



## News Release

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### Downtown Improvement Board seeking new director

*Organization hopes to hire new executive in time for holiday shopping season*

**PENSACOLA, Fla. (Aug. 25, 2016)** – The Pensacola Downtown Improvement Board announced Tuesday that it would seek a new executive director. Ron Butlin, the organization’s current director, resigned Aug. 1 because of family health issues. His last day will be Sept. 30.

“This was a difficult decision,” Butlin said Thursday, “but family health issues dictated this was the right time to transition. I’m proud of the progress we’ve made over the last three years and look forward to seeing what the future holds.”

Butlin joined the DIB in 2013, after four years as executive director for the Downtown Partnership in Colorado Springs, an organization similar to the DIB. His tenure coincided with a period of unprecedented growth for Downtown Pensacola.

“We hate to see Ron go,” DIB Chairman John Peacock said Thursday, “but we have a lot of initiatives on the horizon and are excited to see what sort of new ideas these candidates bring to the table.”

A search committee, chaired by board member Jim Homyak, has been created to winnow the applicant pool down to a list of finalists, which will be presented to the full board at their Oct. 18 meeting.

Assistant director Lissa Dees, who Peacock called “extremely competent,” will helm the organization until the position is filled.

Peacock said the eventual director would have their hands full, with a number of new initiatives on the horizon.

“They will have to be someone of strong vision,” Peacock said. “They’ll also need to have the will to push that vision forward and the ability to work collaboratively with other governmental entities. Most importantly, though, we want someone who sees the potential in this community and is passionate about moving it forward.”

Those interested in applying for the position should send a resume and cover letter to [dib@ideaworks.co](mailto:dib@ideaworks.co).

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**About the Downtown Improvement Board**

The Pensacola Downtown Improvement Board (DIB) is an independent state agency funded by a special tax on properties within its district boundaries. The district consists of 40 blocks that encompass the urban core of Downtown Pensacola. The DIB is governed by a five-member Board of Directors and guided by eight committees comprised of downtown property owners and businesspeople. To learn more about the DIB and all that is going on in Downtown Pensacola, visit [www.downtownpensacola.com](http://www.downtownpensacola.com).