

# Downtown Cincinnati Timeline: Major Milestones from 1994 to 2013



**Downtown Cincinnati Inc.**  
Downtown Cincinnati Inc. (DCI) was formed in 1994 to provide coordinated management among the nearly 400 downtown property owners to advocate their interests, provide common services, and promote their products to ensure the ongoing vitality of downtown. DCI was originally funded by member donations, the City, and the County for a three-year trial. The Downtown Cincinnati Improvement District (DCID) was formed in 1997 to provide sustained funding for DCI.

**Aronoff Center for the Arts**  
Opened in 1995, the Aronoff Center for the Arts was designed by Cesar Pelli. This performing arts center at Sixth and Walnut Streets houses three performance spaces, as well as the Weston Art Gallery. It is home to a variety of resident arts groups, including Cincinnati Ballet and Fifth Third Bank Broadway in Cincinnati (presented by TriHealth).



**Garfield Place Residential Development Master Plan**  
In 1998 the final phase of the Garfield Place Residential Development Master Plan was underway with the redevelopment of the former Shillito's Department Store into 97 residential units. Earlier phases included 148 units at the Gramercy, 64 units at the Greenwich, and 42 at the Grotton, together creating one of the first residential neighborhoods in the Central Business District.

**Corporation for Findlay Market**

Open since 1855, Findlay Market is Ohio's oldest surviving public market. The non-profit Corporation for Findlay Market was founded in 2000 to lead the market's revitalization. Since then, Findlay Market has become a center of economic development in Over-the-Rhine, and is now home to forty year-round businesses and more than 100 part-time farmers, food artisans and crafters.



**Paul Brown Stadium**  
Paul Brown Stadium, the home of the Cincinnati Bengals, opened on August 19, 2000 and is named after Bengals' founder Paul Brown. The stadium is located on 22 acres along the banks of the Ohio River and has a capacity of 65,535. Designed by architectural firm NBBJ, it was the first NFL facility to win an AIA award.

**Great American Ball Park**  
Located on the banks of the Ohio River, Great American Ball Park is the home of the Cincinnati Reds, baseball's first professional franchise. Designed by Populous and GBBN, it opened in 2003. The name comes from the Great American Insurance Group. In 2015 the Park will host the MLB All-Star Game.



**Contemporary Arts Center**  
Designed by world-famous architect Zaha Hadid in 2003, the Contemporary Arts Center provides space for exhibitions, site-specific installations and performances. The 82,265 square foot building is at Walnut and Sixth streets and was hailed by the New York Times as "the most important American building to be completed since the Cold War."

**Government Square**

Located on Fifth Street between Walnut and Main Streets, Government Square is Metro's largest transit hub. Renovated in 2006 with features including larger shelters, accessible boarding, easier transfers and a security camera system, more than 15,000 people use Government Square each weekday.



**Fountain Square**  
The 2006 renovation of the Fountain Square North parking garage and the above-grade public plaza were critical to reinvigorate this premier public gathering space in the heart of downtown Cincinnati. The renovation itself and support from generous sponsors has resulted in free, fun, programmed events and activities on the Square nearly every night of the week, all year long. It continues to serve as a catalyst for new residential, retail and restaurant venues.

**Washington Park**

The \$48 million 2012 renovation and expansion of Washington Park in Over-the-Rhine was a public/private partnership among 3CDC, the City of Cincinnati, the Cincinnati Park Board, and the Cincinnati corporate and philanthropic community. This restoration included a 450-space underground parking garage, a performance stage, civic lawn, event plaza, interactive water feature, children's playground, dog park, restored historic bandstand, seasonal planting beds, and a half-acre of meandering pathways.



**Cincinnati Streetcar**  
Construction for the Cincinnati Streetcar broke ground in 2012. The 3.6 mile loop connecting Second Street in the Central Business District to Henry Street in Over-the-Rhine will have 18 stations along the route and is expected to open in 2016.

**dunnhumbyUSA**

In February 2013 dunnhumbyUSA began construction of its new headquarter at Fifth and Race, necessitated by the company's rapid growth as well as the I-75/Brent Spence Bridge expansion. 3CDC is working with dunnhumby to execute a development plan that includes a 1,000-space parking garage, approximately 30,000 SF of commercial, and a 280,000 SF office building for dunnhumbyUSA.



1994

1995

1997

1998

2000

2002

2003

2004

2006

2011

2012

2013

**Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County—Main Library**

From 1995 to 1997, the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County underwent a major two-year construction project that included the 165,000-square-foot addition of the North Building that expanded the Main Library across Ninth Street with a dramatic, four-story bridge and the renovation of the South Building.



**Fountain Place**

Fountain Place opened in 1997 at 505 Vine Street in the heart of the Fountain Square district. Tenants totaling 206,315 square feet include Macy's, Tiffany & Co., Palomino, and the Booksellers at Fountain Square. Fountain Place is connected to the Carew Tower by Skywalk.

**Fort Washington Way**

Fort Washington Way, a .9 mile-long section of freeway that carries I-71 and U.S. 50, provides access to downtown and the riverfront. Originally opened in 1961, it was reconstructed from 1998 to 2000 as part of the Cincinnati Central Riverfront Plan to transform the riverfront to allow for new development and improve connectivity to downtown.



**The Center City Plan**

The 2002 Center City Plan, led by John Alschuler with HR&A and commissioned by the city's Economic Development Task Force, produced four initiatives to restore downtown's vitality: redevelopment of Fountain Square, revitalization of Over-the-Rhine, development of The Banks, and the restoration of Washington Park. Another recommendation was the formation of the Cincinnati Center City Development Corporation (3CDC).

**The Cincinnati Collaborative Agreement**  
The Cincinnati Collaborative Agreement developed in 2002 as part of a settlement, set objectives to improve police-community relations in Cincinnati. The agreement followed the April 9 to 13, 2001 civil unrest sparked by the shooting death of Timothy Thomas by a Cincinnati Police Department officer in Over-the-Rhine.



**National Underground Railroad Freedom Center**  
Opened in 2004 on the banks of the Ohio River, the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center uses engaging exhibitions, public programs, and online education to share courageous stories of freedom's heroes, from the era of the Underground Railroad to today. The Freedom Center attracts more than 120,000 visitors annually to The Banks.



**Duke Energy Convention Center**  
Originally opened in 1968, the Duke Energy Convention Center expanded in 2006 to its current size of 750,000 square feet of exhibit, meeting and entertainment space. Located in the heart of downtown, it is less than 3 blocks from 3,000 hotel rooms and 5,000 parking spaces.



**Park Place at Lytle**

The former R.L. Polk building, now called Park Place at Lytle, opened in 2006 as a residential property with 114 condominiums, a community room, fitness center and seven-story indoor atrium. A brownfield redevelopment project of the Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority, the 370,000 square foot building is located at 400 Pike Street.

**Great American Tower at Queen City Square**  
Queen City Square, located at 301 East Fourth Street, was developed by Western & Southern's real estate subsidiary, Eagle Realty Group. Great American Tower, with its distinctive tiara, is Cincinnati's largest and tallest building, featuring 1 million square feet of office and retail space, and 2,250 parking spaces. It transformed the city's skyline and is a leading symbol of the city's economic vitality.



**The Banks**

The Banks, located on the Ohio River between the Great American Ball Park and Paul Brown Stadium, is a mixed-use development composed of 300 luxury apartments atop street-level retail. Opened in 2011, The Banks has more than a dozen places to eat and be entertained. Future development includes hotel and office, as well as more retail and residential.

**Smale Riverfront Park**

Smale Riverfront Park opened in 2013 and is a dynamic recreational, cultural and leisure regional resource featuring fountains, a playground, a mobility center, gardens, an event lawn and stage, a labyrinth, the Black Brigade Monument, porch swings and, soon, a Carousel. \$80 million in private/public support has been raised for the development of the Riverfront under the direction of the Cincinnati Park Board.



**Horseshoe Casino**

Horseshoe Casino Cincinnati opened in March 2013 at 1000 Broadway Street. The 100,000 square foot urban casino features 2,000 slot machines, 88 table games, multiple restaurants, and indoor and outdoor event spaces.