

CITY STAFF ACTIVITY REPORT
Progress on FY 09/10 Projects as of 2/26/10:

<p>MDOT Cat A Econ Grant (Market St/44th St/Weaver St. Reconstruction)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MDOT let bids on 9/3/09 and selected C&D Hughes from Charlotte, MI. The low bid was reportedly \$1.2 million. The project was estimated at \$1.5 million. • City Council approved the grant contract with MDOT for \$915,943. • Preconstruction meeting held September 22, 2009. • Project letters sent to residents/property owners September 29, 2009. • Project began October 5, 2009 with signage. Weaver Street milling began October 6, 2009. • Weaver Ave. curbing installed on October 19, 2009. First coat of asphalt installed on Weaver Ave on October 29, 2009. Second coat of asphalt will be installed after the manhole covers are adjusted on November 1, 2009. • Storm drains installed across intersection of 44th/Weaver; 44th/Michigan and 44th/Valley. Storm Drains have been installed along the south side of 44th St, between Market Ave extension and Stone Rd. • Market Avenue extension excavating began on October 19, 2009. Water main has been buried. Curbs on Market Avenue installed on November 13, 2009. • Project will resume construction in Spring 2010.
<p>Stone Rd Resurfacing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City has been approved for \$95,000 in Federal ARRA (aka Stimulus \$) funding to resurface Stone Road from Main St to 44th Street. Staff is working with MDOT to complete the required engineering and application to release the grant funds. • City Council approved MDOT-required engineering proposal from Paradigm Engineering on 6/15/09. • Paradigm engineering submitted plans to MDOT on 6/12/09. • Grade Inspection (review of engineering) held with MDOT on 7/14/09. Construction is expected in Spring of 2010. • Project construction beginning point was changed from the intersection of Main/Stone to approximately 300' north of the intersection. The change was intended to avoid the reconfiguration of sidewalk handicap ramps on Main/Stone. • Confirmed project estimates with MDOT. • MDOT opened bids on 1/8/10. The low bidder was Michigan Paving & Materials with a bid of \$139,777.00. The project was estimated at \$145,503.22. • Preconstruction meeting held on 2/23/10
<p>City Signage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>City entryway signs:</u> The City has executed a contract with Lakeshore Signs for the three (3) City entryway signs. Confirming locations: 1) entryway sign to be located on the NCRESA grounds was approved by their board and a zoning permit was received; 2) MDOT has given approval/clarification on proposed west and south entrances, as long as they are not in the right-of-way. The west entryway sign is expected to be located in front of Fairview Floral, and 3) Stitches' N More agreed to allow an entryway sign on its property north of their drive. Staff met with City Attorney on 9/18/09 at 1:30 to develop easement agreements for the three sign locations. Staff is developing legal descriptions for the easements. MDOT approved new service club signs; letters have been sent to service clubs informing them of City's new policy. • <u>Downtown Signage:</u> CC approved bid from Valley City Signs on 9/8/09 for downtown signage (street signs, no parking, etc). CC approved proposal from Lakeshore Signs on 12/21/09. Lakeshore Signs to complete downtown signs in April 2010. "Firefighter Parking" signs installed next to Fire Department.
<p>Planning & Zoning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Joint Planning:</u> A joint zoning working group is creating recommendations with regard to the districts for a new joint zoning ordinance for the full Joint Planning Commission's consideration. The JPC is working on creating agricultural district language for the new joint zoning ordinance. • <u>Fremont Metal & Paper:</u> The Fremont Metal and Paper site plan was approved with conditions at the June 23, 2009 Planning Commission meeting. The Zoning Administrator approved an amendment to the approved Fremont Metal and Paper Site plan to allow for a 30-foot west drive on Elm Street. Staff has met with NCEDO and the Right Place Program regarding Brownfield possibilities for this site. The Newaygo County Brownfield Authority at their September 2009 meeting developed a program for entities that want to request money for environmental testing. Staff met with the Berens during the week of October 5 and discussed relocation options. Staff met with Berens on November 6, 2009 and continued to discuss options and site plan requirements. A letter was sent to Berens in November 2009 outlining the three options Beren's has expressed an interest in: (1) building new at his current location; 2) moving to the FIP; and 3) moving to Meeuwenberg, and he was to reply by mid-Jan. Staff called him in late January, and he said he would contact his attorney and get back to us. We have not heard from him yet.

FPS New High School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FPS has been providing Staff with site plan details, particularly regarding access and utilities. A site plan for the new high school was submitted in January 2010, and staff conducted a review of the plan, which was provided to the CC at the Feb. 1, 2010 meeting. Staff met with school staff after the 2/1/10 CC meeting, and as a result, a new site plan has been submitted for the CC consideration. The site plan was discussed with the Planning Commission on February 23, 2010 meet. Planning Commission accepted the Staff recommendations regarding the FHS site plan on 2/23/10. • Staff met with FPS, Triangle Construction and the Gryphon Group regarding “repurposing” the old FHS building.
Methane Digester / Novi Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Novi Energy and the CC agreed to a one (1) year extension of the Option Agreement to purchase property in the Fremont Industrial Park. • Novi Energy completed soil borings necessary for the Site Plan. • Novi has agreed to gas purchase agreement with Consumers Energy. They formerly had an agreement with Gerber. • Consumers Energy has forwarded a request to the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) to purchase power from Novi Energy. • Staff and NCEDO met with Novi Energy on October 8, 2009 and discussed financing, site plan and Novi’s contractual relationships. • CM discussed City requirements for WWTP or storm sewer system to handle process water with Novi on November 6, 2009. • Possible subcontractors met with Staff during the week of November 23, 2009 to discuss site issues. Staff has received numerous calls from potential contractors since the previous CC meeting.
Downtown Parking Lot Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff submitted grant application to USDA Rural Development requesting \$98,000 for improvements to the southeast public parking lot in downtown Fremont. USDA informed Staff that \$60,000 was approved. USDA staff met with City Staff on 7/15/09 regarding grant terms. The overall cost of the project is expected to be approximately \$507,262. Staff submitted a request to MEDC for \$220,000 from the CDBG program, the grant was awarded, subject to an environmental review and subject to local property owner creating 11 new full time positions. Staff followed up on MEDC request for additional information related to the CDBG application. • Staff working on CDBG environmental review.
Blight Ordinance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received a proposal from Duane Cruzan to act as hearing officer (\$40/hr) and held two (2) meetings to discuss blight notification process. CC approved proposal on 1/4/10. CC approved independent contractor agreement on 2/1/10.
Campground Expansion/Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff assembled working committee. Meeting held for 1/14/10 to establish expansion/improvements and MDNR Trust Fund Application process. • Working Committee met with Paradigm Design to develop conceptual plan for Campground expansion on 1/28/10. Paradigm Design completed conceptual plans and are finalizing cost estimates. Working Committee will review preliminary design in early March. Staff will meet with MDNR on 2/17/10 to discuss expansion concept for grant application. • CC will hold a public hearing on March 15, 2010 to review the MDNR Trust Fund Grant Application.
DPW Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary plans complete. Staff reviewing cost estimates generated from preliminary plans. • CC reviewing plans on 12/21/09. • Planning Commission reviewed plans on 1/26/10. • CC approved proposal for architectural and engineering services from Paradigm on 1/4/10. • Paradigm is preparing bid documents and final engineering plans. • Bid letting is expected in March 2010. Staff will present a recommendation to CC on 4/5/10.
Community Garage Sales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set dates for Community Garage/Yard Sales: 5/13/10-5/15/10 and 8/19/10-8/21/10. • Staff will produce a map showing individual sale locations for each date. Garage sale is being advertised in winter newsletter.