

**DRAFT - Village of Calumet Downtown Development Authority
FY2024 Annual Synopsis of Authority Accomplishments**

TIF REVENUES NOT EXPENDED WITHIN 5 YEARS OF RECEIPT

None, all funds have been expended within 5 years of receipt.

LIST OF AUTHORITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Saw initiation of work on a Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) Community Revitalization Program (CRP) grant project at (322 5th Street), which the DDA supported with local financial match.
- Supported the community garden with water service for resident gardeners. The community garden activates a previously underutilized vacant lot in the downtown district, encouraging participation in the nearby businesses.

LIST OF AUTHORITY PROJECTS AND INVESTMENTS

- Continued to work on the Community Places CDBG Grant through MEDC for \$311k to create a public greenspace next to the Calumet Theatre and adjacent property on 5th Street, utilizing the concept plan created by the public input process undertaken in FY2021. Construction is anticipated to be complete fall of 2024.
- Promotion of DDA properties and Houghton County Land Bank properties within the DDA District via the Village website to encourage redevelopment.
- Purchase of flowers for downtown street pole baskets and paid for watering services, beautification in the district is key attracting visitors and residents downtown.
- Partnered with the Village of Calumet HDC on a Keweenaw National Historical Park Advisory Commission grant to replace the brackets and street signs on the poles in the historic district to be executed in 2025.
- Provided financial support to the Village of Calumet Historic District Commission.
- Supported equipment purchases for the Village Streets Department that are used to maintain the district; grader/loader and bulldozer.
- Supported DDA district sidewalk and street sweeping

LIST OF AUTHORITY EVENTS AND PROMOTIONAL CAMPAIGNS

- The DDA supported the From the Ground Farmers Market Collective to continue running the Farmers Market held in downtown Calumet throughout the summer. The market brought considerable foot traffic to the district on the weekends and provided additional interest for visitors to the community. The market participates in many food access programs allowing residents of all income levels to access fresh local food.
- The DDA hosted horse drawn wagon rides in December, 2023 for Christmas in Calumet, a series of promotional events organized by partner Main Street Calumet, featuring family friendly activities that draw shoppers downtown during the holiday season to enjoy the district's traditional architecture and small town atmosphere.
- The DDA partnered with Main Street Calumet to create Network Calumet, a bi-monthly business networking event, with the purpose of increasing communication and relationship building between the Village, Main Street Calumet and area business owners. Two events were held during the reporting period, in November, 2023 and February, 2024.

- Participated in welcoming the community to the 100th Anniversary of Agassiz Park and Calumet Community Day, engaging the community in the district and soliciting input for the Village's Master Plan update.
- Through the DDA's agreement with Main Street Calumet, the DDA ensured the following activities occurred, which are organized by Main Street Calumet;
 - Pasty Fest is Calumet's largest event of the summer, held in August. The event drew an estimated 3,000 people to the district for a day of fun and celebration of the Copper Country culinary staple, the pasty.
 - Ladies Day Out is Calumet's seasonal shopping event, held in November, attracting customers for a day of deals in downtown businesses.
 - On April 20, 2023, MSC hosted an event titled "Meet the Developers", where downtown property owners, each at different stages of building development, were invited to share their experiences. This gathering provided an excellent networking opportunity and aimed to highlight the ongoing property development in downtown Calumet. The event garnered positive press, generating three articles in the Daily Mining Gazette, creating awareness about the significant strides being made in Calumet's development. Additionally, it offered community members a chance to personally connect with the individuals investing in the area.
 - Thanks to the collaborative efforts of MSC, the DDA, and key partners like KEDA, the Village of Calumet is earning acclaim as a small community that actively embraces partnership and redevelopment. The collective endeavors under the Bring Back Calumet initiative have garnered notable recognition, including the prestigious Governor's Award for Historic Preservation in 2023. This achievement not only showcases the dedication of the involved partners but also highlights the Village of Calumet as a beacon for successful community revitalization.