor, but also to stress connectivity and accessibility to and from our thriving District. Finally, our BID was awarded a Federal Community Funding Project grant in the amount of \$750,000 to bring our "Frankford Avenue Connector Plan" to life and bring our neighborhood to and from the beauty of the Delaware River! Our possibilities for 2023 and beyond are endless!

Marc Collazzo Executive Director

# **AWARDS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS**



In 2022, Fishtown District was awarded several grants for security, street cleaning, bicycle racks, art & murals, events & festivals, and capital improvements throughout the entire district. The Fishtown District was humbled and honored to receive a 2022 Philadelphia Award in the category of Business Development Service for our hard work in the Philadelphia Region. All of the accolades and funds help us make our community even more special and enjoyable for all the businesses, residents, and patrons.

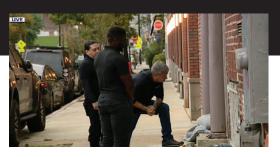
### **GRANTS**

- 1. Local Share Account (LSA) Grant: \$80,500 to create a pedestrian plaza at Front Street and Cecil B. Moore Avenue.
- 2. Penn Treaty Special Services (PTSSD) Grant of \$17,000 for forty bicycle racks and five CITIBIN trash enclosures.
- 3. Violence Intervention & Prevention (VIP) Grant Program (Initial Request): \$80,000 for expansion of Fishtown Ambasadors Program to additional Ambassadors, patrols, and coverage areas.
- 4. Corridor Cleaning Grant in amount of \$81,000

# PUBLIC SAFETY, CLEANING & MAINTENANCE

# **AMBASSADORS**

In 2022, Fishtown District began the Ambassador Program. These dedicated public servants walk throughout our neighborhood to provide directions, identify graffiti and illegal dumping, check-in with our local businesses, de-escalate difficult situations, and, most important, address situations by contracting the necessary local authorities while preserving the health and welfare of the public. Media outlets from throughout the region praised the Fishtown District for creating a program "by the community, for the community."









#### SECURITY CAMERAS

This initiative has led to the arrests and indictments of several criminal perpetrators and has been praised by the City of Philadelphia and the 26th Police District. With an increase in foot traffic and incidents of crime throughout our City, the need for extra safety and surveillance is evident. With a transportation hub located within the BID, and with the continuing reduction in manpower in the 26th Police District, there lies a unique opportunity for the Fishtown Kensington Area BID to place security cameras at high density intersections to provide a mutually beneficial solution. On March 17, 2022, the City of Philadelphia granted our Business Security Camera Program application. This coincides with our February 4, 2022 filings under the City of Philadelphia's Business Security Camera Grant Program to purchase, and install surveillance cameras at the following intersections: Front Street and Girard Avenue; Frankford and Girard Avenue; and Frankford Avenue and Shackamaxon/Thompson Streets, as they represent a wonderful mixture of residential and commercial properties in a highly trafficked area within our commercial corridor. In addition, on May 6, 2022, the Department of Commerce awarded the Fishtown Kensington Area Business Improvement District Corridor Enhancement Grant of \$15,000 to add an additional three (3) intersections for coverage on Frankford Avenue in Fishtown, as they represent the busiest parts of our commercial corridor. They are as follows: Frankford Avenue and Lehigh Avenue; Frankford Avenue and Columbia Street; and Frankford Avenue and Richmond and Allen Streets.







# TRASH COLLECTION COUNTS

Fishtown District's cleaning vendor (Ready, Willing & Able), are diligently working to clean our streets and remove illegal dumping. Thank you to our men in blue for their prompt attention and dedicated service in their expeditious removal of overfilled trash cans, litter, debris, dumping and trash from Fishtown.



### FUN IN THE FISHTOWN DISTRICT

# MURAL CITY WINE GARDEN @ KENSINGTON STATION

In June, Mural City Cellars, www.muralcitycellars.com, partnered with the Fishtown Kensington Area Business Improvement District to create the "Mural City Garden at Kensington Station" at the beautiful outdoor garden space located at 2217 Frankford Avenue. Together, we created an outdoor oasis of continuous events highlighting, food, Mural City Cellars fabulous wines, art, shopping and events for all ages. On Saturday, June 18, 2022, the historic Mount Airy Trolley Car finally made its debut in the Fishtown District to not only provide a joyful glimpse of nostalgia, but also to vend the best in



vino, cuisine and treats! Special thanks to the New Kensington Community Development Corporation (NKCDC) for their support and faith in allowing us to program their fabulous outdoor haven. Weekends were filled with the Fishtown District Canned Cocktail Launch, Phillies World Series Games, a movie for kids, food trucks, and of course the fine Mural City Wines.

### COMMUNITY EVENTS



# PHILADELPHIA FEDERAL CREDIT UNION KENSINGTON KINETIC SCULPTURE DERBY & ARTS FESTIVAL

In May, Fishtown District hosted the Philadelphia Federal Credit Union Kensington Kinetic Sculpture Derby & Arts Festival, a wacky, creative celebration in East Kensington. The event is part arts festival—with more than 100 vendors selling everything from food to handmade goods—and part parade of human-powered vehicles that wind along a three-mile urban obstacle course ending in the epic mud pit finale. The rain-soaked day didn't stop local participants from creating handmade themed vehicles, and nearly 10,000 visitors from a fun-filled day. The Derby was also awarded the Metro Philly's Best 2022 Contest in the Best Annual Event / Festival Category.



#### FISHTOWN DISTRICT CANNED COCKTAIL SIP N' SOCIAL

The neighborhood showed up for the Fishtown District's first ever Sip N' Social which took place at the Mural City Garden at Kensington Station (2211 Frankford Ave)! On Wed, July 27th, the Fishtown District Sip n' Social provided a fun-filled event with music, food, & a round of Kensington Quizzo! Congrats to team "Rocket Cat Forever" for winning! Kids were able to create their own paper plate fish design, and at dusk, we featured Disney/Pixar - Luca for our first family movie night.

This great event was the unveiling of the brand new blueberry lemonade Fishtown Canned Cocktail! At the event, cans were available, along with pre-made cocktails, and they went fast! All proceeds from the sale of the canned cocktail went towards future art programs, events and mural installations throughout our commercial corridor.



#### FISHTOWN FREEZE & WINTER WONDERLAND

Now entering its fourth year, the Fishtown Freeze and Winter Wonderland was a day-and-night-long family-friendly festival that brought dozens of custom-designed ice sculptures and an ice bonfire, carved by Ice Sculpture Philly, Santa, and more holiday fun to the streets of Fishtown!Thousands visited ice sculptures at various businesses throughout the neighborhood. In addition to all the icy fun, adults visited our neighborhood bars for all the flavors of the season with our Union Forge Cocktail Crawl! With over 7 stops, this crawl had everyone full of holiday cheer.

This year we paired the event with our annual Holiday Shopping Spree. Customers shopped at participating retail stores on December 10th & 11th and earned a new discount level with each visit! Plus, they could turn in their completed Shopping Spree card for discounts at local participating bars & restaurants.

For Nighttime fun: the outdoor lot at the Fillmore turned into a Winter Wonderland with an ice bonfire, photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus, treats for the kids, and live music by New Groove Music.

### FISHTOWN DISTRICT LAUNCHES FYND APP

FYND is a new discovery app for Fishtown District's bars, restaurants, and entertainment venues, that helps you find food & drink specials, live music, and events! The cost for FYND is free for all Fishtown District participating businesses. Unlike other apps, FYND shows you what is happening today, this week, and even next month, so you can plan for the great events happening all week long in the Fishtown District! You can view any of the weekly drink or food specials from your favorite restaurants, where live music will be, or even where you can find a round of quizzo during the week! Fun is only a click away, download FYND today. Plans for 2023 include expanding to retail stores and service businesses in the Fishtown District.



#### WE WISH YOU WELL WEEK

A week-long celebration of wellness from Oct 16th to 23rd in Fishtown featured participating businesses offering accessible classes, workshops, panels, events, and more during the week at each of their locations throughout the neighborhood.



#### FISHTOWN FEASTIVALE

Now in its nineth year, the festival is a celebration of Fishtown's booming culinary and creative arts scene, and is a neighborhood favorite with food, drinks, music, and dozens of arts and craft vendors. Fishtown Fall Feastivale ran along Frankford Avenue, between Girard Avenue and Columbia Ave, with additional festival activities along Master, Thompson, and Lee Streets. The event was hosted by the Fishtown District on Saturday, Sept 24th. More than 35,000 people enjoyed food, drink, crafts, shopping, and entertainment throughout the day.



# STREET SOCCER USA PHILADELPHIA CUP IN THE FISHTOWN DISTRICT & SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

On Saturday, November 26th we brought soccer to the middle of the Fishtown District! We teamed up with Street Soccer USA to bring the 1st annual Philadelphia Cup to Fishtown. The event featured a street soccer tournament, food, great Fishtown vendors, a big screen to watch the world cup, and a whole lot of smiles!

The Fishtown District also celebrated Small Business Saturday with specials in many of our retail stores, free reusable shopping bags for visitors, and stickers for the kids. Help out the local business and shop small all year round!



#### FISH HEAD TRASHCANS DESIGNED & SCAVENGER HUNT

In 2014, artists created 20 fish head trash cans, which you might have seen throughout Fishtown. This fall, Fishtown District teamed up with Fishtown Neighbors Assocation to expand this program. We hired local artists to create 15 new designs for the fiberglass fish heads that line the busy Fishtown corridors of Frankford Ave, Girard Ave, and Front Street. The designs varied from beautiful summer flowers to a Philadelphia city skyline. Visitors were given clues on social media to find the location of each can. Not only was it fun for all, but a bit of a history lesson on the area as well.



#### FAMILY FUN VISITORS MAP & CONVENTION CENTER VISITORS GUIDE

In April of this year, the Fishtown District placed advertising in the Philadelphia Family Fun Visitors Map, which could be found at the Philadelphia International Airport, historic sites in Philly, hotels, and locations throughout the suburbs. The map is ideal for tourists and residents to see what there is to do in Fishtown District and the accessibility via public transportation and proximity to other local sites. The plan is to expand this in 2023.

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MARC COLLAZZO SPEAKS AT PHILADELPHIA CHAMBER ABOUT SAFETY

The Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia hosted a panel discussion called "Securing a Safer City: An Inclusive Neighborhood Growth Forum" on, October 20th. The Chamber hosted an in-person interactive dialogue with regional leaders to better understand the business community's role in helping curb violence in our neighborhoods. Attendees learned how to protect business, employees, and clients through initiatives focused on preventing crimes against local businesses.

Fishtown District's Executive Director, Marc Collazzo, spoke as a panelist at the event. Marc discussed how the Fishtown District stepped in to create and utilize initiatives to enhance feelings of physical and emotional safety, including the very successful Fishtown Ambassadors program and the Business Security Camera program, respectively.



The Fishtown District wanted to ensure that our stakeholders, business owners, their employees, residents and patrons are aware of all parking and travel issues, initiatives and projects being discussed for our commercial corridor. As it has been some time

since our December 14, 2021 Public Meeting, the Fishtown District

## TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING UPDATE

felt that it was critical to re-engage the public so as to present the current findings of the Philadelphia

Parking Authority (PPA), the correspondence procedure for implementation, and, most important, to provide our populace with ample opportunity to learn and comment. We were joined by representatives of the PPA, Department of Streets, our elected officials, the 26th Police District and SEPTA, to discuss the findings of the 2021 Fishtown PPA Parking Summary Report, and the pilot program to follow. Most important, all members of the public in attendance were provided with two (2) minutes each for comment. The Fishtown District posted the videos of the corresponding meeting on our social media platforms, in our weekly newsletter, and on our YouTube channel FishtownDistrict.

In November of 2022, Council President, Darrell Clarke sent a letter to Linda Bradley of the Philadelphia Parking Authority (PPA), requesting the implementation of an eight (8) month pilot program for three (3) hour parking (without meters or kiosks) for designated portions of Frankford Avenue (Allen to Jefferson Streets) and Girard Avenue (Marlborough to Front Street). These regulations would also extend to the Municipal Parking Lot located at 1300-04 Frankford Avenue. We thank the Boards of the Fishtown Business Improvement District and Fishtown Neighbors Association (FNA) for their support, as well as the time and efforts of Council President Clarke, his staff, and the representatives of the Philadelphia Parking Authority, for their efforts in ensuring that there was substantial neighborhood engagement. Stay tuned for more details/meetings about the date we begin the subject pilot program.

# GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY THAT GIVES SO MUCH

The Fishtown District is always looking for new ways to partner with local community groups and sponsor events and activities for the residents, businesses and patrons.

This year we worked hand in hand with the 26th District Police District Advisory Commission for the National Night Out and the Spring Clean-up. We also sponsored the Fishtown Neighbors Association Holiday Party and Music in the Park. In May we also sponsored the Arts on the Ave, a celebration of our community by Fishtown Area Schools. The event, hosted by the Fishtown District is sponsored by Penn Treaty Special Services District (PTSSD) and supported by our community. The event, held in May, included an unveiling of a mural designed by the students



#### **Schools Included:**

Saint Laurentius Catholic School | Horatio B Hackett School | Penn Treaty School Kensington High School for the Creative and Performing Arts | Friends of Adaire

### FISHTOWN AUDIT AND ASSESSMENTS

The Fishtown District has continued to emerge from the pandemic to continue to provide, and enhance, necessary services, such as street cleaning, graffiti removal, public safety, marketing, adding new businesses to our beloved corridor, spurring property development along the corridor, and bringing in unprecedented grant funding for capital projects. A financial audit was completed by John E. McGovern & Associates and submitted on March 29, 2022. To see the audit please visit fishtown district. com. The Fishtown District staff have been actively engaging with stakeholders.to meet your needs, and plan for 2023 and beyond. We appreciate the time, talent, and treasure you have provided to our dynamic hamlet, and we thank our businesses for their continued support and engagement.



## CDC TAX CREDIT PROGRAM SUPPORT FISHTOWN DISTRICT

Philadelphia has a program which rewards local businesses that contribute to economic development efforts in distressed parts of the city. The Community Development Corporation (CDC) Tax Credit is

available to a maximum of 42 businesses in any given tax year. Through this program, Fishtown District was approved to receive the tax credit of \$100,000 from our partner Live Nation, owner of the Filmore.

# FISHTOWN DISTRICT ASSISTS IN SEVERAL SUCCESSFUL STOREFRONT IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

317 & 319 E Girard (Complete)

1600 Frankford (pending approval)

1811 Frankford (under construction)

408 E Girard Ave (complete)

2006 Frankford Ave (complete)

251 E Girard (complete)

2223 Frankford Ave (complete)

2236 Frankford Ave (complete)

529 E Girard Ave (complete)

533 E Girard (pending approval)





# FOCUSED ON BEAUTIFICATION



# GRAFFITI REMOVAL

The Fishtown District is proud that, effective February 1, 2022, we began our partnership with Graffiti Removal Experts to keep our commercial corridor property facades, street signs, light posts, mail boxes, control boxes, pedestrian poles, fire hydrants and bicycle racks, free from the effects of vandalism.



The team hit the ground running and made an immediate impact to improve the aesthetic quality of our District. As soon as February 2, 2022, our graffiti removal team restored the public mural located at 1200 North Front Street (by the El Stop and Front and Girard Avenues), and preserved its original beauty. They regularly inspected and toured our geographic parameters to ensure that the scourge of vandalism does not taint the Fishtown District. Each week in our Fishtown District newsletter we featured different areas where tags were removed.

# NEW MURAL BRIGHTENS UP THE FISHTOWN DISTRICT

#### The Rose Garden Mural

This mural was created with Support from Penn Treaty Special Services District, the Fishtown District, FNA Beautification, and our neighbors at 1405 Frankford Ave! The artist is Casey Saccomanno!



#### REMOVING BLIGHTED BUILDINGS

Our BID sought to stimulate growth on East Girard Avenue by successfully utilizing the Abandoned and Blighted Property Conservatorship Act (Act 135) to gain control of 401-05 East Girard Avenue in order repair and return the parcels to productive use. The building has been fully restored and the Fishtown District and its partners are looking for ways to bring this building back into productive use.





# SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE PENN TREATY SPECIAL SERVICES DISTRICT FOR THEIR SUPPORT, GRANTS & SPONSORSHIPS

- 1. May 5th Wolf Court Student Art Exhibit: \$3,500
- 2. Lloyd Whiskey Bar Mural Project: \$1,869
- 3. Street Soccer USA Philadelphia Cup in the Fishtown District :\$3,500
- 4. Rose Garden Mural \$3500
- 5. Kensington Derby & Arts Fest \$3500
- 6. Fishtown Fall Feastivale \$3500
- 7. Fishtown Freeze \$3500

# IN THE NEWS

**January 2022- JENI'S ICE CREAM ON 6ABC- 6ABC visited Fishtown District's Jeni's Ice Cream.** The beloved brand, Jeni's Splendid Ice Creams, opened scoop shops in Fishtown and Rittenhouse Square in November and is making waves in 2022!

**February 2022- ELWOOD CHEF IS JAMES BEARD AWARD SEMI-FINALST-** Congratulations to Fishtown District's very own, Adam Diltz of Elwood, for making it to the semi-finals of the prestigious James Beard Award. Adam is a true artist who merges food with local history to make delicious creations!

March 2022- MIDDLE CHILD CLUBHOUSE ON FOX29- Fishtown District's very own Middle Child Clubhouse got the spotlight this week on Fox 29's Kelly Drive, featuring Bob Kelly visiting some of his favorite spots in Philly. Check out the video of Bob's new "favorite place to play"!

**April 2022- KISMET BAGELS OPENS ITS DOORS-** Kismet Bagels, 113 East Girard Avenue, is now OPEN!!! The opening day on Thursday, April 7th had long lines and happy customers, with lines stretching down the street to get their hands on the first bagels from the brand-new storefront.

May 2022- RIVER'S CASINO HOSTS MEMORIAL DAY PARTY ON THE PIER- River's Casino hosted "Party on the Pier" to celebrate Memorial Day on Sunday, May 29. The family-friendly event featured games, face painting, balloon artists, fireworks and live music all throughout the afternoon.

June 2022- FISHTOWN RESTAURANTS SHINE ON PHILLY'S TOP 50 RESTAURANTS- Thanks to Philly Magazine for awarding Fishtown's Kensington Quarters, Middle Child Clubhouse, Pizzeria Beddia, and Suraya, as well as Kensington's Caphe Roasters, Eeva and Laser Wolf, as part of the "50 best restaurants in Philadelphia"! When you want the best, you can always "Find it in the Fishtown District".

**July 2022- JEANNINE COOK FEATURED ON KELLY CLARKSON SHOW-** We are so proud of our own, Jeannine Cook from Harriet's Bookshop, for getting the national recognition she deserves on the Kelly Clarkson show! Jeannine spoke on her book shop's mission, along with some of the many great initiatives she has been involved in this year.

**August 2022- MURAL CITY GARDEN ON FOX29-** Fox 29's Mike Jerrick stopped by the Mural City Garden at Kensington Station to take a closer look at the Garden, along with Vince's Pizza and the new Fishtown Canned Cocktail!

**September 2022- NEW FISHTOWN EATERIES HIGHLIGHTED BY THE INQUIRER-** The Philadelphia Inquirer created a list of the best restaurants coming to Philly in September, and two Fishtown eateries made the list! Bagels and Co and Two Robbers were both highlighted!

**October 2022- LLOYD WHISKEY 10 YEAR CELEBRATION**- Lloyd Whiskey Bar celebrated their 10th anniversary in the Fishtown District, the same year they were listed as one of the top whiskey bars in the city!

**November 2022- BAGELS AND CO. OPENS IN THE FISHTOWN DISTRICT-** Bagels & Co. gave away free bagels and coffee at their grand opening in Fishtown. The Frankford Avenue spot is the first of six new bakeries slated to open by early next year. The new bagel shop is located at 1317 Frankford Ave.

**December 2022- MAIN SQUEEZE COMES TO THE FISHTOWN DISTRICT-** Main Squeeze opened in Fishtown and specializes in superfood bowls, smoothies, and cold press juices/wellness shots. Toppings like granola and date caramel are all made in-house!

# Fishtown District Awarded Community Project Funding For Frankford Avenue Connector Project



In 2018, the Delaware River Waterfront Corporation (DRWC) hired engineers from PORT Urbanism (PORT) to make necessary changes to the public realm and urban design of the Fishtown/Riverwards neighborhoods. The overall objective of the project was to create a unified, inviting design for Frankford Avenue that will provide safe and attractive passage for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists between the neighborhood and the river.

The Fishtown District is pleased to announce that we have been awarded Federal Community Project Funding (CPF) in the amount of

\$750,000.00, to help bring this necessary neighborhood/River connector to fruition in the desired timeline. This generous award was made possible by the zealous and continued advocacy of Congressman Brendan Boyle (2nd District). We look forward to the signing of the Appropriations Bill so that we can begin our work in earnest to bring our community to the treasures of the Delaware River. For more information and the complete proposal visit fishtowndistrict.com

# MASTERPLAN UPDATE

In 2021 the Fishtown District began efforts to develop a plan to improve and beautify the district with the assistance of ISA, a local professional architectural firm. These proposed changes will include adding additional street lighting and parking options to Front Street, Girard, and Frankford Avenues. The Fishtown District, through successful funding applications to the Commonwealth

of Pennsylvania, is in the process of implementing these state-of-the-art designs, which include a pedestrian plaza at Front Street and Cecil B. Moore Avenue, and the renovation and activation of the area in and around the El Stop at Front Street and Girard Avenue. Visit our website fishtowndistrict.com to view more information.

# 2022 BOARD MEMBERS

Josh Olivo, Chair Elk Street Management

Paul Kimport Johnny Brenda's/The International Bar

Lisa Mazzola, Treasurer Mazzola & Company Treasurer

> Denise Mayer, Secretary Domani Developers

Darrell Clarke, Council President

Quetcy Lozada, Council member

Mark Squilla, Council member

Jonathan Todd- Rivers Casino

Ravi Bayanker- Barbary

Janay Green-Saint Lazarus Bar

Matt Ricciotti- The Fillmore

Skip Schwarzman- Feast Your Eyes Catering

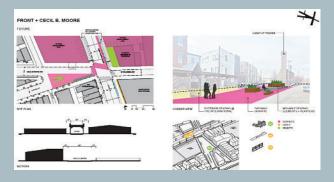
Lee Stoetzel- West Collection

Steve Tonuci- Michael's Decorators

Kathleen Treude- Fishtown Jewelers

#### **ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS**

Caroline Jones
Matt Ross
Roland Kassis
John Sosalski
Michael Brafman
Greg Root
Jon Geeting





# LETTER FROM KAE ANDERSON Director of Operations

Our Fishtown District is widely seen as one of the most vibrant neighborhoods in the city, one of growth and opportunity, and pulsing with activity. In 2022, we sought to complement the vivacity of our community with the return of a large signature event, the Kensington Derby & Arts Fest. Additionally, we re-branded our summer event to become Fishtown Fall Feastivale, which attracted approximately 35,000 visitors and neighbors to Frankford Ave for an event that celebrated our restaurants, entertainment, retail, and more.

This year was one of renewed strength for our organization as well. The introduction of new committees in the area of Health & Wellness & the Arts has opened new lines of communication with our constituents, and insight into how we as an organization can better meet our member's needs. Through leveraging new funding sources and increasing our assessment collection rates, we have more than doubled our operating budget of 2020, allowing us to increase our cleaning program & implement new services like our Fishtown Ambassadors program.

As we turn the page to 2023, our Fishtown District will continue to serve as a beacon of growth, excellence, and community for our city.