



Scott Faulkner - Economic and Community Development Coordinator

ECDC Monthly Activity Report to City Council 11 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

Finalizing MEDC Suspension Bridge Grant application: \$1.25M

Preparing Redevelopment Ready Community Plans: ED and marketing Plans

Completed Draft Master Plan Review.

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

Researched new financial model for The Stream Two proposals for Task Force to consider.

Hosted three West Michigan Commercial Developers to pitch multiple City dev projects.

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

Met with DNR Trust Fund Chairman Sam Cummings, Jon Bumstead re: The Dragon Trail.