



Scott Faulkner - Economic and Community Development Coordinator

City of Newaygo Dashboard July 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



KEY ACTIVITIES

Newaygo Crossing: Pursuing EDA / FAFCE funding. Selected MSUCEA for Economic Impact Analysis. Bridge soil borings complete.

Muskegon River Bluffs Disc Golf Course: RFP for course design completed and posted through multiple channels. Responses due July 9th. Multiple qualified responses received to date.

Redevelopment Ready Community Project: Economic Development Strategy, Branding & Marketing Plan, Public Engagement Strategy approved by all Boards and City Council.

Christian Healthcare Centers: Copper Rock Construction selected for design /build. CRC buy/sell Agreement underway for Railside properties. City to assist CHC with exposure to area businesses, churches, FAFCE.

Museum Project awarded to Copper Rock Construction. Museum to temporarily relocate to 7000sf in Leppinks strip mall. Project likely to start soon, completion in approx. 11 months.

The Stream: Working with River Country Chamber to design and begin marketing 2nd large suite as a package to medium sized firm with similar needs as Sand Mold systems.

Pilot project for City to become a rural model for Land Bank / Brownfield development site proceeding: Sable Homes River Hills Phase Two endorsed by Brownfield Board. Consultant hired.

\$100K grant submitted to USFS approved. Working with MRWA, local experts Symon Cronk and Evan Farinosi on City Tree initiative, delayed in 2020 due to Covid 19 restrictions.

Workforce housing concepts with multiple West Michigan developers: Sites include Sand Mold, Industrial Park, OZ properties, upper story downtown buildings, possible CLT. Key issue is Site Control of developable properties.



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