



DDA 2021 Progress/Accomplishments

The City of Westland Downtown Development Authority (DDA) continued making progress on the goals and objectives laid out in the currently adopted development plan throughout 2021. The Redevelopment of Ford Road continues to be a top priority of the authority, as a highly visible, frequently traveled thoroughfare which helps to shape the identity of the community. The DDA continued beautification efforts from previous years with the approval of new streetlights and decorative banners, as well as streetscape improvements.

In today's contemporary development environment, municipalities face new and ever changing challenges. As mature, inner-ring suburbs evolve and demographic patterns shift, there is increased opportunity for redevelopment. Areas that were once vibrant retail areas must reinvent themselves to remain sustainable in the new economy by appealing to the shifting population and demographics. As such, Westland needs to develop a vision for this new type development along the Ford Road corridor to use as a tool to attract new business. To this end, the DDA approved funding for a market study for 80 acres at Central City Park and the former site of city hall along Ford Road to better understand the opportunities for redevelopment.

The DDA continued to invest in park and public area improvements as they approved funding for improvements to the computer network at the Westland Historic Village Park, as well as applied for a grant for improvements at Tattan Park. The DDA hosted a reduced Summer Concert Series as the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic continues to be felt across the world. There is hope that 2022 will see the return of the Summer Concert Series in full and the addition of the All American Craft Beer & Wine Festival. In addition to these events, a continued partnership with the Westland Chamber of Commerce allowed for a successful weekly Farmers Market. Increased safety protocols and social distancing allowed the Market to stay up and running, and provided Westland residents and those from surrounding communities, an additional option to secure produce while traditional shopping capacities were restricted.

2021 Projects

- Continued streetscape improvements along Ford Road and at Ford Road overpass
- Approval of agreement with DTE for street light improvements along Ford Road
- Approval of funding for Westland Historic Village network upgrades

- Approval of market study for the former city hall site

Events/Promotional Campaigns

- Shop and Dine Shop Local Campaign
- Weekly Farmers Market at Tattan Park
- Blues, Brews, and Barbeque
- Summer Concert Series
- Craft Beer and Wine Event (cancelled)