



MEMORANDUM

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

March 20, 2023, at 7:00 PM

TO: City Council

FROM: Rich LaBombard, City Manager

SUBJECT: Resolution 08-2023, A Resolution to Continue a Social District

Due to the COVID pandemic, businesses in the downtown sought an alternative to indoor dining and retail space and increased social distancing. In 2021 and 2022 City Administration proceeded with a directive from City Council to allow businesses temporary use of the City's right-of-way to extend their businesses to allow social distancing following the requirements of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). This solution turned out to be beneficial and well received. Visitors and residents provided complimentary feedback to the businesses that participated. With the 2023 season approaching, the City Administration is again seeking City Council support prior to proceeding with the application process. The application gives businesses guidelines on the expansion and requires that the applicant submit a Certificate of Insurance listing the City as additional insured.

The State of Michigan Public Act 124 of 2020 enabling the local governmental units to create a social district also states an expiration date of December 31, 2024. Due to the success, we recommend adopting resolution 08-2023 to continue the social district until the state's expiration date.

Businesses typically start utilizing the right-of-way space in April and end after the Halloween Parade is wrapped up. This timing allows our DPW to complete fall clean up and snow removal activities.

Sample Motion: I recommend that City Council approve resolution 08-2023 and authorize City Administration to continue with the social district to allow downtown business use of the City's right-of-way to expand their business from April 14, 2023, through October 30, 2023, and April 12, 2024, through October 28, 2024.

**CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF DOUGLAS
COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
STATE OF MICHIGAN**

RESOLUTION NO. 08-2023

A RESOLUTION TO CONTINUE A SOCIAL DISTRICT THROUGH OCTOBER 28, 2024

At a regular meeting of the City Council for the City of the Village of Douglas, Michigan, held at the City of the Village of Douglas City Hall, Douglas, Michigan, on the 20th day of March 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

The following Resolution was offered by Councilperson _____ and supported by Councilperson _____.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Social Districts were created by the State of Michigan with Public Act 124 of 2020 as an economic tool available to local municipalities to help businesses endure the impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic, and

WHEREAS, In Social District's, qualified liquor licensees with licensed premises that are contiguous to the commons area within the Social District may sell alcoholic liquor (beer, wine, mixed spirit drink, mixed drinks, or spirits) on their licensed premises to customers who may then consume the alcoholic liquor within the commons area of the Social District, and

WHEREAS, A resolution to consider a Social District (resolution 15-2021) was adopted in 2021 to create the boundaries, common area, and develop the requirements of the social district, and

WHEREAS, Due to the success of the social district, City Council recommends continuing the social district until the State of Michigan Public Act 124 of 2020 expires on December 31, 2024, and

WHEREAS, the City asks for Social District amenities to be removed from the right-of-way after the annual Halloween parade event.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS: The City Council authorizes City Administration to continue with the Social District to allow downtown business use of the City’s right-of-way to expand their business from April 14, 2023, through October 30, 2023 and April 12, 2024 through October 28, 2024.

YEAS: Council Members:

NAYS: Council Members:

ABSTAIN: Council Members:

ABSENT: Council Members:

ADOPTED this 20th day of March 2023

CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF DOUGLAS

BY: _____
Jerome Donovan, Mayor Date

BY: _____
Pamela Aalderink, City Clerk Date

CERTIFICATION

I, Pamela Aalderink, the duly appointed Clerk of the City of the Village of Douglas, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a Resolution adopted by the Douglas City Council at a regular meeting held on Monday, March 20, 2023 in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended, the minutes of the meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act.

CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF DOUGLAS

BY: _____
Pamela Aalderink, City Clerk