



Scott Faulkner - Economic and Community Development Coordinator

ECDC Quarterly Activity Report: Q1 2019 Presented 29 March 2019

WHY THINK NEWAYGO?



City of Newaygo commercial real estate transactions increased **171% in the past 3 years.**



Lower Cost of Living: Newaygo's residential real estate prices **38% less than greater West Michigan.**



Newaygo's **Promise Zone**: A proven pathway to **tuition-free college** for Newaygo residents.



Over **\$70M** in new commercial and civic investments since 2018



Newaygo Police Department has the highest clearance rate (solved crimes) in West Michigan: **68%!**



Several large fully-improved, City owned properties **designated for development in the 2019 Master Plan.**



Award winning water quality in the City, and in the wild: Newaygo County enjoys **\$11.16M each month in** tourism spending.



In just a single Newaygo neighborhood, **15 new custom homes** have been permitted for construction in just 18 months.



KEY NEW ACTIVITIES

Initial research into creating an Opportunity Zone Fund with MSU Extension and RPI. MR Holdings meeting with Land Bank & Innovalab

Next IAmNewaygo! Public Engagement Meeting scheduled for April 25th at Newaygo Elementary

Submitted initial MEDC Suspension Bridge Grant application: \$1.75M for 90% Match

Preparing Redevelopment Ready Community Plans: Economic Development & Marketing Drafts ready in April

Secured \$30K Demolition Grant for Railside Properties, to occur Q2/Q3.

NEDO Housing Task Force completed first meeting with Newaygo School Board Appointees on Vera Wilsie property Vision.

Researched new financial model for The Stream S.A. Wisinski Proposal recommended by Task Force to NEDO and City Council

Hosted three West Michigan Commercial Developers to pitch multiple City dev projects with emphasis on Railside and Vera Wilsie..

Met with Newaygo County Parks re: Suspension Bridge/ Walkability opportunities: Approved..

Met with DNR Trust Fund Chairman Sam Cummings, Jon Bumstead re: The Dragon Trail. Submitted three DNR Grants, collectively totalling \$850K.