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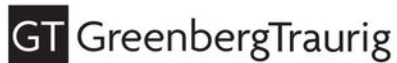
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I have always loved downtowns. One of my earliest childhood memories was riding the bus with my grandma into downtown Flint, Michigan. She took me to Kresge's where we ate hot beef sandwiches with chocolate malts at the lunch counter. She then let me pick out a toy, and I chose a mini tin iron and ironing board, which is ironic now since I despise ironing! My first pair of prized Jordache jeans came from Smith-Bridgman, the "fancy" department store downtown, and years later, when I came home on college breaks, The Copa was the place to go. It was downtown Flint's own version of Studio 54. ;)

When I moved to Orlando after college graduation, downtown Orlando became my home. I lived near Lake Eola and worked my first "real job" selling telecommunications and accounting software from an office in the Southeast Bank Building. Did you know there used to be a Benetton and a Victoria's Secret in Church Street Station? Mulvaney's and Chiller's were our go-to happy hour spots, and I'm still dreaming about Pebble's duck peppercorn soup and their nutty cheesy salad.

Now, as President and CEO of the Downtown Orlando Partnership, my love for downtown continues through my work. For more than sixty years, the DOP has remained committed to supporting and strengthening our downtown business community. I am deeply grateful for the ongoing support of our community partners.

And there are so many things to celebrate! Our venues, arts, and sporting events are world-class, our restaurants and gathering places continue to evolve, and there is always something new to discover. Change creates opportunity, and we have many great things on the horizon.

On behalf of the DOP Board of Directors and our team, thank you to the City of Orlando, Mayor Buddy Dyer, and the Downtown Development Board for their commitment to creating a welcoming, inclusive downtown for everyone.

Jill Vaughan
President & CEO
Downtown Orlando Partnership



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As Executive Director of the City of Orlando's Downtown Development Board and Community Redevelopment Agency, it continues to be my honor to help lead the economic, cultural, and civic heart of our region. The progress we've made together over the past year reflects the strength of our partnerships and the shared pride we all have in downtown Orlando.

Over the past year, we advanced initiatives that strengthen our efforts, including expanding mobility through programs like Ride DTO, elevating our public spaces, and supporting the continued growth of small businesses, arts, culture, and entertainment.

On behalf of Board Chair Kimberly Stewart and the Downtown Development Board and Advisory Board, I extend my deepest gratitude to the Downtown Orlando Partnership and to the entire downtown community for your collaboration and support.

Together, we will continue to ensure that downtown Orlando remains a vibrant, walkable, and welcoming urban core.



David Barilla
Executive Director
Downtown Development Board + Community Redevelopment
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