

# City Planning Department

Quarterly Report

October 2014

## Project Update

1. **Capital Improvement Program-** *We are currently looking into new CIP software.*
2. **Traverse City Public Pier-** *Great Lakes Fisheries Trust Grant received to complete the design, preliminary engineering, studies and construction drawings and details to build an approx. 550 foot, universally accessible fishing pier at the mouth of the Boardman River on Grand Traverse Bay. The pier will provide unique, outstanding access for people of all ages, needs and abilities to fish for migratory and other species, and to learn about the Great Lakes, the importance of stewardship and the value, challenges and opportunities involving the fishery. A contract has been awarded to Smith Group JJR as the consultant for the study and design for the public pier. Planning for the upcoming meetings have been held with JJR-Smith Group. The first public meeting will be held October 22 with stakeholder interviews to occur on October 23.*
3. **Grand Traverse Commons Zoning Ordinance-** *Final revisions are the draft zoning ordinance for the Commons have been made. The Grand Traverse Commons Joint Planning Commission will review the completed draft at their November 5, 2014 meeting. The next step is for the Joint Planning Commission to set a public hearing for the draft ordinance.*
4. **Boardman Lake Trail-** *Administering the Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant for the Boardman Lake Trail. The trail and recreational amenities are under construction with a completion date expected in November.*
5. **Perry Hannah Statue in Hannah Park-** *The private funders and Planning staff will present more detailed information and estimated costs to the Parks and Recreation Commission on November 6 regarding the small plaza, design components and the statue.*
6. **Active Transportation Plan-** *Continuing to work with the City Planning Commission on developing the Active Transportation Plan. A draft document is underway with a focus on developing a series of maps for the document.*
7. **Public education campaign regarding the “Traverse City Stops for Pedestrians” local ordinance –** *No further work has been completed. The Planning Department will work with the Engineering Department on developing a policy for installing the in the street “Stop for Pedestrians in Crosswalk” signs which were recently purchased and installed downtown and on West Front Street west of downtown.*
8. **Corridors Master Plan Implementation-** *Administered the restriping of 8<sup>th</sup> Street to be a three-lane street with bike lanes as called out in the Corridors Master Plan. The impact of the restriping of the four block area of 8<sup>th</sup> Street will be presented to the City Commission on November 10. Planning staff has been tallying phone calls and emails regarding the restriping and will share the tallies with URS, the consultant that will be making the presentation.*
9. **Grand Traverse Bay Corridor Strategy Committee-** *The City Planning Commission adopted a resolution in support of Corridor Strategy at their October 7, 2014 meeting. County Planning and City Planning staff decided not to pursue working with Michigan State’s Planning, Construction and Design school on helping to develop a unified design concept for the corridor after several meetings with MSU. Staff has had further discussions with MSHDA on potential funding for a charrette for 8<sup>th</sup> Street to develop an overlay zoning for the 8<sup>th</sup> Street corridor.*

10. **City Master Plan Committee-** *The committee has not met. Staff attended an educational workshop on preparing and amending a master plan. Committee meetings will be scheduled in the near future to develop a formal report to Planning Commission. Amendments to the text and Future Land Use Map will be recommended.*
11. **Boardman River boardwalk project-** *Submitted revisions to a NRTF Grant for a boardwalk along Boardman River south of the Eighth Street bridge. Notification of grant awards will be in December. The project scored enough points to remain hopeful for funding.*
12. **Clancy Park-** *Submitted revisions to a DNR Passport Grant for improvements to Clancy Park. Staff remains optimistic for State funding for this neighborhood park.*
13. **Grand Vision Prosperity Grant-** *We are still awaiting word on whether the grant request will be approved. Most of the sidewalks have been installed, however walks west of Maple have not been constructed.*
14. **Housing Building Committee-** *This committee has not met recently. Meeting will be scheduled to further discuss the current accessory dwelling unit (ADU) regulations. To date, no ADU's have been proposed for the ADU overlay district. The Committee has suggested amending the regulations to be less restrictive.*
15. **Redevelopment Ready Community-** *Staff is preparing information to be submitted for the Redevelopment Ready Community program.*
16. **2014/2015 Streets-** *The Planning Commission approved most of the street projects for consistency with the Master Plan at their August 5 meeting. Seventh Street and 100 Block of E. Eleventh Street (Saint Francis School block) were pulled from the list to allow for additional planning meetings for these street projects.*
17. **Development Projects-** *Projects including Hotel Indigo, Habitat for Humanity at the Depot, Uptown, 124 W. Front, NMC, Crystal Cove (Lake Ridge), Northwinds (Lake Ridge), Lake Ridge Drive Townhouse, 517 Wellington, Bay and Randolph (2 projects), Front & Garfield development, East Bay Plaza and Washington Place are in different stages of planning and construction and we continue to monitor their progress. Staff also spent considerable time reviewing the application for a Special Land Use Permit for an Emergency Shelter at 517 Wellington Street.*