



# MACOMB TOWNSHIP

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## SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Master Plan Receives Prestigious Statewide Award

*Macomb Township, Mich.*, — After more than a year and half of dedicated work, the Macomb Township Planning Department has received a prestigious award for the “Cultivate Macomb!” master plan.

The Michigan Planning Association awarded Macomb Township and the planning team the Outstanding Implementation Award as part of the 2022 Planning Excellence Awards.

The original concept for Town Center, developed in 2001 was a plan that would grow the community around Township Hall. But little had been done to make those plans a reality.

Starting a new Master Plan nearly from scratch, the planning team formulated a concept to make the 20-year-old Town Center idea into a reality. They took a unique approach while creating the plan by bringing the public into the process. The approach included a survey and several outreach events with developers, landowners and residents, this helped guide and mold the plan into something the residents would desire.

The plan includes park areas, conservation areas, and trails that will connect to a Township trail system. The most exciting part of their plan is being able to create a central point for the community and a sense of place that Macomb Township is lacking.

Since 2020 and the start of the Cultivate Macomb! process, over one thousand new residential and commercial spaces have been approved, a library was built, and shovels are in the ground building more residential units every day.

“Macomb Township has been growing at an astounding rate and we want to give people even more reason to call this place home,” Planning Director Josh Bocks said. “While we grow, it’s important to grow responsibly. Having a clear plan in place will allow us to do that.”

The Macomb Township plan was submitted to the American Planning Association Michigan Chapter and, to eliminate potential biases, all the submissions were reviewed by a jury from the Massachusetts chapter.

In its comments, the jury praised the plan, saying, "It was unique and surprising to see a community realize and begin a discussion regarding suburban development beginning in the early 1990's; it seems that this forward-minded thinking set the foundation for future efforts in the Cultivate Macomb! Master Plan and Town Center vision."

"Our community has been growing for years, now Josh has given us a strong vision for the future so we can harness the potential of our remaining developable land," said Supervisor Frank Viviano.

The Planning Department will be honored at the Planning Michigan Annual Conference in October on Mackinac Island.

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