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Name
Address
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December 12, 2025

SUBJECT: S Kalamazoo Pathway Project Revived through MDOT Grant

Dear Homeowner,

The City of Marshall is pleased to announce its selection to receive a \$200,000 Michigan Shared Streets and Spaces Grant from the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for the South Kalamazoo Corridor Pathway Project. Originally submitted in 2024, the City's application was initially not selected but put in runner-up status. After another recipient was unable to accept their award, the City was selected as a grant recipient. Following a review of the project scope and updated costs, City staff confirmed acceptance based on the original submission, previously authorized by City Council through Resolution 2024-15.

What is this Project? This project will construct a concrete pathway along the east side of South Kalamazoo Avenue between Michigan Avenue and Pearl Street. Additional features

include new street trees, multiple seating areas, and reconstructed driveway approaches for properties along the east side of the road.



When will Construction Occur? Due to grant requirements, the project will be constructed in Spring and Summer of 2026. Only final design and bidding remain before the contractor selection. The total project cost is estimated at \$650,000 with the \$450,000 balance, after the \$200,000 grant, funded by the City. City Council will review the MDOT grant contract soon, followed by consideration of the construction contract after the competitive bid process concludes.

Where is this Project? The project location is fully depicted by the orange line in the image to the left. The path will be constructed of concrete and be 10-feet wide. It is intended to support two-way walking and other non-motorized traffic. For most of its length the path will sit along the east right of way line. In some areas it will

deviate closer to the road to accommodate existing uses and historical trees.

Why this project? The pathway project is designed to support pedestrian access and mobility to the River District Overlay. Created as part of the City's 2015 Master Plan, the River District Overlay, per the City's zoning ordinance, is a *"concentration of entertainment, restaurant, retail, industrial and office uses combined with residential and loft dwellings"*. A full definition of the district can be found in Section 3.1.15 of the City of Marshall Zoning Ordinance (Chapter 156 of the Code of Ordinances). Further details in the district description are *"it is designed to accommodate a lively social and recreational environment with a wide variety of uses in a pedestrian-friendly, walkable setting"*. This corridor has been a focus area for some years starting with the rehabilitation of the street surface, through another MDOT grant, in 2023. Water infrastructure was upgraded on the southern portion of this road in 2023 in conjunction with Industrial Road.

How will this work occur? The City will issue bids in the coming months for construction. The contractor will be required to remove trees (some are not in good condition), existing sidewalks, and driveway approaches. Driveway access will have the biggest impact on residents and businesses. When removed, the driveway will be accessible via gravel ramps, however after concrete installation driveways can't be used until the concrete is fully cured. Construction will proceed along the route of the path until all the new concrete is installed. Following that, turf restoration will be the focus. Finally, the benches and finishing touches of the path will be installed.

We are excited to get this project underway and complete for the enjoyment of our residents. Please feel free to reach out via email or phone if you have any questions regarding the project as a whole or impact on your property.

Sincerely,



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