

# City of Angola

## DOWNTOWN SERVICES

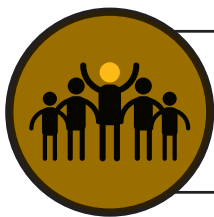
Annual Report  
2020



**MARIA DAVIS**

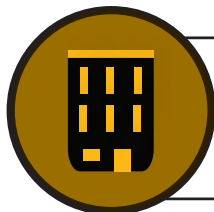
Main Street Coordinator - April 8, 2014  
Downtown Services Coordinator - May 2, 2016 - Present

# Services



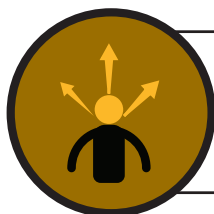
## Community Capacity Building/Liaison

Part of the Downtown Services Coordinators work is to encourage collaboration between individuals and organizations to help build leadership and resources and shares information with locals about the downtown, local, state and federal programs.



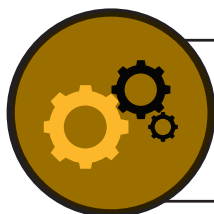
## Historic Preservation

The Downtown Services Coordinator is the ex-officio administrator of the Historic Preservation Commission which helps to protect our community's architectural heritage by overseeing compliance with the City's historic preservation ordinance. Downtown Services also prepares Facade Grant applications that are presented to the Council.



## Communication/Marketing

Downtown Services builds awareness about Angola to other communities and organization through work with Steuben County Tourism, regional, and state programs.



## Downtown Asset Management

The Downtown Services Coordinator works to help create and build Quality of Place programming and assets. She works with a team of third party vendors that maintain downtown landscaping and Monument Plaza facilities. The electric car charging station this year saved 119 gallons of gasoline, saved 396 kg (873.031 pounds) of green house gases, charged cars for 259 hours and had 114 charging sessions.

## CHALLENGES AND BRIGHT SPOTS

2020 brought many challenges to our community - a global pandemic, State stay-at-home orders, heightened tensions in race relations, business closings, record unemployment, and uncertainty about the future. This pivoted much of the way work was normally done and focus was placed on helping local small businesses weather the economic storm.

- Downtown Services increased email communications on

service and grant programs through national programs, local, state, and federal governments, helping in the application process in both the OCRA Phase I and II Recovery Grant application. The City of Angola was awarded the Phase II grant and is currently working to apply for OCRA's Phase III grant.

- Large downtown events were cancelled for the protection of community and staff, while other events and programs were held

virtually. Weekly demonstrations in and around the Public Square were held by various groups.

- Sculptures Angola was faced with logistic and safety challenges. New Public Square sculptures were installed, but 2019 Fall installation sculptures remained on W. Maumee as concern over the pandemic continued.
- The Creative Entrepreneur class continued in virtual form, holding one in-person class before Indiana's Stay-at-Home



Orders.

- The Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership (NEIRP) local mural project came to fruition at 900 N. Wayne St.
- US 20 was dedicated as the Indiana Medal of Honor Highway. Downtown Services helped coordination of the dedication ceremony.
- A new landscaping company

was used this year in downtown.

- Upgrades to ventilation in Monument Plaza were done and CSI Heating and Cooling was hired to help facilitate maintenance work on the building.
- Funding for the sculpture program and other downtown City programs remains challenging.

## Local Projects

- Sculptures Angola
- Women and Girls Creative Entrepreneur Workshop
- Historic Preservation Commission
- Mayor's Arts Council
- Dia de los Muertos
- "I Have a Dream" art workshop with Cahoots
- "LOVE" art show – promotion, participation, funding
- Homecoming for Heroes – Michael Joshua Ross
- Google Partners
- Trine Humanities Institute member

## Regional Projects

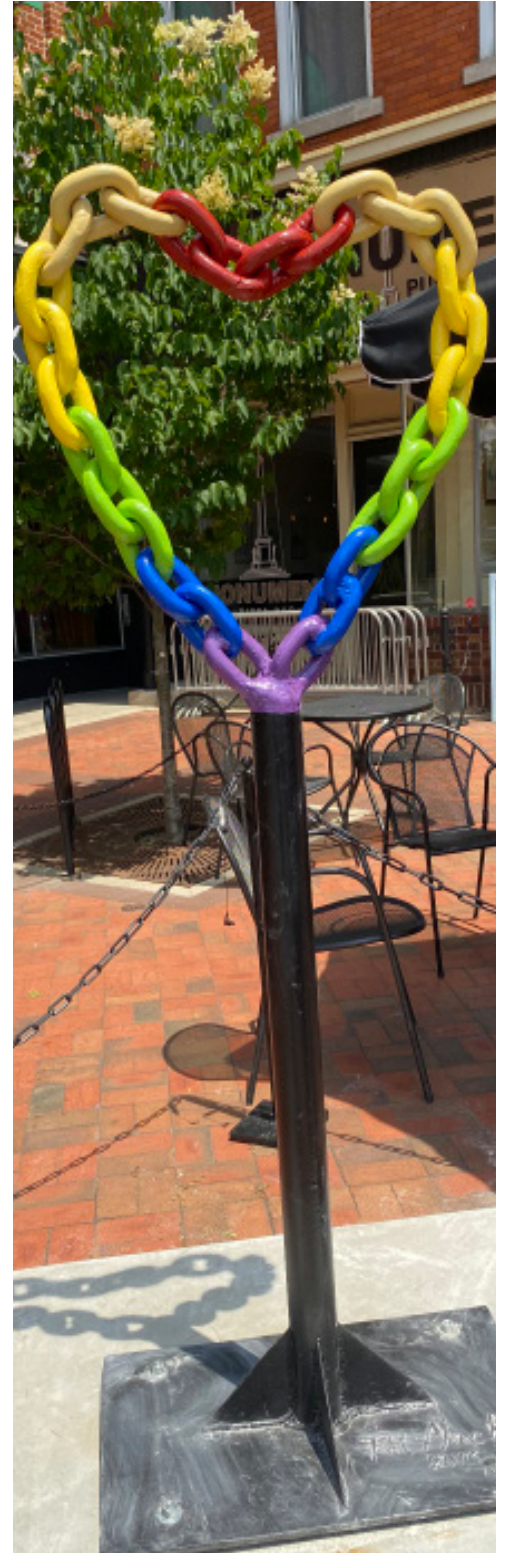
- NEIRP Mural project – support for Steuben County Tourism
- Medal of Honor Highway Dedication - regional/state

## Work Projects with State of Indiana

- Indiana Main Street Council member (until June 2021)
- Creative Community Pathway Support/Evaluator with Indiana Arts Commission
- MOA Fulfillment - Angola Streetscape and Median Project between Federal Highway Administration and the Indiana State Historic Preservation
- OCRA Phase I Recovery Application
- OCRA Phase II Recovery Application

## Other

- Coordinating with Maintenance of Landscaping and Monument Plaza
- Educational booklet with MS4 coordinator
- ADA study



# Historic Preservation



NEW SIGNAGE DESIGNED BY DOWNTOWN SERVICES AND PLACED BY THE STREET DEPARTMENT FINALIZED THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT FOR SIDEWALK AND MEDIAN REVITALIZATION IN DOWNTOWN ANGOLA.

commissions and applicants, update guidelines to be more easily understood, and will be placed online for ease of access.

The HPC voted that it would like to apply for Certified Legal Government (CLG) status. Application components are being worked on.

The City of Angola's Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) protects the architectural integrity of downtown Angola. Each year it reviews facade projects for approval or denial.

The year brought hardship to many downtown businesses in 2020. In spite of those hardships, downtown businesses continued facade improvement with new signage, roofs and window work being predominant projects.

A new statue of Sojourner Truth was also presented to the Historic Preservation Commission by the Downtown Angola Coalition, which will be installed in June 2021. Sojourner Truth spoke in front of the Steuben County Courthouse in 1861.

Member Lou Ann Homan helped produce a Halloween video tour of downtown Angola. This helped to fulfill the HPC's educational requirement for the year.

New guidelines and procedures for Northern Indiana preservation commissions have been ongoing and will be soon finalized in 2021. The work is being done through Indiana Landmarks to help facilitate the application process for

- **155 S PUBLIC SQ - ERMAN INSURANCE - BUILDING SIGN**
- **113 W MAUMEE ST - CALEO CAFE - WINDOW SIGN**
- **140 N PUBLIC SQ - SUTTON'S - BUILDING SIGN**
- **110 W MAUMEE ST - THE VENUE - BUILDING SIGNAGE**
- **110 W MAUMEE ST - THE VENUE - ROOF - GRANT - \$5000**
- **119 W MAUMEE - PARAPET REPAIR**
- **118 S ELIZABETH - THE HATCHERY - FENCE**
- **DOWNTOWN ANGOLA COALITION - SOJOURNER TRUTH STATUE**
- **15 S PUBLIC SQ - EN-TRUST - ROOF - GRANT \$5000**
- **15 S PUBLIC SQ - ENTRUST - WINDOWS**
- **113 W MAUMEE ST - CALEO CAFE - WINDOW SIGN**
- **202 W GILMORE - CITY OF ANGOLA - WINDOW PANE REPLACEMENT**
- **210 N PUBLIC SQ - CITY OF ANGOLA - WINDOW PANE REPLACEMENT**
- **85 S PUBLIC SQ - TUCKPOINTING - GRANT - \$5000**
- **180 N PUBLIC SQ - PAINTING WINDOWS - \$527 - FROM 2019**