

Proposal for consideration

Lake Orion Downtown Development Authority

SAFE STREETS for PUBLIC SPACES

Submitted to:

GM on Main Street Grant Program 2025: Transportation
Innovation for Downtowns

March 2, 2025

Matthew Gibb

Executive Director

Lake Orion Downtown Development Authority

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PROJECT ABSTRACT

The Lake Orion Downtown Development Authority (the “DDA”) is seeking a grant to support our Safe Streets for Public Places Program through the design and installation of decorative bollards and historic peddlers carts in key access points to our Downtown. Our objective is to provide a passable barrier within each main downtown intersection to invite and protect the thousands of guests arriving to enjoy the more than 40 art shows, festivals and events occurring each year. The goal of the project is to encourage pedestrian and bicycle friendly movement with the added benefit of crash rated protection and the placement of historically authentic peddler carts to slow traffic and welcome visitors.

This project is the mutual idea and effort of the DDA and the Village of Lake Orion, arising out of the year over year increase in attendees enjoying the downtown and the fear of tragic events mimicking what occurred in New Orleans earlier this year. The objective is to install up to six (6) removable bollards and two (2) fully enhanced peddlers carts at each of four main intersections downtown. The cost of these potentially life saving improvements is budgeted as \$73,305.

The DDA is asking for a grant in the amount of \$60,000 to assist in the hard and construction costs of the project. Additional funds, directly from the DDA capital budget, have been set aside and approved for all monies required beyond the grant amount to bring this important public facility to Lake Orion.

PROJECT NEED

The Village of Lake Orion is a recognized historic district filled with vibrant restaurants, acclaimed music venues, and shops, and is home to nearly 3000 residents, entrepreneurs and small businesses. The entire community, being the downtown of a larger Township in bustling Oakland County, Michigan, proudly lives by its decades long nickname “Where Living is a Vacation”. The planning and effort as a Nationally Accredited Main Street program is a shining example of how the four pillars approach can bring vitality and destination to our streets and doorways. It is out of that success we find a new need.

Our community regularly hosts over 40 special events annually, including festivals, parades, and a thriving restaurant and bar scene, attracting thousands of visitors to our village each month. Certain events, such as larger festivals, can draw crowds up to 15,000 people, and more, all striving to be within the downtown district. Given the volume of pedestrian traffic generated by these events, the safety and security of our residents and visitors has become a growing concern.



PROJECT NEED: continued

As the downtown area is an active hub for such gatherings, it is important to acknowledge that the village, like many other small communities, can be considered a soft target—a location vulnerable to potential threats or attacks due to its relatively limited security infrastructure. The increasing trend of violent incidents involving vehicles driven through crowded pedestrian areas highlights the urgent need to address vulnerabilities in spaces with high foot traffic.

In response to these concerns, the Village of Lake Orion Police Department has identified the need to enhance pedestrian safety in our downtown district, particularly during large public events. A viable solution is the installation of removable bollards strategically placed throughout the downtown area. These bollards could be positioned near intersections and could be moved as needed to provide additional protection during events.



Designed to blend seamlessly with the aesthetic of our downtown, the bollards can be wrapped in materials that complement the village's character while contributing to the overall atmosphere.

As we watch tragedy unfold in other part of our world, the Village of Lake Orion Chief of Police, Mark Amundson stated the need better than anyone else,



“Investing in physical security measures, such as bollards, signage, and barricades, is essential to ensuring the safety of our community members and event attendees. These measures not only mitigate the risk of potential threats but also foster public trust by demonstrating our commitment to safety and security. Furthermore, this investment will contribute to the continued success of our special events by promoting attendee satisfaction and strengthening positive relations within the community.”

<https://apnews.com/article/new-orleans-killed-crash-terrorist-attack-9f2fbcc3e48d8b391590f60969e80e61>

https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&opi=89978449&url=https://www.fbi.gov/news/press-releases/fbi-statement-on-the-attack-in-new-orleans&ved=2ahUKEwiqsN2t5OuLXvUyYkEHVd2MFYQFnoECB4QAQ&usg=AOvVaw1NtMOD6G764enGjn_PvIJM

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Installation of Removable Bollards

Project Overview:

This project aims to enhance safety, accessibility, and traffic management in Downtown Lake Orion by installing removable bollards at key entry points. The bollards will provide a flexible solution for pedestrian and vehicular control, allowing for temporary access when needed while maintaining a secure environment during normal operations.



Project Goals:

- Improve pedestrian safety by preventing unauthorized vehicle access.
- Facilitate controlled access for emergency vehicles, maintenance crews, and event setup.
- Enhance the aesthetic appeal of the area by using high-quality, durable materials that blend with the existing infrastructure.
- Provide a cost-effective and sustainable solution for managing public spaces without permanent barriers.

Project Scope:

- Identify key locations for bollard installation based on traffic and safety assessments.
- Purchase and install twenty-four (24) removable bollards with secure locking mechanisms.
- Ensure ADA compliance and maintain accessibility for all users.
- Conduct community engagement and coordination with local stakeholders to ensure seamless integration.
- Develop a maintenance and operational plan for bollard removal and replacement.

Implementation Plan:

1. **Site Assessment & Planning** – Conduct a thorough analysis of pedestrian and vehicle flow to determine optimal bollard placement.
2. **Procurement** – Acquire bollards that meet durability, safety, and aesthetic requirements.
3. **Installation** – Implement the bollards with proper anchoring and locking mechanisms.
4. **Community Coordination** – Work with local businesses, emergency services, and municipal departments to ensure smooth integration.
5. **Monitoring & Maintenance** – Establish guidelines for routine inspections and necessary adjustments.

Expected Outcomes:

- Increased safety for pedestrians in high-traffic areas.
- Improved flexibility in public space management for events and emergency access.
- A more visually cohesive and welcoming environment for visitors and residents.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Installation of Peddlers Carts

Project Overview:

This project aims to enhance safety, downtown identity, and pedestrian engagement in downtown Lake Orion by acquiring and installing peddlers carts at key locations. These carts will serve as beautification elements, wayfinding tools, and micro-retail opportunities, strategically placed in coordination with a pedestrian safety plan around existing bollard locations. The initiative will involve community volunteers in designing and planting the carts, fostering local pride and participation.



Project Goals:

- Improve pedestrian safety by using peddlers carts as visual barriers that complement existing bollards.
- Strengthen downtown identity through cohesive branding and design.
- Engage community volunteers in the design and planting of the carts.
- Provide flexible, movable carts that enhance public spaces and economic opportunities.

Project Scope:

- Identify key locations for cart placement in accordance with pedestrian safety assessments.
- Acquire eight (8) peddlers carts designed for aesthetic appeal and functionality.
- Develop a unified branding and identity for the carts to align with downtown character.
- Recruit and coordinate volunteers to assist in design, planting, and maintenance.
- Ensure ADA compliance and accessibility in placement and usage.
- Conduct community outreach and stakeholder engagement to ensure alignment with broader Village goals.

Implementation Plan:

1. **Site Assessment & Planning** – Conduct a pedestrian safety and downtown flow analysis to determine optimal cart locations.
2. **Procurement** – Acquire peddlers carts that align with branding, safety, and durability standards.
3. **Design & Branding** – Develop a cohesive downtown identity for the carts, including signage and color schemes.
4. **Community Engagement** – Organize volunteer teams to design and plant greenery in the carts.
5. **Placement & Integration** – Position the carts strategically in coordination with the pedestrian safety plan.
6. **Monitoring & Maintenance** – Establish guidelines for ongoing upkeep and potential seasonal redesigns.

Expected Outcomes:

- Enhanced pedestrian safety through visually engaging wayfinding elements.
- Strengthened downtown identity with cohesive branding and public involvement.
- Increased community engagement through volunteer participation in design and maintenance.
- A more inviting and vibrant streetscape that encourages foot traffic and local economic activity.

This initiative aligns with broader community development goals and fosters a more engaging, pedestrian-friendly downtown. Grant funding will enable the successful execution of this project and contribute to long-term public benefits.

TIMELINE

Upon Grant Award:

April 1-15, 2025:

Site Assessment & Planning – Conduct a pedestrian safety and downtown flow analysis to determine optimal cart and bollard locations.

April 15 – May 30, 2025:

Procurement – Acquire bollards and peddlers carts that align with branding, safety, and durability standards.

Pre-construction – Secure labor and necessary third party contractors, begin pre-installation, site work final design and plan approval, and obtain necessary permitting for bollard installation.

May 15 – June 15, 2025:

Design & Branding Peddlers Carts – Develop a cohesive downtown identity for the carts, including signage and color schemes.

Community Engagement – Organize volunteer teams to design and plant greenery in the carts. Place carts in accord with the developed safety and pedestrian plans described in the project plan.

June 1 – July 30, 2025:

Placement & Integration – Position and install all temporary bollard infrastructure, and related needs, strategically in coordination with the pedestrian safety plan, in the areas outlined in the final location plan.

August – September, 2025:

Monitoring & Maintenance – Establish guidelines for Ongoing upkeep and potential seasonal redesigns.

October 2025:

Final Reporting and Grant Compliance.

Lake Orion Safe Streets and Public Spaces Program

PROJECT BUDGET

Enter data into blue shaded input cells only.

APPLICANT

Project Name	Safe Streets for Public Spaces
City/Township/Village	Village of Lake Orion
County	Oakland
Project Principal	Lake Orion downtown Development Authority

TOTAL DEVELOPMENT COSTS

Hard Costs

Removable Bollards - 24 Units @ 977/unit	\$ 23,448.00
Bollard Covers, locks, attachments @211/unit	\$ 5,064.00
Site Improvements (concrete, anchors, pavement, brickwork, etc)	\$ 6,419.00
Peddlers Carts 8 units @1158/unit	\$ 9,264.00
Paint, Adhesives, Branding	\$ 964.00
Other: Delivery / Transportation	\$ 2,879.00
Subtotal	\$ 48,038.00

Construction Cost

Concrete/Masonry/Rebar Install	\$ 9,870.00
Painting/Decorating	\$ 500.00
Permits/Fees/Bond/Cost Certification	\$ 1,160.00
Other: Mobilization, Traffic Control, Temp Signage	\$ 2,700.00
Other: General Conditions, Contingency	\$ 2,500.00
Subtotal	\$ 16,730.00

Other Costs

Marketing/Awareness	\$ 1,150.00
Other Professional Fees	\$ 1,000.00
Other: Permanent Signage	\$ 1,087.00
Other: Unknown site conditions/Utilities	\$ 5,000.00
Subtotal	\$ 8,237.00

TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$ 73,305.00
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SOURCE AND AMOUNT OF LOCAL FUNDS

	Amount
Source B Downtown Development Authority Capital Funds	\$ 8,305.00
Source D Sponsor(s)/ DDA budget authorized contingency	\$ 5,000.00
Source E	\$ -
Source F	\$ -

TOTAL LOCAL FUNDS	\$ 13,305.00
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TOTAL DEVELOPMENT COSTS	\$ 73,305.00
TOTAL LOCAL FUNDS	\$ 13,305.00
REQUESTED GM ON MAIN FUNDING*	\$ 60,000.00

*GM funding will first be applied to hard costs and construction



PLACEMENT Of IMPROVEMENTS

Removable Bollards
located in main
intersections

Replica Peddlers
carts placed to calm
traffic and beautify



ADDITIONAL IMAGES OF PROJECT AREA



DESIGN ELEMENTS OF THE USE OF PEDDLERS CARTS FOR PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENT,
BARRIERS, AND DOWNTOWN BEAUTIFICATION



Large Peddler Cart

Generously Supported by



MAIN STREET
AMERICA



Charter Township of Orion

2323 Joslyn Rd., Lake Orion MI 48360
www.oriontownship.org

Supervisor's Office

Phone: (248) 391-0304, ext. 1000

February 28, 2025

Lake Orion Downtown Development Authority
Matt Gibb, Executive Director
118 N. Broadway Street
Lake Orion, MI 48362

Re: Main Street America Grant Application

To Whom It May Concern:

Orion Township would like to express our strong support for the Lake Orion Downtown Development Authority (DDA) grant application. This \$60,000 grant to implement a critical traffic calming and pedestrian safety project in our vibrant downtown perfectly aligns with Main Street America's goals of creating safe, welcoming, and thriving downtowns.

This proposed initiative will significantly enhance our America in Bloom efforts, not only through strategic integration of design and natural materials, but also by directly addressing key criteria of the America in Bloom program. More specifically:

- **Environmental Awareness:** This project promotes pedestrian-friendly spaces, reducing reliance on vehicular traffic within the downtown core, thereby contributing to a more sustainable environment.
- **Landscaped Areas:** The replica peddler carts, filled with seasonal floral displays, will directly enhance our landscaped areas, adding color, texture, and visual interest. These displays will be carefully curated to reflect the principles of America in Bloom, focusing on plant diversity, health, and overall impact.
- **Floral Displays:** The abundant floral displays within the peddler carts will be a prominent feature, contributing to the overall aesthetic appeal of our downtown. We will emphasize the use of native and pollinator-friendly plants, aligning with America in Bloom's focus on environmental stewardship.

The specific project details further demonstrate our commitment to America in Bloom's principles:

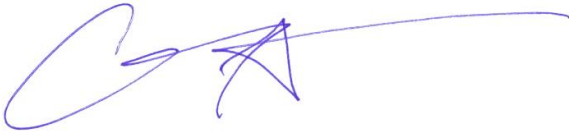
- **Decorative Removable Bollards:** These bollards, positioned at key downtown entry points, will create a clear and aesthetically pleasing pedestrian zone. Their design will incorporate elements that complement our downtown's existing architecture and landscape, contributing to a cohesive and visually appealing environment.
- **Replica Peddler Carts as Movable Barriers:** These carts, filled with vibrant flowers and branded with our village's identity, will serve a dual purpose: they will act as flexible traffic calming measure and contribute to our floral displays. The flowers will enhance the beauty of our downtown and create a welcoming atmosphere, further enhancing our efforts with America in Bloom.

- **Guiding and Protecting:** The combination of bollards and flower-filled peddler carts will create a clear, visually appealing, and safe pedestrian pathway. This will not only improve pedestrian safety but also guide visitors through our downtown, showcasing our businesses and events.

This project will demonstrate a thoughtful approach to traffic calming and pedestrian safety, seamlessly integrating design and elements to enhance our downtown's appeal and strengthen our America in Bloom efforts. We are confident that this initiative will create a safer, more beautiful, and more welcoming downtown for residents and visitors alike. Please feel free to reach out if you have any further questions.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'C' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Chris Barnett, Supervisor
Charter Township of Orion
cbarnett@oriontownship.org



February 28, 2025

MAIN STREET AMERICA

Re: DDA Safe Streets Project

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my full support for the Lake Orion DDA's grant application aimed at improving the safety and aesthetics of downtown Lake Orion. As the Executive Director of the Orion Art Center, we are proud to host two of the largest fundraising events, *Art and Flower Fair* and *Dragon on the Lake*, which bring thousands of visitors to our community each year. These events are vital to our mission and essential for sustaining and growing the programs and services we offer to the community.

The removable bollards and peddler carts proposed by the DDA will provide much-needed safety enhancements and elevate the walkability of downtown. These upgrades will ensure that our events are not only safer but also more inviting, helping us continue to expand and enrich our programming. As we grow, the additional security and aesthetics will allow us to attract even more attendees, vendors, and artists, creating a stronger, more vibrant downtown for everyone.

The success of these events is crucial to the continued growth of the Orion Art Center, and we are confident that the enhancements supported by this grant will have a lasting positive impact on both our organization and the community as a whole.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We wholeheartedly support this initiative and look forward to the positive changes it will bring to our downtown area.

Sincerely,

Holly Nicosia

Holly Nicosia
Executive Director
Orion Art Center



February 27, 2025

MAIN STREET AMERICA

Re: GM on Main Street 2025
LAKE ORION MAIN STREET GRANT APPLICATION

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Lake Orion Downtown Development Authority (DDA), and as Board Chair of the DDA, I want to extend my strong support for this Multi-Modal Safety Project. Our DDA has recently been recommended for National Main Street Accreditation for the 18th consecutive year and continues to strive to improve and protect the history and vibrancy of our Downtown.

This project seeks to bring safety to the thousands of visitors who travel to our Downtown to enjoy some of the region's largest festivals and events. In every season, our historic streets are lined with art, wood craft, ice sculptures, flowers, food and music. We host winter golf tournaments through and within our many businesses and are home to Michigan's largest cornhole league in partnership with our American Legion. On any given weekend you can find more than 10,000 guests enjoying "where living is a vacation". Our goal is to keep them all safe.

In partnership with the Village of Lake Orion, we now seek to add removable bollards and historically recreated peddlers carts to the gateways of our downtown, the intent to;

- Create a walkable barrier to vehicles and dangerous traffic, allowing bikes, strollers, and smiling faces to pass through.
- The removable nature of the bollards would allow us to extend the areas of safe design depending on the size of the event, while enhancing our design.
- Recreating the peddlers carts of our past, with welcoming flowers and historic treatments, can soften the entrances to slow approaching vehicles, redirect staging, and encourage alternative forms of arrival.

I appreciate your consideration of this grant and strongly recommend funding for this important project.

Sincerely,

Debbie Burgess

Debbie Burgess - Board Chair Lake Orion DDA



February 28, 2025

MAIN STREET AMERICA

Re: GM on Main Street 2025
LAKE ORION MAIN STREET GRANT APPLICATION

To whom it may concern,

I want to express my full support for the Lake Orion DDA Safe Streets Project. Raising a family in Lake Orion includes attending and participating in the many multi-cultural and inclusionary based events and programs hosted by our Downtown. From hosting choirs from underprivileged neighboring towns to greeting families at the Summer Gazebo series, we have welcomed people of all backgrounds to enjoy our little place of joy that we have nicknamed "where living is a vacation".

This project will function as a safe barrier to our main gateways entering our downtown and also provide a historic reflection of our past. The removable nature of the proposed bollards, and the way we will be able to brand and "roll in" beautiful peddlers carts, allows the village and DDA to move people, carts, strollers, bikes and more, in a safe and inviting way.

As Council President, I can attest to the support of the entire Village of Lake Orion in pursuing this important, functional, approach to keeping us all safe while enhancing the design and reflective beauty of our downtown. The grant allow the great parentship between the Village and our DDA to grow stronger, and provide the needed funds to make a difference in the way our community stretches a blanket of safety around our residents and guests.

Teresa Rutt

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Teresa Rutt", is positioned below the printed name.

Village of Lake Orion
Village Council President

February 28, 2025



To whom it may concern,

The Lake Orion Police Department is a vital source of protection for our community.

As president of the Orion Lighted Parade Group, the LOPD is always concerned about the parade participants and the 7,000 spectators at our annual Lighted Christmas parade.

This past year the LOPD borrowed barricades from the Troy Police Department to use during our parade. Four of those barricades were situated by our stage. A driver of a car wanted to cross main street, which is on our parade route. This driver tried to get by the barricade but could not broach it. Had they gone through it would have placed many adults and children in grave danger.

I also work other events in the village, such as: the Lions Club Festival (a four-day event), Memorial Day Parade, Halloween Parade, the LOPD Car Show. These events are also on the streets of our community and would benefit from the protection barricades offer.

I hope that you will approve this grant and help the Lake Orion community groups and citizens feel safe.

Bill Kokenos

Bill Kokenos
President
Orion Lighted Parade Group

248-802-5521