



PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SAGINAW, MI
PERMIT NO. 273


249 North Miller Road
Saginaw, Michigan 48609

Phone: 989-781-0150
Fax: 989-781-0290
E-mail: Susan@thomastwp.org



Welcome to Downtown Thomas Township.
Thomas Township offers a quality of life and sense of place that welcomes the spirit and invites you to stay.

All Downtown Development Authority projects are solely for a public purpose and are designed to create a friendly and inviting atmosphere to ensure that businesses and residents alike remain within our Township and to attract new businesses and residents as well.

 The Thomas Township Downtown Development Authority Board meets the fourth Tuesday of each month. Meetings are held at the Thomas Township Public Safety Building, 8215 Shields Drive, Saginaw, Michigan 48609 at 8:00 a.m.

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

August 24, 2010
September 28, 2010
October 26, 2010
November 23, 2010
December 28, 2010

249 NORTH MILLER
SAGINAW, MI 48609
(989) 781-0150



VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1 AUGUST, 2010

DDA BOARD MEMBERS:

- Tom Radewahn, Chairman
- Fred Gray, Vice-Chairman
- David Duclos, Secretary
- Diane Doyle
- Bill Martin
- Ellen Ryder-Petre
- Robert Burns
- Allen Streeter
- Robert Weise

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

DDA Map	2
Letter From The Chairman	2
First DDA Project Completed	3
Upcoming Projects	3
Purpose of the DDA	4
DDA Meeting Dates	4

History of the Downtown Development Authority

The initiation of a Downtown Development Authority was originally considered in 1989. In September of 1989 the idea of creating a DDA along M-46 (Gratiot Road) was brought to the Thomas Township Board. After a great deal of discussion throughout the community, the effort failed with the final vote of the Township Board.



Approximately six years ago (2003), the Township again tried to investigate the creation of a DDA but once again, the process was put to a halt due to unsuccessful cooperation from the County. The County at the time felt that they did not have the resources or the funds available for Thomas Township to capture. Without the County's financial support the formation of a DDA was put on hold.

In 2006, the Thomas Township Business Association approached the Thomas Township Board in regards to implementing a Downtown Development Authority District in Thomas Township. Since that initial approach of the Business Association, Thomas Township has worked extremely hard toward creating the DDA. A DDA Work Committee

Board was formed and the members included Bill Martin, Fred Gray, Tom Radewahn, Bob Frank, Pat Wurtzel, John Bintz, Reverend Robert Richards, Rob Eggers, Ed Brosowski, Ellen Ryder-Petre, Vern Weber, Joe LeFevre, as well as Russ Taylor, Township Manager and Dan Sika, Director of Community Development. The DDA Work Committee tentatively designated the DDA district and proceeded to contact property owners and business owners within the proposed district. Three informational meetings were held in which letters of invitation went out to each property and business owner within the DDA district. Several news articles in reference to the DDA were also published in both The Saginaw News and The Township Times. Thomas Township even went as far as contact each business owner within the District to get a feel for what they wanted to be able to accomplish with the creation of the DDA. What was found through this was that approximately 80% of the business owners that were contacted were in favor of implementing the DDA District.

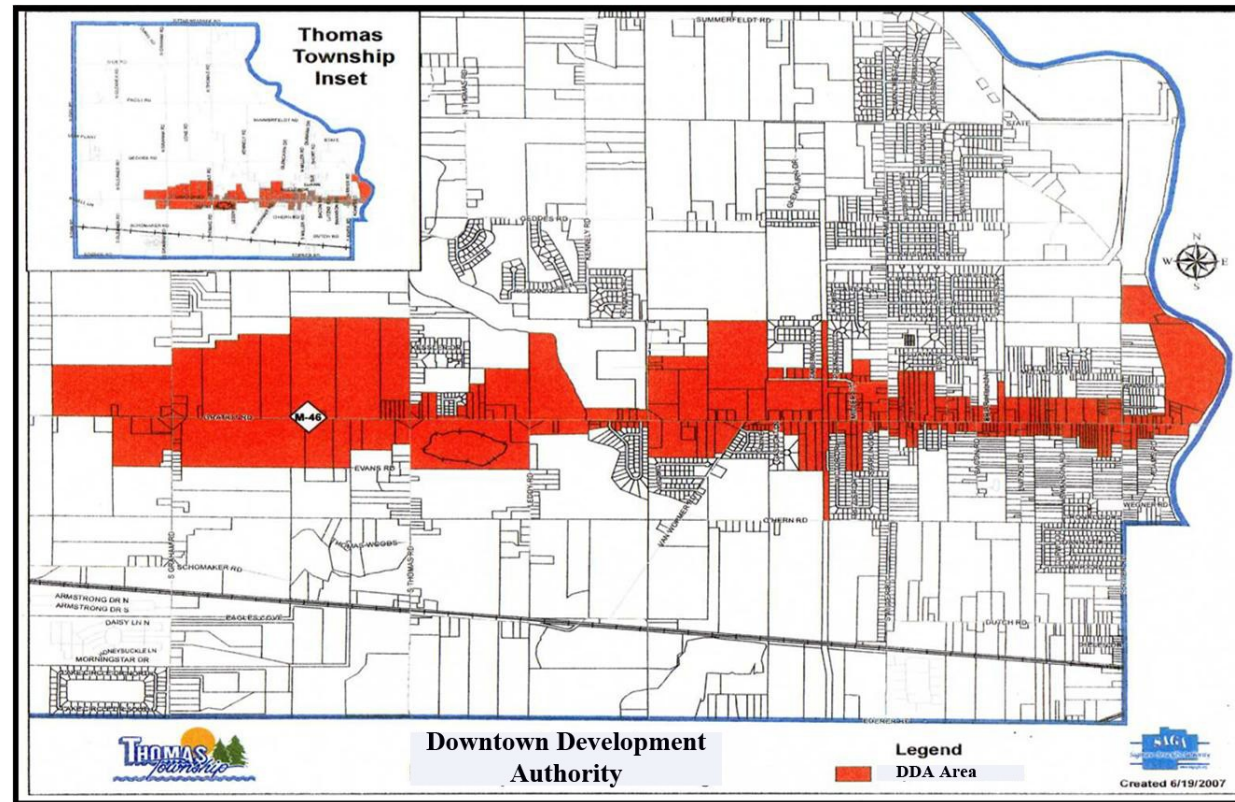
On June 19, 2007, Thomas Township adopted Ordinance No. 07-G-01 creating and establishing the Downtown Development Authority of Thomas Township. The DDA was granted all powers

permitted a Downtown Development Authority under the Act. In creating and establishing the DDA, the Township found that the DDA was necessary for the best interests of the public to halt property value deterioration and increase property tax valuation where possible in the Township's business district, to eliminate the causes of said deterioration and to promote economic growth.

In October of 2008, Thomas Township approved the collection of a 2 mill levy on all non-residential and non-agricultural parcels in the DDA District. Funds from the levy will be used to finance the activities of the DDA.



Downtown Development Authority District



Tom Radewahn, Chairman and Owner of Mid-Valley Insurance

A Letter From The Chairman

The Thomas Township DDA Committee is very pleased to show our community the progress that has already been made with the recently created DDA. Our example of what we are planning for Gratiot Road is being built on Miller Court between Gratiot and Shields Drive. Overhead lines have been buried, sidewalks are in place and lighting will be installed yet this year. This is a beautiful transformation that has received many compliments by business and residential property owners alike.

One of our primary long-term goals continues to be new streetlighting and streetscaping along Gratiot Road. A big part of this project is relocating the overhead utility lines underground. I am sure that you can recognize that this is a very expensive and challenging endeavor. Thus, we are trying to break it into small pieces. Our first step will be in conjunction with the new watermain that will be installed on the south side of M-46. We hope to bury the conduit that will eventually be used for the utility lines in the same trench as the watermain. This will

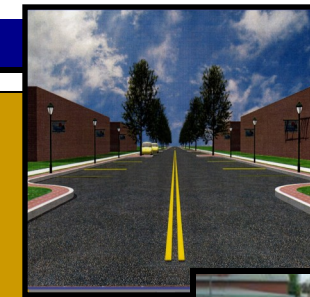
greatly reduce the total project costs and inconvenience to property owners when we are ready to physically move the utility lines.

The DDA realizes that it will take many years to accomplish our overall plans but by starting now, the next generation will have the direction and the momentum to reach the objective.

We want to thank the business community for the overwhelming support received in establishing Thomas Township's DDA and reach for a better community.

Proposed DDA Projects:

- Shields Drive Road Extension
- Pocket Park
- Streetlights With Banners
- Streetscaping/Landscaping
- Crosswalk Improvements
- Median Improvements (Meijer to Kennely)
- Gratiot/Kennely Traffic Signal Light



First DDA Project Completed

The Thomas Township Downtown Development Authority is proud to announce the completion of its first major project.

At a Special Downtown Development Authority meeting held on August 17, 2009, authorization was given to provide the funds to relocate the aerial utility lines underground along Miller Court at a cost of about \$40,000.00. The project is in conjunction with the road reconstruction along Miller Court and the construction of the new Thomas Township Department of Public Works Facility.

The project started in late August, 2009 and was completed on schedule in October, 2009.

The DDA is currently selecting the streetlights to be placed along Miller Court.



Miller Court Before Work

Utility Lines Being Removed



Miller Court Completed