



DOWNTOWN 2017

END OF YEAR REPORT | DOWNTOWN SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR





CONNECTING PEOPLE THROUGH EXPERIENCES

It is imperative to develop community awareness and investment. Shared positive experiences between large groups of people as well as one-on-one interactions can help develop social bonds to enhance emotional investment and lead to an increased sense of place by visitors and local community alike.*

*Beautiful friendship: Social sharing of emotions improves subjective feelings and activates the neural reward circuitry

<https://academic.oup.com/scan/article/10/6/801/1732379/Beautiful-friendship-Social-sharing-of->

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DOWNTOWN SERVICES

...IN A NUTSHELL

Employee: Maria Davis

Downtown Services Coordinator | Office of the Mayor | Start date: May 02, 2016 | Full-time

Main Street Coordinator | Office of Economic Development and Planning | Start date: April 8, 2014 | Part-time



Community DEVELOPMENT

Inspiring conditions that encourage unified community support.

This aspect encompasses all four of the points here. It is also the most difficult to describe in its implementation, as the intangible aspect of community “hearts and minds” is entwined with the “nuts and bolts” of a well-functioning downtown. Metrics to measure community can be difficult to define, but outcomes of increased engagement and a growing downtown can be seen as improvement indicators. Projects on community wellness, which incorporates not only health, but social and economic well-being, and Angola’s sense of place are included in this area.



Marketing and PROMOTION

Enhancing downtown Angola’s public profile.

The digital age has brought new ways to tell Angola’s story through social media, websites, the printed word, radio, and TV. An ever evolving and changing narrative of constant and future growth while staying true to Angola’s heritage is a strategy consistent with the downtown 2020 plan of 2008 and the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership (NEIRP) “Our Story” project of 2015.



Business/Community LIAISON

Connecting local government information and resources to encourage investment.

Today we find the divide between governance and “the People” wider than ever. It is imperative to create an environment of trust by offering support to community based efforts of individuals, organizations and businesses.



Historic Preservation COMMISSION STAFF Facade Grant

Helping protect our community’s heritage through ordinance compliance.

The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) is an important piece in the restoration and preservation of Angola’s heritage. The buildings in Angola’s Commercial Downtown Historic District are visual reminders of Angola’s growth and change throughout its history. The HPC works to maintain Angola’s architectural heritage in balance with downtown growth and development. Facade projects must be presented to the HPC. Facade grants must also go before them prior to review by the Common Council. Downtown Services has helped in the formulation of the process and the facilitation of the Facade Grant program established in 2016. This year the City’s grant has awarded over \$14,000 to downtown business facades improvements.

IMPLEMENTING SOLUTIONS BEHIND THE SCENES

11
PROJECTS



DAC DOWNTOWN ANGOLA COALITION

Support and helping to build a new Angola Main Street Organization

This year DAC was made Angola's official Main Street organization. After almost two years of work the group has become an Indiana public benefit corporation and will look to get their 50(c)3.



CRI COMMUNITY READINESS INITIATIVE

Collecting data to determine community and leadership directional consensus

The leadership and community surveys were distributed and data analysis turned in this year.



RURAL ARTS INITIATIVE

Encouraging and supporting artistic endeavors

The arts can bring people together to accomplish projects that are more tangible to the average citizen. Government support of such projects can build cooperative trust between government and citizen, an increased sense of community pride and accomplishment and can bring together people who might otherwise not interact.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Reaching out to Community to increase engagement and investment

Partnerships begin with people. Helping each other meet smaller goals contributes to larger goals and missions. Downtown Services meets with organization members to communicate, support and work with them on projects that benefit the community.



HCI HOMETOWN COLLABORATION INITIATIVE

Bringing community together to jump-start a community based solution

After going through OCRA's application process, Angola was chosen to be a member of the Generation 5 communities. Members of the community represent a diverse set of organizations and individuals.



VIRTUAL ANGOLA 360 DEGREE ONLINE TOUR

Creating digital and interactive Angola to attract and educate community and visitors

Work being done with Clear Vision Media to enhance Angola's profile online.



MONUMENTAL CENTENNIAL

Partnering to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Soldiers' Monument

Downtown Services worked with the Steuben County Tourism Bureau to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Soldiers' Monument. The work culminated in joint event with the 2017 Cruise to the Monument.



HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC) / FACADE GRANTS

Working to preserve Angola's heritage

Downtown Services works as staff helping to coordinate events, meetings, and work with Indiana Landmarks. The HPC and Facade Grants are under the the City of Angola's Office of Economic Development and Planning.

OTHER PROJECTS

City Hall Clock - Point for maintenance, programming and repair.

Historic US 20 - Working towards historic designation of US 20

Community Wellness- Partnering with others to look deeper into Angola's social dynamics to partner and assist in narrative changes for better well-being economically, socially and through placemaking.

IMPLEMENTING SOLUTIONS PUBLIC DISPLAYS

+
19

EVENTS
CITY, PARTNERED, PROCESSED

+
141

VOLUNTEERS



CRUISE TO THE MONUMENT

Combining cars and community

This event has quickly become a favorite in the community. Cars are the draw, but the shared experience of two detoured highways and community coming together for an evening keep people coming back for more. This year, the event has several components and several sub events occurring simultaneously.



ART IS ART FESTIVAL

Artist engagement in downtown

To help encourage rural arts, Downtown Services helped rescue this event of great potential when the original event planners abandoned it. The event will be re-tooled, produced and marketed by the Downtown Angola Coalition in 2018. The event is planned to take place on August 4, 2018 to coincide with downtown sidewalk sales.



CHRISTMAS SANTA'S ARRIVAL / WAGON RIDES

Continuing downtown Christmas traditions

Two of downtown's Christmas traditions have passed organizational hands many times. Downtown Services picked up these events when Angola's first Main Street organization disbanded. 2018 will be a transitional year. The City will help transition these events back to community hands through the Downtown Angola Coalition at their request in 2018.



4TH OF JULY PARADE

Celebrating our place in the history of the United States of America

A traditional draw for thousands of Angola area citizens and visitors, the parade is now under the purview of downtown services.



MUSIC ON THE SQUARE

Downtown as a musical venue

Music is easily understood and enjoyed by aficionados, musicians, and the average citizen. This has been a joint effort between the City and the Downtown Angola Coalition.



YARN BOMBING RURAL ART PROJECT

Recognizing rural fiber arts and their connection to community

Though not large in size, this event has passionate participants who spend untold time crafting colorful creations to help beat the winter blahs. Though not accepted by some as artistic, crochet and knitting are folk arts with practical origins. The display is highly interactive and offers the downtown visitor a source of discussion and interaction. 2018 will introduce the Bulgarian tradition of Martenitsa into the mix.

OTHER DOWNTOWN EVENTS

Downtown Trick-or-Treat
Farmers' Market June to October

PARTNERED EVENTS

Downtown Open Houses - Joint event with Steuben
County Open Houses
Taste of Angola with SCORE

PROCESSED EVENTS

March for Science
Stand for Climate
John Lennon Tribute
Supporting Troops
Monument City 10K run
Rally for Life
Dash for a Cure
Rollin' Relics

2 | MAKING DOWNTOWN ANGOLA STAND OUT

WORKING TOWARDS A VISION

Downtown Angola is the seat of City and County government. By its nature it is a concentrated tax base for the City. Its local independent businesses support schools and other local projects...but what makes us different? How do we tell our own unique story?



THOUGHTFUL



Thoughtful long-range planning helps bring clarity to vision. Helping community define what is meaningful about downtown through existing data helps to create narrative.



SIMPLE



Simple doesn't necessarily mean easy, but simplicity in communication can help bridge gaps between government and community as well as idea and implementation.



IMPLEMENTATION



The best laid plans don't do any good sitting on a shelf. The importance of encouraging community to co-create in the vibrancy of downtown cannot be understated.

PARTNERING...THE SHARED EXPERIENCE

It takes an entire community working together to make downtown Angola even better. Not all of the organizations and individuals that have contributed to their help are listed by name. We thank all of them for their assistance and commitment.



STATE OF INDIANA

The Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) and Indiana's Main Street Program



TRINE UNIVERSITY

University faculty, staff, fraternities, and sororities



STEBEN COUNTY

EMA, EMS, 911 Communications



LOCAL BUSINESS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Cameron Memorial Hospital, Downtown Angola Coalition, Local Churches, TLC House Indiana, downtown businesses, restaurants



INDIVIDUALS

Musicians, artists, performers, volunteers, community members



OTHER

Fort Wayne Downtown Improvement District, Ball State University, Purdue Extension

CREATING COMMUNITY

Historic Downtown Angola

Connecting people, environment, and experiences to build investment and create change.



A VIEW OF OUR OWN

Using historic downtown Angola's attributes to bring people together
...What's Important about our downtown?

SOCIAL & ENVIRONMENT

Density of businesses physically close to each other creates a distinctive social business community, outdoor shopping experience, and social entertainment venue

Planted areas, medians, and rain gardens help keep our lakes cleaner by reducing the quantity and quality of runoff

Efficient land use contains investments already in place

Reflects "Quality of Life" which Site Selectors look at in decision making



GEOGRAPHIC

Center of government for both Angola and Steuben County

Historically Significant:

- Home of Soldiers' Monument
- Two City designated historic locations
- Three downtown locations listed in the National Register of Historic Places

Uniquely located at the crossroads of U.S. Highway 20 (the longest highway in the United States) and Old U.S. 27

ECONOMIC

Shared private/public space represents a large amount of public and private investment

Concentrated city tax base

A vibrant and thriving downtown protects surrounding property values

Dense population of locally owned independent businesses support local endeavors and institutions (like schools) and keeps profits local

New downtown apartment development will help build a downtown residential community

EDUCATION 2018

Ball State Economic Development Course
Climate Leadership Summit
IMPA/OCRA Conference
Indiana Arts Homecoming
Indiana State Preservation Conference
IUPUI Events and Tourism Institute Symposium
Trine University - EEOC of Elkhart County & Office of Student Success & Retention
Trine University - Conflict Resolution, Dealing with Difficult People
Trine University - Ignite the Fire Within - Leadership Tips
Trine University - Pulling Together - Working as a Team

Webinars

Main Street - Community Engagement Guide Overview
Governing - New Approaches for Tackling Age-Old Problems
Stanford Social Innovation - The Gig Economy

MORE NUMBERS

Historic Downtown Angola

1 BUSINESS EXPANSION	FINISHED FACADE PROJECTS \$14,102.25 GRANTS	9 FACADE PROJECTS INCLUDE NON-GRANT	2 NEW BUSINESSES	10 NEW APARTMENTS
THE VENUE 110 W. MAUMEE ACQUIRED BLDG ADDED SPACE	CALEO CAFE 113 W. MAUMEE ST. ROOF/AWNING/ SIGNAGE \$3,179	BELLA MIA 212 W. MAUMEE SIGNAGE/PAINT	CALEO CAFE 113 W. MAUMEE ST. COFFEE SHOP	MAUMEE ONE 111 E. MAUMEE ST. 10 APARTMENTS
	BCY PROPERTIES 105 W. MAUMEE ROOF \$5,000	BCY PROPERTIES 105 W. MAUMEE ST. ROOF/ TUCKPOINTING	ALANO CLUB 225 W. MAUMEE ST. NON PROFIT ORG.	
	TOUCH OF LACE 111 N. WAYNE ST. AWNING \$1,332.25	CALEO CAFE 113 W. MAUMEE ST. AWNING/VINYL SIGNAGE		FACADE GRANT PROJECT IN PROGRESS \$16,075 APPLIED FOR
	THE VENUE 110 W. MAUMEE ST. FACADE \$4,591.00 APPLIED IN 2016 AND FINISHED PROJECT IN 2017	CITY OF ANGOLA 202 W. GILMORE ST. REPLACEMENT OF LIMESTONE ON ROOF		BCY PROPERTIES 105 W. MAUMEE ST. STOREFRONT \$4,575 APPLIED
RELOCATED OUTSIDE OF HISTORIC DOWNTOWN	BELLA MIA 212 W. MAUMEE SIGNAGE/PAINT	SUTTONS DELI 140/160 N. PUBLIC SQ. WINDOWS/FACADE	CLOSED BUSINESSES IN HISTORIC DOWNTOWN	PIAZZA PROPERTIES 40 N. PUBLIC SQ. AWNING \$1,500 APPLIED
HOME SWEET HOME 114 E. MAUMEE ST. STE 101 1220 S. WAYNE ST. STE 3	TOUCH OF LACE 111 N. WAYNE ST. AWNING FACADE NON-GRANT EMERGENCY WORK	TOUCH OF LACE 111 N. WAYNE ST. AWNING FACADE NON-GRANT EMERGENCY WORK	OUR STORAGE FRONT 206 W. MAUMEE ST	SUTTON'S DELI 140/160 N. PUBLIC SQ. FACADE \$5,000 APPLIED
LAKESHORE DESIGN CENTER 205 W. MAUMEE ST. 306 S. WAYNE ST. - FREMONT		PIAZZA PROPERTIES 40 N. PUBLIC SQ. AWNING	SASSAFRASS & SAGE 208 W. MAUMEE ST.	SUTTON'S DELI 140/160 N. PUBLIC SQ. WINDOWS \$5,000 APPLIED



2 PROJECTS



NON-GRANT



CITY OF ANGOLA

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