

Downtown Bazaar by WEDI

FAQ

Q. What is it? *Downtown Bazaar by WEDI*

A. An international food hall with retail sponsored and supported by Westminister Economic Development Initiative (WEDI) with some restaurateurs from the former West Side Bazaar.

Q. Who is included?

A. These are the businesses signed as of this date:

4 food businesses:

- Abyssinia Ethiopian Cuisine: Ethiopian
 - Owner, Akec Aguer – North Sudan
- JiuJiu Blue’s Bakery: Hispanic Desserts & Coffee
 - Owner, Jesenaida “Jessy” Collazo– Buffalo, NY
- Nile River Restaurant: S. Sudanese Fusion
 - Owner, Zelalem Gemmeda - Ethiopian
- Pinoy Boi: Filipino inspired cuisine
 - Owner, Lloyd Ligao - Philippines

2 Retail businesses:

- The Asian Boutique (formerly Gadget Bazaar): Sri Lankan immigrant Asian imports of clothing and accessories for adults and children
- Flavia’s Business: African imports of clothing and accessories for adults and children

007 is our first graduate since the fire. Elizabeth Sher of Pattaya bought a business before the fire. We’re supporting them.

Where is it located?

Downtown Buffalo, right next to the Market Arcade

VISION

All residents of Western New York can succeed and thrive in a culturally inclusive community.

MISSION

WEDI strengthens communities through a continuum of educational and financial resources, removing systemic barriers to economic equity for all Western New Yorkers.

Main entrance is at 617 Main Street between Chippewa and West Tupper Streets

When is it open/hours of operation?

We are not yet open. The soft opening will be mid-February

Hours of operation are currently planned for M-F; 8 am to 8 pm

How did we get there?

In the aftermath of the fire at the West Side Bazaar on Grant Street, Amy Nagy, a former Sinatra & Company Real Estate vice president, got the space on WEDI's radar. Two of the restaurants (Abyssinia and Nile River) and two of the retail businesses (The Asian Boutique and Flavia's Business) from the old West Side Bazaar are moving to the Downtown Bazaar along with two new food businesses from off the WEDI waiting list. These two new businesses were chosen from a waiting list of close to 150.

Q. Are we staying there?

Time will tell.

Q. When will the new West Side Bazaar Open at 1432 Niagara Street?

A. We are on track for Labor Day 2023

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