



Scott Faulkner - Economic and Community Development Coordinator

## City of Newaygo Dashboard May 2020

### WHY THINK NEWAYGO?



Downtown Newaygo reinvestment totals over \$3.37M in 2019 and planned for 2020- Restoration of 4 historic cornerstone properties!



Entrepreneur-friendly city with largest % of our businesses under 99 employees. #1 rated County in MI in sales/employee at \$292K!  
Source: youreconomy.org



Safe city! Newaygo NPD now has the highest solved crime record in all of W. Michigan: 85%! Source: Michigan Incident Crime Report



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



Newaygo is the Heart of the Muskegon River! NC ave. is **\$11.6M/mo.** tourism spending!  
Source: SOM Tourism Report



Lower Cost of Living: Newaygo's residential real estate prices are **35% less** than adjacent West Michigan counties. Sources: Kent, Newaygo, Ottawa Realty Boards



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



In a single neighborhood, **23 custom homes** have been constructed in just **24 months**.  
Source: City of Newaygo



### KEY NEW ACTIVITIES

Workforce housing concepts with multiple West Michigan developers being considered: Sites include Sand Mold property, Industrial Park, OZ properties, upper story downtown buildings, and expansion of River Hills.

Newaygo Crossing Bridge Project ADA expanded now on hold by MEDC due to Covid 19. Pursuing EDA and FAF for new funding.

Redevelopment Ready Community Project: Draft Branding & Marketing Plan approved by all Boards and City Council. Public Engagement Strategy in final draft form for consideration now.

Sand Mold engineering staff relocating to The Stream under a 5 year lease. Improvements completed. Beginning of move-in scheduled to start week of May 4th 2020.

Christian Healthcare Centers completed architectural plans with Copper Rock Construction. Railsite property selected as best option. City to assist CHC with Newaygo introductions to businesses, churches, FAF.

Museum Project awarded to Copper Rock Construction. Museum to temporarily relocate to Opera House Building. Project scheduled to start soon, completion in approx. 11 months.

CEDAM Pitch Grant for \$25K support of Muskegon River Bluffs Disc Golf Course at Shaw and Henning parks denied- working on a locally funded project plan now.

\$100K grant submitted to USFS is approved. Working with MRWA, local experts Symon Cronk and Evan Farinosi on City Tree initiative, working on detailed 2 year plan.

Considering Pilot project for City to become a rural model for Land Bank / Brownfield / Geenfield development site- Sable Homes River Hills Phase 2 expansion may be test case.