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## The Heart of Stuart - KRVT Placemaking Project Update

Kalamazoo County continues to clean up the green space along the KRVT and get ready for a new Stuart Workout Club coming this Summer 2025

The Heart of Stuart - KRVT Placemaking Project is a multiyear, long term project that the Stuart Historic Neighborhood Association (SHNA) initiated with other key community stakeholders in 2024 to redesign the public space that runs along the Kalamazoo River Valley Trail (KRVT) at the northwest corner of Kalamazoo and Westnedge Ave. The project goal is to create a vibrant public space for residents and visitors of Stuart to gather together, access the KRVT, enjoy time outdoors and the urban views of Kalamazoo, including passing Amtrak trains and the new event center coming in 2027.



SHNA held design workshops last summer with residents, businesses, and city and county staff to generate ideas for the redesign. One of the key takeaways was to identify some quick improvements that could be accomplished in the the next year. The first short term project was to prioritize cleaning up the overgrowth vegetation and brush along the KRVT. Kalamazoo County continues to make progress on beautifying the space with the most recent improvements happening over the last two weeks that included planting some new grass. The Stuart neighborhood is very thankful for Kalamazoo County staff who made this happen.

Another short term project that came from the design workshops was to start using the space for neighborhood events. Starting in June 2025, the SHNA will be starting up the Stuart Workout Club for walkers, runners, and bikers to meet up and get a workout in on the KRVT. More information will be coming soon on this new neighborhood opportunity.

*Coming Summer 2025!*



## Construction on the Streets of Stuart Pushed Back Until After 2025

The work on the streets in the Stuart Historic Neighborhood has been pushed back until after 2025. This includes the new street light at the corner of Douglas and West Main and the two way conversions of Kalamazoo Ave., Michikal St. and West Main St. (between Douglas and Michikal St.).

For more information about the street projects, view the City Commission – Committee of the Whole meeting on March 3, 2025 where Director James Baker of Public Works and Deputy Director / City Planner Christina Anderson presented to City Commissioners.

[https://www.youtube.com/live/fAvHm8Liyxg?si=Ea2ds6n5z\\_nv6KMo](https://www.youtube.com/live/fAvHm8Liyxg?si=Ea2ds6n5z_nv6KMo)

To stay informed on street project updates, sign up for City's Newsletter.

<https://www.kalamazoo.org/Community/Projects/Streets-for-All>

## The Return of the Stuart Historic Home Tour in 2025

The SHNA is excited to announce the return of the Stuart Historic Homes Tour. It has been 12 years since the last homes tour and it is time to bring it back. The homes tour is a great opportunity for the Stuart Historic Neighborhood to highlight and share what we are most proud of - the historic charm and character of our homes. More information will be coming soon.



### Stuart History - Then and Now



The photos above of the Stuart Historic Neighborhood shows the corner of Woodward and Kalamazoo Ave, looking south in 1894 & 2025.

For more Stuart History - Then and Now, follow us on instagram @stuarthistoricneighborhood.



# FALL 2025

