

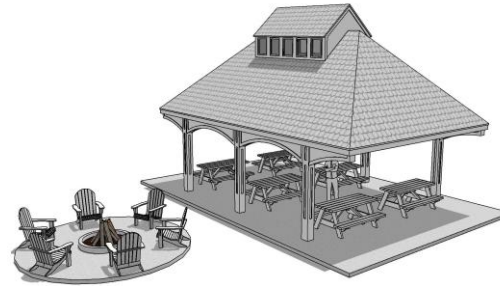
The background of the slide is a photograph of a pond. On the right side, there is a wooden dock extending into the water. The water is dark and reflects the surrounding greenery. On the left and top edges, there are dense green plants and bushes. A white rectangular box is overlaid in the center of the image, containing the title and date. The text is in a black, cursive font. There are also decorative white dots along the left and right edges of the white box.

Douglas Harbor Authority Report

May 19, 2026

General Project Updates

- Douglas Marina Park Projects
- Veteran's Deck Project
- Wade's Bayou
- Union Street Boat Launch
- Bouy Installation
- KLHA Update





Douglas Marina Park Updates – Project Overview

The City of the Village of Douglas continues to make significant investments in Douglas Marina Park to enhance public access, strengthen recreational opportunities, improve environmental sustainability, and create a welcoming gathering space for residents and visitors alike.

Recent improvements and ongoing efforts demonstrate the City's commitment to long-term community investment, environmental stewardship, and strategic public-private partnerships.

OPENING SOON:
A New Gathering Space for Douglas

 The Douglas Marina Park Pavilion Project is anticipated to be completed **BEFORE JULY 1, 2026.**

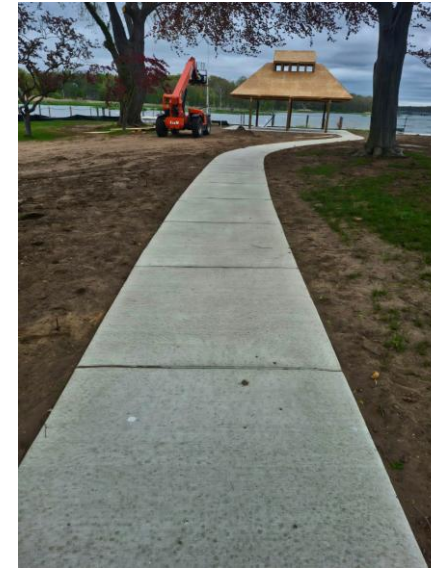
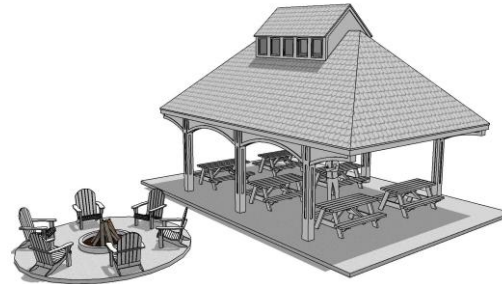
 Upon completion, the City of the Village of Douglas will host an official **RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY** and invite representatives from Consumers Energy, project supporters, and the public to celebrate this exciting new community asset.

 **Consumers Energy**
Count on Us®

 The new pavilion will be added to the City's parks rental inventory, creating a beautiful waterfront venue for public events, private gatherings, and community celebrations for years to come.



Stronger Together. Building a Better Douglas. 



New Douglas Marina Pavilion

Construction on the new pavilion began at the end of April 2026 and is anticipated to be completed during the first week of July 2026.

Project improvements include:

- New public pavilion space
- ADA-accessible sidewalks
- Kayak launch/pad improvements
- Future firepit gathering area
- Expanded community recreation opportunities

The project has been made possible through successful collaboration between the City, community supporters, and grant funding partners.



Michigan Municipal League Community Excellence Award Submission

The City has submitted the Douglas Marina Park project to the Michigan Municipal League for consideration for a Community Excellence Award.

The submission highlights the project as a strong example of how public-private partnerships can successfully deliver meaningful community improvements while enhancing quality of life, recreation, accessibility, and economic vitality.

The project demonstrates how collaboration between local government, donors, community organizations, and residents can create long-lasting public benefits.



Earth Day Tree Planting Initiative

In celebration of Earth Day 2026, the Douglas Department of Public Works partnered with Douglas Elementary Preschool students to plant two new trees at Douglas Marina Park.

The event provided a hands-on educational opportunity for students while reinforcing the City's commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainability initiatives.

The project also highlighted the importance of community partnerships and engaging future generations in protecting and enhancing public spaces.



Ongoing Sustainability Efforts

The Department of Public Works continues to focus on improving the long-term health and appearance of Douglas Marina Park through ongoing sustainability and beautification efforts.

- Recent work includes: Removal of dead or hazardous trees
- Removal of overgrown and dying hedges
- Continued park maintenance and cleanup
- Enhancements to support healthier landscaping and long-term environmental sustainability

These efforts help preserve the natural beauty of the marina while improving safety, visibility, and overall visitor experience.



Veteran's Fishing Deck: Project Update

The Veterans Deck Project remains on track and continues to move forward as planned. Current efforts are focused on coordinating the next phases of the project and preparing for construction activities.

At this time, the project team is waiting for favorable weather conditions in order to proceed with the buildout and related construction work. Once weather conditions improve and allow for consistent progress, additional on-site work is expected to continue.

The City appreciates the community's patience and support as this important project moves forward and additional updates will be provided as progress continues.



Wade's Bayou Project & Maintenance Update

The City and the Douglas DDA continue working collaboratively on ongoing improvements and maintenance efforts at Wade's Bayou.

As part of the proposed FY2026-2027 budget, funding has been requested for upgraded electrical improvements at Wade's Bayou through a shared cost partnership between the City and the DDA, pending final budget approval. These upgrades are intended to support improved functionality and long-term use of the facility.

In addition, the Department of Public Works recently repaired and replaced several broken irrigation heads, restoring the irrigation system back into full operation and service.

To help improve cleanliness and visitor experience at the dock area, Project Manager Jenny Pearson has also coordinated with the kayak rental company regarding regular maintenance of the Wade's Bayou dock. The company has agreed to spray and clean goose feces from the dock area on a daily basis moving forward.



Union Street Boat Launch & Dock: Project Update

The Union Street Boat Launch and Dock Project remains pending as the City continues to await necessary approvals and coordination associated with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). Additionally, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) has requested that the city wait to start the project until the sturgeon eggs hatch.

In addition, a recent watermain break in the project area has resulted in a partial road closure and has further impacted project timing and coordination efforts. The Kalamazoo Lake Sewer and Water Authority (KLSWA) is currently addressing the issue; however, there is no specific timeline available at this time regarding when the area will be fully restored and construction activities can resume as planned.

The City will continue working with all agencies and partners involved to move the project forward as conditions and approvals allow. Additional updates will be shared as more information becomes available.



Buoy Installation Update: Waterway Safety Improvements

Seasonal buoy installation activities are currently underway as the City continues efforts to support safe navigation and recreational use throughout local waterways.

The buoys help identify navigation areas, improve boater awareness, and enhance overall water safety for residents and visitors utilizing the harbor, marina, and surrounding water access points.

Coordination continues with local partners and agencies to ensure proper placement and seasonal maintenance.

The City appreciates the efforts of all staff and partners involved in preparing the waterways for the busy summer boating season and will continue monitoring conditions and maintenance needs throughout the year.





Kalamazoo Lake Harbor Authority (KLHA): Strategic Direction & Consultant Update

The Kalamazoo Lake Harbor Authority continues to focus on long-term planning, regional collaboration, and identifying future opportunities to strengthen and enhance the harbor system for all participating communities (Saugatuck, Saugatuck Township, City of the Village of Douglas).

Current discussions remain centered on the overall direction and future vision of the KLHA, including priorities related to waterfront access, harbor infrastructure, economic development opportunities, recreational use, and environmental sustainability.

In addition, a consultant team is working on gathering information, evaluating existing conditions, and assisting with the development of recommendations and strategic planning efforts that will help guide future decision-making for the Harbor Authority.



Questions?

