

PRESS RELEASE

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The Real Heroes of Comic-Con Don't Wear Capes – They Wear Vests *Downtown San Diego Partnership's safety and maintenance teams keep Downtown streets in top condition during popular annual event*

Comic-Con International drew a crowd of more than 130,000 attendees to Downtown San Diego this year. Residents and tourists alike flocked to the Gaslamp Quarter to attend the popular event, enjoy free things to do around the Convention Center, or grab a meal and people watch along Fifth Ave.

The Partnership's Clean & Safe team worked around the clock to ensure Downtown San Diego remained in tip-top shape during this internationally-recognized event.

"Without a doubt, our team is one of the hardest working crews at Comic-Con each year," said Alonso Vivas, Executive Director of the Clean & Safe program. "I am impressed by the work they do every single day, but I am especially proud of their diligence and dedication during a time when people from around the world visit Downtown San Diego."

During Comic-Con International 2017, Clean & Safe ambassadors:

- Picked up 44,581 flyers, posters, and stickers (about 39 times more than average)
- Pulled 4,990 bags of trash (about five times more than average)
- Removed 29.39 tons of trash (about two times more than average)
- Cleaned graffiti 311 times (about two times more than average)

By comparison, during a typical five-day period, the Clean & Safe team disposes of 1,150 flyers, stickers, and posters; collects 930 bags of trash; removes 13 tons of trash; and cleans graffiti 190 times. In addition to maintenance services, ambassadors provide safety patrols, escorts, and directional services throughout Downtown.

The Downtown San Diego Partnership's Clean & Safe program is a property and business improvement district, representing more than 11,000 property and business owners. The organization provides enhanced services for Downtown's six neighborhoods: Civic Core, Columbia, Cortez Hill, East Village, Gaslamp Quarter, and Marina District. Patrolling the streets 24-hours a day, seven days a week, Clean & Safe crews perform maintenance duties in the public right-of-way, augmenting services provided by the City of San Diego. Safety crews safeguard 275 blocks in Downtown San Diego, as well as provide social outreach referrals.

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