

Date: July 18, 2007

To: Mayor and Council Members

From: John Archocosky

RE: Monthly Activity Report

The summer is moving along quickly and with so many events underway it seems to be keeping us busy as usual.

The current projects are mostly ongoing in the Mineral Hills locations so there doesn't appear to be much construction in town this summer. If you haven't been through Mineral Hills lately I encourage you to do so. The greatest extent of the work is almost completed. The pipe is in the ground and the cleanup work is well underway as well. Hopefully the contractor will be able to get the paving done in the near future so the dust from all the construction is eliminated. The neighbors in the area have been quite understanding of the disruption. A "special thanks" goes out to Councilman Marcell as he has been helpful in keeping a watchful eye on the project and assisting with neighbors' concerns. Once completed, we will not only have resolved some infrastructure issues but also replaced some bad roadways in the process. This road work would not have been done without the costs being absorbed by the MEDC project.

As usual, our DDA and City development projects seem to be moving slowly; however lately, they are beginning to pick up momentum. The Façade program has been approved and STS has begun working on the final application and environmental assessment. The Iron County EDC in cooperation with MSU Extension Service has agreed to assist with the necessary grant administration for this program which will save several dollars for construction work and a lot of time for the city staff. Paper work associated with one of these projects can become overwhelming to say the least. We appreciate the time and effort Julie Melchiori has already donated to this project. DDA Chairman Jim Gibula will also be assisting with project coordination. This truly is a DDA project which will benefit the downtown merchants and the overall appearance of the city.

We are looking forward to the reconstruction of Washington/Lay Avenue on the south end on town. It is a primary business route that is badly in need of improvements. As indicated in the Pending Issues List, this project will be bid in Lansing during the first week of August which means we will likely see an end of the reconstruction in early fall. I'm sure this will be a welcome improvement for the school bus riders and all who travel this bumpy section several times each day.

Overall, things are moving along quite nicely and as a result of the many activities in town, our merchants are experiencing more traffic and a positive summer after a very slow 1st quarter.