

**2005 Cool Cities Grants & Planning Programs Neighborhood Award Designees - Michigan Cool Cities – Cool Cities Collaborative
Michigan State Housing Development Authority**

2005 Cool Cities Neighborhoods in Progress

Ann Arbor – Creative Interactions: An Urban Catalyst: An interactive indoor gathering space will be the creation of microcinema lounges at the award winning Michigan Theatre that will morph into a state-of-the-art audio-visual social node for digital filmmakers to showcase their work. The grant will be used for microcinema digital projection system, flat screens, digital cabling, WiFi, digital upgrades for sounds and computer video, renovations, furniture.

Contact: Newcombe B. Clark, Ann Arbor Cool Cities Task Force, (734) 665-6500, nclark@blueadvisors.com, and Leigh Greden, lgreden@yahoo.com

Battle Creek – Riverfront Condominium Project: Unique mixed-use development of three historic structures into 24 market-rate condominiums and five first floor retail on Michigan Avenue alongside the Battle Creek River. Targeted retail tenants include an independent art gallery, arts/crafts supply store, restaurant with outdoor cafe, and office space for the Downtown Partnership. The grant will be used to rehabilitate historic buildings to mixed use.

Contact: Kathleen Eriksen, 77 East Michigan Avenue, P.O. Box 1438, Commerce Pointe, Suite 160, Battle Creek MI 49017, (269) 968-1515, eriksen@bcunlimited.org

Detroit-Greater Corktown Development Corporation – Workers Row House Experience: Restoration of the Row House, an important piece of nineteenth-century workers' history, to its original 1850s appearance. The house will be a location for people interested in Corktown to visit and to learn about available housing, entertainment options, investment potential, and/or begin a self-guided audio tour of the historic neighborhood. It will be a staging area for the Annual Corktown Home and Garden Tour, a location for community meetings, potluck dinners, and video viewings. The GCDC will utilize the Workers Row House Experience as a satellite office, which will enable them to extend their neighborhood outreach efforts. The project is located in southwest Detroit, south of old Tiger Stadium. The catalyst grant will be used to preserve 3 unit row house structures, one unit as a museum and two units as a satellite office.

Contact: Timothy J. McKay, Executive Director, 1438 Michigan Avenue, Detroit, MI 48215-1324, (313) 965-5853, tim_mckay@sbcdetroit.com

Detroit-New Center Council, Inc. – New Center Council Facilities Project: The primary goal is to develop a new cultural amenity and community meeting place in New Center as it develops its residential core. The facility will support the Council's efforts in developing a 24-hour district, while offering a variety of cultural programming to the district's current and future employees and residents. The Council will become a ground floor tenant in the rehabilitated building. New Center Park improvements will include construction of a three season concession building, restrooms, perimeter fencing, and a permanent stage canopy that adjusts to a movie screen. The project is located across from the Fisher Building – Southwest Grand and Second Avenue. The funding will be used for park improvements, construction of 3 season concession building, restrooms, perimeter fencing, a permanent stage canopy – to adjust to a movie screen, security system, kitchen, and sound system.

Contact: Karen Gage, New Center Council, Inc., 3011 West Grand Boulevard, Suite 301, Fisher Building Detroit MI 48202(313)872-0188, kgage@newcenter.com

Detroit-University Cultural Center Association- Woodward Willis Mixed-Use Development: This mixed-use, mixed-income development is bold and creative. It will be constructed on three vacant parcels of land on the northeast corner of Woodward Avenue, the main artery to and from Detroit, and West Willis Street. The architecture will be reminiscent of the industrial warehouses designed by Albert Kahn and imbued with the Sullivanesque-style of commercial architecture prevalent in Midtown. Commercial space will be on the first floor and a small offering of high quality loft-style condominiums on the remaining floors. Two of the units are specially priced for individuals or families with lower incomes. The project is located at Woodward Corridor. The catalyst grant will be used toward new construction of Woodward Willis building.

Contact: Susan Mosey, 4735 Cass Avenue, David Mackenzie House, Detroit MI 48201-1201, (313)577-5088, ah5931@wayne.edu

Detroit-Woodbridge Neighborhood Development Corporation-Woodbridge Cultural Corridor: The 4731 project is an arts incubator whose local mission seeks to accomplish three primary goals, to provide an anchor for the Woodbridge neighborhood, support and promote self-sustaining artists, and to preserve architectural history. The project plans include the development of three arts-focused incubators (micro-enterprise virtual companies fashion, film, and furniture/design) live-work housing, multiple examples of public art, food and beverage, and retail space. It is located on Grand River Avenue, immediately north of Corktown. The grant will include façade improvements on 9 buildings; some are historic.

Contact: Graig Donnelly, Exec. Dir., Woodbridge Neighborhood Development CDC, (313) 887-9699, wndc.director@gmail.com

East Lansing- Downtown East Lansing Pedestrian-Technology Connection: There are three new mixed-use developments occurring in downtown East Lansing. Creating free Internet hotspots spanning between them will showcase cool attributes, such as public art and gardens, that attract residents and visitors downtown. The funds will be used for parks and streetscaping associated with parks, wireless internet system and public amenities, public art, and gardens around the new plazas.

Contact: Lori Mullins, 410 Abbott Road, Planning Department, East Lansing MI 48823, (517)319-6887, lmullin@cityofeastlansing.com

Grand Rapids-Roosevelt Park Neighborhood Association-Grandville Avenue Renovation Project: Restoration of the red brick Engine House No. 12 in the center of the Roosevelt Park Neighborhood that was purchased for \$1 by the Hispanic Center of Western Michigan to serve the Hispanic newcomers arriving in West Michigan. Deteriorating conditions of the building forced them to move out in 1998. The Roosevelt Park Neighborhood Association has offered to head up the capital campaign to restore the old fire house and make it a welcoming haven for the Hispanic community offering second floor offices to provide client services and a large, open ground floor community space for all residents of all ages. The catalyst grant will be used for historic building renovation – firehouse – community center.

Contact: Mary Angelo, 1251 Granville Avenue, SW, Grand Rapids MI 49503, (616)243-2489, mangelo10@aol.com

Grand Rapids-West Grand Neighborhood Organization-Turner Gateway Project: A large portion of the requested funding will create grants to leverage private spending. Elements of the project will enhance the area's business districts, housing quality, environmental responsiveness and overall aesthetic appeal. Improvements include two gateway gardens, ten commercial facade improvement projects, ten business district greening grants, ten residential homes will enhance their appearance and qualify for the NEZ tax abatements through \$3,000 matching grants. Additionally, an improved pedestrian underpass, two mural projects, and five matching grants to build native gardens will be included. The project, which also includes a privately funded native rain garden, will be a sustainable model for urban greening and soft path pollution mitigation strategies. The grant will be used for business district façade program, gateway sites and entry gardens, pedestrian underpass façade, farmers market, mural projects, and housing rehab matching grants.

Contact: Rachel Hood, (616)822-0700, rachelhood@tds.net (Rachel is now with WEMAC, try paul@winchestergr.com)

Holland- Park Theatre: Restoring and renovating the River Avenue façade of the Historic Park Theatre to its original beauty. The Park Theatre makes a significant impact on the cultural, artistic, and business aspect of the entire community. The grant will be used for historical theatre façade improvement.

Contact: Brian Dykema, 248 South River Avenue, Park Theatre, Holland MI 49424, (616)634-2909, bdykema@sbcglobal.net

Kalamazoo- Washington Square Revitalization Project: Phase One of the catalyst project will include selective demolition, the restoration of a key historic façade, rehabilitation of the associated retail space, and construction of new infill building for retail. Relocation of adult entertainment businesses clustered in Washington Square. Phase Two, the adjacent private parking will be upgraded to serve both the new and existing retail and possibly function as an outdoor venue for small events and festivals, such as the annual Diversity Celebration. There will also be public right-of-way enhancements. Grant to be used for façade improvements of historic building, demolition of non-historic adult entertainment building, new building construction for retail.

Contact: Martha Aills, 455 West Michigan Avenue Suite 101, Kalamazoo MI 49007, (269)337-8082, aillsm@kalamazoocity.org

Lansing- Hunter Park Project: Allen Neighborhood Center in Partnership with City of Lansing Parks & Installation of walking path and hoop house in Hunter Park to promote healthy activity and lifestyles. The hoop house will be constructed for year-round production of vegetables, fruits, herbs, etc., and house a neighborhood-based Community Supported Agriculture project including seasonal backyard gardening classes and a youth garden scholar program. In conjunction with neighborhood schools, a portion of the hoop house will be designated as a teaching and entrepreneurial site.

Contact: Joan Nelson, 1619 East Kalamazoo Street, Allen Neighborhood Center, Lansing MI 48912, (517)367-2468 ext. 2003 or Direct Line (517) 999-3912, joann@allenneighborhoodcenter.org

Traverse City- City Opera House Technologies Project: Equipping the newly restored historic opera house with new technology for lighting, audio, communications makes it economically feasible to reintroduce a dynamic cultural attraction with frequent and diverse programming, with ability to increase audience capacity by 50%. It will also extend the nightlife of Traverse City into the evening with retail. Grant to be used for wiring, sound system, high tech electrical, and specialty lighting.

Contact: Steve Morse, Executive Director, City Opera House, 106 E. Front Street, Traverse City, MI 49684, 231.941.4800, morse@charterinternet.com and Makayla Vitous, 400 Boardman Avenue, Governmental Center, Traverse City MI 49684, (231)922-4444, mvitous@traverscitymi.gov

2005 Cool Cities Michigan Main Streets

Grand Haven – Ms. Brigit Hassig, Main Street Manager, City of Grand Haven, One South Harbor Drive, Grand Haven, MI 49417, (616) 844-1188, bhassig@downtowngrandhaven.com

Howell – Ms. Amy Connolly, Main Street Manager, City of Howell, 611 E. Grand River, Howell, MI 48843, (517) 545-4240, aconnolly@downtownhowell.org

Ishpeming – Ms. Jennifer Thum, City of Ishpeming, 100 East Division Street, Ishpeming, MI 49849, (906) 486-6853, ishmsd@charter.net

Midland - Ms. Christin O’Callaghan, Main Street Manager, City of Midland, 300 Rodd Street, Midland, MI 48640, (989) 430-9221, cocallag@midland-mi.org

2005 Blueprints for Michigan’s Downtowns

Big Rapids - Mr. Mark Gifford, City of Big Rapids, 226 N. Michigan, Big Rapids, MI 49307-1489, 231.592.4035, mgifford@ci.big-rapids.mi.us

East Tawas - Mr. Ron Leslie, City Manager, City of East Tawas, 760 Newman, East Tawas, MI 48730, 989.362.6161, leslie.etch@chartermi.net

Grass Lake - Mr. Tom Nolte, Village of Grass Lake, 119 N. Lake, P.O. Box 737, Grass Lake, MI 49307-1489, 517.522.4550, tnolte@cablespeed.com

Iron River - Mr. John Archocosky, City of Iron River, 106 Genesee, Iron River, MI 49935, 906.265.4719, jarchocosky@ironriver.org

Romeo - Mr. Robert Lipka, Romeo Downtown Development Authority, 231 N. Main Street, Romeo, MI 48065, 586.752.1100, chair@romeodda.org

Utica - The Honorable Jacqueline Noonan, Mayor of the City of Utica, 7550 Auburn Road, Utica, MI 48317, 586.739.1600, jknoonan@comcast.net

Vassar - Mr. Scott Adkins, City Manager, City of Vassar, 287 E. Huron, Vassar, MI 48768, 989.823.8517, sadkins@cityofvassar.org

Whitehall - Ms. Karen Helmlinger, Clerk/Planner, City of Whitehall, 405 E. Colby, Whitehall, MI 49461, 231.894.4048, helminger@cityofwhitehall.org

2005 Blueprints for Michigan's Neighborhoods

Alpena – Mr. Eric Cline, Assistance City Manager, City of Alpena, 208 N. First Street, Alpena, MI 49707, (989) 354-4158, ericcline@alpena.mi.us

Manistee – Mr. Jon Rose, City of Manistee, 70 Maple Street, P.O. Box 358, Manistee, MI 49660-0358, (231) 398-2805, jrose@ci.manistee.mi.us

Vassar - Mr. Scott Adkins, City Manager, City of Vassar, 287 E. Huron, Vassar, MI 48768, 989.823.8517, sadkins@cityofvassar.org