GREAT AMERICAN MAIN STREET AWARDS™

2026 Winner

Public Art, Public Space

and the Great American Main Street Award

DOWNTOWN FARMINGTON

Downtown Development Authority



Historic Charm. Eclectic Character. Vibrant Community.

CATALYST STRATEGY

Place-Based Community Development

Placemaking has proven to be a successful strategy for our district. Investing in public place infrastructure has yielded significant return in community support and private investment.



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WHY WE INVEST IN PUBLIC SPACE

These improvements are designed to enhance the walkability and livability of Farmington, thereby supporting property values within the community. They also support the business environment by strengthening the downtown market.

Research has found that public amenities such as parks and open spaces increase property values, up to a 23.3 percent premium, to live within one-fifth of a mile from such a space.

- National Association of Realtors, 2019

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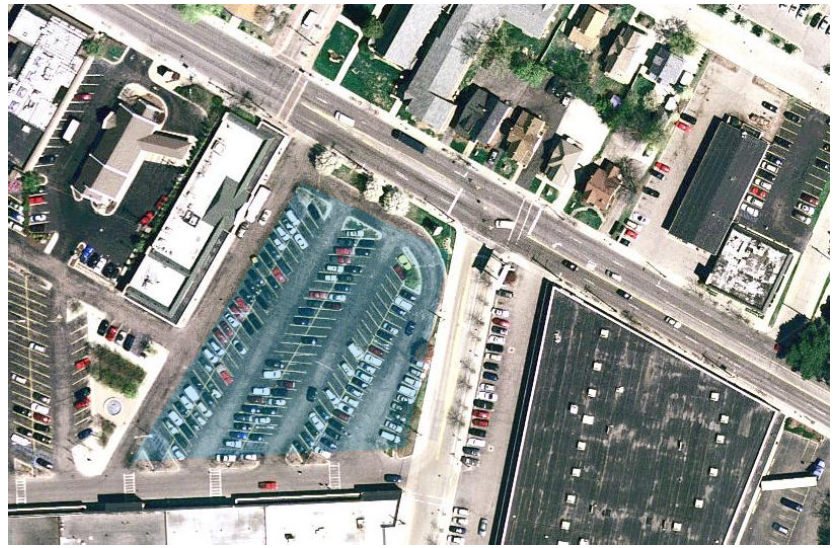
Historic **Charm.** Eclectic **Character.** Vibrant **Community.**



Riley Park – 2005

The First Catalyst









MAIN STREET Now 2026


WALTER E. SUNDQUIST
FRIDAY NIGHT
CONCERT SERIES


WALTER E. SUNDQUIST
HARVEST MOON CELEBRATION
SEPTEMBER 15-17, 2022
SPONSORED BY
www.downtownfarmington.org


RILEY PARK ICE RINK
DAILY PUBLIC SKATING DECEMBER-FEBRUARY


CHECK
OUT
CREDIT
CARD
GOETZ
GREENH

FARMINGTON ROAD STREETSCAPE 2022



Rendering is for illustrative purposes only.

Farmington Road Streetscape 2022

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MAIN STREET Now 2026







Farmington Road Transformation | 2023

Major investments in public space with rehabilitation of cornerstone buildings has provided a once in a century opportunity to maximize economic impact in our Main Street district.

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MAIN STREET Now 2026

Dinan Park – 2023

300+ donors | $95K raised | $75K MEDC match | Oakland County Parks Grant



DINAN PARK







DINAN PARK



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GREAT AMERICAN MAIN STREET AWARD
2025 Semifinalist


MAIN
STREET
Now
2026



Masons Corner - 2024

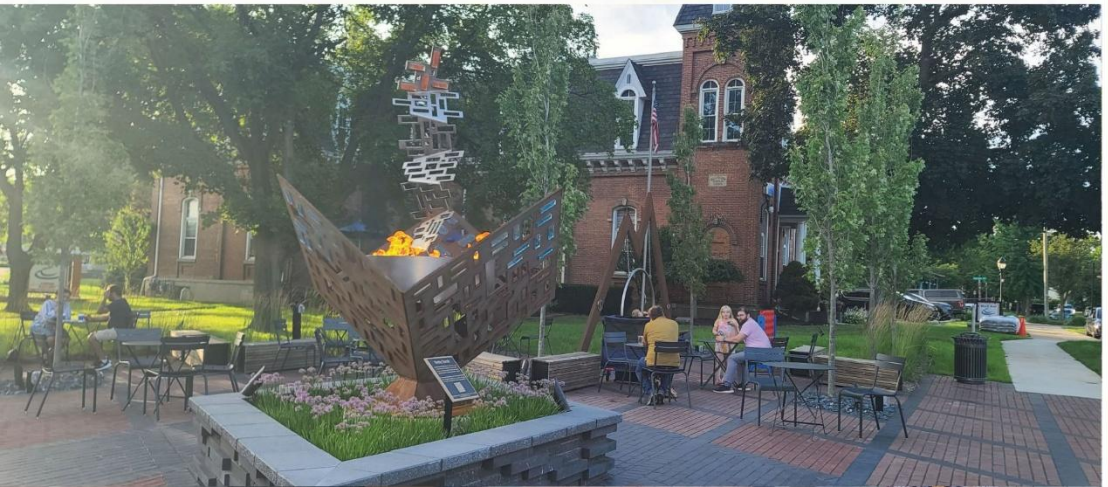
400+ donors | $88K raised | $75K MEDC match
Main Street Oakland County Placemaking Grant |
City partnership | Private Commission Unity Torch

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MAIN STREET Now 2026







MASONS CORNER

Designed, funded, and built in 2024, a second consecutive public space in two years

In 2023 we successfully crowdfunded Dinan Park, where over 300 donors answered the call to build a beautiful, universally accessible pocket park.

In 2024, in celebration of our Bicentennial year, we had the opportunity to repeat this success with the help of over 400 donors to create a new gathering space at Masons Corner. This project reestablishes the history of this original town hall corner with welcoming amenities and accessibility.

Patronicity

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MAIN STREET Now 2026







PUBLIC ART

The Detroit Institute of Arts PIPA mural program brought a vibrant Rick Malt installation to Sundquist Pavilion at Riley Park.

In 2024, the DDA celebrated more than $250,000 in public art investment in the district. Funding sources ranged from the DIA to private patrons. By committing to an annual small budget toward public art, the DDA has gardened significant cultural arts vibrancy within the district.

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PUBLIC ART



Public art creates moments that attract people, spark curiosity, and directly translate into more customers for small businesses.

The DDA celebrated more than $200,000 in public art investment in the district last year. Funding sources ranged from the DIA to private patrons. By committing to an annual small budget toward public art, the DDA has garnered significant cultural arts vibrancy within the district.

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Art Park Promenade 2026

672 contributions

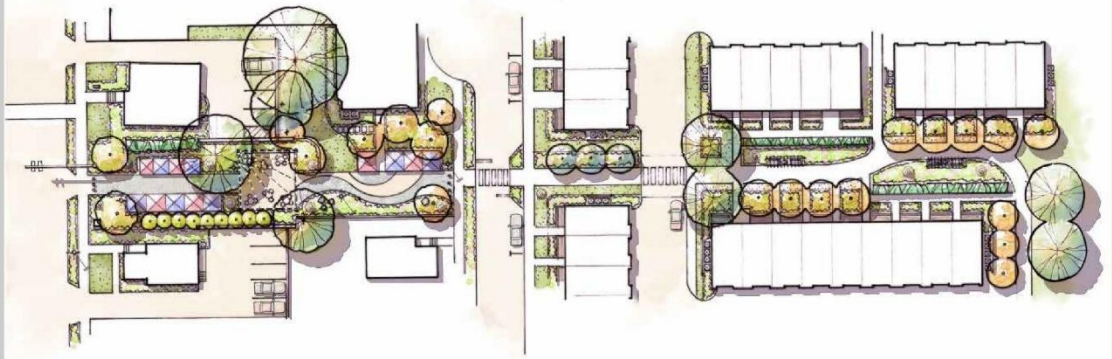
Main Street Oakland County Placemaking Grant



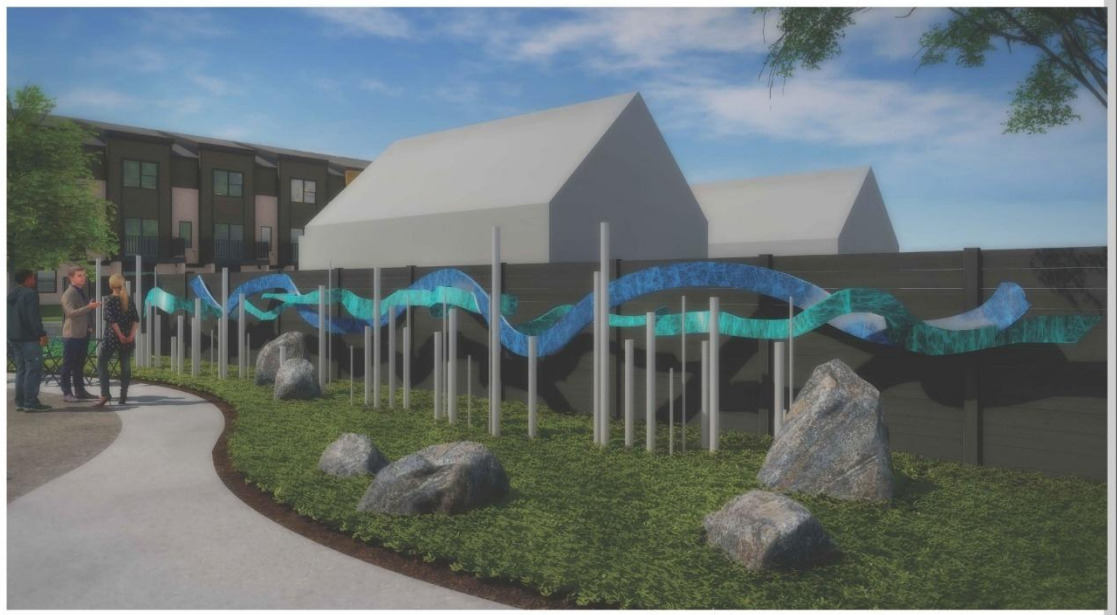


ART PARK PROMENADE





Connecting Riley Park to the new residential neighborhood, Hillside Townes, and eventually to Shiawassee Park and the regional trail across Southern Oakland County.



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COMMUNITY MURAL

Make a wave. Leave your mark.

672 Individual Waves.

One Collective Mural.

Funding to support art and furnishings.



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T&F
FIRED AND FUSED
Glass Workshops

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Oakland County Placemaking Award 2026: Make A Wave Mural

The 3rd consecutive year winning the county-wide District Placemaking Award!

Transforming hundreds of individual acts of creativity into one shared downtown landmark.

Creating a sense of ownership through individual investment.

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DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

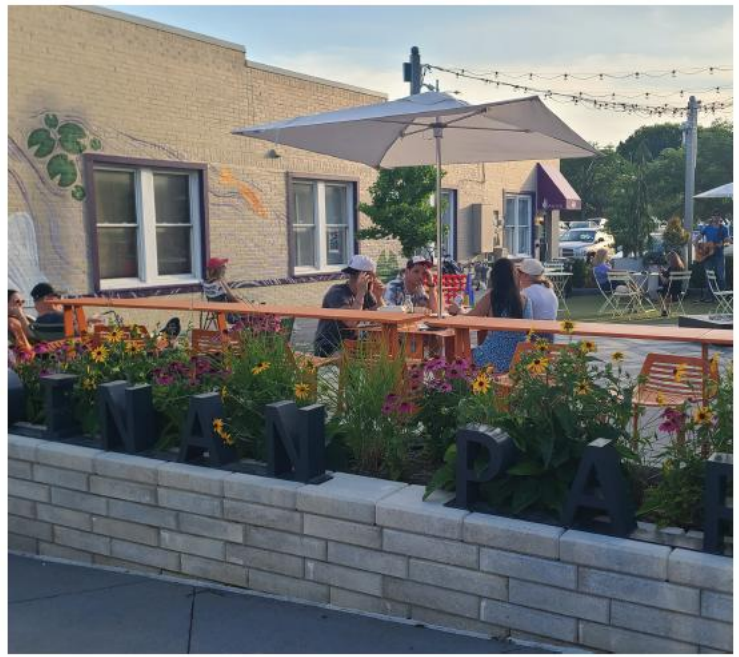
















DINAN PARK

MASONS CORNER

ART PARK

PROMENADE



Thank you!

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