

## DOWNTOWN ALBANY BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION | OFFICIAL BALLOT

Mark an **X** next to the candidates for whom you are voting. The term is for three years starting in June 2022 and expiring in June 2025.

Per the BID Bylaws, Article I-Purposes, Section 3. Membership:

**Class A:** Owners of record of real property in the District as are registered with the City of Albany to receive real property tax bills for such real property located within the District, shall be Class A members of the Corporation, provided such persons have applied for membership in accordance with Section 1e hereof or have become owners of record on the rolls of the City of Albany by the September publication of such records by the City of Albany. Owners of properties wholly exempt from real property taxes are not eligible for membership, nor representation on the Board of Directors as Class A Property Owners, unless said ownership provides a payment in lieu of the property tax.

**Class B: (i)** Commercial Tenants who are occupants pursuant to leases of office or retail space in a building that receives real property tax bills for such real property within the District shall be a Class B member of the Corporation provided such persons have applied for membership in accordance with Section 1e hereof.; or

**(ii)** Residential Tenants who are an owner-occupied or occupant of a residential property (three or more units contained within the property) that receives real property tax bills for such real property within the District pursuant to a lease of a residential space.

**Qualifications:** In order to be eligible to vote on the BID Board of Elections, you must own, represent, or reside within a property that pays the special BID assessment tax. If you are not the designated representative, please pass this ballot along to the proper individual. Incomplete or illegible ballots will be discarded. Please fill out, sign, and return this ballot for validation. **Ballots must be emailed, postmarked, or stamped as received by 4:00 PM EST on Friday, May 20, 2022.**

**Class A Property Owner (Please Select Five)** Only Class A Property Owners may vote for Class A Property Owners

**Joshua Wainman** (new)

Josh Wainman is a life-long resident of the Capital District. He holds dual degrees in both Finance and Construction Management and is the President of Wainschaf Associates; a Commercial/Industrial Construction company started by his father in 1980. Wainschaf is a company comprised of roughly 50 employees, with annual sales of \$35-45M. Beyond work, Josh serves on the Board of Directors for the Capital District YMCA, is a former member of the City of Rensselaer Zoning Board, and a current member of the Town of East Greenbush Zoning Committee. He is a property owner in the City of Albany, with rental properties in Downtown as well as mid-town and is eager to participate in the continued revitalization of Downtown Albany.

**To learn more about Josh Wainman's professional background, please visit:**

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/joshua-wainman-48379b7a/>

□ **Benn MacDonald** (new)

Benn MacDonald is the owner and President of Far Shot Recreation, an entertainment venue that focuses on Axe and Knife throwing and indoor archery. Far Shot has multiple locations throughout Canada and the Northeastern United States, including one at 69 North Pearl Street in Downtown Albany, and has plans to further expand throughout 2022. Benn leads a team of employees at each of Fat Shot's six locations and helps guide them to success. He has served on the Orangeville Ontario Public Library Board and helped create policies to better help and serve the public, as well as make decisions to help the growth of the library and community. He also serves as the Head Judge of the World Axe Throwing League (WATL) and has sat on the WATL Council Committee since its creation in 2017. In this role, Benn helps to grow the sport of Axe Throwing while also communicating with the Axe throwing community and helping update and govern all rules for the sport.

**To learn more about Benn MacDonald's professional background, please visit:**

<https://worldaxethrowingleague.com/watl-head-coach/>

□ **Leola Edelin** (incumbent)

Leola Edelin is General Manager of the Renaissance Albany Hotel. Leola started in the hospitality industry as a student at the University of Pittsburgh when she became a restaurant server at Holiday Inn and loved helping people create memorable experiences and making them happy. Inspired by the General Manager, Barbara McMahon, Leola was determined to become a GM too. In 2015 she achieved her goal in downtown Albany. Within 2 years of Leola's leadership the Renaissance Albany and Leola herself received numerous awards, among them: 2015 NYS Historic Preservation Award, 2017 & 2018 AAA 4 Diamond Rating, 2017 Leola received Albany Business Review's 40 under 40, 2018 the Renaissance was recognized as Hotel of the Year and Leola was recognized as NYSHTA's Outstanding General Manager of the Year for 150+ rooms and Albany Business Review's Woman Who Mean Business Award & HX Awards Outstanding Woman in Hospitality Leadership. Leola is an active volunteer in her community and sits on 4 boards—YMCA Schenectady Branch, Capital Region Workforce Development, Discover Albany's Albany Cultural Heritage and Tourism Committee and Executive Committee. Leola lives in Niskayuna and is a wife and mother of two teenage children.

**To learn more about Leola Edelin's professional background, please visit:**

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/leola-edelin-40407475>

□ **Mohamed Hemmid** (incumbent)

Mohamed Hemmid is the General Manager and Regional Director of Operations at the Hampton Inn and Suites Downtown Albany. Over the past seven years, Mohamed has held several hotel managerial positions in the Albany area. Previously, Mo spent seven years moving up the ranks of hospitality while living and working in Dubai after moving there from his home country of Morocco. Since moving to Albany with his daughter, Sophia, Mo has been involved with multiple organizations. He is currently on the Board for Discover Albany and the International Center of the Capital Region. In his free time, Mo loves watching and playing soccer and is working towards his coaching license so that he can share his passion for the sport with youth in the Capital District.

**To learn more about Mohamed Hemmid's professional background, please visit:**

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/mohamedhemmid/>

**Elizabeth Young Jojo** (incumbent)

In Elizabeth Young’s role with Redburn Development - which recently purchased several buildings within the District and is rehabbing them into apartments and street front retail spaces - she oversees property management, leasing, marketing and project design. As COO of Sequence Development and Management, before merging with Redburn, Elizabeth oversaw all day-to-day company and property operations, designed all project interiors, handled historic tax credit applications, grant applications commercial and residential leasing and more. Prior to working in the real estate field, Elizabeth owned and ran a retail and interior design business and was the Executive Director and Founder of the Downtown Troy Improvement District.

**To learn more about Elizabeth Young’s professional background, please visit:**

<https://www.redburndev.com/executive-leadership?pgid=jiexepbv-58fcc851-d731-4a31-b0f9-d408a5e63141>

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that I am a member of the Downtown Albany Business Improvement District.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (Printed) of Designated Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Property | Company Entity Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address | City | State | Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email

**(Indicate all that apply)**    Owner    Commercial Tenant    Resident

Yes, I want to stay in touch about what is happening in downtown Albany. Please make sure I am a subscriber to your Stakeholder only e-newsletter (please make sure to indicate your email address above).

If you represent multiple property owning or tenant entities, each entity is entitled to one vote. Please PRINT additional entities and circle the Class designation below or use a separate sheet.

_____	Owner	Commercial Tenant	Resident
_____	Owner	Commercial Tenant	Resident
_____	Owner	Commercial Tenant	Resident
_____	Owner	Commercial Tenant	Resident

[Vote Online](#) or complete and sign the enclosed ballot and return to the BID office via one of the options below.

**Mail to:**

Governance Committee  
Downtown Albany BID  
21 Lodge Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Albany, NY 12207

**Hand-deliver** to the BID Office Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm.

**Email** to [kmedhus@downtownalbany.org](mailto:kmedhus@downtownalbany.org)

For your convenience, an electronic version of this ballot is available for download online at [www.downtownalbany.org/ballot](http://www.downtownalbany.org/ballot)

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