

Exploring a Social District in Gladstone



The City of Gladstone is excited to explore the possibility of establishing a social district in our downtown area. Social districts create a vibrant, communal space where patrons of licensed establishments can enjoy alcoholic beverages within designated common areas.



What is a Social District?

Social districts, authorized by Michigan law in 2020, allow communities to designate specific areas where beverages purchased from licensed establishments can be enjoyed outdoors. Drinks must be served in special marked cups, and district boundaries are clearly defined and maintained to ensure safety and enjoyment for all.

Social districts were introduced during the COVID-19 pandemic to support local

businesses and provide safe, outdoor gathering spaces. They've since become popular across Michigan, enhancing downtown atmospheres and encouraging tourism.

What's Next for Gladstone?

Gladstone is in the exploratory phase of implementing a social district, with a proposed boundary stretching along Delta Avenue from 8th St to 11th St, including the Farmers Market Square. No decisions have been made yet, and community feedback is vital to shaping this initiative.

We invite you to learn more about social districts and share your thoughts as we explore this opportunity to bring added vibrancy to our downtown.

