

Downtown Development Authority of City of Madison Heights

Memorandum

Date: April 14, 2023
To: Downtown Development Authority Board Members
From: Giles Tucker, Community Development Director
Subject: Update on Ongoing Projects

1. Clock Tower Repair

A service technician from Verdin Bells & Clocks came out to inspect and repair the clock tower. It was discovered that the plastic netting used to prevent birds from nesting in the tower had wrapped around the clock hands to hold it back from moving. This netting was cut free, and the tech was able to reset the clockfaces. Mike noticed that there was still netting blowing in the wind towards the end of March. While the sign crew went out to take the netting down later that week, Mike saw that there was still more blowing in the wind and that one of the clockfaces was slow on April 5th. DPS has since resolved the issue, but now the clockface needs to be reset.

2. Trash Bins & Welcome Sign

Three (3) trash frames are now back from the paint shop, but there are a few more repairs that are needed before they are returned to the DDA area. One has a bent hinge that needs to be welding and repainted, and the clock tower bolt on insignias needs to be painted on these three (3) bins.

DPS has also asked the DDA select a color for the composite decking to be used on the Welcome Sign located at the corner of John R Rd and Progress. Justin Holland says that the city has accounts with Lowes, Home Depot and Menards, and we just have to pick a color that is in stock. This could be selected by the board itself, the Design Committee or staff.

3. Diamond Jim's Potentially Seeking Another Sign/Façade Grant

Melanie from Diamond Jim's reached out to me last week to discuss the possibility of using the DDA's Façade grant again for the second phase of her façade & signage upgrade to her location. This next phase will include repairing the siding to the small building within the parking lot adding exterior light and some painting. She has not provided enough detail to bring an actual application for consideration, but it raises an interesting question about our DDA grant guidelines. This is also one in about three potential projects that want funds to repair parking lots. It may be something the Economic Vitality Committee should consider further.