

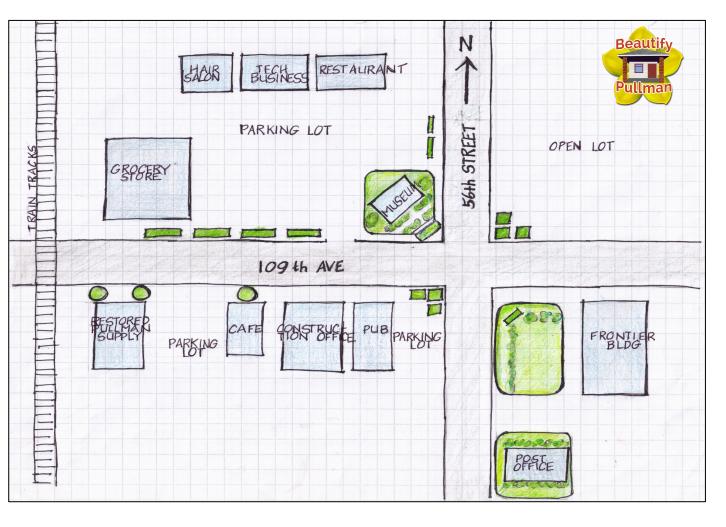
## **Beautify Pullman**

Accomplishments & Plans

A presentation to the Lee Township Board and Community

April 12, 2021

# Beautify Pullman



- Founded in October 2020 as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization
- Developed a plan and budget to beautify the 4 corners and the Post Office in Pullman
- Met twice with Craig Atwood to coordinate Beautify Pullman efforts with Allegan County Road Commission plans to repair roads and add curbs, gutters and sidewalks in 2022
- Obtained approval from all private property owners affected by the beautification plan, including Frontier Communications
- Began fundraising

## The Benefits of Community Beautification

Beautification not only raises spirits, it also promotes community identity and loyalty. Research shows that long term benefits of community beautification can include the improved condition of surrounding properties, increased private investment, increased property values, and decreased crime rate.

Beautifying Pullman will help to renew a post-COVID Lee Township by improving the quality of life for its citizens and promoting private investment and tourism.

# Thank you to the many individuals and the following businesses and organizations who have supported our efforts

Allegan County Road Commission

Baylor's Buddy Jons

Bodtke Farms LLC

DC Storage and RV Services

Frontier Communications

Garcias Supermercado

HartScapes LLC

Holland Sentinel

Landscape Forms

Love INC

Lower Scott Lake Improvement Association

Meijer Corporation

Michiana Curb Appeal

Modern Woodmen Fraternal Financial

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church

Nikki's Chair

Northwoods Café

Picture This LLC

Pizza Plus

Plumbers Portable Toilet Service

Preferred Market

Pullman Area Progressives

Pullman Marathon

Pullman Mobil

Pullman Post Office

Pullman Tavern

Pullman VFW

Richwood Contracting

Rosas Landscaping

RyGuys Store

Simpsarosa Stables, Inc.

Supermarket el Arcoiris

The Linking Center

Van Buren Reminder

Wausau Tile

# Beautify Pullman has raised sufficient funds to complete the following projects in April and May 2021

Landscape the Pullman Post Office with shrubs with seasonal color and flowers





Landscape Frontier corner with shrubs and perennials

Add large concrete planters with seasonal plantings along 109<sup>th</sup> Avenue from the railroad tracks to 56<sup>th</sup> Street.



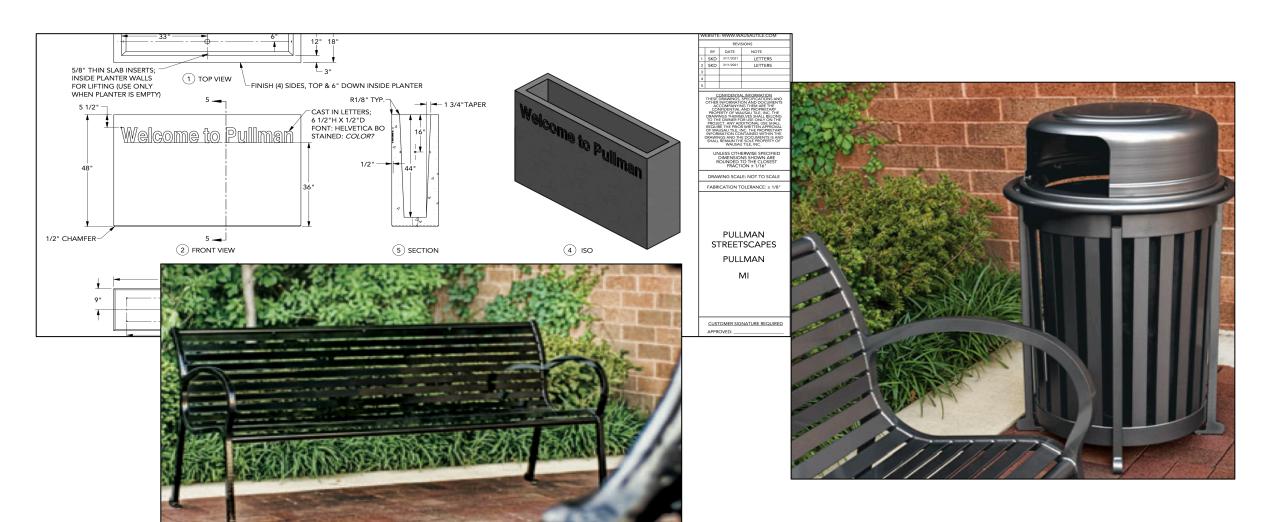






Landscape the Station with trees, shrubs, flowers and a paver walkway. This effort is paid for privately, but planned to match the landscaping at Frontier corner.

Frontier Corner will be a focal point of of the beautification of downtown Pullman with the addition of a small brick patio, park bench, trash receptacle and a large planter embossed with "Welcome to Pullman"



#### Plans

## Beautify

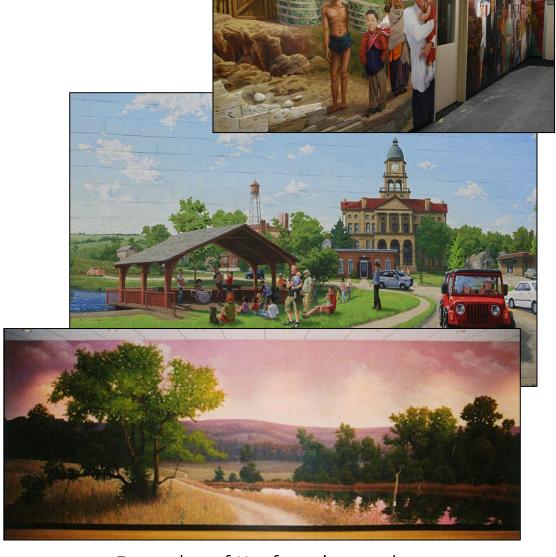
- Continue the beautification of downtown Pullman
  - Commission a mural to celebrate the history and natural beauty of Pullman
  - Place additional planters along 109<sup>th</sup> and 56th
- Make improvements to Ravenswood Park
  - Create a community space with improved utility
  - Improved/safer channel access for fishing

#### Mural

- Beautify Pullman reached out to several local muralists requesting proposals for a mural depicting the history and natural beauty of Pullman
- Two proposed murals were considered
- Conrad Kaufman, a prolific muralist based in Kalamazoo, presented us with a detailed sketch and the most reasonable price

#### Conrad Kaufman

- Raised in Bangor
- Has been creating murals since 1995, many of which are in Kalamazoo
- Has agreed to include local students and artists on the project
- He is available in mid-August to paint a mural in Pullman



Examples of Kaufman's murals

# Mural celebrating the Beauty and History of Pullman, and what the land has given us



- Forest, lakes & farmland
- Native Americans
- Loggers

- Farmers
- Blueberries
- Train

- Civil War Soldier
- Many eras represented
- Pullman residents as models

# Ravenswood Park a popular fishing spot near downtown

We spoke to 4 preteens fishing on a recent sunny afternoon. Here is what they'd like to see at the park

- a shelter
- a place to eat
- a barbecue
- a swing and a slide

Improvements to the park should maintain its rustic feel while improving its features and accessibility.



#### Modest improvements to Ravenswood Park



Cantilevered Fishing Platform

Land improvements will also be needed to increase safety and accessibility.

# Major improvements to Ravenswood Park Upgraded park pavilion and grill, wheelchair accessibility and handicapped parking



#### Funds needed for Future Plans

Renewing downtown Pullman (2021/2022)

Complete mural of Pullman history

Additional downtown planters

\$9600

\$8000

Maintenance and improvements at Ravenswood Park (2022)

Modest improvements

\$25,000

Major improvements

\$50,000+

These projects present a opportunity to partner with Lee Township. Can American Recovery Funds be applied to these projects?



### Thank you for listening!

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Shirley Kay
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Patty Conway
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