MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the City Council

Cc: Kate Hosier, City Manager

From: Griffin Graham, Assistant City Manager

Date: October 4, 2021

RE: Public Participation Update

Background

On October 15, 2018, City Council adopted Resolution 2018-47, approving a Public Participation Plan for the City of South Haven. This plan was a requirement of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation’s (MEDC) Redevelopment Ready Communities® (RRC) program. Also, it addressed the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) requirements for public participation.

City of South Haven Public Participation Plan:
https://southhavencitymi.documents-on-demand.com/document/dcb658ab-222b-e911-a2c9-000c29a59557/FINAL%20PPP.PDF

Public Participation Plan Objectives

The City of South Haven is committed to encouraging citizen participation by engaging a diverse set of community stakeholders. The City will continue to strive to involve the community in the decision-making process.

- The City of South Haven will evaluate each project on an individual basis to determine the project scope, stakeholders, project limitations, approving body, points of community impact during the decision-making process, internal and external resources, and level of appropriate community involvement.

- The City of South Haven will make information available in a timely manner to enable interested parties to be involved in decisions at various stages of the review and approval process.

- The City of South Haven will engage citizens in a transparent manner, making information easy to access for all interested members of the community.
• The City of South Haven will seek public participation for matters involving future development of the City, such as the Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance update process.

• The City of South Haven will seek creative ways to involve a diverse set of community stakeholders in planning, land use, and development decisions.

• The City of South Haven will use comments and information received from interested members of the community to make decisions regarding planning, land use, and future development.

• The City of South Haven will track and analyze the results of all public participation to the extent feasible and provide the information back to the public.

Status Report

This memorandum serves to highlight several public engagement activities from the last year that were intended to go above and beyond what is required by state and local regulations and to align with the goals set forth in the Public Participation Plan. I’m happy to discuss any of these activities in more details.

• Beach Safety Committee (December 2020 – June 2021)
• Overton Evaluation Committee (August 2020 – September 2020)
• Overton Site Stakeholder Interviews (February 2021 – March 2021)
• Overton Site Community Input & Informational Meeting (April 2021)
• Hale’s Redevelopment Stakeholder Meetings (May 2021)
• Hale’s Redevelopment Public Open House (May 2021)
• Social District Surveys (2021)
• LIAA Workshops (October 2020 – March 2021)
• Lane Diet Feedback Office Hours (2021)
• Booth at Juneteenth Event (June 2021)
• 425 Agreement Introduction Packet (June 2021)
• Golf Cart Webpage (August 2021)
• Economic Development Updates Presentation to Kiwanis Club (August 2021)
• Best Way Disposal Introduction Letter (September 2021)
• Best Way Disposal Public Open Houses (October 2021 – November 2021)

Additionally, it is important to acknowledge the challenges of the last year (i.e. COVID-19) as they related to hosting traditional in-person public meetings and/or engagement events, and the importance of virtual meetings during this time. Notwithstanding, the City of South Haven continued to broadcast meetings, update the website, and distribute monthly newsletters with utility bills as practical during this time.

Support Material:

Resolution 2018-47
Hale’s Redevelopment Public Open House Flyer
Overton Site Community Input & Informational Notice & Agenda
Photo from Juneteenth Event
Best Way Introduction Letter
CITY OF SOUTH HAVEN
VAN BUREN AND ALLEGAN COUNTIES, MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-47

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN
FOR THE CITY OF SOUTH HAVEN

Minutes of a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of South Haven, Van Buren and Allegan Counties, Michigan, held in the City Hall, 539 Phoenix Street, South Haven, Michigan 49090 on October 15, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. local time.

PRESENT: ______ Campbell, Gruber, Reeser, Schlack, Sleeper, Wilkins, Smith

ABSENT: ______ None

The following preamble and resolution was offered by Member ______ Schlack ______ and supported by Member ______ Sleeper ______.

WHEREAS, the City of South Haven City Council and city staff realize that a public participation strategy is essential to formalize efforts and outline how the public will be engaged throughout the planning and development processes; and

WHEREAS, all Units of General Local Governments (UGLGS) applying for funds under the Michigan Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program are required to adhere to public participation provisions set forth in Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation's (MEDC) Redevelopment Ready Communities® (RRC) program embraces open government with clear policies and procedures by requiring municipalities to adopt a public participation plan to achieve certification for RRC status; and

WHEREAS, the Public Participation Plan addresses both Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) requirements and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation’s (MEDC) Redevelopment Ready Communities® (RRC) program certification requirements for public participation; and

WHEREAS, the Public Participation Plan will bring the City in compliance to make application to the CDBG for grant funds and also complete the public participation requirement for achieving RRC certification.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City of South Haven does hereby approve a Public Participation Plan of which meets the requirements of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and the Community Development Block Grant program for public participation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect upon passage by the City Council.
RECORD OF VOTE:

Yeas:  Campbell, Gruber, Reeser, Schlack, Sleeper, Wilkins, Smith

Nays:  None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

Scott Smith, Mayor

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council at a meeting held on the 15th day of October, 2018, at which meeting a quorum was present, and that this resolution was ordered to take immediate effect. Public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, Act No. 167 of the Public Acts of Michigan 1976 (MCL 15.261 et seq.).

Travis Sullivan, City Clerk
HALE BLOCK REDEVELOPMENT OPEN HOUSE

Join Us!
The City of South Haven is working with the owner of the former Hale’s site to host a Public Open House. Join us to talk about early concept drawings and discuss how this project could further community visions & goals for the Central Business District.

When: Wednesday, May 26 from 5 to 7 pm
Where: City Hall, 539 Phoenix Street

For more information please contact:
Griffin S. Graham
Assistant City Manager
269-637-0753
ggraham@southhavenmi.gov
City of South Haven
Community Input & Informational Meeting
Press Release

The City of South Haven is working with The Habitat Company & Housing Next to host a Community Input & Informational Meeting on **Tuesday, April 27 at 7PM via Zoom Conference**. The goal of this meeting is to listen to the concerns/needs of residents regarding housing broadly and to gather specific input/feedback regarding a plan for the former S. E. Overton Factory site located at 229 Elkenburg.

Additionally, the South Haven Housing Commission will review the past investments in South Haven to help give the scope of this project some context. Also, the Housing Commission will review the rent assistance programs offered to families and seniors, and discuss program eligibility.

This event is open to the public and all are welcome. **Your participation is needed and is extremely important in crafting a site plan that reflects your ideas and visions for the community!**

**DATE:** TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 2021

**TIME:** 7:00PM

**PLACE:** ZOOM CONFERENCE

https://zoom.us/j/93384093658?pwd=MFMxUkN0MHhHUIRnam14b0pVVldidz09

Or Telephone: +1 (312) 626 6799

Meeting ID: 933 8409 3658

Passcode: 582883

An agenda & meeting packet are available at [www.southhavenmi.gov](http://www.southhavenmi.gov)

*Press Contact:*
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Assistant City Manager
269-637-0753

graham@southhavenmi.gov
To the Left:
Asst. City Manager, Griffin Graham,
City Manager, Kate Hosier,
DDA/Customer Serv. Dir., Sue Brock,
Customer Service Rep, Cynthia
Merriweather-Watson,
and SHPD Chief, Natalie Thompson

To the Right:
SHAES Asst. Fire Inspector, Steve Cavadas,
Customer Service Rep., Cynthia
Merriweather-Watson,
and City Manager, Kate Hosier

To the Left:
HR Director, Kim Wise and
Customer Service Rep,
Cynthia Merriweather-Watson

Above:
City Manager, Kate Hosier and Asst. City Manager, Griffin Graham

To the Right:
Asst. City Manager, Griffin Graham,
City Council Member, Joe Reeser, and
DDA/Customer Service Director,
Sue Brock
Important Information Regarding Trash, Recycling, and Yard Waste Collection

On August 16, 2021, the South Haven City Council voted to enter into a contract with Best Way Disposal for trash, recycling, and yard waste collection services. Best Way Disposal is a local vendor that provides disposal services and customer support out of Watervliet, MI. The new contract will take effect December 1, 2021.

Largely, the services available to residents per this contract will remain the same. However, notable changes include that collection services will begin to occur weekly on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday depending on your location in the City, an additional cart will be provided for yard waste (3 total; trash, recycling, and yard waste), there will be a uniform cost for additional carts, and bulk item pick-up will need to be scheduled with Best Way Disposal ahead of time.

The last regularly scheduled collection with Republic Services will be on Monday, November 29, 2021. Please be sure to have your Republic Services cart(s) out on time, so they can begin to be collected. Best Way Disposal will begin distributing new carts the same week.

Yard waste season begins annually on April 1 and ends on November 30. Please call Best Way Disposal at 269-463-3232 to request a yard waste container before the season begins. Yard waste will not be collected unless in an approved yard waste container.

If you rent your property, please alert your renters. Subsequently, if you are part of a condominium association, a representative from Best Way Disposal will reach out in the upcoming weeks to coordinate service.

The City of South Haven & Best Way Disposal will be hosting public open houses on October 5th and November 3rd from 5:30 pm to 7PM at City Hall (539 Phoenix Street) to answer questions and discuss these topics more. You are welcome and encouraged to attend. In the meantime, if you have any questions about trash, recycling, or yard waste service, please contact Best Way Disposal at 269-463-3232 or visit www.bestway-disposal.com for more information.