



**DOWNTOWN IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BUDGET HEARING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2019
TOWN OFFICES – 77 MAIN STREET -- NOON**

Dear Property Owner:

The Downtown Improvement District Commission (DIDC) will hold a public hearing on the District's FY21 budget, July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021, on Tuesday, November 5, 2019, at 12 p.m., in the Large Conference Room of the Middlebury Town Offices, 77 Main Street, Middlebury.

In 1996, the Middlebury Selectboard enacted an ordinance creating a Downtown Improvement District, or DID. In brief, the ordinance granted special taxing authority to the Selectboard, under which owners of commercial or mixed-use properties within the District's clearly defined boundaries pay a small tax in addition to their regular property taxes. This additional tax revenue is then designated to fund - and to leverage grants to fund - public improvements within the district.

The DIDC is an overseeing body comprising property owners, representatives from tenant businesses, a representative from town government, and an at-large, legal resident of Middlebury with no commercial interest. Current DIDC members are: Amey Ryan, Brian Carpenter, Adam Franco, Becky Dayton and Gary Baker.

The DIDC is responsible each year for developing a budget based on community and business-owner input and then making a recommendation for expenditure to the Selectboard. In recent years, the revenue collected from this tax, which totals approximately \$34,000 annually, has been used to fund or leverage funding for:

- New sidewalks
- Installation of historic streetlight fixtures
- Park improvements
- Wayfinding signs
- Rapid-flashing beacon pedestrian crossing lights
- Removal of old, and re-painting of new, "Walk Bike" sidewalk stencils
- Landscaping of the new Town Offices

Downtown Improvement District Budget Public Hearing Letter

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The DID also contributes 15 percent of its annual revenue (about \$5,100) to the Better Middlebury Partnership (BMP), 10 percent to the maintenance of past projects and an additional \$10,000 to the Better Middlebury Partnership to fund its marketing position.

A copy of our most recent budget report is enclosed for your reference.

On behalf of the Downtown Improvement District, we thank you for your continued support and encourage your input regarding potential future public improvement projects. More information about the Downtown Improvement District is available on the Town’s website, www.townofmiddlebury.org

Thank you,

Kathleen Swinington Ramsay
Town Manager

October 16, 2019

Recent Projects Funded by the Downtown Improvement District



Mill St. Parking Lot Sign



Tower at Riverfront Park



Flashing Beacon



Wayfinding Sign