

Low Down on Dumpsters

This summer the CAP Team did a back alley dumpster audit for the KCBIA. From 1st to 7th in the back alleys between Seymour Street and Lansdowne Street there are 72 dumpsters serviced by three providers: WM, WSI and the City. Only about 6 are partially or entirely on public property, the remainder are on private property. Not all dumpsters are locked (and should be) and many have graffiti on them.

The KCBIA is working on a back alley improvement project which will include dumpster free alleys. They would be replaced with a daily garbage pick up program, which has proven successful in other cities with the cost to users being very similar to dumpster fees. Improved lighting, application of CPTED practices and eventual art projects are also part of the plan. For more info check our website www.kcbia.com.

For this plan to be successful it will require the support of our businesses and property owners in the affected area. We would be starting with a small zone and expanding from there.

We have been conducting a garbage survey of the businesses in the above area, at this point these are some of the results:

62 businesses responded and 82% of them have a dumpster in the back lane.

84% support the KCBIA researching the options.

Most places recycle the easy stuff like beverage containers but there is potential for much more. Only 55% recycle cardboard, this is one thing that should be recycled! About half agree that daily recycling collection would help them recycle more and would subscribe to an optional service.

Generally they are satisfied with the current garbage collection options but the majority agree that dumpsters: smell terrible, are ugly and attract illegal dumping, litter and graffiti, take up valuable parking/delivery space and provide easy hiding spaces for illegal activities.

82% feel that art projects Downtown are a good idea!

There are a lot more questions on the survey than these, if you have not filled out one, and wish to, please go to our website for a download or call the office at 372-3242 or email us your thoughts at info@kcbia.com.