

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

FALL 2025 | SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER & NOVEMBER

The City of
HILLSDALE
Family • Tradition • Opportunity

CONTACT US

www.cityofhillsdale.org
www.hillsdale-library.org

CITY HALL

- * 97 N Broad St, Hillsdale, MI 49242
- * 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Monday - Friday
- * (517) 437-6440

HILLSDALE BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES (BPU)

- * 45 Monroe St, Hillsdale, MI 49242
- * 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Monday - Friday
- * (517) 437-3387
- * After Hours Emergencies: 1-844-427-8633

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

City of Hillsdale
Hillsdale Board of Public Utilities
Hillsdale Community Library
Hillsdale Recreation

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

City administrative offices will be closed to observe the following holidays:

Labor Day - September 1
Veterans Day - November 11
Thanksgiving - November 27 & 28

SUMMER TAXES DUE

Due to weekend and holiday conflicts with the normal charter deadline, 2025 summer taxes will be **due by September 2**.

Phone: (517) 437-6454
Email: treasurer@cityofhillsdale.org

2025 GENERAL ELECTION

When: Tuesday, November 4, 2025
7:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Where: Hillsdale Community Library
11 E Bacon St
Hillsdale, MI 49242

Please contact the City Clerk's office with any questions.

Phone: (517) 437-6441
Email: clerk@cityofhillsdale.org



HILLSDALE

GRAND OPENING!

Hillsdale Municipal Airport's New Terminal

Save the date!
September 14, 11AM
Hillsdale Municipal Airport
1727 Airport Rd, Hillsdale, MI 49242

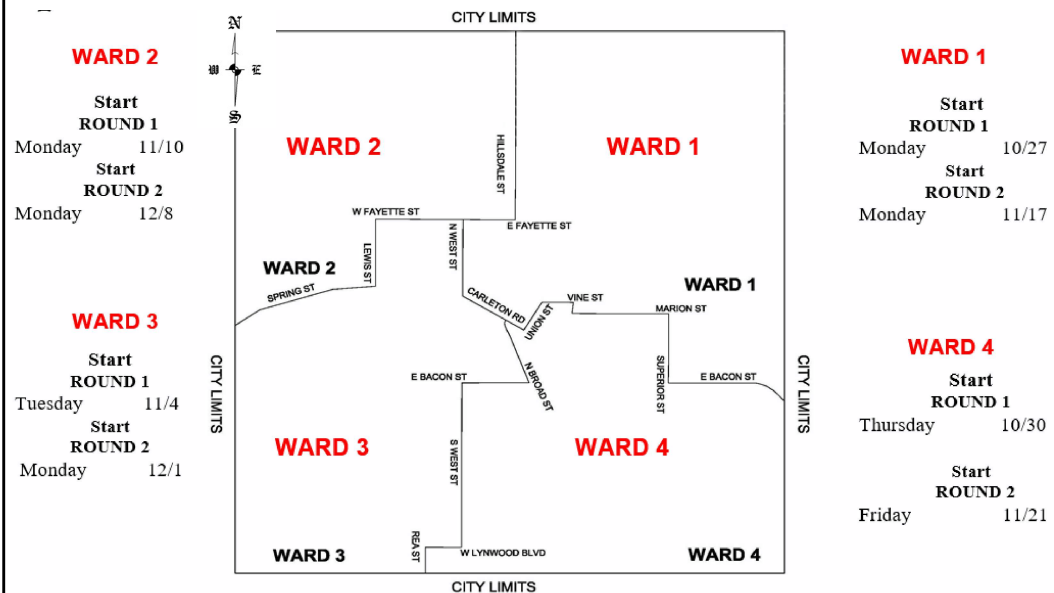
Greetings, friend! You are cordially invited to join us in celebrating the grand opening of HMA's new terminal building.

The grand opening ceremony will take place during our 10th Annual Patriot's Day Fly-In from 7AM-2PM on Sunday, September 14.

For more information, visit our Facebook page or www.cityofhillsdale.org/airport.

2025 FALL LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Once again, the Hillsdale Department of Public Services (DPS) will be collecting leaves, grass clippings, and garden debris from all city streets. **Please check the map below for your neighborhood's collection day** and follow the guidelines. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and is essential for the leaf collection process to be successful. Detailed information will be available on our website at cityofhillsdale.org/publicservices. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call DPS at (517) 437-6490.



2025 FALL RESIDENTIAL BRUSH COLLECTION NOTICE

The Hillsdale City Department of Public Services (DPS) will provide a **ONE-TIME** curbside collection of brush **ONLY**. This service is offered to its **residents** only in the month of October. **Please have your brush out at the curb by 7:00 AM, Monday, October 13, 2025. Do not place brush piles in the street or in alleyways. Crews will pick up brush from the street frontages only.** Additional information will be available on our website at cityofhillsdale.org/publicservices. Please call DPS with any questions at (517) 437-6490.



ZONING ADMINISTRATOR RETIRES AFTER 11+ YEARS

Alan Beeker, the Zoning Administrator for the City, retired on August 1, 2025 after almost twelve (12) years in the role.

As the Zoning Administrator, Alan served as the staff liaison for various boards and commissions including: the Planning Commission, the Tax Increment Financing Authority (TIFA), and the Zoning Board of Appeals. He also worked closely with numerous city departments with which he helped facilitate landmark projects and create processes that will have a lasting, positive impact on the City.

Alan played a major part in giving the Dawn Theater a new lease on life by helping obtain the \$1.4 million Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) Blight Elimination grant for Historic Preservation and Rehabilitation.

He also played a key role in the City receiving their Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC) certification from the MEDC in 2019. This certification distinguishes Hillsdale as a Michigan community that is "thoroughly prepared" when it comes to planning and zoning to remove traditional barriers and promote opportunities for prospective investors," the MEDC said in their August 2019 press release.

On the administrative side, Alan was tasked with updating and guiding the focus of the City Master Plan, Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), and City Recreation Plan.

Alan streamlined the site plan review process, providing for a single, cohesive document to provide feedback and recommendations from all City departments for review of different aspects of the plan. This is a benefit to both developers and the Planning Commission.

Alan provided recommendations for adoption and implementation of form-based codes to the Planning Commission. He also presented amendments to existing codes to bring them

into compliance with changes in state law and "case law" as precedent-setting cases have been decided by higher courts.

We appreciate his innovation, knowledge, expertise, and his commitment to not only his position, but, to the City. His absence will be greatly felt! We wish him the very best as he enters this season of retirement.

Thank you, Alan!

INVESTING IN HILLSDALE'S FUTURE: THE WORK OF HILLSDALE RENAISSANCE

by Luke Robson of Hillsdale Renaissance

Hillsdale, Michigan is witnessing a quiet but deliberate transformation, led in part by a growing group of private investors committed to honoring the city's past while building a vibrant future. Hillsdale Renaissance, a local development initiative, is at the center of this movement. Founded to preserve and repurpose historic properties in the downtown core, Hillsdale Renaissance is focused on bringing beauty, vitality, and long-term economic opportunity to the heart of our city.

Two standout examples of this vision brought to life are **St. Joe's Café** and **Dante's Fine Wine & Spirits** — businesses that not only transformed long-dormant buildings but now stand as cornerstones of Hillsdale's reawakening.

Located at **92 N Broad Street**, St. Joe's Café offers wood-fired pizza, refined wines and cocktails, and a relaxed, family-friendly atmosphere. The building underwent a complete overhaul — new systems, structural reinforcement, and meticulous restoration work. The result is a space that feels both timeless and fresh, drawing families, students, and visitors downtown again. Beyond great food, St. Joe's has become a gathering space—a place where community takes shape over shared tables and good conversation.

Just a few doors down at **55 N Broad Street**,

**TYLER FARR CONCERT ON
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH**

**FEATURING MICHIGAN-
GROWN TALENTS JASON
CROSS & HAYDEN LADD**

Dante's Fine Wine & Spirits offers a curated selection of fine wines, spirits, and premium cigars. What was once a disjointed retail space has been reborn as a warm, polished destination that reflects the craftsmanship of its offerings. Dante's success is not simply measured in foot traffic or revenue growth—though both are strong—but in the store's role as a local touchstone for hospitality and celebration. Renovating the space required significant risk, time, and investment, but the payoff has been transformative—for the business and for downtown Hillsdale.

These ventures — and others in development—are guided by a belief that private capital, thoughtfully deployed, can renew civic pride, restore dignity to neglected structures, and re-establish Hillsdale as a place where people want to live, work, and gather. The work of Hillsdale Renaissance is not speculative. It is slow, considered, and rooted in place. Its aim is not just to generate returns, but to steward culture and human connection.

Importantly, this is not the work of government, though the City's support is vital. Nor is it charity. These projects represent a model of entrepreneurship that values permanence over speed, quality over convenience, and legacy over trend. Each successful business brings with it new jobs, increased tax base, and renewed momentum for further reinvestment.

As Hillsdale looks ahead, the seeds of its renaissance are already visible in the bricks and mortar of buildings once forgotten. It is our hope that these examples will inspire more citizens, builders, and investors to reimagine what is possible here.

Downtown Hillsdale is changing. And that change is being led not by outside forces, but by neighbors who believe in what this place can be.

To learn more about Hillsdale Renaissance and ongoing projects, visit hillsdalerenaissance.substack.com.