



September 19, 2014

Mayor Donald D. Lyons  
City Council Members

Dear Mayor Lyons and City Council Members:

Upcoming Meetings: City Council, Monday, September 22 at 7:00 pm

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

### **Planning Projects**

On the upcoming agenda you will find several planning projects that will be needed to help the city continue to look forward as the community sets a vision towards where we want to go for the next several decades. These planning projects include an update to the Downtown Plans that have served us well for over a quarter of a century, planning for enhancements to Rudy Park and developing a plan for 101 Cass Avenue. The property at 101 Cass Avenue was recently purchased through the tax reversion process with the intent of adding this property to the city's park system. This property provides the opportunity for an outstanding public access to the Dowagiac Creek.

Once plans are developed and cost estimates prepared, grants will be sought to assist with the funding. Each of these potential developments will take years to fully develop and the conceptual planning documents are critical when seeking funding. The agenda packets for the 09-22-14 meeting has more details on each of these planning projects.

### **Grand Opening - Front and Main**

It's hard to believe, but the Front and Main building is nearing completion and Community Health is expected to begin their move in early October. A Grand Opening has been set for the morning of October 23. More details will be sent as the time draws closer.

There is no way a building like this could have been built as smoothly as this without the committed and coordinated efforts of Cass-Van Buren Community Health, the many contractors, Department of Public Services and City Council. There is still plenty to do by October 23, but the project will be ready.

**SMC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration – Saturday, September 20**

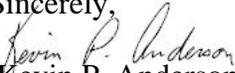
The people of Dowagiac are fortunate to have an area college like Southwestern Michigan College. It is hard to believe that it has been 50 years since a passionate group with a vision of local higher education sat down to discuss that option, right here in our backyard. SMC is throwing a party and the entire community is invited. Join in on the fun for over 14 hours of FREE activities for the entire family.

Skydiving	Concerts	Health screenings
Ferris wheel	Food	Marching bands
Rock-climbing	Book signing	Flag football
Inflatables	Car show	Soccer
Bounce house	Art fair	Demonstrations
Train rides	Disc golf	Tours
Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Tribal Dancers		More...

**Beckwith Theatre**

Tonight is opening night. "Come Back to the Five and Dime Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean"  
September 19-21 & 26-28.

Sincerely,

  
Kevin P. Anderson  
City Manager