

December 7, 2022



COMMERCIAL REHABILITATION DISTRICT FOR BEECHTREE CORRIDOR

In May of 2022, Elizabeth Butler, The Chamber's Director of Economic Development Strategic Directions began investigating potential incentives to help ignite rehabilitation in the East End area of Grand Haven. The State of Michigan has three commercial rehabilitation Public Acts in its toolbox. Of those three, The **Commercial Rehabilitation Act (Public Act 210 of 2005)** quickly rose to the top of her list, as it would help not just one parcel, but the whole Beechtree Corridor.

There were approximately nine empty buildings/lots in the Beechtree Corridor at the time. It seemed like there was opportunity here, when considering ways to revitalize the area into a vibrant commercial corridor.

Elizabeth began talking with businesses in the district to share the concept of the Commercial Rehabilitation Act and gain their support.

"There are a lot of empty businesses right now, the idea is to help spur development. Economic Development is contagious; just keep it going and make it a thriving vibrant corridor" says Elizabeth.

Creating the Commercial Rehabilitation District is meant to spur on development that will support additional development in the area. The City of Grand Haven will not lose any existing tax dollars by creating this district. This will actually help the City add additional revenue to the tax roles in future years. This act encourages the rehabilitation of commercial property by abating the property taxes generated from new investment for a period of up to ten years.

With the creation of the Commercial Rehabilitation District, any business within the district may apply for a Commercial Rehabilitation Exemption with the City. City Council will then review each application separately, and if granted, they may abate the taxes for a period of between 1-10 years. The goal is to motivate redevelopment and re-use of properties to benefit the tax base of the community and appearance of the Beechtree Corridor.

City Council voted unanimously on Monday, 12/5/22 to create this district.

www.grandhavenchamber.org