



January 15, 2016

Mayor Donald D. Lyons  
City Council Members

Dear Mayor Lyons and City Council Members:

The following report has been prepared to provide you with an update on current issues or projects in progress:

Upcoming Meetings: None

**CGI Communications – City video status** The project will highlight the best Dowagiac has to offer residents and businesses. The video will focus on the ingredients that are required for a great place to live and work like resources and events.

Executive Director, Garrett Modeste spend a couple of weeks in our community. He met with local businesses and organizations getting to know our community and answering project questions. During his stay, a plan for a story board and filming locations around the city were explored. Area businesses were also invited to participate as advertisers on the link that will house the video. We are proud and pleased to say that 19 of the 20 spots have been filled.

Local filming will commence in late May. Coverage of activities that happen the rest of the year are being collected now for inclusion in the project.

**Blight Elimination Grants**

Yesterday we received notice that the Michigan Land Bank is once again accepting applications for Blight Elimination Program demolition funding. This is the same agency from which the City received funds to assist in the demolition of Old Grey.

Once again there is a very short timeline for application which are due February 8, 2016. Also, only \$1 million is being allocated statewide and there are incentives in the program for applications that include local matching funds and are smaller in scale.

There are a number of properties in the city that qualify for this program. Staff will be assessing which properties have the highest likelihood of success and will be making recommendations for the next council meeting.

Sincerely,

  
Kevin P. Anderson  
City Manager