



Scott Faulkner - Economic and Community Development Coordinator

ECDC Monthly Activity Report to City Council December 2019

WHY THINK NEWAYGO?



City of Newaygo commercial real estate transaction volume is UP **171% in the past 3 years.**



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



Promise Zone: A proven pathway to tuition-free college for Newaygo area residents.



Over \$70M in new commercial and civic investments since 2018: That's \$35,000.00 per capita!



Newaygo: A truly safe place to raise a family: NPD has the highest solved crime rate in all of West Michigan: 68%!



City of Newaygo selected as permanent site for the Newaygo County Museum & Cultural Heritage Center. \$1.2M renovation



Clean, award winning water quality in the City, and in the wild: No wonder Newaygo County averages **\$11.16M each month in** tourism spending!



In just a single Newaygo neighborhood, **23 new custom homes** have been permitted for construction in just 24 months.



KEY NEW ACTIVITIES

\$100K grant submitted to USFS is approved. Working with MRWA, local experts Symon Cronk and Evan Farinosi on City Tree initiative.

I Am Newaygo! projects and actions are being prioritized and organized as recommendations to City Council for 2020.

Final paperwork submitted to MEDC for LOI on Newaygo Crossing Suspension Bridge. Initial engineering tasks are being executed now.

Redevelopment Ready Community Project: Draft Branding and Marketing Plan completed and submitted to City Council in November, to be presented to other Boards Winter 2020.

Downtown Extension housing project concepts with multiple West Michigan developers being reviewed. GRR trip to review high density, small footprint apartments and condos completed in October - seems ideal for Newaygo.

US VA Administration considering bringing regional RBOC to the City. VA visit in September, proposal for 1/3 of Stream submitted.

Christian Healthcare Centers setting up legal entities and exploring OZ options with The Right Place. Nov 7 GRR mtg complete: Newaygo marketing push being planned for Feb 2020..

Sand Mold site being reviewed for potential residential redevelopment, possible relocating of Sand Mold engineering staff to The Stream.

Dragon Trail construction is well underway. Official groundbreaking was October 4. Six miles of trail to be completed before winter.