



**THE CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF DOUGLAS
PLANNING COMMISSION MASTER PLAN
WORKSHOP**

**THURSDAY, MAY 09, 2024 AT 5:30 PM
86 W CENTER ST., DOUGLAS MI**

AGENDA

To view remotely, join online or by phone.

Join online by visiting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84100073894>

Join by phone by dialing: +1 (312) 626-6799 | **Then enter "Meeting ID":** 841 0007 3894

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION - VERBAL (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES)**
- 4. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION - WRITTEN**
- 5. MASTER PLAN WORKSHOP**

A. MASTER PLAN WORKSHOP - Williams & Works - Tricia Anderson

- 6. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION – VERBAL (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES)**
- 7. ADJOURNMENT**

Please Note – The City of the Village of Douglas (the “City”) is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of this meeting or the facilities, are requested to contact Laura Kasper, City Clerk, at (269) 857-1438, or clerk@douglasmi.gov to allow the City to make reasonable accommodations for those persons. CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF DOUGLAS, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN



Goal/Policies	Objectives	Comments
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		
A. Harbor Commercial. Douglas will ensure land use along the Kalamazoo Lake waterfront permits small-scale commercial development that supports the marina use and attracts visitors on foot and by boat.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Build more flexibility into the Zoning Ordinance that fosters innovative business and unique uses that cater to the character of the waterfront.2. Create a separate Harbor Commercial zoning district for waterfront areas along Kalamazoo Lake take on the non-residential uses in the R-4, Harbor Residential zoning district.3. Encourage the adaptive reuse of historic landmarks such as lighthouses and [boats?] in the Harbor Commercial zoning district.4. Adjust the zoning and regulatory ordinances to allow mobile food vending on private property and in conjunction with waterfront uses.	<p>Look to see what's in the R-4 district to see what's appropriate and what's not.</p> <p>Perhaps adjust the zoning ordinance to see if parsing out the Kalamazoo Lake area and the River (Water Street).</p> <p>Suggestion to simply remove water street frontage areas from waterfront residential FLU designation</p>
B. Efficient Use of Land. Douglas will support the efficient use of land to reduce costs for developing and occupying property in commercial zoning districts.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Amend the Zoning Ordinance to remove parking minimums for new businesses within small-scale business districts.2. Amend the zoning ordinance to reduce the space dedicated to parking in new developments.	
C. Adaptive Reuse of Buildings. Douglas will support the adaptive reuse and redevelopment of existing buildings and sites to support small businesses.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Amend the Zoning Ordinance to remove requirements to construct additional parking in conjunction with a change in land use.	
D. Micro-Scale Commercial Zone. Douglas will create a micro-scale commercial zone to cater to the needs of the immediate neighborhood residents and users of the Beach to Bayou Trail.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Amend the Zoning Ordinance and map to create a new zoning district that permits micro-scale commercial enterprises, such as ice cream shops, coffee shops, convenience stores, equipment rental, or other beach amenities on Center Street from Blue Star Highway west to Ferry Street.2. Restrict new commercial to a mixed-use form, with a maximum of	West Center Commercial Sub area


	<div>1,200 square feet on the main floor.</div> <div>3. Allow the conversion of residential homes with frontage on Center Street to commercial spaces or mixed-use buildings to promote business, while preserving the character of the area.</div> <div>4. Remove parking minimums other than for residential uses.</div> <div>5. Continue the pattern of on-street parking within the right of way along Center Street west of Blue Star Highway to Ferry St.</div>	
<div>E. Downtown Mixed-Use. Douglas will carefully plan for a mix of land uses that will improve the economic viability and attract more visitors to the Downtown areas.</div>	<div>1. Amend the zoning ordinance to restrict main floor street-facing suites to service and retail uses.</div> <div>2. Amend the zoning ordinance to create a form-based overlay within the C-1, Village Commercial district to retain the character and scale of the existing downtown area.</div> <div>3. Allow three-story buildings within the C-1 Village Commercial district to make mixed uses with residential above commercial financially feasible for developers.</div>	
<div>A. Blue Star South Commercial Corridor. Douglas will offer opportunities for large-scale businesses in areas south of Wiley Street, by reserving those areas with frontage on Blue Star Highway for such uses.</div>	<div>1. Amend the zoning ordinance and map to restrict C-2 zoning to only those parcels between Wiley Road and the southern City boundary.</div> <div>2. Reduce the depth of existing C-2 zoning for parcels with Blue Star Highway frontage in the Blue Star South Commercial Sub Area.</div>	Blue Star South Commercial Sub Area
<div>B. Land Use Compatibility. Douglas will ensure the compatibility of land uses between residential and non-residential uses.</div>	<div>1. Adjust the Zoning Ordinance to increase buffering and screening requirements between commercial and industrial uses and residentially zoned areas and uses.</div> <div>2.</div>	
<div>A. Blue Star Small Business Corridor. Douglas will reserve a new corridor for small businesses to ensure appropriate future economic growth while preserving the small-town charm of Douglas.</div>	<div>1. Amend the Zoning Ordinance and map to create a new zoning district for a Small Business Corridor and residential uses on Blue Star Highway between Main Street to the north and Wiley Road to the South.</div> <div>2. Amend the Zoning Ordinance to create standards for streetscaping within the Small Business Corridor.</div>	Blue star Small business corridor
<div>B. Former Haworth Property. Douglas will ensure that the future development of 200 Blue Star aligns with the land uses and layout of the plan that was favored by the public as part of the public engagement related to the grant funding for environmental remediation of the site in 2023.</div>	<div>1. Require the rezoning of the 200 Blue Star Property to PUD to allow for flexibility in dimensional elements.</div> <div>2.</div>	Haworth Property

HOUSING & NEIGHBORHOODS

<p>A. Housing Affordability. Douglas will take proactive steps to reduce housing costs while increasing the City's housing stock.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Amend the Zoning Ordinance to reduce minimum lot sizes in residential zoning districts.2. Amend the Zoning Ordinance to remove the minimum floor area for dwelling units.3. Allow multi-family developments by right in the zoning districts in which it is permitted.4. Amend the Zoning Ordinance to allow accessory dwelling units in all districts that allow residential.5. Amend the Zoning Ordinance to allow homes deemed nonconforming by way of use, dimensions, or lot size, to be rebuilt after being destroyed by fire or other natural disaster.6. Consider designating areas within the City for affordable housing and utilize the MML Pattern Book to keep construction costs low.7. Remove the acreage minimum for Planned Unit Developments, and instead use a point system for eligibility criteria. Points awarded for the affordability of dwellings, sustainable development practices, etc. will allow for increased density and modification of minimum dimensional requirements such as setbacks, lot sizes, etc. of the underlying zoning district.8. Amend the Zoning Ordinance to allow for three stories in mixed-use buildings to allow for more units in one building.	<p>Zoning Reform Toolkit: https://www.planningmi.org/aws/MAP/asset_manager/get_file/886922?ver=0</p> <p>MML: Pattern Book Homes for the 21st Century https://mml.org/resources-research/publications/pattern-book-homes-for-21st-century-michigan/</p> <p>PUD Eligibility Example</p>
<p>B. Permanent Residency. Douglas will encourage more people to seek long-term, permanent residency within the City.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Cap the total number of short-term rental licenses that can be issued annually.2. Amend the zoning ordinance and regulatory ordinances to develop a lottery program to issue annual short-term rental licenses.3. Consider the adoption of a vacancy tax on unoccupied homes	
<p>C. Character Preservation. Douglas will preserve the character of all residential zoning districts.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Allow missing middle housing in the R-1, R-2 and R-3 zoning neighborhoods that is designed to give the exterior appearance of a single-family home.	

PEOPLE, ARTS & CULTURE

<p>A. Inclusivity. Douglas will continue to prioritize inclusivity by attracting and welcoming all people.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Partner with community organizations and cultural institutions to facilitate dialogue, collaboration, and outreach efforts that promote understanding and inclusion across diverse communities.2. Ensure equitable representation from the City's diverse demographics on Boards and Commissions.3. Ensure the incorporation of LGBTQ+ inclusive language and	
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	imagery in City communications, publications, and outreach materials.	
B. Family-Friendly. Douglas will strive to become an attractive community for families and provide needed family-based services and opportunities.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Incorporate amenities in public spaces that are attractive to children, such as a water table2. Utilize public spaces on waterfronts for winter events that incorporate hands-on activities for children	
C. Placemaking. Douglas will foster place-making whenever possible to encourage gathering among visitors and residents from all its neighborhoods and to enhance public spaces and connectivity.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Amend the Zoning Ordinance to include provisions for mobile food vendors, and to allow mobile food vendors to be stationed on private property for events open to the public.2. Amend the Zoning Ordinance to add the requirement for specific active and passive recreation and gathering space amenities within all new Planned Unit Developments, condominiums, and site condominium developments.3. Work with the DDA to implement the TIF plan elements related to the improvement of public spaces that facilitate the gathering of the City’s residents and visitors.4. Work with the DDA and Harbor Authority to construct an amphitheater within Wade’s Bayou or Beery Field to allow for regular concerts and other events in these public spaces.	DDA TIF plan
INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES		
A. Connections Between Neighborhoods and to existing Regional Non-motorized pathways. Pedestrian and non-motorized connections will be developed and expanded between and among land uses and neighborhoods to promote safe, healthy, and attractive alternatives to vehicular travel and to reduce emissions and the reliance on parking.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Amend the Zoning and General ordinances to allow the Planning Commission to require pedestrian pathways in conjunction with development proposals that fall within the sidewalk improvement zone as shown on the sidewalk inventory map (Map X).2. Create non-motorized connections between neighborhoods and areas not currently connected, such as the C-2 zoned parcels south of Wiley Road.3. Provide incentives to businesses that promote alternative forms of transportation, such as bike racks and tool stations.4. Partner with Safe Routes to School of Michigan to secure funding for sidewalk projects that would benefit k-12 school-age children.5. Collaborate with representatives of Saugatuck Public Schools, DPW, Saugatuck City and Township, parents, students, and other community members to form a Safe Routes to School Team.6. Develop and implement a Safe Routes Action Plan to be eligible for funding for infrastructure projects.	https://saferoutesmichigan.org/
B. Future Roads. Douglas will identify areas where road connections should be implemented as part of private development design, and ensure the proper construction of all new roads.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Adjust the Zoning Ordinance to add the requirement for private development to be designed to implement the “future road connections” as identified on the mobility plan map within this	

	<p>Plan.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">2. Amend the Zoning Ordinance and/or the Code of Ordinances to include provisions for robust and comprehensive procedures and specifications for the construction of public roads.3. Adjust the Code of Ordinances to remove the provision to accept private roads into the public system.4. Amend the Zoning Ordinance to include additional provisions for the review and approval procedures for the approval of private roads.	
<p>C. Existing Road Infrastructure. Douglas will continue to maintain the existing public road network and utilize funding and regulatory controls to wisely improve existing roads.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Prioritize the maintenance of Lakeshore Drive and adopt an ordinance that prohibits certain activities in or near the public right-of-way.2. Repeal ordinances that would allow the City to accept a private road into the public system.3. Ensure that only improved, public rights of way are being maintained by the City’s Department of Public Works.	
<p>D. Utilities. Douglas will collaborate with the Kalamazoo Lake Sewer and Water Authority to identify the current and future needs of the water and sewer systems.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Adopt a general ordinance that prohibits private connection lines to other private connection lines (“spaghetti lines”)2. Establish special assessment districts for parcels currently privately connected to private water lines to fund and require the connection to a distribution main to serve those parcels once constructed.3. Partner with Kalamazoo Lake Sewer and Water Authority to re-activate the Wellhead Protection Program within the Tri-Communities.4. Amend the Zoning Ordinance to create a Wellhead Protection overlay zone that prohibits land uses that have the potential to contaminate groundwater within the Wellhead Protection overlay zone.5. Provide for a wellhead protection overlay district and include the delineation on the zoning map. Prohibit certain land use in those areas to ensure groundwater protection.	<p>KLSWA Wellhead Protection Plan 2017</p>
<p>E. Communications. Douglas will prioritize the expansion of fiber optics into the City to bolster the quality and reliability of the internet and enhance communications infrastructure.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">6. How do we do this!?	
<p>F. Public Transportation Douglas will encourage the use of alternative transportation to the City Center commercial sub-area.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Amend the Zoning Ordinance to remove parking minimums for new developments and changes in the use of existing buildings.2. Maintain a working relationship with Interurban Transit and provide support when possible, for route expansions and servicing “park and ride” options throughout the Tri-Community area.3.	

G. Safety. Douglas will prioritize safety in all transportation infrastructure design and implementation.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Provide opportunities to obtain public input when making changes to the existing transportation infrastructure.2. Amend the Zoning Ordinance to create an access management overlay district in C-2 zoned parcels south of Wiley Road to reduce the number of curb cuts onto Blue Star Highway.	
SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY		
A. Resilient Coastal Community. Douglas will become a Resilient-Ready Coastal Community that will be prepared to withstand and recover from flooding, beach erosion, and similar coastal hazards.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Adjust the zoning map to delineate the high-risk erosion areas and critical dune areas, as identified by EGLE.2. Form a coastal resilience committee trained by the Coastal Leadership Academy, and advise on development projects proposed along the City’s shorelines.3. Conduct a vulnerability assessment to identify gaps and recommendations for resiliency.4. Amend the Zoning Ordinance to incorporate additional setbacks and no-build zones along the Lakeshore.5. Adopt a riparian area overlay to protect waterbodies that flow into Lake Michigan.	Resilient Coastal Communities Planning Guide Protecting Michigan's Inland Lakes: A guide for Local Governments
B. Contamination. Douglas will take a proactive approach to protect the health of future residents if residential development is proposed in areas of known contamination.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Take advantage of grant programs that assist with the environmental cleanup of Brownfields and other areas of contamination.2. Adjust the Zoning Ordinance to <i>require</i> environmental assessments for site plan review applications for development in areas of known contamination.3. Implement land use controls to and restrictions to prevent exposure to contaminated soils, water, and air.	
C. Sustainable Land Use. Douglas will ensure that land can support uses permitted in each zoning district.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Develop a <i>purchase of development rights</i> ordinance that allows the City to purchase development rights from parcels owned by willing participants, and allows those rights to be sold to other property owners2. Connect property owners to resources and agencies that can assist with setting up a conservation easement on properties that may be preserved in perpetuity.3. Establish a Shoreline overlay district that limits the intensity of land use along shorelines.4. Adjust the	Purchase of Development Rights program - MZEA Excerpt: https://www.legislature.mi.gov/Laws/MCL?objectName=MCL-125-3508
D. Stormwater Management. Douglas will ensure responsible and sustainable stormwater management for all development types.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Amend the Zoning Ordinance to incorporate the requirement to meet the ACDC standards for stormwater management for all site plan reviews2. Incentivize the incorporation of sustainable stormwater practices using a points system for all new residential developments proposed as a Planned Unit Development (PUD).3. Develop provisions in the Zoning Ordinance to link landscaping requirements with stormwater management designs.4. Partner with the Kalamazoo River Watershed Council or similar	ACDC Procedures and Design Standards for Stormwater Management

	groups to hold workshops for residents on sustainable stormwater management practices at home, such as rain barrels, rain gardens, and green yards practices, and native plant landscaping.	
E. Infrastructure. Douglas will promote climate-resilient infrastructure for public and private development and facilities.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Amend the Zoning Ordinance to add lighting provisions that align with Dark Sky Lighting Principals.2. Adjust the zoning ordinance to require EV-ready parking spaces in new developments,3. Provide incentives for installing EV charging stations, such as a reduction in required parking spaces for new development.4. Install bike racks in public spaces and require installation in new commercial developments to encourage travel by bike.5. Explore funding options to install bike repair stations in at least two locations along the Beach to Bayou trail.6. Adjust the Zoning Ordinance to revise sections related to on-street parking to add parking maximums and consider user-driven required parking quantities to reduce the amount of impervious surfaces in the City.	Dark Sky lighting principles: https://darksky.org/resources/guides-and-how-tos/lighting-principles/
F. Natural Features. Douglas will protect natural features such as steep slopes, critical dunes, high-risk erosion areas, riparian areas, wetlands, and waterways.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Amend the Zoning Map to include the critical dune and high-risk erosion areas, as delineated by the Department of Energy, Great Lakes, and Environment (EGLE).2. Amend the Zoning Ordinance to include provisions for construction within critical dune3. Amend the zoning ordinance to restrict specific uses in areas defined as “sensitive lands”4. Amend the Zoning Ordinance to create a riparian area overlay that would apply to all HUC-5 and up streams and County drains5.	EGLE Local Wetland Protection website
G. Trees. Douglas will continue to prioritize the preservation of trees within the City limits.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Enhance the Tree Protection and Preservation zoning requirements to provide acceptable locations for planting that do not compromise public utilities.2. Enhance the Tree Protection and Preservation zoning requirements to require a tree inventory on-site plans, and require re-planting of at least 50% of the trees that must be cut for the development of a parcel.3. Incorporate an acceptable native species tree list into the zoning ordinance.4. Amend the zoning ordinance to incentivize the preservation of large stands of old-growth trees when land is proposed for development.	

H. Waterfront Preservation. Douglas will focus on the environmental remediation of the waterfront and protect the shore for passive recreation uses.	<div>1. Revise the future land use map to designate conservation and open space uses for waterfront areas encumbered with wetlands and/or floodplains.</div> <div>2.</div>	
I. View Preservation. Douglas will preserve the existing views of Douglas Harbor and Kalamazoo Lake.	<div>1. Amend the zoning map to create a view preservation overlay district and identify parcels that are subject to restrictions within the overlay.</div> <div>2. Amend the Zoning Ordinance to create a view preservation overlay district that restricts the height of buildings to one story.</div> <div>3. Develop a <i>purchase of development rights</i> ordinance that allows the City to purchase development rights from parcels owned by willing participants, and allows those rights to be sold to other property owners.</div>	<div>Purchase of Development Rights program – MZEA Excerpt: https://www.legislature.mi.gov/Laws/MCL?objectName=MCL-125-3508</div>
J. Sustainability Plan. Douglas will develop a sustainability plan	<div>4.</div>	