



Mayor David Lesser
City Council
Mark Danaj
Andy Sywak

July 10, 2017

Dear Mayor Lesser

The Board of Directors for the Downtown Business & Professionals Association (DBPA) expresses appreciation to Council and to Staff for the willingness to explore the expansion and to approve the renewal of the six month pilot program for the Downtowner. The DBPA continues to fully support a ride-share “people mover” type of operation that will serve the residents and businesses of Manhattan Beach.

We view such an operation as beneficial to residents, businesses, customers, employees, and to long-term visitors. We encourage you to extend the service area and support the expansion of the fleet of vehicles in order to better serve all the residents and businesses of Manhattan Beach. The Downtowner has created positive and safe connectivity in the current service area that should be extended to other parts of Manhattan Beach.

Since first being introduced to this concept exactly two years ago, the DBPA has been optimistic that such a service would resonate with the community and offer a quick and cost-free transportation method for residents to move around various sections of town. Residents of all ages are riding the Downtowner to access shopping, dining, large events, the beach and more without the headache of trying to park. Whether accessing City Hall, the Library, Downtown, the North End, the beach, the parks and hopefully more, this program has been an overwhelming success!

The DBPA encourages you to provide resources that will not only allow The Downtowner to continue to operate, but to also expand the fleet and service area. It will be very disappointing to the residents and the businesses to lose this safe, convenient, traffic-reducing and environmentally friendly transportation system. The quality of life for residents and encouraging economic vitality should be a priority.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kelly Stroman
Executive Director
Downtown Business & Professionals Association

Maureen McBride
President
DBPA