

ANNUAL REPORT

2023



DEPARTMENT OF
CITY DEVELOPMENT

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Description, Mission and Divisions

Mission

The mission of the Department of City Development (DCD) is to improve the quality of life in Milwaukee by guiding and promoting development that creates jobs, builds wealth, strengthens the urban environment, and at the same time respects equity, economy, and ecology.

Divisions of the Department of City Development:

- City Real Estate
- City Planning
- Commercial Corridor Team
- Economic Development
- Finance and Administration
- Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation (NIDC)
- Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee (RACM)

To fulfill this mission, the Department of City Development:

- Works with partners throughout the region to ensure an economic climate that stimulates investment and job creation.
- Builds on the city's competitive advantages, including its built environment, natural setting, diversity, and status as a center of commerce and culture.
- Encourages high-quality, sustainable development that respects and enhances its context.
- Makes sound planning and investment decisions, which serve the needs of local residents, workers, and businesses.
- Fosters and supports business development.
- Promotes neighborhood economic development.
- Ensures processes, reviews, and approvals are efficient, consistent, and user-friendly.

Mayor's Letter



When historians look back on 2023 in Milwaukee, they will note the strength of our economy, the investments in housing, and the businesses that chose to relocate and expand in our community. In all of these prominent advances, the Milwaukee Department of City Development (DCD) was there to guide, invest, or encourage.

I see DCD as a partner and an advocate for our private sector. The team here brings its expertise and perspective to the work it does. Whether it's managing city assets, planning for the future, or deploying city programs and resources, the people at DCD have earned respect.

An important contributor to DCD's work in 2023 has been the addition of American Rescue Plan Act funds from the administration of President Joe Biden. The department has used this money to advance programs like Homes MKE, where we are working with emerging developers to convert city-owned, tax-foreclosed properties into fully rehabilitated new residences.

And as 2024 began, we have taken ownership of the former Northridge Mall and we will apply ARPA funds to clear the site, readying it for the next stage in its redevelopment.

The Department of City Development has embraced my vision of growing Milwaukee – increasing economic activity, community vibrancy, and opening opportunity for people who, historically, have been sidelined in our economy.

Yes, I want to grow the population of Milwaukee to one-million residents. That is an ambitious goal. If we are to achieve that in the coming decades, the city must be thoughtful and prepared. I am trusting the Department of City Development to make sure we are ready.

Mayor Cavalier Johnson

Commissioner's Letter



At Milwaukee's Department of City Development (DCD), we believe that every year and every day are opportunities to grow and improve the City of Milwaukee, and 2023 was no exception. Through the diligence and dedication of our team, we pressed forward on departmental objectives and supported key pillars of Mayor Johnson's policy priorities, including fiscal stewardship, budgetary stability, and advancing community and economic development.

We are committed to cultivating an environment of job creation and retention and thriving neighborhoods. Nowhere is this more apparent than in the adoption of the Connecting MKE Downtown 2040 Plan, completed with a host of community partners. The plan includes an actionable list of priority projects to advance goals in the coming years that will add jobs, population, tax base, safer streets, and gathering places downtown and in the surrounding neighborhoods.

But it's of course not just downtown where we direct our energy. DCD has successfully implemented multiple affordable and equitable housing programs that benefit residents across the City, including Homes MKE and the Milwaukee Home Down Payment Assistance Program. These projects are rebuilding neighborhoods and supporting new homeowners, helping to eliminate inequities that have persisted for far too long.

DCD has also supported the creation and amendment of several Tax Incremental Finance Districts, which resulted not just in new or renovated building construction, but was also leveraged to support over \$40 million in infrastructure development, addressing reckless driving and contributing to pedestrian and cyclist safety.

Add in major corporate openings like Milwaukee Tool, significant progress on securing ownership and beginning redevelopment of the former Northridge Mall, expansion of Milwaukee's award-winning Riverwalk, securing federal grants for environmental cleanup, additional neighborhood plans, thousands of housing units approved or opened, major public-private partnerships, and more – and you can see it's been a very busy year for the Department of City Development.

We are honored and privileged to do this work and will continue to identify new opportunities that collectively forge a prosperous and equitable Milwaukee. By investing in tomorrow, DCD remains committed to nourishing a city where every resident, business, community organization, and visitor feels welcomed, safe, and connected.

DCD Commissioner Lafayette Crump

Economic Development Successes

The Department of City Development works with developers, businesses, and organizations to advance economic development projects in Milwaukee. DCD provides incentives that support economic development efforts, as well as helps developers, businesses, and organizations secure financing and additional resources for projects. Through this work, DCD plays a role in creating jobs and returning value to taxpayers.



Northwestern Mutual

In early 2023, Northwestern Mutual announced a major investment in downtown Milwaukee. The \$500 million renovation and expansion of the North Tower office building represents one of the largest investments in the City's history.

Northwestern Mutual will be consolidating all of its offices in the region into downtown Milwaukee and will be closing its office complex in Franklin.

As part of the project, Northwestern Mutual is taking the existing 542,000-square-foot building down to its steel structure and adding 80,000 square feet to the building. As a result, Northwestern Mutual's downtown employment will grow significantly, up to 5,750 in 2030 (up from approximately 3,950 today).

In the spring of 2023, the City created Tax Incremental District (TID) #115 to provide a \$30 million developer-financed grant to Northwestern Mutual if they meet their employment projections. In October of 2023, the company began construction on the North Tower redevelopment, with expected completion in 2025.

Fiserv, Inc.

In 2023, Fiserv, Inc. began work on their new Global HQ to the HUB640 building in downtown Milwaukee, located at Vel R. Phillips and Michigan, adding 250 jobs to the region. In total, Fiserv will have 780 employees at HUB640 and will be occupying about 140,000 square feet in the building. The City had previously approved TID #110 to assist in Fiserv's relocation and they finished their relocation in early 2024. In late 2023, Kohl's opened their new department store on the first floor of the HUB640 building.



Rendering of future Fiserv, Inc. global headquarters.

Economic Development Successes

Riverwalk Progress & Harbor District Extension

2023 saw the design approval by the City Plan Commission for two new Riverwalk segments, located along Plankinton Ave. These two segments will continue the existing system to the South from Clybourn Ave. to St. Paul Ave., activating the western shore of the Milwaukee River with a public dog park as well as a new taphouse known as Foxtown Landing.

In addition, Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) District #68 (First Place) was amended to provide \$3.9 million of the city's share of the funding to construct these two Riverwalks, as well as to provide funding for a third Riverwalk which will be built adjacent to the Cooperage and Boone & Crockett, on S. Water St. Design work was completed on the Harbor District Riverwalk project, adjacent to the Komatsu Mining Headquarters and the project went to bid in late summer of 2023. Unfortunately, the bids came back higher than expected, so after a few modifications to the plans, the project will be re-bid in early 2024.

Lastly, construction began in late 2023 on the second phase of the Riverhouse Apartments and that project includes an extension of the Riverwalk System along N. Water St., which will ultimately connect to the Riverwalk at 1887 N. Water St. which was near the end of its construction at the end of 2023.

We can expect to see the majority of the projects listed above break ground in 2024, bringing over 1,000 linear feet of additional Riverwalk to the existing system.



Proposed Riverwalk at Foxtown Landing.



Proposed Riverwalk on S. Water St.



Proposed Harbor District Riverwalk on N. Water St.

TID Public Infrastructure Enhancements

The Urban Development Team continued leveraging Tax Incremental Districts (TID) to fund infrastructure projects throughout the city in 2023.

Three districts provided \$15.5 million to fund improvements on the far southwest side, the Wilson Park neighborhood, downtown, along Michigan and Cass streets, and the neighborhoods north of downtown, Bronzeville, Halyard Park, and Brewers Hill.

The infrastructure improvements included curb bump-outs, speed bumps, protected bicycle lanes, and reduced lanes to slow down traffic and provide other transportation modalities as part of Mayor Johnson's focus on reducing reckless driving and advancing 50 miles of protected bike lanes throughout the city.

Moving forward, the team will continue to focus on advancing funds utilizing tax incremental districts to support the administration's priorities of addressing reckless driving, and adding more public spaces to our neighborhoods and protected bike lanes throughout the city.

To date, since Mayor Johnson has taken office, the administration has advanced \$43.6 million to fund his priorities using Tax Incremental Financing.

Economic Development Successes

In addition to working with several companies on potential development at Century City in the 30th Street Corridor, the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee (RACM) continues to prepare some of the community's most challenging properties available for future development including the Kneeland Property and the former Northridge Mall.



Northridge

RACM staff has worked tirelessly on gaining site control of the former Northridge Mall on the far north side of the City of Milwaukee. In late 2023, the City successfully foreclosed on the property for tax delinquency leading to the planned demolition of the million-square-foot mall in 2024. RACM and DCD Real Estate will now work on the future redevelopment of the site beyond the demolition.

Kneeland Property

RACM staff has been instrumental in moving key parcels forward for development with the continued site preparation of the Kneeland Property in the award-winning Menomonee Valley. Faced with a lack of roads and utilities, constraints with land owned by neighboring property owners, and issues with grade elevations, floodplain, and stormwater management, the Kneeland Property continues to pose challenges; however, significant progress was made in 2023 where RACM is planning on offering the property for sale as early as late 2025.



Rendering of future Kneeland Properties site.



PHOTO CREDIT: Tim Evans, MATC
Pole-raising at the line-worker training center at 30th St. and North Ave.



PHOTO CREDIT: Reflo
Green Tech Station.

30th Street Corridor

RACM staff also led numerous successful projects in 2023 that focused in the 30th Street Corridor whereby partners, supporters, residents, and elected officials celebrated a ground-breaking (expansion of Melvina Park), pole-setting (line-worker training center), and ribbon-cutting (Green Tech Station). Each of these initiatives creates multi-faceted outdoor spaces that will include community greenspace with green infrastructure. The line-worker training center at 30th St. and North Ave. will also create job opportunities through Milwaukee Area Technical College's Electrical Power Distribution program.

Brownfield funding

RACM continues to lead the country in securing Brownfield funding from the federal government. In May 2023, Mayor Johnson joined U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Administrator Michael Regan to announce \$5.5 million of grant awards to RACM to address environmental issues across the city. These federal funds continue to provide funds for RACM to support environmental cleanup and economic development.



USEPA Administrator Michael Regan, US Senator Tammy Baldwin, DCD Deputy Commissioner Vanessa Koster, and RACM Brownfield Team following a \$5.5 million grant award to RACM in May 2023. The press conference also included Commissioner Lafayette Crump's father who introduced the USEPA Administrator.

RACM provided three Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund loans totaling **nearly \$3 million for affordable housing** projects throughout the community.

These loan funds close funding gaps for private developments caused by environmental issues with the site.

In all, the low-interest loans helped finance catalytic projects that created nearly

700
affordable housing units

Commercial Corridor Successes & Efforts

In 2023, the Commercial Corridor Team (CCT) awarded 107 grants for a total of \$1,384,390.58, leveraging an estimated total of \$11,513,953.15 that businesses and property owners invested in their properties or commercial spaces.

Notable Successful Projects

Buffalo Boss

The Near West Side buzzed with activity. Grand openings in formerly City-owned properties included Buffalo Boss, which grew from a location in the Sherman Phoenix incubator space to 540 N. 27th Street.



Who's On Layton



Kuumba Juice & Coffee



CCT staff secured and administered:

- A \$250,000 Community Development Investment (CDI) Grant from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) for use at The New State, located at 2608 W. State St.
- A \$50,000 WEDC Vibrant Spaces Grant for improvements to the Beerline Plaza at 450 E. Townsend St.
- \$100,000 as part of the Fresh Food Access Fund (FFAF), which was awarded to seven different projects

Looking forward

The CCT anticipates awarding another 100+ grants in 2024, totaling over \$1 million, which is in turn expected to leverage at least \$10 million in matching funds.

- CCT is taking the lead on applying for a \$500,000 WEDC Idle Sites Grant to support the United Community Center's renovation of three buildings for early childhood education purposes.
- CCT looks forward to securing another CDI Grant of \$250,000, as well as a WEDC Site Assessment Grant of \$150,000, to facilitate commercial developments in the City of Milwaukee.
- The FFAF will again accept applications in the spring for projects addressing the brick-and-mortar needs of fresh food providers and growers in the City.

Supporting Affordable Housing & Homeownership Opportunities

Tax Incremental Districts for Affordable Housing

The Department of City Development continues to utilize Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) to support the development of affordable rental housing.

In 2023, three new affordable housing Tax Incremental Districts (TID) totaling \$11.4 million were approved.



Rendering of the Filer Stowell Project housing development.



Rendering of the future home of the King Drive Library and adjacent developments.



Rendering of Riverwest Food Accelerator building.

The **Filer Stowell Project** features 576 new housing units in eight buildings in the Bay View neighborhood, including 144 elderly units. This \$197 million investment has units targeted across a range of affordability. The project, which supports over 700 construction jobs, is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2026.

The **Milwaukee Public Library's new King Drive Library** location is a mixed-use development that will feature affordable apartments and a brand-new 17,000-square-foot public library space. The development plan includes removing the existing library and a formerly City-owned property for another apartment building.

A long-awaited closure occurred on E. North Ave. for the development of the **Riverwest Food Accelerator** by General Capital Group and KG Development Group. This site aims to put healthy eating on the map in the Riverwest neighborhood with a demonstration kitchen. It will also boast a 91-unit mixed-income affordable apartment building with a set aside for residents with permanent disabilities.

Supporting Affordable Housing & Homeownership Opportunities

Home Ownership/Down Payment Assistance

Supporting new homeownership and addressing the disparity in homeownership rates continue to be priorities for the City of Milwaukee.

For many first-time homebuyers, saving the funds necessary for a down payment can be a significant barrier to home purchase. In 2023, DCD continued its partnership with local homebuying counseling agencies to provide down payment assistance under the Milwaukee Home Down Payment Program, providing grants to 240 families to help them realize their dream of homeownership.

Since the program's launch in mid-2021, over 740 families have been assisted, with 97% of them being homebuyers of color.

The City allocated \$2 million in the 2024 budget to continue its partnership and efforts under the program. Based on experience to date, it is projected that by year-end the program will have assisted over 1,000 first-time homebuyers.



Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation (NIDC)

In 2023, DCD invested over \$1.6 million to preserve, rehabilitate, and renovate more than 95 housing units throughout the City, while leveraging \$869,169 of outside investment.

DCD staff attended over 90 community outreach events to promote housing and community improvement programs, collaborate with partner agencies, and grow the base of residential rehabilitation contractors. DCD increased its efforts to grow the capacity of emerging contractors and developers to work within the affordable housing universe. We will continue to improve our efforts within this space during 2024.



McKinley School Apartments

Notable Grand Opening

- Renovation of the historic former McKinley School
- 39-unit mixed-income apartments with preferences for veteran families
- Dryhooch, local provider for veterans' services, co-located in the building to provide support
- EPA funded and performed remediation work required for the property to be reused as housing



Homes MKE

Funded with \$15 million in resources from the federal American Rescue Plan Act, the Homes MKE program is working with local partners to renovate vacant City-owned tax-foreclosed properties and create high-quality home ownership and affordable rental opportunities. The majority of the 14 local development teams participating in the program are emerging developers and developers of color.

The program is also leveraging program activity in Homes MKE project neighborhoods, making residents aware of homeownership and job opportunities, as well as other resources. By year-end, the first homes under the program were completed.



Homes MKE set the goal of renovating **over 100 properties** in 2024. A range of affordable homeownership choices will result from the program, including purchase, lease/option, and opportunities under Milwaukee's Community Land Trust.

Revitalizing Neighborhoods

Healing Spaces Initiative

- In 2023, DCD geographically expanded the Healing Spaces Initiative (HSI) to new areas in Milwaukee. HSI is a resident-led program that repurposes vacant, City-owned lots into activated spaces for rest and relaxation.
- NIDC staff led the project to create two new community gathering spaces in two new neighborhoods. The goal is to have HSI staff create three new community gathering spaces, including one on the city's south side, by the end of 2024.



Healing Space Initiative locations at Peace Park and Roosevelt Grove.



Community Improvement Program

Administered by NIDC, the Community Improvement Program (CIP) offers matching grants of up to \$4,000 for community projects that engage residents and beautify neighborhoods.

Since 2008, over \$1.1 million in CIP grants have funded more than 300 projects involving 10,000-plus participants in 50 neighborhoods. An additional \$2 million was leveraged from residents, businesses, and organizations in these neighborhoods.

In 2023, an additional **18 projects** for a total of \$88,000 was completed. In 2024, the momentum will continue within **Milwaukee neighborhoods.**

Revitalizing Neighborhoods

City Owned Property Sales:

DCD's Real Estate Team sold **166 improved properties** and **72 vacant lots** in 2023.

Pilot Homeownership Buy Back Program

The Pilot Homeownership Buy Back Program is a public/private partnership between the City of Milwaukee, Acts Housing, Legal Aid Society of Milwaukee, and multiple local philanthropic organizations. Through this program, owner-occupied residents who lost their home to tax foreclosure were able to purchase their home back from the City and receive a loan for the taxes owed and needed repairs on the homes.

- Through six closings, over 125 years of homeownership were preserved through the program, and \$120,000 in delinquent taxes and fees were paid off to the City.
- \$210,000 was invested in the homes for upgrades to improve the safety of the homes and reach compliance with the residential building code.



Homeownership in Milwaukee.



The City sold **10+ homes** to Acts in 2023.



Acts Homes: Buy a Home, Build a Community

Acts Housing's "Acts Homes" acquisition program acquires and rehabilitates homes throughout the City of Milwaukee. After the renovation work is completed, Acts sells the homes to owner-occupant buyers.

The Acts Homes program's purpose is to acquire 100 homes annually to build community, by ensuring residential homes throughout the City are locally owned by owner-occupants.

Ten homes were sold under Acts Homes and additional homes were sold under the Homes MKE initiative.

Revitalizing Neighborhoods

Bronzeville Estates

The closing of 12 properties to Bronzeville Estates, an affordable housing and commercial development by Melissa Allen, is helping bridge the gap between residential and commercial development. The development will total 30 residential units and three commercial spaces.

- Renovation of formerly City-owned and privately-owned one and two-unit properties, and a former City-owned commercial building
- New construction homes near North Ave., along with a new commercial building on N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive.



Habitat for Humanity homes under construction.



Habitat for Humanity

Milwaukee Habitat for Humanity was also active in 2023, working with DCD staff to acquire 11 lots for new home construction, and obtaining approval to purchase an additional 43 lots in 2024-2026. Located in the Harambee, King Park, and Midtown neighborhoods, Habitat's new homes will be affordable and designated for first-time homebuyers.

Metcalfe Park Homeownership Collaboration

In 2023, the first three Gorman & Co. scattered-site affordable rental properties were sold to their tenants as the first closings in the Metcalfe Park Homeownership collaboration.

The properties were able to be sold to the tenant occupants because the 15-year Land Use Restriction Agreement (LURA) had expired.

Since the transfer to homeownership was so many years in the making, all involved were truly delighted to attend the first closing and to celebrate the start of the transfers to the owners.

This collaborative venture has won numerous awards.

Successful City Real Estate Sales

Significant successful closings have occurred on the commercial end of City real estate sales, including landmark projects, in 2023.



Groundbreaking for Serenity Inns

The City sold two vacant lots for an expansion of the **Serenity Inns** recovery program, run by Kenneth Ginlack. Ginlack is a respected figure in substance use disorder who overcame addiction and was named 2023 Non-Profit Executive of the Year. The development, funded through IFF, is in the Midtown Neighborhood, across from the original Serenity Inns.

Edison School Apartments

Existing school auditorium and school facade.



Historic renovation of the **Edison School Apartments** by Gorman & Co. and Malik Cupid. This surplus Milwaukee Public Schools building, which has now been designated as historic, will become 75 affordable apartments, with 63 apartments set aside for residents over 55 years old. Additional units will be available for those experiencing homelessness. Townhomes are also planned to offer a variety of housing options.

A local light manufacturing business, **Final Cut Water Jet and Fabrication**, is expanding in the Silver Swan neighborhood. Using WI § 75.106, the City assigned its right in foreclosure for a tax-delinquent brownfield property to expand its offerings. Final Cut will offer CNC milling and hire more staff, benefiting the marine, aerospace, and signage industries.



Historic Route 41 bus stop, created by Final Cut.

Planning for Success

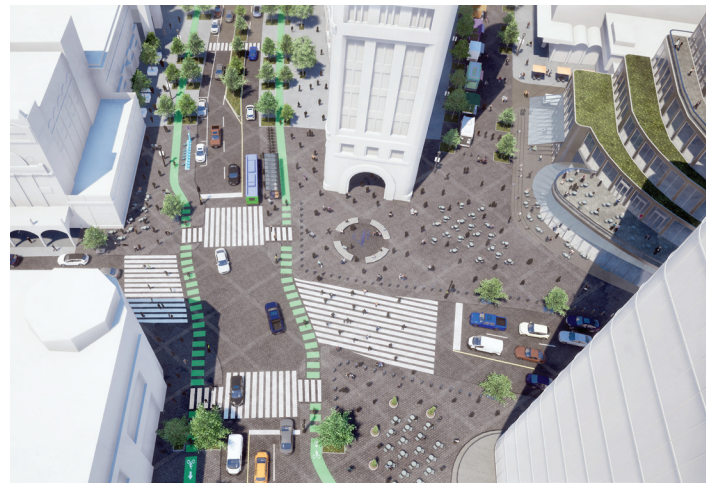
During 2023, DCD's Planning Division advanced multiple major projects to shape and support City Planning and Development goals.



Connec+ing MKE: Downtown Plan 2040

In July, the Common Council approved the **Connec+ing MKE: Downtown Plan 2040** which provides a roadmap for doubling the residential population of downtown, attracting and

retaining diverse businesses, making downtown more walkable and bikeable, making improvements to streets and public spaces, and reinforcing downtown as the economic and cultural anchor of our region. The plan identified seven catalytic projects, including redesigning 6th Street to better connect the north and south sides to Downtown, transforming Water St. through improved public spaces coordinated with private investment, and identifying more than 100 acres of surface parking lots and other underutilized land for redevelopment. Residents from every Milwaukee zip code were among the more than 2,500 voices that contributed their input to shape this vision for a connected Downtown for current and future Milwaukeeans.



Creating New Housing and Job Opportunities

Planning staff carried out a variety of neighborhood planning efforts during 2023 that will bring new housing and job opportunities to the City, as well as reconnect communities by removing barriers caused by past infrastructure decisions.



- The **Bay View Neighborhood Plan** establishes a vision for future development and public space improvements in the Bay View neighborhood. The plan identifies key public park and street improvements, strategies to support local businesses, and opportunities to bring new housing options to the neighborhood, including through the redevelopment of the former Army Reserve site.



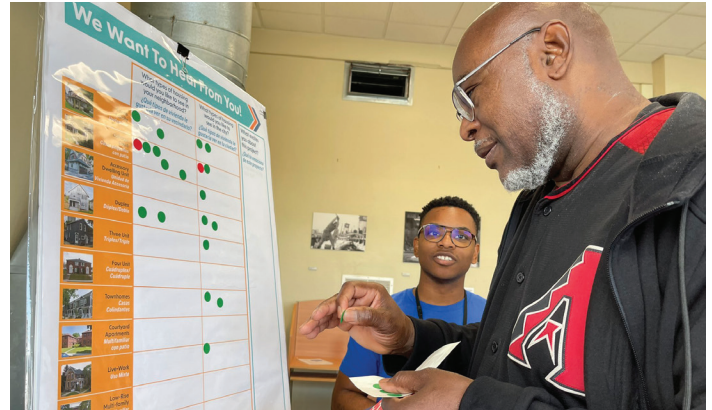
- The **Pierce and Bruce Sub-district Study** carried out in partnership with Menomonee Valley Partners will support ongoing job development in this portion of the Valley by allowing for a wider mix of job-creating commercial and light industrial users.
- In partnership with the State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation and Milwaukee County, the **Reimagining WI-175** initiative will take a comprehensive approach to evaluate alternatives for the future WI-175 corridor to better accommodate vehicles, transit, bicycle and pedestrian connections; connect neighborhoods, and promote socio-economic vitality.



Growing MKE

In the coming year, Planning will continue the **Growing MKE** initiative to amend the housing element of our Comprehensive Plan with a focus on housing choice and growth and to update the zoning code to advance those goals. Growing MKE launched in 2023 with a focus on increasing housing choice, supporting walkable urban neighborhoods, and reducing barriers to new development while advancing the City of Milwaukee's climate and affordability goals.

More than 1,100 people have already engaged in the Growing MKE initiative to shape a plan to encourage new housing development throughout the City.



City Plan Commission

The City Plan Commission reviewed 56 zoning changes, zoning overlay, comprehensive planning, and other items in 2023. Developments and rezonings recommended for approval by the City Plan Commission during the past year are anticipated to bring more than 2,000 new homes to the City, including more than 1,100 affordable housing units, and add an estimated \$290 million to the tax base.



Milwaukee Arts Board

The Milwaukee Arts Board (MAB) is a 17-member board that promotes the development, support, and enjoyment of the arts in Milwaukee. MAB encourages cultural diversity in the city's artistic life and supports projects in underrepresented communities. DCD provides administrative support for MAB.

In 2023, MAB administered the annual Sustaining Grant program to local, arts-focused nonprofit organizations to support artistic or administrative staff, facility, and operating costs as well as programming costs if applicable.

The Public Artist in Residence Pilot Program

In early 2023, MAB launched the Public Artist in Residence (PAIR) pilot program. PAIR invests in the city's cultural creators to build a stronger Milwaukee. Sarah Davitt, Haptotrope Artist Services, was selected as the first PAIR to collaborate with the Department of Public Works and other stakeholders to develop artist-driven solutions to address reckless driving and create safer neighborhoods. Throughout 2023, Davitt built relationships and created an art car that will be covered in carved traffic cones for community outreach. Davitt also created an outreach kit for a "Visibility Patch Printing Activity," which uses carved cone scraps to print messages of safety and belonging on brightly colored, retroreflective fabric, and a "Cone Beacon" which will be a visible, mobile landmark for community engagement.



Vision Zero Community Open House Meeting featuring the PAIR.



Cone printing.



The creation of an art car.



PAIR Sarah Davitt in studio.

In total, **47 Milwaukee-based nonprofit arts organizations were funded** based on their 2023 budget. Four organizations were funded at \$3,000 and 43 at \$6,000 – for a total of **\$270,000**.



The 2023 Mildred L. Harpole Artists of the Year Paul Druecke (left) and Ben Tyjeski (center-right) with 2023 Friend of the Arts Jenelle Elder-Green (center-left) and Mayor Johnson (right) posed together at the arts celebration in the City Hall rotunda.

MAB honors members of the arts community with two annual awards

The 2023 Mildred L. Harpole Artist of the Year Awards were Ben Tyjeski and Paul Druecke.

Jenelle Elder-Green and Carl Bogner were named the 2023 Friends of the Arts.



milwaukee.gov/DCD