

City Planning Department

Quarterly Report

July 2015

Project Update

1. **Capital Improvement Program-** *A presentation on the CIP was made to the Planning Commission on February 18. The public hearing was held on April 7 where the Planning Commission approved the CIP with some modifications.*
2. **Traverse City Public Pier-** *Great Lakes Fishery Trust Grant received to complete the design, preliminary engineering, studies and construction drawings. A contract has been awarded to Smith Group JJR as the consultant for the study and design for the public pier. Schematic Design and Preliminary Design plans have been completed. The consultant is working on final Construction Documents and should be presenting the final designs to the City Commission in early August. The Joint Permit application will be submitted for the project by late July. A fundraising strategy grant from Rotary Charities was awarded to outline a possible fundraising strategy to implement the project. The deadline to complete the fundraising plan is October 15.*
3. **Grand Traverse Commons Zoning Ordinance-** *The Joint Planning Commission held a well attended public hearing in June. Meetings with key stakeholders continue to work on outstanding issues with the draft code.*
4. **Boardman Lake Trail-** *A ribbon cutting was held in May for the newly opened trail from 10th Street to 14th Street. Staff has just initiated a Coastal Zone Management grant request to help fund the design of the last unbuilt leg of the Boardman Lake Trail. Before the community can successfully apply for grant funds for the construction of the trail, a workable design with secured easements are necessary. Brownfield dollars are being sought to pay for the local match needed for the trail design grant.*
5. **Perry Hannah Statue in Hannah Park-** *The private funders have secured sufficient funds to pay for the statue, plaza and landscaping. The construction of the plaza is underway. A public unveiling of the plaza and statue is planned for August 3.*
6. **Active Transportation Plan-** *Work continues with developing the Active Transportation Plan. A draft document is complete and revisions are being made. A small grant was received to assist with the plan's development. Funds will be used to have the document professionally reviewed by a firm whose expertise is writing non-motorized plans for communities.*
7. **Marked crosswalk signs to implement "Traverse City Stops for Pedestrians" local ordinance –** *A policy for installing the in the street "Stop for Pedestrians in Crosswalk" signs has been developed. Some of the signs have been placed in new locations this to continue to test their effectiveness. The new locations are at Union and Seventh Streets and Boardman Avenue and East Front Street.*
8. **Corridors Master Plan Implementation -***The one-year pilot project on 8th Street restriping continues. Discussions are in the works to have a community survey to get public input on the street's performance as a three-lane street. In addition, personal interviews with the 8th Street business owners and residents that live along the affected section of 8th Street are planned. The pilot project's one-year time span ends in September unless summer traffic patterns warrant a quicker decision. The Planning Department is also working in conjunction with the Jean Derenzy, MEDC and MML on visioning plans for this section of 8th Street and a short section of West Front Street near Fire Station One.*

9. **City Master Plan Committee-** *No additional work has been done in regards to updating the City Master Plan.*
10. **Clancy Park-** *Two grant requests were submitted revisions to a DNR for the Park; one was for Recreation Passport grant and the other for a Natural Resources Trust Fund grant. In the event, the City is successful with both submissions; the City will need to choose one grant source for the park improvements. Word is expected this fall if we are successful in receiving one of these grants.*
11. **Housing-** *The ADU ordinance was passed and ten land use permits were issued within the first few weeks. There are two ADU requests that are on a waiting list for next year since the limit of 10/year have been reached. Staff will prepare a report on the ADU's to the Planning Commission after six months of the ordinance's effective date.*
12. **Parking Regulation Committee-** *The Parking Regulation Committee was established by the Planning Commission and has been meeting monthly. The committee is charged with reviewing parking policies and parking regulations to develop a set of recommendations including: parking maximums, parking minimums, density requirements, shared parking/access requirements, no parking required zones, residential parking permits and a parking audit.*
13. **Redevelopment Ready Community-** *Michigan Economic Development Corporation has submitted "Report of Findings" regarding the City's readiness for redevelopment. The report was presented to the City Commission on May 11. Staff is working with other City departments to meet all the best practice standards to become eligible as a Redevelopment Ready Community.*
14. **Development Projects-** *Projects including Park Place Hotel, Hotel Indigo, Garland and Grandview Parkway, Uptown, 124 W. Front, Crystal Cove (Lake Ridge), Northwinds (Lake Ridge), Lake Ridge Drive Townhouse, East Bay Plaza, The Moorings and Washington Place are in different stages of planning and construction and we continue to monitor their progress.*
15. **Division Street (Planning, Environmental Linkages).** *Staff attends administrative meetings regarding this study and shares information with the Joint Planning Commission and City Planning Commission.*