



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 23, 2019

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Community Foundation Breaks Ground on Rotary Park

Placemaking Investment to Inspire Economic Growth

LANSING, MICH. — The [Community Foundation](#) celebrated the start of construction on a downtown Lansing attraction, [Rotary Park](#), with a groundbreaking ceremony on April 23, 2019.

Rotary Park, downtown on the Grand River, stretches from the Lansing Center to the Shiawassee Street bridge, revitalizing one of Lansing's greatest assets: its riverfront. Once finished in August, visitors can enjoy a day at the beach, music under a magical lighted forest and an evening with friends around a fireplace in the plaza, all at this one riverfront park.

"Rotary Park is the first of many projects we are planning to create a vibrant, urban core in our region where people want to visit and live," said Laurie Baumer, Community Foundation executive vice president.

"I am thrilled that we have taken the next step to create Rotary Park by breaking ground on the project site," said Mayor Schor. "Lansing's time is now and the transformation of Lansing's riverfront is an exciting part of all the growth in the city."

In 2017, the Foundation embarked on a major placemaking initiative to revitalize Lansing's riverfront with the ultimate goal of creating places where workers and businesses want to locate and grow. After two years of fundraising and planning, the Foundation's first riverfront development project is underway.

"We know that our businesses need workers, and we know workers want to live in vibrant, thriving communities," added Baumer. "Our riverfront projects will infuse energy into this region, attracting people to visit and enticing them to stay."

The Foundation has raised over \$1 million to date for all riverfront projects and has also committed \$1.5 million in matching those funds dollar for dollar, bringing the total riverfront investment to \$2.5 million.

Rotary Park's contributors include Rotary Club of Lansing Foundation, Delta Dental of Michigan, Dewpoint, Red Cedar Investment Management, Auto-Owners Insurance, Gillespie Group, Team Lansing Foundation and the Greater Lansing Convention and Visitors Bureau and several

individual donors contributing to Rotary Park and other projects along the riverfront.

The Foundation's contributors, project partners and Mayor Andy Schor posed for pictures with ceremonial shovels and hard hats at the Tuesday afternoon event, marking a pinnacle of widespread investment in the community. A symbol of growth, Rotary Park connected leaders from the public, private and nonprofit sectors to work together, combine resources and strengthen this community.

The Community Foundation is passionate about creating vibrant, thriving communities throughout Michigan's capital region. The Foundation serves donors with unique charitable goals who want to invest in the long-term success of their community, supports area nonprofits with grants and coaching, and leads innovative projects that drive community growth. The Community Foundation (also known as the Capital Region Community Foundation) is a tax-exempt public charity that serves the charitable needs and enhances the quality of life for people in Ingham, Clinton and Eaton counties.

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