

The Future of the GM Stamping Plant

In a unique public-private partnership designed to spur economic development and create new jobs, Lormax Stern Development Co. has agreed to purchase the former General Motors stamping plant and partner with the City of Wyoming to redevelop the property.

Lormax Stern, a development company based in West Bloomfield, will purchase the 90-plus acre site, including the 2 million-square-foot stamping plant that closed in July 2009. Lormax intends to demolish the 75-year-old plant. The company will then work jointly with Wyoming to redevelop the property, for which the city will pay \$1.

The sale is one of the first successful dispositions of GM facilities after the automaker reorganized under bankruptcy protection in 2009.

Work on the site could begin in April, with tear down and clean up expected to be completed within 18 months. Plans call for the parcel to be redeveloped

into one or two large sites for advanced manufacturing facilities over the next 48 months. Additionally, the site would be ideal for an industrial park, with a large anchor and its multiple suppliers.

"We are extremely pleased to announce such a tremendous partnership between the City and Lormax Stern," said Wyoming Mayor Jack Poll. "We have been working diligently to ensure a useful second life for this highly visible and highly desirable property, which is one of the largest tracts of open industrial land in West Michigan.

"We have an excellent skilled workforce in Wyoming, and we remain committed to attracting and retaining high-paying industrial jobs."

Lormax will hold exclusive rights to redevelop the property, which must conform to the city's current zoning requirements. The City of Wyoming has committed to the redevelopment of the parcel for advanced manufacturing.

COPS Grant Provides for Additional Police

The Wyoming Police Department was recently awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice and its Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS). On December 20, 2010, the Wyoming City Council voted to accept the funds, which amount to \$1,216,008.

The grant funds are designated for the hiring of four police officer positions over a period of three years. Two of these positions will be Community Liaison Officers who will work to establish and maintain partnerships within the community. These officers will work with residents, business owners and other community groups to develop programs, solve problems and address quality of life issues.

One of the programs being developed is the New American Academy. Slated to begin in the fall, this experimental program will offer assistance to legally documented immigrants as they assimilate and attempt to understand the role of law enforcement in the United States. Anticipated topics include helping immigrants to understand their rights as victims and what they can expect when stopped by the police for minor traffic violations.

Working closely with the Community Liaison Officers will be two newly created Juvenile Investigators assigned to the Detective Bureau. These investigators will work cooperatively with community groups and other law enforcement related agencies to impact youth while addressing issues such as bullying, truancy, curfew violations, under age drinking, gangs and violence.

In accepting the grant, the City agreed to fund the positions for a fourth year.

MAYOR'S

Message



While the cold and snow of the winter season are upon us, there is much happening in the City of Wyoming. The New Year has started with exciting news of the redevelopment of the former GM facility, the initial design options for the Turn on 28th Street initiative and several businesses in the process of expanding or establishing in Wyoming. I look forward to your insight and feedback on these important opportunities in our community.

There are many opportunities available to you through the Parks and Recreation Department to help get you through this chilly season. For those of you eagerly anticipating spring, keep an eye out for the Spring 2011 Parks and Recreation brochure. You can contact the Parks and Recreation Department for more information on remaining winter programs and spring options.

Be Involved and Be Informed
Mayor Jack Poll

News Briefs

LIBRARY NEWS

ADULT BOOK CLUB - We have a friendly, informal discussion on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM in the Conference Room. February's book will be *People of the Book*: a novel by Geraldine Brooks. **KDL'S WINTER READING ROAD TRIP** – KDL is sending you on a virtual reading road trip. Sign up and receive a map that will take you on a journey to jumpstart your winter reading. Read books for a chance to win great prizes. Registration is required. For Adults. Program runs through March 19. **TEEN VIDEOGAME TOURNAMENT** – Get your gaming skills ready and join us for some intense Wii action. The tournament will feature exciting multiplayer Wii titles, fresh snacks and cool prizes. Registration is required and participation is limited. Saturday, January 29, 11:00 AM. For further details on these and all of our programs, check out our web page at www.kdl.org or call us at (616) 784-2007! Plus, KDL is now on Twitter! Follow us at <http://twitter.com/KDLnews>

CAR SEAT INSPECTIONS

Free car seat installation will be available on Thursday, February 10, 2011 and Thursday, March 10, 2011 from 5:00-8:00 PM at Wyoming Fire Station #1, 1500 Burton St SW. Please contact the Safe Kids Coalition at 391-7233 ext. 2 to schedule an appointment. For a complete schedule, please visit the Fire Department page of the City of Wyoming website.

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK

Beginning in February, the City of Wyoming will have its own official Facebook page. City Departments will update the page regularly with timely information as well as tips to help residents throughout the year. The page will also provide educational materials and videos. Residents are encouraged to become a fan of the City of Wyoming on Facebook.

City Council Election Process Begins

The following City of Wyoming elected offices will be on the November 8, 2011 ballot:

- Councilmember at Large- four year term
- Councilmember 2nd Ward - four year term
- Councilmember 3rd Ward - four year term

The City Charter requires that candidates be registered electors of the City of Wyoming, and a resident of the City for at least one year prior to the filing deadline.

Candidate packets with required forms and instructions are available in the City Clerk's Office. The filing deadline is 4 p.m. on May 10, 2011. If more than twice the number to be elected file in any office, that office will have a primary election on August 2, 2011.

Call 530-7296 for more information.

Council to Vote on Sign Ordinance in February

A modification to the current sign ordinance was passed in its first reading in January. The change was requested initially by business owners trying to gain a competitive edge in tough economic times.

If passed, the new ordinance will allow for more leniencies in signage options. It also marks a move to more community policing as a group of business owners has committed itself to reporting violations. The business owners will utilize the online system for reporting businesses in violation of the new ordinance requirements.

Once reported, the Inspections Department will follow its current process of investigating the complaint. Businesses found to be in violation will be given the opportunity to comply. If corrective action is not taken, the business will be fined for the violation.

On Feb. 7, the council will vote on the sign ordinance. If passed, the ordinance will be effective on Feb. 22. It is expected that the ordinance will pass.

Telephone Numbers

Mayor's Office	530-7227
City Manager.....	530-3173
City Clerk	530-7296
Police Department.....	530-7300
Fire Department	530-7250
Public Works	530-7260
Utilities	261-3550
Planning & Community	
Development.....	530-7258
Parks & Recreation.....	530-3164
Building Inspections.....	530-7285
Assessor	530-7231
District Court.....	257-9814
Treasurer	530-7280
Utility Billing.....	530-7389
Wyoming Senior Center.....	530-3190
Wyoming Public Library.....	647-3980

Meetings

City Council Meeting | on the first and third Mondays of the month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

City Council Work Sessions | on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

Planning Commissions Meetings | on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

Zoning Board Of Appeals | on the first and third Monday afternoons of the month at 1:30 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

Parks & Recreation Commission | on the second Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the West Conf. room.

Wyoming City Council

Jack Poll, Mayor

Sam Bolt, Mayor Pro tem,
Councilmember-at-Large

Dan Burrill, Councilmember-at-Large

Kent Vanderwood, Councilmember-at-Large

Bill VerHulst, 1st Ward Councilmember

Richard K. Pastoor, 2nd Ward Councilmember

Joanne Voorhees, 3rd Ward Councilmember