RENEWAL TEAM





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 10, 2023 Contact:

Deana Lorenzo dlorenzo@downtownpittsburgh.com

RENEWAL TEAM LAUNCHES IN DOWNTOWN PITTSBURGH TO PROVIDE ENHANCED CLEANING SERVICES

Downtown Pittsburgh – This month, the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership (PDP) has launched a new initiative that will expand power washing and alleyway cleaning efforts. With support from PDP membership and through a partnership with Renewal, Inc., a new team of four full-time staff and a supervisor are working five days a week to bring enhanced cleaning services to Downtown alleyways and sidewalks. Their work supplements the services provided by our established Clean Team, which works seven days a week to help maintain streets by removing trash, emptying and cleaning garbage cans and cigarette receptacles, removing graffiti tags, and generally improving the public realm in Downtown.

Thanks to investments from the corporate and business community that helped launch the Renewal Team program, the PDP is increasing its clean and outreach services budget by 15% to almost \$1.9M in 2023. "By prioritizing investments in cleanliness and public realm improvements, we are ensuring that Downtown is well positioned to welcome the tens of thousands who work and visit Downtown, as well as the growing number of people who call Downtown home," said PDP President and CEO Jeremy Waldrup.

The new *Renewal Team* is formed through a partnership with Renewal, Inc.'s GETPAID® (Gaining Employment Through Planning, Advocacy, Initiative and Dedication) initiative, a local workforce development program that provides on-the-job training and employment reentry services to help individuals coming out of the criminal justice system prepare for future success.

"As a Pittsburgh-based non-profit organization focused on helping to rebuild the lives of the individuals we serve, Renewal is excited to expand our partnership with the PDP and its mission to improve downtown life and community," said Doug Williams, Renewal, Inc. President and CEO. "We stand united with individuals of all backgrounds to build a better today and an even stronger tomorrow. PDP's ability to provide employment opportunities not only empowers individuals, but also helps enhance our downtown neighborhoods and communities."

The work of the Renewal Team also complements the City's ongoing Downtown Spring Cleaning efforts that include sprucing up parks, sweeping streets, cleaning alleys, and increasing enforcement of trash and litter codes. We are grateful for the Downtown community, business partners, and property owners for their continued collaboration and support of our efforts to make Downtown a more welcoming and vibrant destination.

Please <u>see this link</u> for slides with before-and-after images of the Renewal Team's inaugural cleaning of Exchange Way on April 3, 2023.

About the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership

Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership (PDP) is a dynamic, nonprofit organization comprised of business and community leaders, property owners, civic organizations, foundations, and residents who provide energy, vision, and advocacy for Downtown Pittsburgh. Working collaboratively with its partners, the PDP strives to create a positive Downtown experience for residents, workers and visitors alike. The PDP's strategic initiatives include clean and safe services, transportation, and economic development and advocacy. For more information, visit www.DowntownPittsburgh.com, LinkedIn at www.linkedin.com/company/pittsburgh-downtown-partnership/, and follow us on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram: @downtownpitt.