

## CASE for SUPPORT

### 6 to 8 Mile Woodward Avenue Action Association's (WA3) Initiative

- **Mission Statement** – “To support and grow a neighborhood community effort between residents, businesses and community partners that will inspire investment, positive change and improve the quality of life within the 6 to 8 Mile Woodward Corridor, the gateway to the city of Detroit.”
- **Neighborhood Revitalization Plan Objectives** – 1) Organization and Communication; 2) Safety; 3) Code Enforcement; 4) Aesthetics; 5) Green Infrastructure. Action items include: graffiti removal, streetscape design, street furniture acquisition, façade improvements, alley clean up, demolish buildings, business development, safety and security, litter control, master planning, walkability assessment, and regional cooperation
- **Overview of Progress to Date**
  1. Initiative and community group started in January, 2008, offices provided by LaDolce Vita
  2. Final draft of 6 to 8 Mile Revitalization Plan completed and reviewed quarterly
  3. Monthly meetings to development relationships, Mission, Revitalization Plan, committee formation and status reports
  4. Business mapping by the Detroit Vacant Property Campaign and business directory
  5. New Businesses engaged with Façade improvement grant (bowling alley, new owner of Sydney Boggs, Dairy World, LaDolce Vita, Doctor Bob's, Pet Hospital, Cass & Associates)
  6. Engagement of community organizations (Green Acres Association, State Fair, 8 Mile Boulevard Association, Chaldean Council, 7 Mile/John R Business District, and Next Detroit Neighborhood Initiative Detroit Vacant Property Campaign)
  7. Uof D Mercy School of Architecture hosting a session to determine the vision and goals for the streetscape design for the 6 to 8 Mile/Woodward Corridor; complete in October 2009
  8. Celebration of Innovation Event to identify the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1<sup>st</sup> Mile of paved concrete. Pavement markings completed.
  9. Working with MDOT on National Scenic Byway – Woodward Avenue Byway signage.
  10. Worked with Clean the D to support a clean up for the 6 to 8 Mile/Woodward area.
- **Overview of Funding to Date for 6 to 8 Mile Initiative**
  1. \$45,000 grant received from the City of Detroit Office of Neighborhood Commercial (ONCR) Revitalization, Refresh Detroit for façade improvements. Once first façade is completed WA3 will apply for \$150,000 grant through ONCR.
  2. WA3 received State grant for planning through the 2009 Streetscape Design grant process; \$20,000 used for a conceptual streetscape design plan.
  3. Once the Uof D Mercy streetscape design plan is completed the WA3 will use to leverage funding for implementation for elements of the design plan.
  4. \$10,000 pending from Detroit Vacant Property Campaign for solar trash compact receptacle, graffiti removal, and enhancements to landscaping of vacant lots.
  5. \$10,000 pending from Kresge Foundation for Arts in the Community Art Project.
  6. Considering soliciting the City of Detroit for an allocation of fees earned on Gateway Project.

Note \*Several grants requests were denied for not having designated office within the 6 to 8 Mile area.
- **Key Considerations for Case for Support**
  1. Short and long term investment in property values, lifestyle, image, services, etc.
  2. Reduce criminal activity
  3. Creating a walkable community
  4. Build businesses and capacity and support for Meijers' investment in community
  5. Increase access to services, restaurants, etc.
  6. Position PWA as a leader in our own community
  7. Recognize and reward the progress of the Initiative thus far
  8. Leverage PWA grant with other funding sources
  9. Support Norm's role and commitment to the WA3 Board and to our own PWA community
- **Call to Action**
  - Approve a \$2500 grant, earmarked for leveraging other funds
  - Request additional volunteer support
  - WA3 6 to 8 Mile Initiative will report back to PWA Board quarterly on progress
- **Thank you** for your consideration