

INTRODUCTION

The Clifford Village Council created the Downtown Development Authority by Ordinance No. 39 which was adopted July 21, 1992 (attached as Appendix A). A map depicting the Authority District boundaries is found in Appendix B of this Plan. The Authority was given all the powers and duties prescribed for a downtown development authority pursuant to Act 197 of the Public Act of 1975.

The original Tax Increment Development Plan and Finance Plan were adopted by the Village Council on December 15, 1992 with a stated duration of 20 years. This Amended and Restated Plan will extend the life of the DDA for another 20-year period.

Major accomplishments of the Downtown Development Authority to date have been assistance to the Village with streetscape and paving improvements on Main Street and adjacent areas; the replacement of sidewalks; equipment and improvements to the park which include building a skating park; renovation of the old Clifford School building (currently the library); the acquisition of a historical grain elevator for preservation as a museum and community center; construction and equipment purchases for the adult fitness center; purchase of the old bank building for renovation; and water system improvements to the well house and water tower.

The original Plan was intended to prevent deterioration within the business district, promote economic growth, encourage historic preservation and establish a positive identity for the downtown district and the entire Village.

The 2011 Amended and Restated Plan provides for continued assistance to the Village for downtown improvements, community facilities, the preservation and redevelopment of former railroad and grain elevator property, acquisition of real property for renovation and to promote business in the downtown area, and other projects.