

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

249 North Miller Road  
Saginaw, Michigan 48609

Phone: 989-781-0150

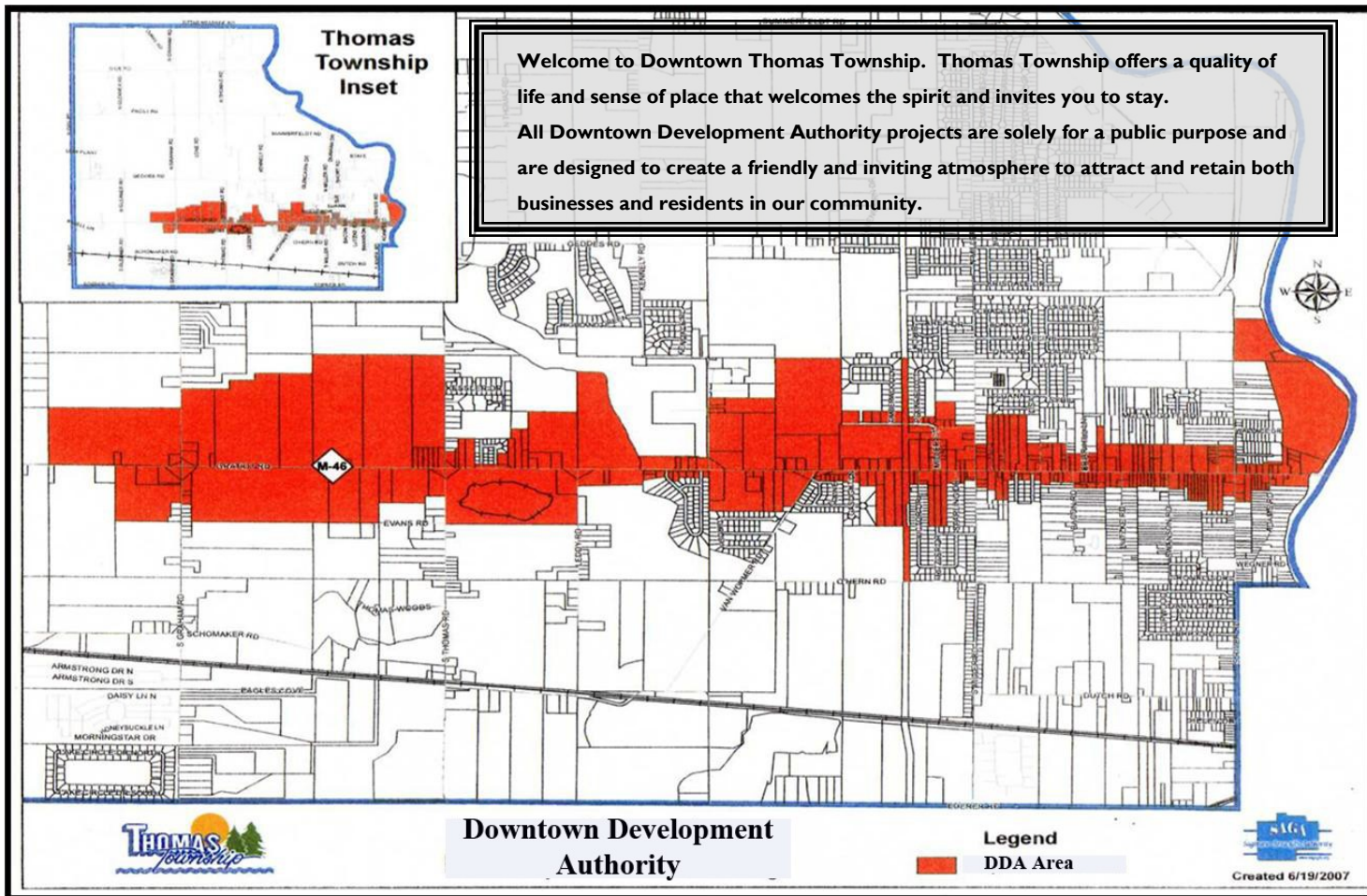
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**Upcoming Meeting Dates:**  
**February 29, 2012 -Wednesday Due To Scheduled Election**  
**March 27, 2012**  
**April 24, 2012**  
**May 22, 2012**  
**June 26, 2012**

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.

**Thomas Township Inset**

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 attract and retain both businesses and residents in our community.

**Downtown Development Authority**

Legend  
■ DDA Area

Created 6/19/2007

WINTER, 2012

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

# Gratiot Road Streetlight Project Completed

## 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



J. Ranck Electric install footings for lights.

As I am sure all of you have noticed by now, the Gratiot (M-46) street light project is complete. A total of ninety-eight (98) lights were installed. From the many comments, this has been a great success which will have lasting benefits for the business district as well as the entire Thomas Township Community.

Each pole was outfitted with an electrical plug for seasonal lighting displays. The poles are also designed to hold a two (2') foot by four (4') foot banner. It is hoped that sometime this year we will be able to start using the

banner arms, which will only enhance the business corridor.

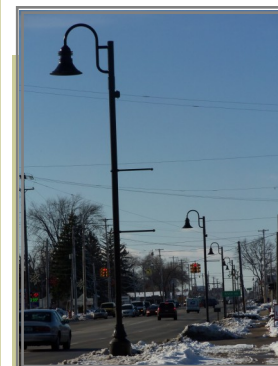
A great deal of thanks is owed to the contractor who did the work, J. Ranck Electric. J. Ranck was the low bidder with vast experience with installing streetscape lighting throughout Michigan. Standard Electric was the low bidder for all of the electrical equipment used from the underground wire to the light poles and banner arms. It was a pleasure



Employees of J. Ranck Electric assemble new lights.

working with the Standard Electric representatives during the project.

In the Spring, final adjustments will be made and all final grading and seeding will be completed. Thanks also to all of you for being so patient while the lights were being installed. The Downtown Development Authority Board and Thomas Township thanks you!



Lights installed along Gratiot Road.



### A Letter From The Chairman



Tom Radewahn, Chairman and Owner of Mid-Valley Insurance

Just three years after the start of our Thomas Township Downtown Development Authority (DDA), we're showing some substantial improvements to Gratiot Road. Last year at this time we were excited about the prospect of new street lighting being installed on Miller Court and discussing what changes we could make on the Gratiot Road corridor. One short year later we have not only buried the overhead wiring and installed street lighting on Miller Court, but have also installed ninety-eight (98) light fixtures on Gratiot Road spanning from the West side of the Tittabawassee River to the West drive of Meijer's. By installing the new lights along Gratiot Road, this allowed us to remove the existing overhead lighting and support cables across Gratiot, giving us a new look and a great start to our long term goal of burying all overhead wires. The \$550,000 cost for the street lighting project along Gratiot Road was bonded based on our revenue stream.

The removal of the remaining overhead wiring is planned for future phases. The cost of this project is so substantial that the current limited funds of the DDA simply do not allow us to take it on now but our sights are set and our target is clear. The long term goal of our DDA is to pursue all underground wiring and lighting to M-52 to complete our streetscape reformation. The key to achieve this is through diligence as it will take many years to achieve these goals but rest assured that your DDA Board is committed to improving our sense of community. The start we have witnessed and the momentum it has created will allow the next generation to achieve great things.

Once again, we want to thank the business community for your continued and overwhelming support received for the DDA district changes. By working together, we'll find that great things can be accomplished.

### Gratiot Road Street Lighting Ceremony



Gratiot Road Before Lighting Ceremony

On January 9, 2012, the "switch" was flipped at a ceremony hosted by Stanley Steemer to light up the newly installed streetlights along Gratiot Road. With help from the Thomas Township Business Association, the Thomas Township Development Authority (DDA) installed ninety-eight (98) streetlights beginning the late fall of 2011 with comple-

tion just after Christmas. The project utilizes one of the most energy efficient and durable LED lights available. They add a great new aesthetic feature to the Gratiot Road Corridor. Chairman Radewahn thanked the Thomas Township Business Association, the Thomas Township business owners, DDA Board, Thomas Township Board, Consumers Energy, Standard Electric, J. Ranck Electric and the Thomas Township staff for a job well done.



Members of the DDA Board Switch on the Street Lights.

Chairman Radewahn stated, "It is our hope that business's developing in Saginaw County will continue to look at Thomas Township as the "place to be" as our efforts to improve our business district continue."

### Gratiot Road Improvements for 2011



New sidewalks/landscaping in front of 7877 Gratiot.

2011 saw many improvements to the Gratiot Road Corridor. The construction of a new twenty (20") inch water transmission main was completed along with many improvements to properties along the south side of Gratiot Road. Several curb cuts were closed

in conjunction with the M-46 Access Management Plan improving traffic flow to several properties. Also included along the south side of Gratiot Road were several new sections of sidewalks and improved landscaping areas.

This summer also saw the construction of two (2) banner poles along Gratiot Road between Swanson and River Roads. The poles were another part of the improvements taking place along the business corridor. The banner poles will display several Thomas Township banners including a "Welcome" banner and a holiday banner along with

banners informing the public of activities that are part of the Parks and Recreation programs at Thomas Township.



Proposed Township Winter Banner



Over-the-road banner between Swanson and River

### DDA Welcomes New Businesses

The Thomas Township DDA would like to welcome the following businesses to Thomas Township:

- Adam's Barbershop located at 6879 Gratiot Road
- Bagel Café of Saginaw located at 7395 Gratiot Road
- Carpenter's Cabinets located at 8680 Gratiot Road
- The Comics Experience located at 7677 Gratiot Road
- The Gold and Silver Exchange located at 7918 Gratiot Road
- Michigan Martial Arts Center located at 6891 Gratiot Road

If you are a new business to our community, please let us know.

