



Teal-clad community service representatives (CSRs) walk assigned beats seven days a week and serve as a one-stop resource for directions and information, administering first aid, and requesting medical or police services.

Center City District Overview

Center City District (CCD), partner to property owners and downtown stakeholders, is the steward and advocate for a clean, safe, and thriving Center City — Philadelphia's heart of commerce, culture, and connection that generates opportunity and prosperity for the entire city and region.

CCD devotes most of its assessment revenues to the core services of cleaning, public safety, and place management. These services supplement, but do not replace, city services and property owner responsibilities.

History

The story begins with the Central Philadelphia Development Corporation (CPDC), founded in 1956 as the Old Philadelphia Development Corporation. Born from a vision of Philadelphia's business leaders, CPDC pioneered downtown revitalization efforts and championed policies that made Center City more competitive and livable.

Structure

With approval from property owners within its boundaries and from the City of Philadelphia, CCD was authorized under the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Municipality Authorities Act.

CCD is a private-sector directed municipal authority covering 233 blocks and more than 1,600 properties in the heart of Philadelphia.

Through assessments on commercial property owners and support from the broader community, CCD provides services that supplement, but do not replace, the basic services provided by the City of Philadelphia and the responsibilities of property owners.

Three affiliated organizations — CCD, CPDC, and the Center City District Foundation (CCDF) — work together with shared staff and a unified mission, combining operational excellence with strategic planning and advocacy.



About 100 cleaners on two overlapping shifts clean sidewalks via pan-and-broom sweeping and with our distinctive Greem Machines. High-traffic pedestrian corridors are swept three times daily.

Focus Areas

Operations & Maintenance

About 100 uniformed cleaning staff sweep 46 miles of sidewalks multiple times daily, remove graffiti from ground-floor building façades, and maintain the public environment.

An additional 60 community service representatives and bicycle safety patrol teams provide hospitality, assistance, and serve as eyes on the street, creating a welcoming presence throughout downtown.

Working in partnership with Project Home and the Philadelphia Police Department, CCD homeless outreach teams connect unsheltered individuals with services and support.

Parks & Public Spaces

CCD transformed and manages four popular downtown parks: Dilworth Park, Sister Cities Park, John F. Collins Park, and Cret Park. Each has its own distinct “personality,” and all serve as highly regarded public amenities for office workers, families, visitors, and residents.

CCD also cares for hundreds of street trees and planters, seasonal plantings, promotional banners, pedestrian and decorative lighting, and wayfinding signs throughout the district.

Capital Improvements

Since 1997, CCD has invested over \$162 million in streetscape enhancements, park renovations, improved lighting, wayfinding and façade improvements to enhance the attractiveness and functionality of Center City.

Research & Advocacy

Through CPDC, we produce respected research on downtown trends, advocate for policies that strengthen Center City’s competitiveness, and convene stakeholders around shared goals. The annual *State of Center City* report and specialized studies provide essential intelligence for decision-makers.

Promotion & Placemaking

We promote Center City as a premier destination through programs like Restaurant Week, Sips, and Open Streets that were created to benefit local businesses and showcase the cultural vitality and diverse offerings that can only be found in Center City.



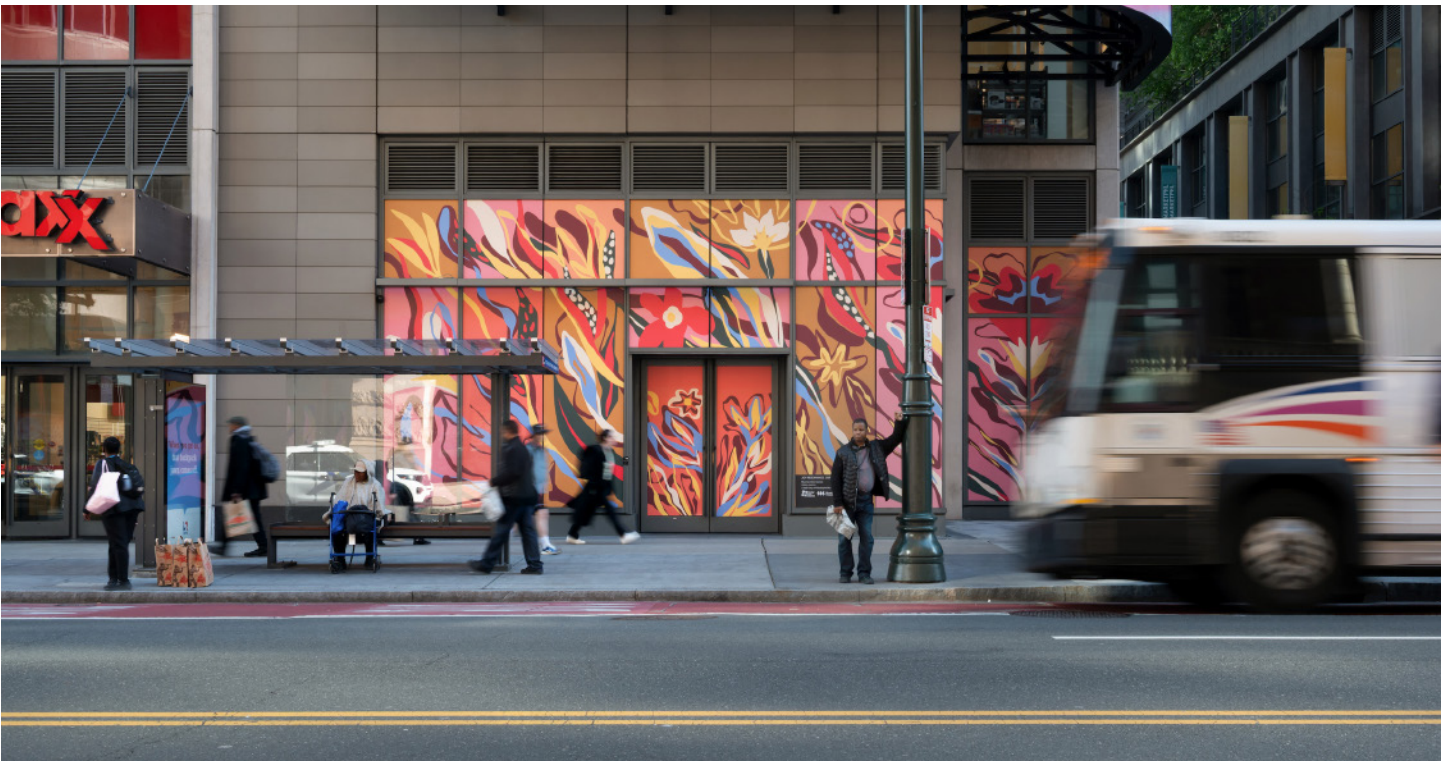
CCD promotes restaurants and retailers year-round with promotions like Sips, Restaurant Week, Let's Do Lunch, and Open Streets.



Community service representatives walk assigned beats and provide information and directions, administer first aid, and request medical or police services.



Cleaning teams operate seven days a week, with pan-and-broom and mechanical Green Machines. Pressure washing sidewalks and graffiti is also done in warm weather months.



In addition to core daily services, CCD also employs interventions like showcasing the work of local artists on storefronts awaiting new tenants.

Our Values

- We are passionate about Philadelphia, optimistic about the future of our downtown, and believe strongly that every employee at CCD can meaningfully improve Center City.
- We recognize that we are trusted because of our integrity, our responsiveness, our visibility, and our effectiveness, and strive to uphold that in every interaction.
- We work collaboratively, internally and with partners, to scale our impact.
- We believe in the value of face-to-face interactions and gatherings, in our office and downtown.
- We are measured and analytical, and we thoughtfully make decisions with data.
- We are an operational organization yet remain bold, open and innovative when new opportunities (and challenges) arise.
- Because Center City is experienced by residents, workers, visitors, and tourists from throughout Philadelphia and throughout the world, we believe our downtown— as well as our organization—should be inclusive and welcoming to all.



Dilworth Park is enjoyed by families from every neighborhood in Philadelphia due to its easy accessibility via public transportation.