

Q42024 HIGHLIGHTS & MILESTONES



The Motor City Contracting Fund Coaching Sessions

The Motor City Contracting Fund is a business growth initiative that provides technical assistance and flexible and affordable lending to emerging contractors. The organization hosted two sessions at The District Detroit Opportunity Center where participants receive technical assistance, coaching and supportive resources.





Michigan Women Forward Holiday Luncheon and Staff Meeting

Michigan Women Forward held their staff meeting and a holiday luncheon at The District Detroit Opportunity Center. Michigan Women Forward is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the economic empowerment of women and minorities. The organization provides small business support and microloans to entrepreneurs to help them grow their business and communities.

City of Detroit Department of Neighborhoods Gen-Z Youth Day

The City of Detroit's Youth Affairs Team held a Gen-Z Co-Working Day at The District Detroit Opportunity Center. The event was a chance for attendees to network with like-minded peers, share ideas, and collaborate in a dynamic and inspiring environment designed to foster creativity and connections.





Columbia Street Transformed into Winter Wonderland

Columbia Street in The District Detroit was transformed into a Winter Wonderland that the entire community could enjoy for free from November 22 to January 5. The Columbia Street Winter Wonderland presented by Michigan First Credit Union created a picture sque, pedestrian-only Candy Land theme perfect for a stroll, to capture special moments, or to shop and dine at one of the incredible small businesses that align the street.

The District Detroit Neighborhood Advisory Committee Annual Community Meeting

The City of Detroit held its annual update meeting for The District Detroit Community Benefits Agreement. Members of the public received updates on development proposals from representatives from Olympia Development and Related Companies along with the many positive impacts coming to the city through the implementation of the Community Benefits Agreement.





Comerica Bank Hosts Free Community Financial Workshops

Comerica Bank held an interactive workshop for entrepreneurs called Financial Clarity: Separating Business Cash Flow from Personal Finances and Leveraging Technology for Success. The workshop is designed to help entrepreneurs understand the importance of maintaining a clear distinction between business cash flow and personal finances and explored how leveraging technology can help keep businesses ahead of the competition. Separately, Comerica Bank also held a Capacity Building Workshop to address the capacity challenges faced by many nonprofits.

Homeless Action Network of Detroit Holds Leadership Council Meeting

The Homeless Action Network of Detroit hosted their Leadership Council at The District Detroit Opportunity Center. Leaders of homelessness systems had an opportunity to share information on best practices and work together to improve federal policy, exchange ideas about what has helped to produce good results in their communities and to suggest ways to overcome the challenges they face.



Cranbook Center for Collections and Research Tours Historic Women's City Club



Staff of the Cranbrook Center for Collections and Research attended an exclusive tour of the restored historic former Women's City Club at 2110 Park Avenue in Detroit. Opened in 1924, the building is part of the Park Avenue Historic District. After the tour, Cranbrook's Kevin Adkisson presented "History of American Architecture: Detroit and the World" to Olympia colleagues. The lecture focused on the architectural history of Detroit, studying the buildings, designers, and policymakers that shaped the city from the late nineteenth century to today.

Olympia Development Co-Developer Program Releases Second RFP

Olympia Development of Michigan announced 81 W. Columbia Street, the Blenheim building, as the second of three projects to be offered to Detroit-based developers as part of its Co-Developer Program. The Blenheim is located at the southeast corner of Columbia Street and Park Avenue, adjacent to the Fox Theatre and behind Little Caesars Global Headquarters. The Co-Developer Program is designed to create opportunities for Detroit-based, Detroit-headquartered, or Detroit resident-owned development companies. Earlier in the year, Olympia Development announced 475 Peterboro as the first of the three buildings, making 44 & 48 W. Adams, adjacent to Grand Circus Park West, the third project in the program.



ASSETify Real Estate Workshops with Jewel Tankard Held

ASSETify held two workshops at The District Detroit Opportunity Center educating participants on how to invest in real estate. ASSETify is an investor network and community of like-minded individuals that offers the opportunity for people to come together to receive mentoring and strategies for success in the field of real estate investing. Topics included investment strategies, financing deals, navigating the Detroit real estate market and boosting credit for real estate success.





Saturdays in the D

Saturdays in the D brought together over 40 students ranging in age from age 17 to 70 to learn or further advance their Python programming language skills. In a partnership with the City of Detroit and the University of Michigan, this free program is designed to help adult residents unlock new skills, expand career potential, and engage in transformative learning experiences.



Fall Fest Returns to Columbia Street in The District Detroit

In October and November, Fall Fest returned to Columbia Street as the pedestrian-only street was transformed into a picturesque autumnal experience. The immersive experience, presented by Michigan First Credit Union, was free and open to the public, seven days a week. As the leaves were turning and the smell of pumpkin spice was in the air, guests were able to capture special moments with friends and family and shop or dine at Columbia Street's unique restaurants.

The District Detroit, City of Detroit and University of Michigan Host Community Meetings for Planned Public Plaza

Olympia Development of Michigan, Related Companies, the City of Detroit and University of Michigan Center for Innovation (UMCI) held two public meetings during which members of the community were invited to share their ideas for a planned community plaza in The District Detroit. The 20,000-square-foot M-Block Plaza will be a public connector to the UMCI and other proposed developments including a residential tower and a business incubator. The charrette-style community meetings are intended to help ensure the plaza is a purposeful, culturally relevant, and useful place for Detroit.



Public Drone Show Celebrates the Detroit Tigers Incredible Postseason Run



To celebrate the return of postseason baseball to Detroit, Detroit Tigers fans were invited to celebrate the team's incredible postseason run with a special Drone Show, presented by Meijer. The free public show took place outside Comerica Park, and fans gathered on Columbia Street near the Fox Theatre in The District Detroit for the best viewing experience.

Tulsa Chamber of Commerce Visits The District Detroit

Members of the Tulsa Regional Chamber of Commerce toured The District Detroit as part of their benchmarking visit to the city. The group sought opportunities to further enhance the Tulsa region's economic prosperity and quality of life by experiencing all that our city has to offer. As part of the visit, Rian English Barnhill, Olympia Development Vice President of Government and Community Affairs also presented future development plans and highlighted the many community benefits that come from our commitment to Detroit.

