

Q: What effect did the Olympics have on the traffic downtown? Were there more cars, less cars, more people taking public transit, etc?

A1: There was more traffic downtown, however a lot of people took advantage of public transportation. Many office tenants adjusted hours to arrive earlier and leave earlier to avoid traffic congestion. Also, those tenants that had clients outside of the downtown area arranged to visit their clients in the client's offices, eliminating the need to be downtown at all.

A2: We had major traffic concerns, but our [Salt Lake City Department of Transportation] did a great job averting any major problems. Went to great lengths to make sure traffic lanes were available for travel. Department employees were on call 24/7 and worked overtime to make sure traffic went as smooth as possible.

Q: Do you have any idea what effect the games had on building occupancy? Did many tenants take holidays, volunteer, was there general absenteeism, etc?

A1: Office building occupancy was down as some tenants had shortened hours, and scheduled work off-site. I don't recall that any tenants established company-wide holidays although there were many individuals who took a day or two off during the events.

A2: We had many, many people taking days off to volunteer at the Olympics. Some companies even incented their employees to volunteer. The Olympics were everywhere, including televisions in offices.

Q: Did Building Owners report an increase or decrease in parking revenues?

A: Monthly parking revenues remained unchanged. Daily parking revenues were up slightly, but not as much as expected because so many chose to use public transportation.

Q: Did Building Owners increase security measures in downtown office buildings?

A1: It varied from building to building. Some with limited need for customer access simply left the elevators in secure mode. Other buildings had a person stationed in the lobby (which became a pass-through cost to the tenants). Other buildings made no adjustments to their security.

A2: Our building hired extra security for the downtown building until the Olympics cleared out.

Q: Were schools open during the games (elementary schools, high schools, universities)?

A1: Yes, schools were in session.

A2: Schools were open but many classes were centered around the Olympics and almost all school children had field trips to at least one event.

Q: Did Building Owners increase the hours of operations during the games?

A: Retail locations had increased hours of operation, but office buildings had pretty much the same hours of operation.

Q: Did Building Owners see an increase in foot traffic or bike traffic during the games?

A1: Foot traffic on the streets was up significantly, which was evident in the retail areas. This had little impact on the office buildings.

A2: Many of our awards ceremonies were held downtown. We had a massive increase in foot traffic.

Q: How were building deliveries affected, if at all?

A1: Deliveries were scheduled for earlier in the day, so that they wouldn't be in the downtown area much past 2:00pm.

A2: We sent notices to all of our vendors recommending the best time to make deliveries. Usually, it was early in the morning.

Q: Did you see a large increase in the number of protests during the games, if so what type of organizations?

A: I don't recall any protests.

Q: Can you share with us any of your experiences from the games?

A1: We had a great time during the Olympics. Get your employees involved. Plan special promotions to get your tenants excited. Let them know that despite some of the adjustments, it will be the event of a lifetime. Plan on having fun with it and it will go smoothly.

A2: Many companies, including mine, staggered the work hours for all of our employees. We had people coming and going early and people were incited to ride public transportation instead of taking up space on the roads.