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April 14, 2025

Coldwater City Council  
City Hall - One Grand Street  
Coldwater, Michigan

Dear Coldwater City Council,

I am writing to express my strong support for the streetscape project proposed by Coldwater Main Street, spanning from Clay to Jefferson Streets. This project will certainly be transformative and will benefit the entire community. It will also have the effect of making it safer for people of all ages to visit downtown locations, including our library.

So many people walk or bike to the library, and over the years we have witnessed an unfortunate number of accidents at the 4-Corners involving cars and pedestrians, and even more close calls. As someone who lived downtown for over a decade, and walked to work, shopping, dining, and entertainment, I personally had a number of very close calls. And it's not just walkers who will benefit: the plan presented by the DDA / Main Street Board contains a number of significant changes to make things safer for motorists, too.

I love the mock-ups and examples in the DDA's Corridor Improvement Presentation. Increasing the green space downtown, along with seating and other pedestrian improvements will combine with the safety benefits to foster a welcoming atmosphere for both residents and visitors.

A downtown is the heart of a city, and it sets the tone for what we are presenting to prospective visitors, customers, investors, and residents. When you drive through a vibrant downtown full of people going about their business, you know you're in a community that works, a community that cares...it's the type of place you can imagine calling home.

This streetscape project will have a lasting and positive impact on our community, and I encourage the Council to seek out ways to fund it. It will be an investment from which we reap rewards for a long time to come.

Sincerely,

John Rucker  
Director (as well as resident of Ward 3)



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