



## FAQ

### What is a Downtown Development Authority (DDA)?

In 1975, the Michigan Legislature created Act 197, which allows communities to establish a Downtown Development Authority. According to the Act, the purpose of a DDA includes:

- » Correcting and preventing deterioration in business districts.
- » Encouraging historic preservation.
- » Authorizing the creation and implementation of development plans in the districts.
- » Promoting the economic growth of the districts.
- » Creating a Downtown Development Authority Board.
- » DDAs may raise revenue for physical improvements through several methods, including: tax increment financing, issuing revenue bonds, tax levy, and grants.
- » The primary goal of the Ecorse Downtown Development Authority is to promote and preserve the economic health and stability of the City.

### OVERVIEW OF ECORSE'S DDA

Created by the Ecorse City Council in 2020, the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) has its roots in the 2019 West Jefferson Corridor Plan.

West Jefferson Avenue is a vital corridor that provides regional connections for land uses varying from a heavy industrial presence upon entry to Ecorse from the north; scattered lower density retail, restaurants, and automotive related uses in its downtown core; beautiful passive Detroit River views in Dingell Park; to waterfront recreation uses at the southern boundary of Ecorse.

The future successful development of the West Jefferson corridor as envisioned in the West Jefferson Corridor Plan, also anticipates joint efforts between Ecorse and River Rouge. By working together, Ecorse and River Rouge can multiply their impact and ensure that the cities are part of significant state and regional economic development efforts.

### DDA GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Together, the following goals and objectives provide the foundation for this West Jefferson Avenue Development Plan and the framework for implementation.

- 01 Goal:** Improve the Design and Appearance of the Corridor.
- 02 Goal:** Foster Collaboration and Promote the Corridor.
- 03 Goal:** Enhance Greenways, Public Spaces, and Sustainability.
- 04 Goal:** Promote Business and Economic Development.
- 05 Goal:** Protect Existing and Expand New Housing Options.
- 06 Goal:** Improve Infrastructure and Transportation part of significant state and regional economic development efforts.

### How can I find out more about what the DDA is doing?

The DDA board meetings are open to the public. They are held the first Thursday of every month at 8:30am via Zoom (until further notice). More information can be found on the City of Ecorse's website.