DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

We held a community meeting with residents and organizations of the development impact area on April 3 at The Factory to share a progress report on the planning process, construction updates and other neighborhood initiatives. We look forward to holding these “Conversations with Ford” meetings every quarter.

Rich Bardelli, Ford’s construction manager for the project, told the audience that the process of winterizing, drying out and securing the 640,000-square-foot train station was on track — an important first step in preserving the building. Workers have installed temporary roofing and plumbing systems and removed water from the flooded basement. So far, almost 100,000 gallons of water have been pumped out of the structure and the impact is becoming visible as the color of the limestone starts to change. Completely drying the station will take at least a year.

The large debris piles on each floor of Michigan Central Station’s tower have been cleared and vertical openings of the elevator shafts have been covered. Corrosion inspection on the roof has been completed and more probe and testing work is underway throughout the building.

The second phase of construction is scheduled to begin in late May. This involves restoring eight acres of masonry located in the tower, waiting room and concourse areas. The masonry work is the most time-consuming part of the restoration project and is expected to start in the summer, once exterior scaffolding has been erected. The scaffolding will take several months to complete and will remain in place for two to three years. It will first go up around the 15th-floor tower and then wrap the entire building.

In April, we began the demolition process of the former brass factory on Rosa Parks Boulevard. The site has been secured, a fence has been installed around the perimeter of the property and all hazardous materials have been removed from the interior of the building. The building is expected to be demolished by the end of June and the soil remediation will be completed in September. Real-time air monitoring of dust particles is being conducted daily and all data and site notices are shared on three community project boards in close proximity to the demolition site. More information is available in the Environmental Protection Plan available online (https://corporate.ford.com/campuses/corktown-campus.html).

Our work on the development project is ongoing and we continue to engage the community, civic partners and City of Detroit departments. And finally, we are excited to open our new Ford Detroit Development Information Center at The Factory in mid-June. This will provide another channel to share information about this transformational project and gather your feedback.

¿HABLA ESPAÑOL?
Ford está lanzando “Creating Tomorrow Together” como una manera de mantener a la comunidad al día con información sobre la restauración de la Estación Central de Michigan y el proyecto de desarrollo general. Las copias impresas estarán disponibles en inglés y en español en el “Ford Resource and Engagement Center” en 2826 Bagley Street.

Construction manager, Rich Bardelli, highlights timelines for Corktown Development.
SPIN SCOOTERS

Electric Spin Scooters have come to Corktown. Here’s what you need to know to pick one up:

WHAT IS SPIN?
Spin is an electric scooter startup that Ford acquired last year. It offers a dockless, shared mobility solution for short trips.

WHERE CAN I FIND A SPIN SCOOTER?
There will soon be 400 Spin scooters available across Detroit, including 25 dedicated to Corktown. You can find them at Trumbull & Porter Hotel; Slow’s BBQ; Honey Bee La Colmena; Clark Park; The Factory @Corktown; 14th Street Lofts; The Bearded Lady; Muddy’s Deli & Wine Shop; and the QL Data Center.

HOW DO I USE IT?
Download the Spin app from the App Store. Scan the QR code on top of the scooter to unlock and ride. Step on the scooter with one foot and kick off the ground. When the scooter starts to move, push the right throttle to accelerate. Place both feet on the scooter. The scooter is limited to 15 mph.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?
It’s $1 to unlock a Spin scooter and 15 cents per minute to ride. You can end your ride at any location or “hold” the ride if you need to shop or dine. The per-minute charge continues if you choose to hold.

WHO CAN USE SPIN?
You must be 18 years or older with a valid driver license. Follow all street signs, signals, markings and obey local traffic laws.

HOW DOES SPIN SUPPORT A SAFE AND USEFUL EXPERIENCE?
Spin has a dedicated team of 15 full-time Detroiter who deploy and maintain its scooters. Every night the scooters are charged, stored and returned to their location before dawn. This offers a consistent, safe and useful experience.

WHO I AM CONCERNED ABOUT...
Please do not submit confidential information. See page 4 for full details.

SPIN SCOOTERS

VISUAL STORYTELLING OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Students from the College for Creative Studies (CCS) in Detroit are working to capture the transformation of Michigan Central Station and the surrounding neighborhoods in photographs, paintings, video and other media.

Nine students from various academic disciplines have spent the past 15 weeks working on the project. They’ve created paintings, taken architectural photographs, recorded oral and visual histories and created short stories. A couple of students created an app that allows the user to impose himself or herself against a backdrop of historic buildings and street scenes.

Ford has partnered with CCS on the project that will run for three years; the goal is to not only help tell the story of Ford’s presence in Corktown as it restores the long-vacant train station, but also to preserve aspects of the neighborhood’s past and present.

“As the oldest neighborhood in Detroit, Corktown has a rich and fabled history,” said Matt Chang, manager of Corporate and Community for CCS. “There are so many stories to share about the residents and businesses that have been here over the years, personal narratives, passionate characters, artistic expressions and iconic locations.”

The project has drawn a lot of interest from CCS students, who are closely following Detroit’s resurgence. Some CCS students also live in or have ties to the neighborhoods around Michigan Central Station so it has an added connection for them.

“We appreciate the fact that Ford has recognized that it’s important to engage and celebrate the community and has put some faith in us to help navigate that on the ground,” said Vince Carducci, Dean of Undergraduate Studies at CCS.

This first semester culminates with a student exhibition running from May 10 to 24 at the A. Alfred Taubman Center for Design Education, 460 W. Baltimore, Detroit. Some of the students’ work will also be showcased at The Factory starting in June.

WIND POWERED FACILITIES

There won’t be any wind turbines surrounding the renovated Michigan Central Station when it opens in 2022, but the iconic building and other Ford-owned properties in Corktown will be powered by locally sourced wind energy. Ford has committed to a substantial renewable energy procurement through DTE Energy’s MIGreenPower program, which will provide 500,000 megawatt hours of locally sourced Michigan wind energy to Ford’s Southeast Michigan portfolio — enough to provide electricity to about 48,000 homes for one year. In an effort to reduce its carbon footprint and support Michigan’s clean-energy economy, Ford was the first company to announce its involvement with the energy program. Under the program, Ford’s Dearborn Truck Plant (home of the Ford F-150 and the Ford Raptor), the Michigan Assembly Plant (home of the 2019 Ford Ranger) and several new buildings on the Ford Research and Engineering Campus in West Dearborn are also on target to be powered by 100 percent locally sourced renewable energy by January 2021.

IN THE NEW DEVELOPMENT,
I AM CONCERNED ABOUT...
SEND US YOUR RESPONSES
313.845.3673 / CORKTOWN@FORD.COM / #FORDDETROIT

PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. SEE PAGE 4 FOR FULL DETAILS.
COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

We received a lot of interest from the community around our Celebrating Culture and Community Grant Program, which will award $250,000 in funds this year. Winning proposals from nonprofit 501(c)3 organizations will be implemented within the Community Benefits Ordinance impact area. The program is part of Ford’s $2 million investment in workforce training, education and community development over the next four years.

The programs below have been selected as the finalists in the RFP process.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 18  
Capítulo Detroit de la Red Global Mexicano. Indoor event at the FREC Atrium. Free. 
@FREC Southwest, 2826 Bagley St.

MAY 20  
Detroit Symphony Orchestra concert. Free. 
@FREC Southwest, 2826 Bagley St.

MAY 30  
Celebrating Culture and Community grant pitch. Free. 
@The Factory in Corktown, 1907 Michigan Ave.

JUNE 7  
Property tax workshops. Free. 
@FREC Southwest, 2826 Bagley St.

JUNE 14  
Friend of the Court attorney available second Friday of every month. Free. 
@FREC Southwest, 2826 Bagley St.

MID-JUNE  
Ford Detroit Development Information Center opening. Free. 
@Corner of Michigan Ave. and Rosa Parks Blvd.

JUNE 24  
Annual Ford Fireworks at Detroit Riverfront, Hart Plaza and Belle Isle. Free. 

JULY 20  
Saturday concert and activities for all ages. Outdoors. Free. 
@FREC Southwest, 2826 Bagley St.

JULY 24  
Circus performance by Detroit Circus and outdoor movie. Free. 
@FREC Southwest, 2826 Bagley St.

Please do not submit confidential information. See page 4 for full details.
Hawks Call Michigan Central Station Home

Red-tailed hawks are known to occupy just about every type of open habitat, including a window ledge of Michigan Central Station. With a commanding view of Detroit, two adult birds recently built a nest on the 12th floor of the station tower and in April two white speckled chicks hatched from their eggs. The juvenile hawks are expected to take their first flight within six weeks of life and the family will leave the nest soon afterwards, but will most likely stay in the neighborhood. Ford has taken steps to protect the privacy of the hawks by putting up a special window cover and invited a bird specialist to check on them. The expert noted that it is unusual to see a red-tailed hawk nest so high up and in an urban environment, but that the family was doing very well.

**Bird Type: Classic Red-Tailed Hawk**
- Red-tailed hawks are one of the largest hawks in North America and have a wing span of approximately 3.5 to 4.5 feet
- They are normally brown in color with a streaked belly and a red tail
- They like to hunt from a perch and eat mammals such as mice, wood rats, rabbits and squirrels
- After 28 to 35 days of incubation, their eggs hatch over 2 to 4 days

Detroit Planning Dept.
Framework Study

The City of Detroit is moving forward with its Neighborhood Framework Plan for Greater Corktown, a planning document to shape growth and development in the area.

The city, with input from the community, has selected Perkins + Will, a Chicago-based architecture and design firm, to lead a team developing the framework which covers Corktown, including Ford’s Michigan Central Station development area, North Corktown and part of the Hubbard Richard neighborhood.

When completed, the framework will provide recommendations for a variety of neighborhood infrastructure improvements pertaining to streetscapes, vacant land and buildings, affordable housing options, green space, parks, mobility and transportation. The goal is to create a plan that accommodates great potential for inclusive growth, while preserving the cultural integrity of the city’s oldest neighborhood.

Kevin Schronce, Central Region Design Director in Detroit’s Planning and Development Department, said the Perkins + Will proposal stood out among various disciplines.

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Kevin Schronce, Central Region Design Director in Detroit’s Planning and Development Department, said the Perkins + Will proposal stood out among the three finalists (selected from a group of 13), all of whom gave presentations before the community in March. The firm will lead a team of companies with various disciplines.

“We felt they had really done their homework on the neighborhood. They had very solid transportation and mobility components and pushed environmental, sustainability and social justice elements,” Schronce said, adding planners were also impressed with their affordable housing work in Toronto, a key issue for the Corktown area. The company has done work on the Beltline in Atlanta, Georgia and Detroit’s Motown Museum.

A contract is expected to be finalized in early May. Once finalized, the planning process is expected to take 10 to 14 months for a final report to be complete. An extensive amount of engagement, research and due diligence will take place throughout this process, including multiple opportunities for the Corktown community to weigh in on draft recommendations.

The next large community meeting is tentatively scheduled to take place in June, and The Department of Neighborhoods and planning staff will continue to meet with residents, neighborhood associations, business groups and Ford team members as efforts progress. For more information on the Neighborhood Framework process, contact Kevin Schronce schroneck@detroitmi.gov