



Future of the Downtown Midland Pedestrian Plaza

October 7, 2024, 9:05 AM

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Future of the Downtown Midland Pedestrian Plaza

Should the Downtown Midland Pedestrian Plaza continue after 2025?

Summary Of Responses

As of October 7, 2024, 9:05 AM, this forum had:	Topic Start	Topic End
Attendees: 1392	August 13, 2024, 9:36 AM	October 6, 2024, 11:59 PM
Responses: 1179		
Hours of Public Comment: 59.0		

QUESTION 1

1. Did you visit the Pedestrian Plaza any time between June and September 2024? (If the answer is "yes", skip question 2.)

		%	Count
Yes		92.0%	1085
No		8.0%	94

QUESTION 2

2. If you did not visit the Pedestrian Plaza in 2024, what was your reason(s) for not visiting?

Answered	125
Skipped	1,054

access any businesses close **did didn** difficult **don** downtown far **find** food get go **hard** interest **interested** issues just like
main mobility **music** nothing **other** park **parking** people plaza shop **shopping** stores street t time **too** town visit
walk what

QUESTION 3

3. City Council has approved the Pedestrian Plaza through September 2025. Would you like to see the Pedestrian Plaza continue beyond 2025?

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		%	Count
Yes		90.2%	1063
No		9.8%	116

QUESTION 4

4. What do you love about the Pedestrian Plaza?

Answered	1,036
Skipped	143

activities **all** area around atmosphere **brings businesses community** downtown enjoy **family food friends** from **fun** games gathering **great** kids like **live love** midland more **music** nice out outdoor outside people place s safe so **space** summer together **traffic** walk without

QUESTION 5

5. How would you improve the Pedestrian Plaza?

Answered	827
Skipped	352

activities all **also area** bands better businesses **could down downtown** during **events** food great keep **like** love main **make more music** nice open **parking pedestrian people permanent plaza** restaurants **s seating so** some street **t think** up was way **year**

QUESTION 6

6. Since the Pedestrian Plaza began in 2020, how often would you say you now visit it?

		%	Count
More often than previous years		54.8%	639










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		%	Count
About the same as previous years		35.2%	411
Less often than previous years		9.9%	116

QUESTION 7

**7. What did you do when you visited the Pedestrian Plaza?
(If you visited multiple times or did multiple things, select all that apply).**

		%	Count
Visited a restaurant for a meal		87.4%	993
Visited a bar or restaurant for a drink		67.7%	769
Enjoyed a drink in The Commons Refreshment Area		61.1%	694
Visited a retail store to browse or shop		74.2%	843
Visited a service provider or other non-retail business		11.4%	129
Attend a live entertainment event		77.6%	881
Went for a walk, run, bike ride, or other exercise		54.2%	616
Met up with family and/or friends		79.8%	906
No specific purpose; just enjoyed the space		32.0%	364

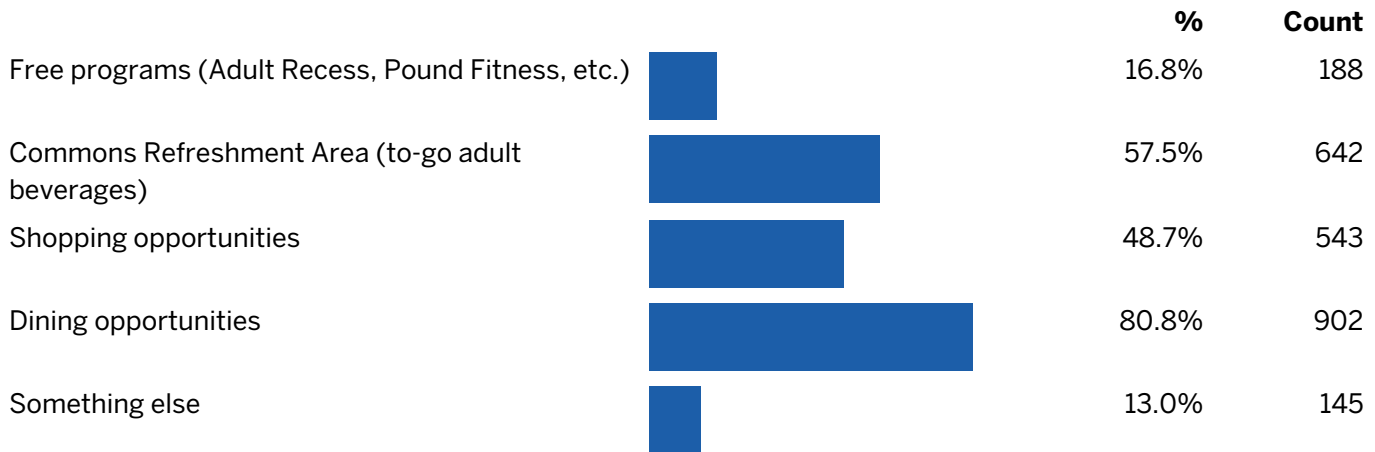
QUESTION 8

8. Which of the following programs or amenities brought you to the Pedestrian Plaza this year? (If you visited multiple times, select all that apply).

		%	Count
Commons Live Music Series		75.1%	838

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QUESTION 9

9. If you answered "Something else" to the question above, what other programs or amenities brought you to the Pedestrian Plaza?

Answered	156
Skipped	1,023

area art being cream days dinner do downtown enjoy friends from games get go great had ice just kids like meeting music nice off other out ping place play plaza pong river show space t then town up walk was

QUESTION 10

10. If you drove a vehicle to visit the Pedestrian Plaza, how far away - on average - from your destination did you park? (If you didn't drive, skip this question.)












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		%	Count
I don't know		2.0%	22

QUESTION 11

11. If you were to visit the Pedestrian Plaza in the evening and retailers were open, when would you be most likely to shop at a retail store?
(Please select all that apply.)

		%	Count
Sunday		18.6%	212
Monday		11.6%	132
Tuesday		12.9%	147
Wednesday		17.7%	201
Thursday		40.9%	465
Friday		68.6%	781
Saturday		66.5%	757
I visit the Pedestrian Plaza in the evenings but wouldn't shop at that time		16.1%	183
I don't visit the Pedestrian Plaza in the evenings		7.3%	83

QUESTION 12

12. If you visit the Pedestrian Plaza in the evening, would you be more likely to shop at a retail store if more retailers were open at the time of your visit?

		%	Count
Yes - I would shop or spend money at Downtown retailers if they were open later in the evening		71.3%	813

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		%	Count
No - When I'm Downtown in the evenings, it's for another purpose and I don't shop		22.7%	259
I don't visit the Pedestrian Plaza in the evening		6.0%	68

QUESTION 13

13. What is your age?

		%	Count
Under 18		0.1%	1
18-24		2.0%	24
25-34		12.0%	142
35-44		19.8%	233
45-54		18.4%	217
55-64		23.2%	274
65+		24.4%	288

QUESTION 14

14. Where do you live?

		%	Count
In the city limits of Midland		71.3%	841
Outside the city limits in Midland County		22.9%	270
Somewhere else		5.8%	68

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QUESTION 15

15. If you answered "Somewhere else" to the previous question, where do you live? (If not, skip this question.)

Answered	94
Skipped	1,085

auburn bay county **freeland** gladwin grand hemlock homer kawkawlin larkin mi midland mount mt n pleasant **saginaw** sanford township twp

QUESTION 16

16. Please provide any additional feedback you have about the Pedestrian Plaza:

Answered	467
Skipped	712

all **area** community do down **downtown** enjoy events from get go going **great** just keep like love midland more
music open other out **parking pedestrian people** place **plaza please S see SO summer t they think time up visit year**

2. If you did not visit the Pedestrian Plaza in 2024, what was your reason(s) for not visiting?

I never go downtown

Just haven't spent much time in the area in general

No interest in any of the events in the area. The biggest reason is that tax payers funded roads should not be shut down for months at a time

Poor advertisement of events. We don't use Facebook.

Nothing there of interest

Just too busy or tired.

Parking

Didnt.agree with it in the beginning

Hard to find handicap parking

Too congested, makes driving downtown a pain, nothing interesting there

eat

Family concerns have had us out of town much of the summer. We may still visit in September, but we're still in August.

The Pedestrian Plaza on Main Street have been difficult to independently access for both physically or emotionally handicapped individuals and mobility challenged or aging senior citizens.

Too far to walk

Nothing there interesting to me

Going downtown just isn't a priority, we tend to do other things

congested driving, lack of parking, businesses I would like to visit are difficult to access

I had back surgery in April 2024, so I am unable to go down. Too hard with a walker to sit that long

No interest

I have mobility issues and have found the parking situation to be very negative.

it's not accessible to me because my mobility is limited.

Prefer Vendors in other areas of town

Not disabled friendly. This has made me quit shopping downtown. I can't walk far.

Hard for limited mobility seniors to access.

don't like having to walk when parking used to be available.

Food

Took my grandkids. Went to concerts

I don't make enough money to use businesses located on Main street.

I have mobility issues, and it is a long walk

handicapped people are not welcome

We just don't think to do it. And we are MCC members so we spend free time there. We still frequent downtown restaurants and shops.

Nothing drew me there
Parking and no interest
Na
Parking hassles, as well as closed streets. Also, the downtown doesn't seem welcoming to those who don't have a lot of money.
Too difficult to get to businesses
To much of a hassle with parking
Parking. I'm disabled.
Other commitments
Did not see any activity with enough attraction
Dog Park
Didn't think about it, didn't have an occasion to.
music too loud, food too expensive; hard for disabled to walk there and to even get there; hard to find parking spaces close - hate to miss the music!
Fireworks
Music
out of town this summer
I did not visit the stores in the 2 block area because both I and the wife are handicaped and parking is non exisitant or inconvent
shopping
Not of any interest.
No access to disabled parking
Why would I visit the plaza? All the downsides of a park with none of the upsides. Worse parking. The view basically sucks. Why is this still a thing now that the post-covid world has returned to eating indoors?
Parking issues
In the way of being able to drive through and park at any business I would consider using. There isn't a need for this in our community.
Music
Too busy doing other things
too old to walk distances
Too darn far to walk. You forgot about disabilities.
Too old and difficulty getting around
First off, what is the reason for the pedestrian plaza? 2) what and how much did the retail stores benefit? Were the restaurants & bars the major benefactors?
I'm 90 and can't walk that far. Can not get to Timm's Appliance or any other store..
Dining and shopping
Lack of close parking, Iâ€™m mobility impaired

Shopping, walking,eating
NA
Parking is not convenient, not many choices of stores.
got to walk to far
I don't like streets closed down. What a hardship for businesses. Hold it at the old farmers market.
Not interested, and have never been interested. It seems Downtown is the most important site in Midland. There are more than one shopping center in the city. Also, we don't have extra money to spend on expensive food.
I have PTSD and avoid crowds.
no parking hard to get anywhere in that area.
Food and fun
Parking and inconvenience of going to any shops.
Not of interest
No events that interested me.
Music and baseball
Too busy on concert days. Other days I don't like the parking situation.
Too hard for my husband, who has mobility issues, to access from the handicap parking and not enough close handicap parking
Nothing of interest and parking is a disaster
None
N/A
I work out of town and didn't make it this year.
Scheduling conflict
Not interested
Senior citizens,walking is not easy
My son is nonverbal autistic and my husband and I just sepearated
Parking was my biggest concern.
Out of town, other plans
N/A
Overworked and underpaid, don't have time or money to go shopping downtown.
Need handicapped parking - very little available
Downtown Thursday
No parking and too difficult to visit businesses
I did
no interest in crowds and type of music
Food, play
We stopped shopping downtown due to parallel parking and the Pedestrian Plaza. The Pedestrian Plaza has no appeal to us at all.

Parking is located too far from desired locations to shop in. Because of this I (and family member) cannot visit or shop during this time of year.
Dinner /drinks / music
Parking not convenient
Not enough shade and too hard to find parking for people that aren't technically handicapped but have mobility issues
N/A
Just no time
I had to go to one of the town stores but I didn't use the plaza. I find it to be a hinderance to accessing the stores that are not bars. The music is too loud for my comfort also.
Live music and outdoor dining
No interest
Physically challenged can't walk distances so shopping downtown due to this plaza is a no go
Parking, entry, exiting is inconvenient
Didn't enjoy music that particular night and couldn't park to shop
Parking limited. Hate that I can't drive through and find a spot to park along main street
Parking already sucks downtown then taking away spots to close the road is dumb.
No time
Na
To far to walk
I did a couple times, but I find it hard to find parking and know what's going on where, so it's not a frequent stop for me
most weekends spent at lake front cabin up north
Hear music, take in the ambiance. See happy people enjoying each other.
Parking, crowding sidewalks, no businesses open
Difficult for mobility impaired
Not accessible
Not interested in the 'activities' that were advertised there.
Not interested in going there
I do not like crowds and lack of parking
I don't live in Midland, didn't fit with my schedule
No easy access for people with handicaps. Have to park too far away from stores on main street for someone that has COPD, partial lung removed. You have taken away my ability to shop on main street!!!
Did not know it had been continued for the 2024 season.

4. What do you love about the Pedestrian Plaza?

The awesome people who run it

The Pedestrian Plaza is the best place in town to enjoy patio dining, outdoor gatherings, live music, lunches, and outdoor fitness activities in the summer. I love that it is closed to vehicles - you can tell the difference when you sit outside and don't have the constant noise and disruption of cars going by. I love being able to allow my young child to wander around the space without worrying she'll be hit by a car. I love that it's a versatile place that's welcoming for everyone: I bring my elementary-aged child, my 70+ year old parents, work colleagues, dates, and out-of-town guests here and it provides the PERFECT setting for a gathering of any type and has elements everyone can enjoy.

Community! We need a space where all people of midland can gather to eat, dance, workout and create bonds.

There are activities to engage small children in a safe location.

The games, lounging area, and constant change of activities to do.

Ability to walk the ateet, safe space for families.

I think the idea is great all around. Another activity that's centered around being outside, great value for the businesses in the area, and also encourages the area businesses to be more active in the services they provide.

The open area to meet outside and eat or visit. Also love the crafts show and the business it brings to our downtown merchants.

Fun experience for families

Creates community, space for events, easier to plan gatherings

Our City and downtown are so nice, it's wonderful we have a fun place to go and enjoy Michigans beautiful summer nights.

Don't love anything about it. Hard to get to businesses in the area

The ability to see entertainment for free. Enjoy the local food and drinks while walking around. The atmosphere and the fun games.

The ability to meet up with friends and enjoy food and drinks from all the different downtown establishments.

Eating out doors, live music, balloon blow downâ€¦. Just about everything

We love that we can get together with family and friends to enjoy a nice evening while our kids play without worry. It's a great spot for families, people with dogs, couples looking for a nice outdoor meal or cocktail, etc. I see so many people from all different walks enjoying this space on a regular basis. My parents often come to Midland from out of town to meet us downtown in the summer and it would be such a shame to lose it.

it's a great way to enjoy the businesses and public space downtown. We eat, shop and enjoy letting our kids play in the commons area.

It makes it a nice safe space for entertainment for all ages

Great place for families and people to get together and enjoy Midlandâ€™s downtown shops and restaurants. It allows for live music and intermingling.

It brings people downtown. Gives people something to do on the weekends

Pedestrian friendly - Iâ€™m a walker and I love having the space and freedom to wander and mingle

I love the feel of community and that people of all ages are out enjoying our downtown!

Space. I can go with my family and dogs to the music

Great casual gathering place that has become a very positive aspect of downtown Midland. Draws local residents and out of town guests.
Nothin
The ability to take kids downtown and not have to worry about traffic, the activities for everyone to do, and the over all weekly community gathering.
Provides a gathering place for the community not just for music but other activities
It's nice to be able to walk around and hang out down there without traffic. The kids grab a pizza and play games. It makes it more relaxing. I like that you can grab a drink or food from any of the establishments and meet in the middle.
It's a wonderful community gathering place. The games for the kids make it a place where adults can be social among their peers without having to worry about the kids as they are off playing with their own peers. The flowers beds are amazing.
Music. People.
Allows tri-city citizens to come together and enjoy our city. Offers a community experience and seems beneficial to businesses.
Revitalizes community focus. Brings people together.
Great outdoor space to meet friends, hear live music and enjoy the variety of food and drink options in a relaxed, picnic atmosphere
Casual place for people to gather; very popular.
Wish there were more shade
No traffic
Free event to help promote downtown area
Nothing
Nothing
How it brings the community together. The live music and watching everyone have so much fun together
Nothing
Safe space for kids to be without traffic. Live music. Something to look forward to every weekend. Lots of options for food and drinks. Many people from out of town say it feels like a vacation spot in the summer.
All of the activity, people downtown, just enjoying themselves
I love to see people out and enjoying our beautiful downtown. it's also so fun to run into old friends and neighbors there!
Always see someone I know. Fun activities - love the cornhole. Nice to sit outside, listen to music, and have a drink purchased from one of the local businesses.
Nothing
It's a great place to meet up with friends and others and have a nice open space for kids and families to use. It also allows takeout meals from local restaurants so we don't have to wait for a table on busy days. Instead, we can order food and take it to the plaza.
It has revitalized downtown Midland.
Nothing
The music on Fridays and Saturdays, the walkability, the games, the events. Pretty much everything.

Great spot to be for live music on the weekends.
Live music and ability to accommodate so many community members
It gives Midland a completely different feel! Shutting down Main Street adds so much activity and light to the area with all of the events that are going on! I think it is more than fair to say that anyone who works down here loves being able to just walk around in there during lunch or after work! It is really a new venue for the city and I think it is really important that it be kept!
I like how it makes the downtown more of a destination. I only visited during the art fair, but it is really nice.
The feeling of community, everyone hanging out on concert nights and just existing.
Allows for a nice communal space to enjoy a Michigan summer.
I love the variety of bands and the amount of people it brings into town. I also love that we can purchase a drink from the commons and walk around with friends and family.
The Pedestrian Plaza allows us to meander without worrying about passing cars. It gives us more freedom to enjoy the businesses. We often run into friends down there.
Fantastic family atmosphere. I work in Midland / live in Bay City. My family and I love to come downtown to the pedestrian plaza & meet friends before a Loons game for dinner and a drink. I'm not sure we would come downtown before a game if the plaza didn't exist. I've also hosted out-of-town business visitors and we always end up in the Plaza after dinner - our visitors have had nothing but positive comments about downtown and the plaza.
It brings more people downtown. Love seeing all ages enjoying the events and activities. Brings a sense of community to Midland.
The plaza concept has proven to be a popular draw for residents and visitors alike. The consistent free entertainment draws crowds, but even without live entertainment it offers opportunities for visitors to mingle and enjoy more time in our downtown district. The lack of traffic provides peace of mind to parents and the variety of games and activities is a fun addition.
I do not
The restaurants, outdoor seating, games, ability to drink and walk and listen to live music, the entire atmosphere is so great to have in midland.
I love going to the live music on Fridays and Saturdays. It's great to enjoy a beverage outside and enjoy the summer weather. It's nice to have downtown feel even more walkable with having no traffic.
My wife and I love coming out to listen to the music with friends and family. Love that we are in walking distance to many local businesses to purchase beverages and food while we are there.
Fun place to hang out with the kids, not having to worry about cars and such
The freedom to gather with friends or family in a safe environment free of traffic, so we can just visit or play games together
NOTHING! Have never spent a penny downtown because of the poorly designed and discriminatory young professional accessibility.
That people are able to gather and socialize in the street without worrying about traffic. It seems to have increased social activity in the downtown area since it's inception.
I love that it is a gathering place for people of all ages, with something for everyone!
Everything!
Live music, events, community building, Commons to go drinks, Downtown restaurants

I love the way it brings people together into the downtown area. it's a great boost for business.
The expanded outdoor seating for restaurants and the room for music
The Friday & Saturday night music, the walkability, the fun atmosphere.
Enjoying the warm weather. No traffic Friendly atmosphere. My kids enjoyed the games with out working about moving cars
It creates a community. Thereâ€™s something going on every weekend that isnâ€™t far from where I live. It brings business to the downtown restaurants and stores where there isnâ€™t any chains like just about everywhere else in midland.
nothing, blocks traffic, find a different area that is not a street, if DDA wants to have weekend events that block the street okay, but not all summer long
Builds community, brings energy to downtown Midland.
The people mingling and the musicâ€™ most of time. I like that you can come and go.!
Comfortable. Meetings with friend in an open area
Everything. Community coming together. Businesses get patronized.
The music, the food and just watching people have a good time. Also being able to meet people down there and visit.
Great place to see friends, dine, shop, and enjoy downtown Midland. Entertainment is certainly a plus for all!
It's great for the local businesses. Midland is full of family centered events and this is one of them where a family can go on a Friday or Saturday night for an easy night out of fun.
Great place to socialize, relax and enjoy the outdoors.
It is nice to have so much of the city pedestrian only. It feels safe and cozy in the area without all the cars whizzing by. In addition, it seems there are things going on every weekend to bring people to the plaza. Wide open spaces like that are way more fun with people.
it's nice to be able to walk around, there are tons of fun things happening. Makes the waits for a restaurant less. Being able to take drinks around is also fun.
Great community gathering place. Great entertainment.
Promotes sense of community
It is a place people gather and can be outside during our beautiful summers. A good vibe.
A sense of community
It's great for young people
I love that it provides a safe and fun atmosphere that brings our community together.
The freedom of walking around, the activities for everyone and the concerts. Brings everyone together.
The atmosphere. it's something to look forward to during the summer and makes it easier to enjoy festivals.
By creating a dedicated place for gathering, it fosters a sense of community.
The concerts, people, and seeing all the smaller businesses in downtown Midland benefit from the inflow of people that come down in the summertime to visit the plaza. It is perfect for families, with lots of different activities for kids and adults.
Nothing

I generally completely avoid all businesses from Dow Diamond through Cafe Zinc when the Pedestrian Plaza is open. I made the grave mistake of making an exception and ordering from Crepes et Ami during the Gus Macker tournament and it reaffirmed if not doubled my determination to avoid Main Street from late spring to early fall every year. The thing I love about the Pedestrian Plaza is that by not experiencing a nearby area of the city that is usually a convenience, it encourages me to journey to other parts of the city and nearby cities to see all that they have to offer.

The ease it allows to enjoy festivities, the enjoyable atmosphere for outside eating, the joy it brings to shop downtown.

It's nice to be able to come down and watch live music with your kids, and still be able to have an adult drink, or hang with friends. My kids love the live music, and being able to play without having to worry about traffic.

I enjoy being able to sit outside for lunches and dinners. It brings Midlanders downtown. The concerts are nice.

The bands on Fri and Sat nights are a lot of fun. It's great to see a large crowd from the community present.

It is nice to park and walk around the area without traffic

I love the great outdoors venue and music.

The relaxed atmosphere. The gathering of people having fun and relaxation. The feeling of belonging.

No worries about being run over (safety).

Meeting up with friends I haven't seen in a while.

It brings the community together.

It's a really fun atmosphere! It feels like a gathering place and less like a city street. It's a real community builder!

Connections, community, supporting our local businesses, casual fun atmosphere

Nice area to walk and enjoy the art fair. Nice to eat outside. More room to experience the area.

It allows for kids and parents to freely move downtown while visiting shops. Hopefully getting more visitors to the small businesses.

I feel that it brings the community together. There are things for both young and old to enjoy and having the street closed to vehicles seems like the safe way to go. There is parking available for a short walk so taking away a few spaces for a few months isn't a bother to me.

I love that there is corn hole and ping pong and comfy chairs to relax on. I love that they have outdoor live music, and outdoor seating for the local restaurants and that with children you don't have to worry about traffic.

Nothing. Stopped my from shopping downtown. Did not go to those businesses.

It provides a great community space in an area that is regularly dedicated just to the use of cars.

Nothing

Music on Main has been the big attraction. It has brought me downtown most Thursday and Friday evenings.

I just think it's a neat place for eating outside and entertainment.

We love the ability to enjoy all the activities outside without having to worry about being hit by cars or looking for traffic. We love being able to eat and drink from multiple places downtown and enjoy them outside at a picnic table while listening to music. We bring so many friends during the summer to the plaza to hang out. We frequent downtown more because of it.

Kids can run free and not worry about traffic and I can grab a drink and visit with friends or take in a concert in the open air!

It has become the heart of Midland socialization in the summer. I'd personally like to see it expand to a full year.

I like that they cut the time back.. it used to run to long.
Safe plaza for families to congregate and visit local restaurants. Bands.
Live music and the commons beverage area
It brings the community together in such a fun, relaxed atmosphere
A safe place for families with their kids, to enjoy summer days
Friday and Saturday night music. Expanded outdoor patios at restaurants and bars.
Everything! We love being able to bring our young kids down to play ping pong, bean bag toss, or just let them run around with friends. The live music is always awesome too! We visit the shops and restaurants frequently.
The music and the feeling of being in a community and not in my car.
The community coming together. The music brings happiness. The transformation with flowers, games and ability to shop and enjoy the outdoors. It's a win, win situation for the entire community. It's fun!! When out of state family comes to visit we always attend a couple of nights, they love it too.
The ability to have food and drink outside and the ability to move around. Also the outdoor activities like corn hole and golf.
Absolutely nothing!!!
It brings so many people together where they can dine and mingle and socialize
Great gathering place and good place to listen to live music.
It has a fun Vibe
Outdoor drinking, live music, activities for kids and adults.
It enhances community
The entertainment
Live music, outside dining, sense of community
Outdoor seating, live music
Everything. Such a great attraction for Midland
It is nice to get out and enjoy the events. Good place to socialize and support local businesses
Music
Demonstrates the value of walkable spaces and their viability even in sprawling midsize cities.
The ability to walk safely downtown with friends whenever we visit and enjoy the experience that the area offers.
Being able to gather with friends and have a meal and/or listen to the concerts. It provides a fun outdoor gathering space in Midland.
The activities, the music, the atmosphere, socializing
It provides a great outdoor space to gather with friends. I love going downtown for a meal with friends and/or going to listen to a concert.
Vehicle-free
The feeling of community and opportunity to mingle.

The community feel, the beauty of the area (planters, patios, etc.) and the entertaining diverse concert lineups.
We get out of the house and into the community. The space is free and we get to spend our money on local businesses of our choosing.
The concerts on Friday/Saturday nights. Great to see so many people downtown. Also like the whole area with the games and gathering spots for people to enjoy.
Love being able to walk around with a drink, playing games, and just the general vibe. We go every single week, if not multiple times a week
Seeing friends. Lack of vehicles to worry about.
Great family outings and summer entertainment.
Music
Open space for chairs and tables
A traffic free zone for enjoying downtown.
Many seem to enjoy the Plaza concerts.
I feel it brings the community together more and is a place for larger groups to gather and have a fun time
It is fine for evening fun and attracts a crowd.
Outdoor dining, Live music, fun games.
It just feels like there are more people there every night so it makes going downtown feel like an event every night
I love the ability to gather for concerts and enjoy drinks and food outside.
No cars, music, lots of people have fun.
Adds to flexibility of downtown restaurants to add seating or to make wait times fun, easy for families. Musical variety. COLOR. Brings people together and downtown to shop, etc.
It builds community, and it is a safe place to walk around without traffic.
Being able to walk around and not worry about traffic. I also like that I can meet with friends who have different tastes in food and drink. We can each get what we want and sit together to eat & drink.
it's nicely decorated & it is a good idea.
It gives a great sense of community and the activities and entertainment are a lot of fun!
The music and all the people enjoying it.
I could easily do without it.
mini-golf
Outdoor music
Nice to get out and enjoy the downtown, the food and meet friends. Interesting note that with the community seating your group can order from multiple restaurants instead of limiting choice to one and still sit together.
Concerts, family atmosphere, community
Family oriented, relaxing, fun events.
My grandchildren love playing ping pong and corn hole. We also bounce the super balls we get from the Pizza Sams pinball machine

Way to mingle and enjoy window shopping
I love that my kids can play safely in a fun environment where we can also eat, shop and gather with others. It combines multiple experiences into one place. We love the games and the opportunities for businesses to expand outdoor seating and make the space their own.
All the people and the music
it's a place for the community to come together.
Love the bands, food and family friendly games
Food music families
Walking around the zone with drinks; eating outdoors without worrying about traffic
It's great to have a safe and open space to listen to music and connect with other community members.
All the opportunities for concerts, workout groups, and places for pedestrians to wander in a downtown environment.
Great way to enjoy downtown, build community! Loved seeing friends out and about, families hanging out
it's just so great to see so many people come together and have a place to go. Having the Pedestrian Plaza is a great asset to the city!
Free to roam and walk about, plenty of seating, open air, restaurants, games for the grandkids, and sitting in my lawnchair, listening to music is awesome!
Fun place to be, happy to see community together and having fun
it's a great gathering place for families and friends with wonderful music, dancing, games, food, drinks, shopping. I love how the restaurant/bars can expand their outdoor seating, and there's no traffic to worry about!
I really didn't. Hardly any people. Too expensive and too hard to find parking
Brings people together socially.
The sense of community and just the buzz it brings to downtown
I love that it creates a space to freely roam downtown without traffic. The games, concerts, and street seating is great.
I love that it is a place for people of all ages to come and hang out. There is something for everyone and promotes community - with the streets blocked off, it is also a safe place for children to play without the concern of where vehicles are. I am always impressed with the crowds when there is live music. On Friday & Saturday evenings, you see families with kids, single people, middle aged couples, and elderly couples enjoying the music, eating in restaurants, getting dessert, and shopping.
open space to eat and drink. no traffic
It an area where everyone can walk around withput worry of auto traffic, a place to meet friends & family and enjoy music on the weekends. It is nice to be able walk around with a commons drink but even more important to have that ability to sit outside to eat and have a drink. If the Pedestrian Plaza is closed the outdoor seating area for resturants and other establishments would be redused to at least half. It is fantastic to see the number of people of all ages who come down town to enjoy the music and the down town area.
The fun community down there. The bringing together of Midlanders in an entertaining Cenu.

Fun, safe, family friendly and genuine wholesome fun all summer long. The businesses do well and the community really comes together.
Community and music.
I love the low-key, casual nature of the space. It is a nice family friendly place to come in the summer.
The easy contact with other people in the community.
Concerts games
This is such a great place for families to enjoy
Bringing people together, community, music, eating outside
Nothing. It's a nuisance. Blocks off business's I'd like to access. I'm disabled and need closer access. Blocking the streets off stops me from going where I need.
I enjoy the ability to walk from Pizza Sam's to the Grape Beginnings and only have to cross one street of traffic. I love going downtown during the day to just sit outside in front of the Amazing Deli, while having one of their sandwiches for lunch. I look forward to every Friday and Saturday evening to join the crowd enjoying the concerts and being able to a beer out there from the Whichcraft. These are just a few of the things I love about the plaza.
The music
Good meeting place
It offers a family-friendly atmosphere and adds a beautiful atmosphere to the downtown area.
I love the opportunity to be outdoors, it also provides more of a community feeling with the opportunity to engage with others beyond those at your table.
The activity level in downtown, gives a reason to go there and spend some time
Music series
Ability to wander within the zone
The sense of community, for all ages that it creates and promotes
It encourages people to come downtown
Fun/relaxing atmosphere
Friday and Saturday night concerts
I love to bring my children and let them play in that space without worrying about cars. They meet other friends and play with the provided games. Me and my wife can relax under the shade with an adult beverage while paying attention to our children. The pedestrian plaza makes the summer at Downtown Midland the place to be on the weekends and right after work/evenings during the week.
Seeing people in the community coming together and bumping into friends and acquaintances
Open space with no car traffic and spaces to relax are great.
Brings some vibrancy to down town
It encourages people to come to downtown Midland and congregate in the Plaza. It's very pleasant to sit outside on a nice day, have lunch and enjoy the outdoors.

Safety, family atmosphere
I love sharing the safe, open space with my community free of traffic noise while enjoying food, drinks and music.
Everything. Concerts, outdoor activities, the commons.
Events and outdoor dining buildouts.
The outdoor concerts
The ambiance
Outdoor music
it's a fun experience to be able to eat outside.
Love the hole vibe, the ability to kove about freely. The live music, bringing family's together to enjoy. Absolutely a wonderful way to promote our hometown!
Area for kids to play, brings in business to small businesses in the area
The no traffic space for my small children to be able to run and play while the adults enjoy their dinner is heavenly! Also, we love the live music.
The entertainment and people.
Community effort
Convenience
The amount of people it draws to our downtown
Gathering of people allows me to see friends I havenâ€™t seen in a while.. I love the family and dog friendly atmosphere and the musical entertainment focus.
Place to go and hang out
I like the idea of the committed community space that prioritizes people and interactions over cars. We had a baby this year, so we might be more interested in checking it out in the coming years.
I like to relax and visit with friends and others in the community. I always see so many children having fun and enjoying themselves as well.
Invites the community to gather in a safe space. Encourages interaction and builds a sense of community.
Great community space - always run into people that we know downtown.
Encouraging foot traffic, social interaction, and a place with a sense of human-scale
Family and friends can gather, play games and enjoy music.
There is nothing I like about the Pedestrian Plaza. I would shop Downtown Midland more, however, due to the Plaza parking is extremely difficult.
A comfortable place to walk and enjoy the business down there. Especially the restaurants.
The pedestrian plaza is a great place for us to walk our kids down to. We play, eat, and make memories as a family and with our family friends.
Nothing. Liked the music, however, the only thing this helps is the bars. Small businesses get no traction. Since the parking situation is so bad there is no way the elderly or handicap people can access this area. Of course, they don't matter, do they?

Love the picnic tables where our group can bring food & drink items from different restaurants; love the games provided - ping pong, corn hole, etc; great space and SAFE with no cars for children
Live music, walkable, people enjoying the warm summer nights.
The freedom of going from business to business and the outdoor seating
Being able to sit outside and eat, have cocktails, enjoy time with friends, etc. without cars driving by. Love the live music and community presence.
Activities and gathering space
Something to do in small community
Commons, walk ability, concerts, community
Attracts large amounts of people to downtown regularly
Stores
It brings the community together
The togetherness it brings to the community and the ability to spend time with people and hear great local music
Brings people and activities to downtown, allows people to experience multiple business and restaurant options in one visit to downtown. Creates a sense of community and a "destination", even if you don't have specific events or plans. It's safe for families and kids, when you want to give them a little freedom. Options to grab a quick drink from many downtown restaurants without visiting the bar or grabbing a table is also a nice add (Molasses, Tavern on Main, etc.)
Great place for kids to play independently with parent supervision while parents can socialize and enjoy a beverage.
The look and feel is awesome. It's welcoming and fun, and it's nice to walk downtown without all the cars around.
It is a unique area with lots of seating and events. It is kid friendly to not have cars in the street during these busiest months.
Ability to walk around without traffic hazards. Ability to take beverages / foods from businesses and sit where you like outside.
It's nice to see expanded seating / dining spaces.
the sense of community, ease of walking through with kids without worrying about kids crossing the road with cars coming, access to dining and drinks.
I love the walkability and pedestrian-focus of the Pedestrian Plaza, similar to what you would find in old world city town centers. Being able to walk around downtown without having to worry about traffic while exploring the shops and enjoying the events is a great thing to have in our city.
The carefree atmosphere.
holding space for people to gather, safe space without vehicles. space invites people to not only gather, but pause and enjoy/appreciate the area.
Facilitates socializing. Enjoy the stores and restaurant without worrying about cars
It's an excellent venue for the warmer months for people to gather and have fun, in many ways. I love the atmosphere and the activities that are available. I also really like the variety of venue options for dining and gathering as well as the music and movies that take place. Keep up the great work and please, please, please continue after 2025!

The feeling of community! So many people attend. Families, individuals etc. The ability to connect with so many others in a fun atmosphere.
Love the open area to walk and relax.
Nothing. It is a driving hazard to out of town residents, and even to in town residents. And there is nothing of interest, that requires this to be a closed area for driving. Create another location for an OPEN COMMONS area for people congregate. It is not a "Plaza" it is a street.
It's existence
I love the music choices, the restaurants we go to in that area and just the total total.ambience with the crowds.
It's safe and a fun place to meet with others. I enjoy the outdoor dining options
The best part about downtown Midland I wish it was a permanent fixture.
Ability to be down there with your family and not worry about traffic or cars is amazing. I wish the stores would stay open later because by the time we can get downtown after work, most of the downtown stores are closed.
Great to sit outside with friends, no need to worry about cars. Something for everyone. The concerts were great. Great way to enjoy a beautiful night. I probably wouldn't have gone downtown and shopped or had dinner weekly, if it wasn't for the concerts.
I'm always impressed by how many people come out to events and just to enjoy Downtown.
The crowds really gather on nice weather days and for good talent. So nice to see the downtown business support.
Nothing
An open area to socialize and enjoy evening events.
I love that it encourages people to be outside and walking around, enjoying each other's company
I absolutely, do not love it.
Being able to go from place to place with my drink. The music performances, the outdoor games. It's just a great use of the space and draws people in.
Family atmosphere, fun live music atmosphere, games and seating
Live music
The live music, and the people.
It is amazing seeing so many people outside and enjoying our incredible community. The energy is amazing! We are always so sad when the road opens to car traffic in the fall.
The music, the food, drinks, atmosphere, games
Awesome family atmosphere, great music and FREE!! It's a great place to meet up with friends and family or meet new people!
Evening concerts, easily walkable between shops
So family oriented
Walkable space to gather without cars.
Great place to hangout with friends and family, and enjoy food, drinks and the music

Community
It is amazing to see so much activity and life downtown. The energy is amazing! It's so nice to have a place to meet up with friends and enjoy our incredible community. We are always so sad when Main Street reopens to car traffic in the fall.
I love the atmosphere, comrade, friendships, and workmanship. Most of all the live music!
Good for the downtown businesses.
I love the atmosphere and the chance to hear music from bands that I wouldn't normally get to hear
Love music, no need to worry about cars and traffic. Kid friendly. We enjoy drinks and food outdoors from different places, (we can never agree where to get pizza ðŸ˜,). We get to support multiple local business in one trip down town.
Children can play and dance without parents worrying they'll be struck by vehicles. Live music is by far my favorite part.
It was so nice to meet with friends and shop while also being able to relax and watch our kids play while eating/drinking
Everything!! It's a wonderful place to gather with friends and enjoy good music, play games, and try fantastic food & beverages. Because of the pedestrian plaza, we come downtown much more often than if it wasn't there!!!!
I love watching the entire dynamic. Families, individuals, couples, friends all smiling enjoying themselves. Whether dining, shopping, walking around or listening to one of the wonderful concerts, a good time seems to be had by all.
Accessibility to local merchants, entertainment during the summer, and focus on the community
Different styles of music, food, drink. Great atmosphere for whole family.
We love going downtown for music on weekend. The bands have all been excellent, some downright outstanding!
I love the live music. I love that you can carry an adult beverage in that area. I love the festive atmosphere. I love that Minnie restaurants had outdoor service. I love that everybody tends to behave. It's a family friendly event so we can have the kids come down and run around while we enjoy the music. And the black off streets.
it's fun!
Family fun, allowance for alcohol on the streets.
The welcoming and friendly attitude of the DDA (especially Joe) makes the pedestrian plaza an amazing place!
it's a great spot for hanging out, community, and fun! It doesn't significantly hurt parking downtown and allows for a lot of great events.
Safe to walk with family.
It has become a gathering place for our community. It is so nice to see so many people and families enjoying downtown and supporting businesses
Open to stroll and visit with others. Get to know community.
The visual space and peacefulness of no traffic.
The community all coming together!!
Everything
Ability to move n designated area's without concern or fear of automobile traffic.
Busy, music lots of people

It is an opportunity to meet other people who are not close friends who we may not see outside of work or outside the neighborhood. We tend to walk and listen to the music until we bump into someone we may not have seen for awhile.
it's friendly, and there's something for everyone. It feels safe.
It's a perfect place for families in the summer. Love eating outside, playing the yard games provided, listening to the bands in the weekends.
open walking, area, music, general family recreation area, community
Everything! Food n music galore! Love taking drinks up and down Main St to enjoy everything! It's so much fun!
The events and opportunities to be able to interact as a community. The games and hangout spots are awesome. People can eat and drink at local restaurants while enjoying shows or just hanging out.
it's become a staple in our weekly summer activities. We love visiting downtown and having a gathering space for friends and family. Love all the music and entertainment provided too! We love it.
It makes the area feel so much better to walk around and enjoy the local bars and shops without the fear of traffic. it's also very nice to have the extra seating outside during the summer.
Live concerts
Great community/family gathering place! Room to walk about, choose seating for music programs, select food and drink. A pleasant summer tradition!
My daughter seems to like it
Not one thing
It gives room eat outside without blocking the sidewalks.
It fosters community participation and welcomes people to mingle. The seating, games, availability of food and drink within the commons area offer activity and participation. I love that it makes me feel part of the community and provides a sense of belonging.
I did see some fire boxes last year but that was at lunchtime. No crowds
Having a safe place for my kids to play while we eat and shop. Outside dining is great.
Fun activities downtown and it a safe area for people to hang out.
I love that it provides a common space to bring the community together, it makes me feel much more connected to this town.
Answering number 3 without knowing the benefactors is a challenge! Is this really a yes or no answer. No room for deviation.
It creates community and strengthens our downtown.
It is fun for the whole family
Everything
Not much. Restricts access to stores, parking, driving downtown.
Live music, mingling between businesses, games and activities.
The walkability, the atmosphere, the commons!
Concerts and outdoor dining
Fun and safe place for families to spend time together
no cars

Safe area without worry of traffic, fun games and a space to have fun
Bands, open cocktails, games
Everything. I spent time in a few different cities in Germany and always enjoyed the fusing- the pedestrian only areas. Love that we have it here.
No, take a year off, so the city can see if it would be better to not have it
The music. The chance to meet old friends. Just something to do in Midland.
I love being able to gather with large groups of friends, and let kids play outside instead of them being loud inside. It also let's people get food from whichever restaurant they want but still eat together.
it's a family friendly inexpensive way to spend some yime
Outside dining. Games. Bands. Freedom to walk unhindered by traffic. Freedom to take an alcoholic drink outside.
The music, the possibility
Not much
Casual dining and entertainment
We enjoyed the games, hanging out with a drink, listening to music, gathering as a big group for dinner where everyone could get take out from one of the restaurants.
No traffic
Makes downtown more fun
Safe for families and nice open area
My kids feel like they have a safe and fun place to hangout in the summer! We live close by and I work downtown.
Vibes
The space was very open to and enjoyed by a broad spectrum of the community. The food and beverage offerings were excellent. We enjoyed the music and the dancing. It was fun to visit with friends and neighbors. The optional 'side events' (golf, table tennis, 'bag-toss', etc) were very well maintained and quite plentiful; the flowers and other plants were well maintained.
Live music, family activities, restaurants and bars
Such fun activities
I love the community that gathers. I love the games, the music and outdoor dining without cars making it loud and dangerous. it's one of my favorite things about summer in Midland!
Meeting with friends outside
Gathering place, great summer vibes, very fun atmosphere
Great sense of community!
atmosphere
It's a nice gathering place. I like that there is more outdoor dining. The music is nice as well as all the games for kids.
The live music and games.
Numerous open picnic tables
The atmosphere of a thriving downtown! The music! The games! The people!

More action downtown with music, outdoor activities, outdoor lunch / dinner and brings more people doing commerce with stores.
The freedom to walk through the downtown area and shop/browse in the many businesses without thinking about the traffic in the area. It's just a pleasant experience, and I love the flowers on the street corners, just makes it more inviting.
A safe no cars outside area for just sitting and enjoying a beverage or meal.
Easy place to go and relax
It is a safe environment to enjoy something that I really enjoy, which is live music.
It seems like it brings more people downtown along with fun activities.
No traffic that allowed easier access to businesses.
Great downtown gathering area.
How it brings the community together and brings in visitors from other regions
Music and lawn games
I love the open space to gather and walk around and just see everyone having a good time. Being able to enjoy adult beverages lets us enjoy bar-like socializing in the family-friendly open air and sunshine.
Games on the street, able to take a beverage and walk around the few blocks to enjoy a summer night.
The activities and being able to walk from business to business without having to watch for cars
Nothing
The openness.
All the people and ability to walk from location to location with food and drink. The music is also great.
Love the ambiance (music, games, safe play area, dining options and to-go beverages)
The low traffic. The ability to walk and enjoy the shops. The live music and the fun activities with my family.
The atmosphere is wonderful! We would find every opportunity to stop by, especially on the weekends.
Wonderful music, dancing, events and friendship gathering in the evenings! This brings people from all around Midland and neighboring communities. Great for Main St. businesses since so many people gather on these nights that would otherwise not come downtown.
Downtown Joe, the LIVE music, and Adult Recess.
Community
Mixing with people. Good for city bonding.
Live music. Being free to walk in the plaza with a cocktail.
It makes downtown a major destination to come and spend a whole afternoon and evening. I can bring the kids the run around and play games. I can bring the dog, too, and we can get out into th fresh air as a family. There are great options for food and drink, and I can order from several different places. The music performances on the weekends make it a really vibrant and fun scene.
The energy generated by the people and events.
A great place for friends and families to connect and enjoy true Midland
It's great fun, an area where you can eat, shop, relax and see your neighbors. Love the activities and games found along the street, especially the bands and movie night.

A safe place to gather for the community. The opportunity to visit, eat, listen to music.
I love that it's pollution free, fun and walkable. A place for our community to gather which is needed more than ever now with Dow separating to multiple companies.
Mingling with people and seeing old friends.
Nothing
The free live music
Fun place to hang with family
The fact that it brings the community together
I love the games, the laughter, I feel like it's more of a destination spot now rather than just the downtown. it's more inviting and fun because of everything that's been invested down there. However if the businesses make more money without it then I would like to support them in that way! It makes me go downtown more often, but not so much more often that I'm keeping the downtown open on our household one way or another.
Nothing about it attracts us.
It helps people in our town connect to each other, and it's different.
I don't
We loved the plaza, the music nights, hanging out with friends and family. Loved the game tables and cornhole.
Brings us downtown more. Love the music, etc. Love the give-aways and photo booths, etc.
Fun and safe area for community to gather.
Kids love to play with the outside games in the street.
We enjoy eating outdoors and listening to music.
Relaxed atmosphere. Sense of community. Family friendly.
Family friendly environment (we have a 6mo and are very excited about having him grow up in this area).
Music, Three Bridges, Street games
Gathering place. Helps make downtown lively.
I love the ability to spend time outside with friends and family and not be confined to a restaurant to do so. I love that it is so easy to support multiple businesses each night you are there. I also love the outdoor games and live music.
Great for families with kids, helps downtown feel alive, and builds a sense of a shared community
It makes downtime more inviting and fun to visit.
Meeting people within our community and beyond. The music is the best!
it's a great meeting place for young and old - whether you are there during the day or during the evening. The flowers and other bushes/trees add to the look and feel of not just being on the road. Benches, picnic tables, loungers - all make a terrific inviting place. Opening the area to alcohol from restaurants is very inviting to visitors and guests, and restaurants being able to offer outside eating not next to cars and parking lots is wonderful. The downtown entertainment on Fridays and Saturday is a wonderful way to gather with family and friends. Midland has a fabulous offering for a small/mid size town - I'm proud to live here!
The games and music. The food and businesses. The lack of cars.

Everything and I am going to be UPSET if it does not continue. It is so beautiful to see the community come together. It is so great that we can actually have a place that is safe enough to hold a successful event each week.
No cars, the people, the atmosphere, the music.
The ability for groups of friends to get together outside. Nice that friends can get take-out food and drinks of their choice and then eat together.
The ability to enjoy the outdoors while eating from one business and drinking from a different place
Being able to walk freely without worrying about vehicles around you.
I love the atmosphere. Being down there with the rest of the town makes it feel like a community. It gives more space for businesses to serve people of the town and its interactive for children and adults alike.
Feeling of community, activities and a beautiful space
It allows for events and more walkable opportunities in our community. I believe it also helps those businesses down there where people walk and "window" shop on the walk to their destination(s).
able to enjoy the weather, gives options for food and drinks for larger groups or when there's waits at restaurants
Music on main, the street games, enjoying a drink and wandering the plaza.
I love how safe it is for people to walk around, shop, snack and check out the entertainment.
Opportunity to mingle, run into friends, and have outdoor area that is family friendly with food options as well as entertainment.
I love the fact that there are no vehicles there and you can easily walk from shop to shop!
We enjoy going downtown, supporting the local businesses and listening to the music. The best part is the play area for the children. It allows them the ability to play, in a supervised setting, while the adults can visit at the same time.
It's now a part of summer in Midland! It would be sad if it doesn't continue.
Nothing. Too small of an area to block it all off and redirect traffic to Main St.
Everything! Music, games, outdoor seating at bar/restaurants. it's welcoming to everyone. Families can enjoy w/out breaking the bank.
Live music, Local restaurants, Games
The classic downtown feel and ability to enjoy the area unobstructed.
The freedom to roam and have a beverage while you're doing it.
The entertainment, people watching, games and music
I love everything about it. I love riding my bike down there with my family, hanging out in the street, and playing games. I love the free concerts. I love connecting with community. Additionally, I love all of the food drink options and the ability to try something from everything, as we can rarely all agree on one place to eat.
the community can gather and get to know each other.
Lively gathering place; makes downtown feel 'alive'; inviting for pedestrians; meshes well with Chippewasse Park and Tridge area
Ease of visiting all the businesses without the concern of traffic
Listening to music. seeing smiles on everyone's faces. Makes it feel like a small town, with good vibes.

Many seating places safe space for children plenty of parking
Nice place to gather on a warm summer night.
Builds community
No cars
A good gathering spot for community activities and brings people to downtown
FREE Commons Music, the variety, both Friday and Saturday night and CONNECTING with Friends (sometimes only at the Commons Music!
Availability
I always ride my bike downtown to the pedestrian plaza. I love being able to do that, lounge on the lounge chairs. Also come to eat. it's actually the only time I come downtown.
All the extra activities for people/families to have fun, the concerts on Fridays/Saturdays, the atmosphere it creates for everyone to gather together.
The concerts that allow people to enjoy the open air, listen to great bands and enjoy the outdoors & the shops, without fear of getting run over by a vehicle.
The availability of outdoor seating for restaurants, and the amount of people that you can interact with is always a plus. Crowded sidewalks or lack of outdoor seating is never fun in the downtown area.
I like that it encourages people to hang out and stay in that area.
The beautiful setting with plants, seating, games, artwork, and music. I love having a drink or food that I can carry to outdoor seating and enjoy music (either live or the piped in music).
Everything!!!
Openness, space to walk, look around and relax
An excellent community gathering place
Ease of movement, free entertainment outside on summer nights, dinner outside, watching children play in a safe place.
The music and neighbors getting together
Outdoor dining, drinks and music
The vibe, camaraderie, music, ability to bring drinks and food into commons area.
it's something different. It brings the community together. I've enjoyed the entertainment.
I don't love it. I find it very inconvenient when Main Street is closed and I spend less time down town.
The family fun atmosphere
No vehicles to worry about
Games and lounging areas
Music and not just the concerts
It is so fun to head to the Pedestrian Plaza during the summertime. I've gone on a date night with my husband. We've taken our kids for dinner & games. I have taken my mom and aunt out to brunch. We have attended concerts with friends...there is always a fun crowd and I run into plenty of people I know.

The music, food & people having fun. I love seeing people from 1 to 92 all enjoying the evening.
ease of walking Main Street
it's a great gathering place. The games and activities are wonderful. We saw many people and families participating.
Community access
Relaxed atmosphere â€¦ no traffic noise when dining outside. Ability to wander through stores easily
atmosphere
Concerts, games, & welcoming gathering
The sense of community it brings to Midland.
Everything. A great community experience
It is such a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere. I like that friends can get whatever food they want and still all sit together. People of every age are hanging out.
Designated area to congregate, the stage, the outdoor seating, etc
The atmosphere is amazing! It brings people together!
Being able to walk around and be able to look without having to change my attention any time I think a car might be drawing near. And I can cross the street at any time safely with my young son.
Nice to be outdoors
Music and relaxingâ€¦
We love the ability to enjoy the warm Summer evenings shopping, eating out, and the great music.
My family loves walking around downtown, we enjoy the different activities set up for families to enjoy, and especially love the live music on the weekends!
Idea is great but logistics are wanting.
I love that it's a safe place to walk with no concern of drivers not paying attention.
The ability to grab a drink, sit, and catch up with friends. Entertainment for the kids. Shop local.
We love the vibe!! Even brought visiting relatives here and they thought it was AMAZING!!
Walkable, fun atmosphere, great for socializing and enjoying the weather.
Entertainment, seating, games, restaurant options
Good place to relax and enjoy the summer with drink, food and people watching.
Reminds me of S. Europe (but way closer).
I like the feeling of community, it is fun to see people milling about.
local atmosphere, bigger focus on local business and building a personal connection to the town. leaving it open to cars will stop window shopping and impromptu store visits. being able to drive to the front door stops you from seeing what others have to offer as you walk by.
Just the sense of community it creates.
Community feel, great for families, the music, outdoor eating and drinking spaces.

The whole idea is really unique. It's nice to have a place to hang out and not worry about traffic. I would like to see it a permanent fixture of downtown for the WHOLE year.
It's a great way to relax and socialize. It also expands the outdoor seating capacity for restaurants and their customers. I'd much rather eat and visit outside.
Great place to hang out, good music, don't have to travel far, lots of food options
it's a fun place to hang out with friends and family.
No car traffic. Great entertainment.
Great safe place for kids with lots of food and fun options.
Brings more of the community together downtown, integrates them with the small businesses on Main. Seems to provide a safer area for kids.
Great place for kids to play semi-independently while parents can socialize and get food/beverage.
I like the open venue. There is also a calm about the area without having to worry about cars.
Being able to socialize, eat and have fun outside with friends in a safe atmosphere.
Music, outdoor dining
It is fun. Friendly people. Casual outdoor dining. Seating. Games.
The fun atmosphere it creates in the summer. I absolutely love being able to walk around or sit with a beverage in hand while my kids can run around and play or dance to music. It's another great option to bring people to the downtown area to attract more business to the shops and restaurants. I believe a healthy downtown makes for a healthy community. I would love to see the pedestrian plaza continue for many years to come!
Just a really nice way to enjoy the outdoors, downtown, & the community.
games, music, ability to walk without concern of traffic, open alcohol policy
Fun games for the family, outdoor dining
Seeing so many people gathered downtown. It's such a great place to meet up with friends and family and enjoy the beautiful summer nights and music.
Everything! A real plus to Midland
I love to play the outdoor games with my kids in a safe, fun environment
Walkable access. Enjoy open area for drinks. Street stands and vendors for food/drink. Fun place to hangout.
It gives something to do for all ages to do, especially Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. I remember downtown before Covid and it was dead. There was no one downtown on a Friday night and it felt like a wasted space. A lively and thriving downtown makes Midland a much better city to live in.
Open community gathering space in a relaxed setting free of cars. Extra dining space to enjoy outdoor MI. Love flowers, cleanliness of area.
The music, the time spent with family
Great place to go on a summer evening if you are in town. Great bands to listen to. Love supporting local businesses downtown and they all have grown to better serve customers each year it's been open.

Gets people out and being active
Family friendly safe area for all families to enjoy downtown without the fear of traffic going over the speed limit.
Common area for people to gather and enjoy activities.
Safe area to walk and let kids play, and visit some of our favorite shops without worrying about cars.
Live music, spaces for kids to play, I love that I can go downtown with a group of friends and all our kids and I don't have to spend a million dollars at a restaurant or bar.
it's a great way to see people from our community, it also seems to be helping the small businesses that make up our community stay alive.
Great spot to hang out whether it's a busy or calm time.
Sense of community
Music, games, meeting up with friends
The people and business it brings downtown. it's a great gathering place for friends and family
Safe wide spaces to walk and gather
it's a great place for the whole family to hang out and enjoy all the various businesses that are in downtown Midland.
The free concerts! The Center for the Arts summer event.
The lack of cars and beautiful spaces
Space for family, friends. Love the music, ability to walk with drinks and hang out outside in a safe space with other community members. Easy way to support businesses.
Live music, outdoor dining and drinks and games
Fun way for people to gather together. Love the concerts and games scattered around downtown.
Wonderful music dancing in the street good food and drinks... Seeing so many people gather and enjoy our town!
-Live music
-More seating outside of restaurants and bars
-Great for gathering and to roam
The small town big city vibe it provides for my family and I.
We enjoy knowing it's safe for the kids to be kids and not have to worry about vehicles passing through.
Family friendly, outdoor gathering place with fun activities, music, safe place to enjoy summer activities and the downtown businesses.
It brings people and a better feel for downtown. Also if it helps downtown businesses, I am all for it.
No cars! Don't have to worry about looking out for cars.
Encourages events and activities and allows for businesses to garner much needed walking foot traffic rather than drive bys
I love the extra outside seating and how it's safe to walk from business to business, I wish more towns did this.
Food and drinks! Music and energy! Appreciate so much, the few stores who stay open! So great to have all the different seating options available. (Like that you have the area to move around with a drink - alcohol.) It seems to draw many people. Just good to have some places like this in Midland!!!!

The activities and be able to meet with friends and community. I was rarely coming downtown before the pedestrian plaza existed. If the pedestrian plaza stops, the frequency of my visits will drop.
Something to do downtown to support local businesses. Dinner, drinks and music.
ALL of it! Such great community
it's a great environment for families to visit and engage with local businesses.
It really helps make downtown a great place to visit. We like the Commons where you can consume food and drink.
It's a great place for the community to gather and celebrate summer. It provides an extremely convenient place to meet with friends. It make for a great pregame or post-game hangout for Loons games.
The different activities available to do. I love that we can let our kid have a little extra freedom to run and play without worrying about traffic driving through
it's a fun, safe place to gather with friends and as a family. It adds to the sense of community I feel in Midland
It is somewhere where you can meet up with friends and enjoy some good music. The availability of food and drinks are a nice option.
it feels like there's something for LITERALLY the whole family at little to no cost - the live music is wonderful and the businesses that host outdoor seating and even games and activities for little kids makes it appealing for everyone. There aren't too many places where you can have 3 happy generations of families (even teenagers!) feeling like there's something there for them
Ability for all peoples to gather in an open space
Fun for kids. Nice to take drinks out into the commons area.
Not much
Great place for family activities
Everything- community, music, people living life
The amount of people it brings to the downtown area
I love being an.e to see so many different people doe. There enjoying themselves and their families. I personally love the openness and ability to sit down there with more space to be downtown without worry of limited outdoor seating and just the safety of it being all blocked off.
Love the live music during the summer weekends. Love being able to bring drinks from local establishments.
Relaxing atmosphere.
It makes it soooo welcoming downtown
Atmosphere
it's a place to just stroll around and enjoy a summer evening, get an ice cream cone, sit and listen to the music and visit with people.
Not very much
Community, support of downtown, weekend entertainment
Great music selections.
The live music! Also like everything else about it.

The different bands that perform. Meeting up with friends and family. The energy the commons music brings to downtown Midland. Safe comfortable environment.
Great bands and atmosphere. Nice to be able to walk around with drinks and enjoy everything.
Socialization, live music, drinks
The concerts
Performances were excellent! needs to be later (sometimes we work on weekends!)and more than one per night also SUNDAYS! Duh
Summer open feeling
Something in midland to do bc there is not much to do
it's a fun space to go to I. The summer. We love all of the activities and music!
I don't love it. I'm 81, and while I'd like to attend the weekend evening music, I can't carry a chair to sit and listen.
Live bands. Corn bag toss games.
Walking between businesses is easier when I don't need to think about traffic.
I love how many ppl from the area go check it out and visit with each other. It has created a great spot for the community to hang out in the summer and meet new people. Makes Midland feel even more like a home
It's a fun outdoor activity to do during the summer, it's a place to do stuff with the community, or with just friends. It makes the city feel more alive.
The relaxed atmosphere to visit restaurants, listen to music and socialize with friends.
It provides an incredible sense of community. A beautiful place with laughter and dance where all are welcome to gather.
Pedestrian Plaza establishes downtown as a Place to visit " it is the destination in a world with a dwindling number of 3rd spaces. It provides an area where people can gather without car traffic in the vicinity of many local businesses. The lawn games and general decoration are great as well
Family friendly activities, outdoor socializing space
Flexibility
Family involvement, fun and safe for kids, great community environment
So convivial, lots of activity, outdoor dining
I love the feeling of community, seeing people enjoying the outdoors, the street-level games, and that it attracts people to local businesses.
Kid friendly activities, safe, commons drinks, live music.
Community. Kids activities, outdoor dining and drinking
Safe environment, great entertainment, great places to eat and able to eat outside, get to talk with people, Midland is the place to be in the summer on the weekends
Walkable, safe, games and activities for kids, places to sit, no vehicle traffic
Letting kids run on the street.
The ability to experience a "walkable city" environment while maintaining the benefits of a small city. It also makes everything downtown feel more connected, making it easier to roam from store to store supporting local businesses.

safe and convenient
It provides a space that is family friendly and safe downtown. I believe it promotes the downtown community (ie. more visitors)
it's a great and fun place for the community to come together.
Easy place to enjoy the weather, play with my daughter, drink and pop into stores. Makes it an afternoon not just a pit stop.
It's our favorite place to come have dinner and let our son run and play with other kids.
It brings the community together, allows a good family friendly spot, makes Midland even more of a great and unique of a place to live and visit
My daughter can safely walk around and play games
It's an amazing feeling walking around knowing you don't have to worry about you or kids being hit by a car. It literally makes everything quieter, more relaxed, and just better.
It is such a fun spot to gather with friends and family! There are many seating options, choices for food/beverages, and lots of fun shops to visit.
I love having a space to walk, relax, and socialize without any issues with traffic. i also love the increased outdoor seating it provides to the local restaurants.
I work right on the Pedestrian Plaza Street. I absolutely love having folks everyday outside of work coming to the plaza to play cornhole, ping-pong, enjoy a nice cold drink outside, or visit the many different restaraunts and stores that the plaza has to offer. The night time concerts are also always amazing. It brings so many people to the plaza every night for the concerts. This is providing economic growth for every business around the plaza and it just lights up the entire street every single day.
The atmosphere and the ability to roam around the streets with friends/kids/family.
I love the seating areas and the games in the plaza
The integration of walkable, interactive community space with downtown business. It feels like a collaborative welcoming space.
I enjoy having an outdoor space where the community can gather for great music, conversations with friends and help support our downtown establishments with shopping and great food and drinks. It brings people together and provides a safe and wholesome environment that families can attend. I feel it would be a negative impact to the community if this feature was no longer provided. I feel the attendance speaks for itself and the track record of hosting this event in a safe manner should allow this to continue.
I love that it is a great place for families to gather. We can get food and drinks from different places, grab a picnic table, and enjoy ourselves while also having a space where our young son is able to play.
Something to do in Midland! Draws lots of people downtown. Should be a boon for restaurants and stores. (Have seen very few stores open!) Fun place to be. Love that we can carry a wine, beer, drinks to our seats. Keep it up.
Number one the concerts. Plus, it's nice to have those couple blocks of no cars, and a place to people to hang out and visit right in the center of downtown. It gives the outdoor cafes more space, and people love the outdoor eating spaces.
We had dinner downtown and ate outside. It was nice to see all the people out and about. Families seemed to enjoy the yard games and extra space that was there.
The freedom to mingle, wonder, and sit on beautiful evenings enjoying people, music and dancing in the streets!!
We love that we can have a night of entertainment in our own city while supporting local businesses.

The music, the people, everyone happy and dancing. Yes good idea to put in a public bathroom.
The sense of community. So much fun, engagement, people coming together to enjoy life. Best thing that happened to Midland in the last few years!
Fun place to gather and meet, eat, listen to music
Music
Great atmosphere always great music
Blocked off for music
Sense of community
Community, concerts, drinks
Everything! It is so family friendly.
The landscaping is amazing. The music is fun and we love that we stroll around without worrying about traffic.
We love the plaza!! We enjoy the live music, frequently meeting up with friends at the pedestrian plaza. We also enjoy the flexibility it allows for dining- we can grab a pizza or some tacos and find a nice spot to enjoy it while listening to the music. The games available are also a great addition- we have loved the corn hole
Everything. Best thing the city has done. Coming from out of state in a bigger city it was frankly depressing being in Midland in 2013. When downtown started to reinvent itself I finally felt like I was home. I do not think we would have stayed here without the work that has been done on downtown Midland. Keep it up!
Love the atmosphere downtown. People enjoying life and community.
The extra room to enjoy games and concerts with friends!!
It is a fun relaxing place to come and enjoy downtown. I wouldn't come down to downtown much without it. It's great for the kids to play around and have fun and we can enjoy a beverage and hang out with them.
More events
All of our favorite bands playing. The atmosphere and all family and friends that attend.
I think the more car-free spaces we have, the better. Cars are bad for our planet, and sitting on our butts all day is bad for us. Making people get up and walk around is good.
Small town feel with the ability to hang with the entire family, but also have some night life
The live music & the overall atmosphere with the amount of people that come there.
More space to walk and play (especially for kids) downtown, the live music every weekend, and extra seating for eating outside.
The ability to freely walk in an open space and enjoy the outdoors, the ability for additional activities to be enjoyed (benches, bands, games) in an open space close to food, drinks and shopping. Flexibility for families with animals to enjoy the outdoor space and activities that wouldn't be available indoors. It allows the ability to spend time downtown without the sole purpose of buying something or eating inside.
Love the live music and ability to walk around and mingle
The FLOWERS! Safe space for kids to play while adults can eat, chat, relax, access to many stores while in the plaza. Pizza, drinks and dessert. Easy to have variety during the same visit.

It provides a great place to bring people together.
I love the interaction with my community. It is somewhere where children are welcomed. I love visiting the local businesses.
Really enjoy the weekend music series and variety of music. It is always enjoyable to sit with friends, visit, see other Midlanders, and occasionally eat at one of the food venues. Fun times. Also very nice to see so many others having a fun, family oriented time.
Great entertainment, great community participation.
Provides more reasons to visit Main Street and allows for better walkability for those businesses. This is the best thing Midland has done in a long time.
The games, the open area to walk around and visit.
Great venue for enjoying Midland restaurants and taprooms with music.
It creates a vibrant, active space that attracts people of all ages.
Walkability
Sense of community. Love the live music.
It provides local businesses an opportunity for increased traffic with the live music.
I love that it creates a social space for gathering with friends, but also love that it supports local businesses.
Nothing
Such a cool place to gather and feel safe. Atmosphere is unique, and relaxing. Brings business and people downtown.
It's a fun event for the whole family
I like the outdoor venue and the activities, music too!
People gathering enjoying music and friends
The togetherness of the people in this town, and others from nearby communities.
Nice variety of activities and events, available parking within a reasonable distance, well-lit, safe, family-friendly
I like the large dining and lounging areas. The games are a big plus. I saw children so excited about the play houses--they couldn't wait to go play in them. It's nice having the space downtown with no traffic to worry about. We've never had a problem finding parking. It is so good to see so many people enjoying the downtown area.
We can enjoy downtown with our young kids without fear of them darting out in front of a car.
Activity at some times, but not after Labor Day.
Easy to walk around and there are various restaurants you can sit outside.
Nice night out, great music, great atmosphere
I love the atmosphere and the sense of community. I linger longer and enjoy more of the businesses.
More space to visit downtown businesses, more opportunities to sit outside and enjoy the lovely Michigan summer weather, it makes downtown feel more open and welcoming, love the live music
The interactive spaces for all ages. I love that there is something for everyone
Fun place to enjoy food outside
Lovely communal space where friends can mingle. I enjoy the activity stations as well. Lots of people use the space and it's a great meet up spot. Great for creating a lovely downtown.

The ability to walk about the area freely to enjoy the shopping, adult beverages, live music and socializing with friends and making new friends.
Makes me want to come downtown- love the music, the relaxed atmosphere, running into folks I haven't seen in a while
Community involvement, free thing to do, still brings in money to local businesses
Being downtown and the live music
Seeing folks having a good time
Everything
The ease of enjoying downtown activities without the added distraction of traffic
Being able to stroll and visit with others
Small town vibes
Great gathering place
Dine outside, most places don't have patios.
Outdoor dining, being able to have a drink outside, the bands on Friday & Saturday nights, socializing
Freedom to walk without traffic
Concerts, blocked off street
n/a
It brings more people downtown, it's colorful and inviting, and it's a great place to bring friends and family when they visit us in Midland.
Great for families, walking around, food, and music.
I like the atmosphere, the music and the amount of people that take advantage of it.
The feeling of community. So happy to see downtown Midland vibrant.
The room, the fun, and the activities
People having fun
The Pedestrian Plaza shifts the focus of downtown Midland from cars to people. Whether an event is going on or not, the Pedestrian Plaza feels more lively and enjoyable. Downtown becomes a place you want to linger and spend more time.
Good music. Enlivens the downtown. Help create a sense of community.
Family fun
The music and the amount of people that come downtown on Friday and Saturday nights
How it draws the community together through commaderie, food and music. it's one of the best things about Midland.
Great place to go and enjoy the lical area. Gives you sonething to do. Plus its something different then the usual stuff. Enjoy the weather being outside. Playibg ga.es esp
Draws people downtown
Outdoor dining. Ease of navigating stores. Games. Music - at times (seems to be the usual suspects a lot)
Gathering of friends, games, music.
I enjoy watching people have fun, great music and great food and drinks.

Having an open area where the road is shut down and people can walk freely from business to business enjoying the outdoors while supporting local businesses is fantastic. Being able to bring my dogs with me makes it a much easier decision to go out and patronize.
A great way to celebrate our wonderful MI summers. I meet with friends, enjoy dinner and drinks, and enjoy the music and the whole fun vibe of the place! While I don't love porta potties, they fill a necessary role and there are enough of them.
Nothing.
This has become one of the most valuable community gathering spaces in the city! I believe we need to invest in more gathering spaces that allow for affordable community gathering events to bring diverse groups of people from all around our community together. The layout, offerings, opportunity to enjoy the outdoors, the flowers and natural beauty of our downtown space, it's all amazing!
The ability to share an adult beverage and a meal with others from various places. Love the music and events.
I like the set with games for the kids and adults and being able to purchase drinks
Outdoor seating at any restaurant, the concerts/music, the variety of games. I absolutely love that I can sit outside and enjoy the beautiful Michigan summer since it's so short.
The pedestrian plaza was/is the best decision the downtown group has ever made.
Engaging with others in outdoor environment
It creates a great vibe for downtown Midland and people enjoy it.
Our kids love playing with the games and biking there
It's a wonderful place for everyone to enjoy our gorgeous Michigan summers!
Can walk between businesses without cars, enjoy the seating areas.
The ease of hanging out downtown with family & friends. It is a great meeting spot!
Convenient and fun thing to do as a family.
Safety of the streets, the bands, ice cream, games, outside eating, coupons for free things at businesses, flowers are awesome, fire warmers on corners
it's a place to go spend time outdoors in the beautiful summer months! And free entertainment for a lot of people. I am having my first kid and look forward to bringing her along in the stroller next summer.
It is a community building "third space" a space to gather and visit and just see people out and about. it's nice to have a space that is not as intimate as our own home. No hosting pressure.
It's nice that events are held there, but that could still happen with access still available on non-days of events.
I thought it has improved the downtown vibe a lot.
It's a nice place to take the kids to hang out in town. We like to bring or buy lunch and eat at the tables, see the concerts on Friday and Saturday nights, and play lawn games (my son LOVES the corn hole).
Great gathering place & good music!
No cars.
Live music
Brings people together

It brings people and families together.
outdoor eating options, able to carry to go drinks around
Makes downtown more walkable, more family friendly. I love having the option of supporting multiple businesses while maintaining a central meeting point when friends get together.
Fun family activities and nightlife.
A gathering place in downtown similar to the town square of Old and in Europe
Fun easy time with family & friends
Spaces to relax, eat, and mingle in a relaxed environment without car traffic. Reminds me of being in Europe.
No cars
It gets people downtown and the community seems to really enjoy it!
Cool city, family fun, live music, free to walk about with alcohol
It is a great place to see friends in a super casual environment.
I love all the people out in downtown. It feels like a vibrant town! it's also an easy place to hang out with groups and my friends who have kids.
Midland is not a big city. Use the Tridge Park!
Relaxing good bands and food available and also Dancing
Live music
Relaxed atmosphere
Ambience, accessibility of stores, community energy
The ability to walk around and the lack of car traffic downtown.
The music playing. The outdoor restaurant options, Pizza Sams' ice cream, seeing other friends enjoying the area.
Concerts
Family and pet friendly
Live music and community feel. I love seeing the community come together on the summer evenings.
I love that it is a safe place for people to meet and enjoy the benefits of community. It is the only street that is car free in the city which makes it valuable.
It brings a diverse group of people to multiple events, all summer long. It seems to be a unifier for disparate segments of the community.
It brings the community together
Walking in the street without being hit by cars.
An area to be outside, enjoy downtown amenities and be in a family friendly environment
Safe way for families and the community to be together. Music builds community harmony and brings money to downtown Midland.
The social gathering and the events that are able to happen there
It fits Midland's need for a third space. A place that isn't work or home, and is free or cheap to enjoy.
It creates a safe place for community downtown.

It's a safe place to relax with friends with freedom of movement. I would be less likely to go downtown if it was not available.
We love the open space outdoors where we can listen to music and if we want can eat dinner downtown and get drinks outdoors. it's wonderful. We Love it.
Outdoor dining
Music
Safe area to mingle with others
People coming together
If there was shade, the tables for sitting are nice. If you're going to close the whole street all summer at least do something everyone can use like having the farmer's market there.
Great place to meet and enjoy an evening for drinks, dinner, and live music.
Great for evening fun and I am sure it helps the restaurants.
A great place to meet and hang out with friends.
I love the vibe that goes on during the weekends with the outdoor furniture set-up throughout the plaza, the outdoor game(s), (which does bring families together downtown to participate & enjoy the experience), the music, the to-go drinks and other scheduled events.
Makes downtown feel vibrant
During day place of rest
It's a relaxed downtown visit
Mostly the events involved but also the ability to go downtown and play some games with the kids and have some food and drinks.
Playing the games, eating outside, traffic is kept away. The live music is the best.
The music.
The excitement, fun and socializing
We love it
Fun gathering. Nice to see people enjoying themselves.
Music in the Commons, the way it brings so many people together from the community.
Everything! Family friendly, Free, fun!
The people, the bands, the friendliness, the restaurants, the stores. Such a fun relaxing atmosphere.
we love everything about pedestrian plaza and look forward to going almost every weekend The music variety is perfect. it's good clean fun for all age groups!!
Family oriented. Food places available.
Great place to come and see friends and meet new people. The space is great and all of the yard games are fun.
Music, games, people good environment
Music
Music

I love the fact that music definitely has no age limit & it soothes your soul! This music event you can enjoy with anyone & everyone, meeting friends, seeing people from your past, or possibly a relative you haven't seen in years. This stress free environment is such an awesome event held in downtown Midland that I have heard so many people say "I wish my town did this Midland has so many great things to do here". Not only does all these events bring people together it help support all our small businesses in the downtown area. I believe that these events should and must continue it's a great thing that the city of Midland does for our community!

The bands/music is great. It's a great time that we look forward to every summer.

It is more of an annoyance than a benefit.

Music, social environment

Music and community

Easy access to music, food and drinks in a safe vehicle free environment. Family friendly with children playing freely.

Everything. It gives life to the city and a sense of community. it's walkable, safe, equally a destination and home. it's meeting place for friends and a date night with my wife. We go to as many of the concert series as we can (more than half), and frequently take a walk from home to get a drink and enjoy sitting outside.

Inviting space for gathering

The whole vibe from the music to the flowers and outdoor seating along with play space for children.

Community togetherness

Informal. The joy, fun in all age groups.

The downtown is just electric when the Plaza is in place! I love the atmosphere of all the people - families, couples, groups! Everyone enjoying the games, music, food and beverages! Walking around and running into friends. It is the best!

My teenage kids love going downtown during the day to play corn hole and ping pong while we get treats and shop!

Being able to walk around to the different businesses and enjoy the outdoors & music having a drink.

Kid friendly! Love places adults and kids can enjoy! Music. Food.

Music, community participation & supporting downtown businesses

The games, the people and the bands on weekends make PedPlaz so special! It's clean. It's wholesome. It's very friendly! It brings people together for socialization and fun. I just love it!!

All of the options for hanging out and enjoying downtown businesses and events

Live music

Family activities, calming social atmosphere

It's great for families to all hang out together and makes downtown much safer! The quietness due to no cars is very nice. The games are also nice!

I love the live and friendly environment that downtown offers now. We have met so many friends there and was one of the best places to go at the weekends.

The music and the friendly crowds and the variety of music and food!

Everything

Perfect gathering area in Midland. Food, drinks, people and music! Something fun on a Friday and Saturday night.
it's just an awesome atmosphere/experience, great community gathering place.
Please make the pedestrian plaza available for a longer time in the year (perhaps April to Thanksgiving?) and continue to keep the downtown alive with evening events. We love the concerts and the events that happen during the year.
Music, no cars, lots of people.
Nothing
Seeing friends, enjoying good food and the music has been wonderful on Friday and Saturday nights.
I do appreciate the sense of community it builds. It brings people together.
A sense of place and community that for too many years was missing in downtown Midland.
Great music and gathering of people. This is the best thing Midland has going on.
I love being able to walk around and shop without worrying about traffic.
Love it during events and just walking around during the summer. It's a great atmosphere and creates a fun environment to visit.
Brings people together, helps downtown feel lively and a great place to be; adds safety to large gatherings
Music and food in a friendly environment with shops open as well.
Nothing
It's just a fun place to be. Good to have additional activity close to the businesses on Main.
The concerts are good community gathering events.
Safe space for kids with age appropriate games. Terrasses. Shows.
it's a place where all ages can go just be- don't need to pay admission or buy anything, can find a bite or a drink, and just be together.
it's a great place to gather, run in to neighbors an friends.
The outside seating at businesses and the activities on Main
Safer to walk with young children, somewhere fun to go in the summer.
Games, comfortable seating, bands, open community
It allows individuals to walk around and explore without worrying about traffic. I like that my kids want to go downtown.
The music on Friday and Saturday nights.
the variety and quantity of events held there. Access without vehicle traffic.
It's a temporary public park. It is a little odd that so many people come there instead of one of the hundreds of parks in midland, but if I had to guess it's probably because you can't drink in the normal public parks.
The space! Being able to walk around downtown freely without having to worry about cars.
Music, seating, games, walking around with beverages. Meeting friends, fun nights!
The ability to walk through the area without vesicular noise and fumes.
I love that it gets more people downtown! The city really feels like a community!
Brings a vibrant, dynamic energy to downtown. It really makes the community feel alive.
Music and the people.

Freedom to eat at multiple places and gather outside.
Music, lawn games and a unique place to socialize
Visiting with so many people. it's better than a networking event! No timeline. No agenda.
The the music and a place for the city to gather for events
The music
Shopping eating concerts
How open and safe it feels
family friendly gathering spot
Great activities - concerts are great
Very pedestrian. Reminds me of European cities.
I love that it is a place that I can bring my young kids too. They have so much fun, make friends, and play, while Dad and I can sit down and enjoy ourselves too.
The sense of community it brings
All the activity and the people. The music is often very good, sometimes not.
The Pedestrian Plaza brings a sense of community to Midland while also providing a safe environment for all ages to enjoy. It's a fun way to get the downtown businesses engaged with the community and the music is an added bonus!
The music!
It is a fun safe area. My kids have loved it. It gives them more safe freedom to roam downtown.
Listening to music on the weekends and gathering with friends for book club in the space.
It is very family oriented. Love the music and games and no traffic! Games are nice and easier for families to take small children out for dinner .
The safety for our kids.
The music the people the family's of all ages coming together. Dancing in the street
It's a great place to go hang out in our town, good food to eat and drinks and just hang out
Pedestrian plaza creates a strong sense of community, helps benefit local business, and gives our downtown a night life it's always needed. Please continue it.
Seeing families hanging out and taking advantage of the activities. B
The games, Adult Recess and just walking freely around with friends.
Traffic free safe space for kids and family.
The enclosure for music
Safe and fun gathering place without being a bar.
Love the live music and helping businesses downtown
Meeting up with friends, bands, games for families to play and the good food!
Makes downtown lively! Something to do
Somewhere safe from traffic to gather with my children and attend events. Much easier to.shop downtown also

Ability for kids to play
I love how it brings everyone together and is a fun and relaxing downtown area. It makes midland special.
The atmosphere! I was there multiple times during the summer and even with my wedding at the H Hotel. There always seems to be something going on and I love it!
Love the Friday and Saturday nights. Meet up with friends and dance and eat.
It really brings foot traffic to the businesses downtown, parents can more confidently bring their children downtown. I love the events, concerts, live music, the extra seating, Cornhole boards....so much to do
The great community atmosphere. Watching families enjoying every opportunity.
Outdoor dining, games, encouraging social situations downtown
Fun place to hang out!
My family enjoys the atmosphere that the Pedestrian Plaza brings, the community spirit it creates and the chance to listen to music, have the kids play games, enjoy dinner outside, and run into old friends while perhaps making new ones. I like the Commons area where we can enjoy an adult beverage while being outside enjoying the Midland community.
Very kid friendly
The community feel! The liveliness of downtown. The options of drinks and entertainment
The bands and music are great. Having something to do each week that's free if you want is great. The generational fun is great too. All ages are always there!
The entertainment
Space for kids to play safely, entertaining area to meet with friends outdoors, outdoor bar seating
It's wonderful to see people of all ages enjoying the activities available out just having a cocktail and people watching, shopping, etc. It's the busiest I've seen downtown.
I don't. Went once and never going back. it's ridiculous to close downtown. I don't recommend it. Poorly planned with parking problems. Too expensive
I love the various free activities in this space.
Live music
It creates a sense of community. It adds culture to our city. It is a wonderful place to socialize and enjoy our downtown together.
Honestly it can be an inconvenience not being able to drive through downtown.
Absolutely NOTHING
Such a great family environment
it's a great place for building community, strengthening friendships and just good fun.
The sense of community and allowing people to mingle, play games, and open alcohol within the limits.
Place for kids to run and have fun. Awesome atmosphere. Something to do downtown. Music brings people out and together.
That the kids can play while adult have time to eat and such
Fun safe atmosphere to bring the kids and listen to music

My kids can play in a safe area while my husband and I have a drink. We like the extra seating for to go food and knowing there are no cars coming by.
Love the family friendly atmosphere. It continues to be a great 3rd space for the community!
Everything
LOVE that the kids can eat pizza and run around playing games without worrying about cars. Parents can sip on a beer as we play too! It makes visiting downtown so much less stressful. Just love it.
The fantastic music on Fri & Sat nights!!
it's a place where people of all ages can gather safely.
Everything. It is a great place for people to gather and enjoy the summer.
I love the community feel it gives to our downtown. It's a wonderful place to meet people, and it makes it really fun to visit the businesses
Ability to gather, socialize, have adult beverages and listen to music without the fear of being run down by a vehicle.
Ping pong, corn hole, social areas and activities for family
I think it's a great way to show off the downtown area. We visit the local businesses when we come down in the summer. We really like the summer music series. Very well done.
Nothing
Every time we bump into people we know and otherwise may not see over the course of the year. It is a fun environment. It sheds a great image on our city when relatives or friends visit. There are a variety of foods and stores that add to the ambiance.
absence of cars; ability to greet neighbors
Nice casual atmosphere and stroll and eating space outside downtown.
Relaxed atmosphere
The music and the vibe! it's wonderful!!!
A large area for fun community events and gatherings without concerns about traffic, live music and games for the public to play. I also like the ability to have an alcoholic beverage to carry around the designated area and enjoy
The fun , enjoyable environment. it's a pleasure to park and walk around, play games, listen to music and pick a place to eat.
I like the "commons"walkable open containers within a specified boundary. But you don't need to close the streets to do that. You have a huge public space at the tridge. Use it in the summer instead of closing Main Street.
it's extremely family friendly where you can have your kids play without concerns while us adults can grab a drink and a bite to eat. Really helps us young families get out.
The ability to bring people together on weekends and something to do for adults and kids alike.
Relaxing with the family along with many others. It's nice not worrying about cars when the toddlers are moving about.
Freedom to roam without traffic
It helps bring a sense of community to our town and neighboring towns. it's a safe and fun outdoor activity for families to enjoy and plenty of attractions.

It's a great common area for meeting friends who may have different food/drink wants or to just get together after bopping around the shops for an afternoon.
Community engagement, fun in the summer
Safe place to walk, shop, and eat with kids. I also enjoy the art fair.
Concerts, eating outside, community atmosphere
it's a nice safe place for families to relax, increases business for restaurants and shops.
The pedestrian plaza provides an incredible opportunity to interact with our community in a positive way. It brings connection, allows us a safe way to walk around without worrying about vehicles, and gives children a way to join in on the fun.
It's a great gathering place that's safe for families with access to a variety of shops and food and activities. The live music is amazing too!
The business it brings out community downtown
The aspect of community.
It draws many more people to the downtown area. It gives people a place to eat and enjoy this space during good weather. It draws customers for the merchants downtown.
no concerns with vehicle traffic
That I can get a cocktail and wall around with it and enjoy the day outside
The way it brings the community together
Wonderful entertainment and a great way to stay connected with friends, meet new friends, visit the shops/restaurants and have FUN!
Everything
Great music but doesn't do much for the businesses.
Brings the community together with music, food, and games. My kids love hanging out down there.
You know there will always be space to watch live music
The involvement of families with children. Adults enjoying each others company.
Nothing. Why is the downtown area treated deferentially and the rest of the city's businesses left fallow? Parking is abysmal. All this so that every other business is ignored. Millions spent on two blocks downtown, nothing spent on Eastman or the Mall area. There are businesses there that need re-routing traffic congestion and access especially during holidays. How bout some special entertainment at the Fair Grounds too?.
I love the atmosphere of walking freely between restaurants and being able to have a beverage outside.
It helps local business
The sense of community and live music.
The flowers are beautiful

The gathering of the community, a diverse group of people from the Midland community and beyond come to the pedestrian plaza. The plaza provides an opportunity for people to enjoy downtown without any hassle. Parking is good, the area is kept clean, and the music is great. Downtown businesses that are open are friendly and very well patronized by those that attend. Each week you can see familiar faces throughout the crowd. Additionally, new faces are very common. It is great to see families with small children playing and laughing in this safe environment. On occasion, parents are even able to talk their teens into attending. This is a tough age group to keep engaged, yet downtown they are. The music is for all eras and cultures.

The ambiance of sharing a drink with family and friends while hearing music and people-watching in a lovely outdoor setting on a warm summer's night is delightful.

It's been a fun way to enjoy the warm evenings.

Great music.

Fun to have family members meet there.

The ability to enjoy food, snacks and beverages while listening and/or dancing.

That it brings people together.

It's a safe walkable area. Less noise from traffic.

I love being able to walk around and not have to worry about myself or my kids getting plowed over by a car every few seconds.

Easier for families with kids to patronize restaurants and shops downtown. Space to move around.

The sense of community and seeing so many friends and neighbors enjoying downtown Midland. Playing cornhole with the family

It makes a great place to discover downtown Midland without traffic worries.

Great opportunity to spend time outside. Positive impact on businesses as so many come out to enjoy the music and activities

It's a really pleasant gathering spot. It works well with the live music venue, also

It gives me a sense of community and belonging.

The walkability, the music events, the outdoor dining

I love how it feels like a sense of community. I love how so many of us can gather every weekend to listen to some great music with all of our friends and neighbors.

The Pedestrian Plaza creates an inviting space for individuals, groups, families, and friends to congregate and have a fun area to explore; a walkable part of downtown wh.

Seeing lots of people in the downtown area. Hearing live music. Seeing activity in the downtown area in the evenings.

Sense of community, entertainment, destination, my out of town, family and friends love it, and we do too!

Safety. Crowds. Stores and restaurants. Music. Tridge. Games. Sitting outside.

It's like a park conveniently located by restaurants with outdoor seating.

No comment

Nothing

Gathering place; sense of community

I think anything that builds community and brings people together socially is a good thing. There is no better way to see each other as people and find common ground.
I love the concerts on Friday and Saturday nights
Lots of activity
Our kids enjoy it and it brings people together.
The atmosphere, feeling safe with my kids playing, browsing the stores/shops.
?
I love the gathering of community for music venues. I love the walkability and all the seating available in addition to fun games for adults and kids like cornhole etc
Eating outdoors in summer, can carry drinks around the commons area
The family friendly atmosphere with the games and kids while being able to have an adult beverage. Feels like a neighborhood cookout!
great events for the community to partake.
The bands and outside dining.
Closed section of town feels safe and welcoming. Gives the feeling of being part of the community when you are there. Entertainment and lack of vehicles both provide an atmosphere that does not exist elsewhere in the city.
Music, ability to walk around with drinks and no traffic
I love the atmosphere, the music, and the sense of community.
No traffic and music on the speakers
I love that there is a place for everyone to gather for concerts and other events. It is great for families, date nights, friends nights out, etc. Having the Pedestrian Plaza allows for great community gathering at fun events, especially with families not having to be concerned with cars or traffic. And having free/low cost events is very important to cash-strapped families these days. In general, the Pedestrian Plaza was one of the major selling points to me when I was considering relocating from the Metro Detroit area two years ago to somewhere "Up North". Midland is a great small city, but the Pedestrian Plaza put it over-the-top as a community-minded plan to allow people to come together and enjoy a beautiful summer night out with families and friends and was a big draw for me not knowing anyone in Midland when I moved here. It made it so easy for me to meet new people and make new friends.
good entertainment and opportunity to see others in Midland
That it is a drop in event, a chance to meet up with friends and neighbors, and that it is free. The music is very good, too!
The feeling of community. The level of enjoyment by all. The bands...dancing.
Seating and (limited) service in the open, with shops open along Main Street, games accessible in the street; setting up meetings with friends or just meeting people by chance.
Sharing with people, personally
it's nice to have a beautiful place to listen to music and hang with friends without the worry of vehicular traffic
Safe fun gathering space to enjoy music, food and beverage offerings.
The social potential for the area, potential for more events.

Appreciate outdoor activities, chance to enjoy food and shopping along with the music
Whats not to love? Live music and dancing in the street, friends and neighbors good food and drinks... The weekday fitness classes were wonderul too wish they weren't all at night... Not everyone works day shift.
Walking in the street is fun
I have a young child and he can play while I relax, eat, or visit with friends. He loves the little houses, the slides, and the ping pong table. We love going from one side of the street to the other without having to worry about cars. It is like a playground with a lot more options.
The community it creates
The concerts
More people gathering in a fun public event space with different types of entertainment options. The live music events are always a good time.
The friendly atmosphere, the variety of things to do for young and old, and the sense of community it brings.
Nothing!
Midlanders can come together, get to know people, shop enjoy the restaurants, listen to music and dance, it's lots of fun
Ready to move from place to place
It brings a wonderful energy to downtown. It provides a clear gathering space if folks are looking for things to do with an ability to enjoy the nicer weather.
The music, the community feeling, people want to come to downtown.
The coming together of friends and family filling the streets and supporting live music
Great place to meet friends.
Open, fun, and inviting to experience the downtown
I love that it's a friendly social gathering place for all ages of the community
It is a safe and fun environment for everyone! I love the live music!!
No cars. Better atmosphere and safer to walk around.
Adult playground and live music.
Live music, main street dining and drinks outdoors, and socializing
That it is family friendly and people are out walking around in a safe, fun environment. Not having to worry about traffic is great. The Commons concept is really nice with the ability to get a drink somewhere but then are free to move around and there is seating available.
Gather with other residents & enjoy the music and activities. We always spend money with the downtown shops - restaurants while there.
No automobile traffic.
Nothing
Being encouraged by events to come downtown. Seeing the community out. We attended more than 15 events
People downtown having fun. it's made the downtown come alive.

5. How would you improve the Pedestrian Plaza?

It's way too fun. Tone it down a bit, maybe?

Make it year-round! If not year-round, then allow it to continue as designed perpetually. Get more businesses (especially retailers) and organizations on Main to activate the space with their offerings. A few of them do a great job of this, but there are many who seem to not try at all.

Continue to develop sun shade venues and locations to eat under the shade.

I'd love to see the hammocks back or more tween and teen based events.

Haven't spent much time there, so I couldn't say for sure

This makes it difficult to get to any business downtown

More shaded areas for outdoor seating.

Not have it due to it blocking a public road for months. It makes it near impossible for people with disabilities to access businesses on main st .

More picnic tables! Especially on the far east and west ends (away from the stage/concert area).

Needs more shade. Maybe some shade sails.

The addition of something for kids who perhaps aren't old enough to play ping pong or families to do together. Maybe a giant checkers or chess board, giant yard games like connect 4, etc. The addition of a food truck or 2 would also be a very welcome addition as there aren't many options in terms of quick or carry out food to enjoy in The Commons other than pizza.

it's pretty great the way it's setup now but I guess in a dream scenario if there was some play equipment for kids that would be even more amazing.

Keep on asking for city resident input in the process of making changes and improvements. I am sure our community has some great ideas

I think it's great now. I wish it went on longer in the year (May 1 start)

I would really like to see the plaza be a more eco-friendly space. Start a reusable cup program for to-go beverages. Each year people purchase a stainless steel reusable cup with the commons logo on it and when they use that cup to purchase a beverage they get 50 cents off a drink. It would significantly cut down on the amount of plastic waste generated. Encourage restaurants to provide recyclable/ compostable containers for their take-out foods. Get recycling bins downtown! Encourage people to ride their bikes and provide dedicated bike parking/racks at the ends of the pedestrian plaza

Omit the music playing through speakers. Not every has the same taste in music or tolerance for volume they can't control.

I have no idea how, but I'd love to see better parking options.

Better guides to which streets are closed. Usually figure it out as I turn onto it.

Have music last longer- 9p shutdown is way too early, esp on Fridays

Get rid of it

Possibly allow for larger outdoor dining at the local restaurants or have a food truck on each end of the plaza to offer more dining options when it's nice outside to eat.

Additional seating.

I like how it is. You've done a good job.
Add more seating areas not confined to specific restaurant/bars
More seating
Perfect as is.
Extend the time earlier in the spring and longer in the fall to enjoy more nice weather outdoors
When there is live music it is way, way, way too loud. People have to yell to talk to each other. We can also hear it very clearly from our house - and we live over a mile away. (Same for Tunes by the Tridge) it's so loud - annoying to live so far away and still be able to hear every word to every song). I promise this isn't me being cranky! it's SO loud
It should not be there. I do not go to downtown because of it. It is harder to find parking and difficult to drive around.
Open it up to thru traffic
Make it another block possibly down to brinstar
I think they doing a great job now
Have a Walk Midland session on Friday & Saturday nights that starts somewhere in the commons.
Getting rid of it or moving it off of roads. Downtown is already a pain to drive in, this makes it worse.
Perhaps more shaded seating for hot sunny days.
Take it away
More events during the evening, acoustic bands before the big bands on Fridays and Saturday
N/A
More benches. Don't allow chairs on the sidewalks.
I think that I would add more outdoor seating for the restaurants. One thing I would also like to see is a kids play day out there which blow up slides and other things. Overall, I think it is absolutely beautiful and really does not need much more improvement!
Not sure. I don't go much, but like that we have it.
Nothing I can think of.
If I could, I would love to have a rooftop bar that serves margaritas and chips & queso overlooking the stage to listen to the band on the weekends!
More outdoor seating on the sidewalks.
Perhaps consider more shared seating areas / fewer business-only.
Consider opportunities to make the plaza a year-round attraction for the city
Permanent restrooms in a location that does not affect the downtown businesses. An adults only beer garden area. More bike racks.
Even more programming on weeknights inviting local artists to share their work. Occasional craft vendor fairs.
There needs to be closer parking for the Physically Challenged.
Too far to walk back and forth.
Encouraging more places to eat and drink downtown perhaps? Otherwise I think the more thing is great.

Possibly allow other local (midland based) vendors to set up?
Maybe more shaded areas?
Each year the area has been improved with additional seating areas & items for children to enjoy and I think thatâ€™s wonderful. Maybe an oversized connect 4, more comfortable seats, keep up the good work. I would limit the scooters from being ridden in the area and at one time there were police on bikes very visible in the area, I liked seeing that.
Permanently remove the city's confusing street barricades, reduce and redesign the outdoor seating on the wider and more welcoming public sidewalks in front of the bars, wineries and restaurants in the Commons Refreshment Area and move the free entertainment and new handicapped-accessible restroom facilities to the city's new \$14.2 million redesigned riverfront area.
I have no suggestions for improvements
While I know that some of the merchants along the Plaza miss the close in parking, I would love to see the Plaza become a permanent pedestrian only zone. This would allow businesses to really adapt and cater to full-time pedestrian traffic, and would be another unique reason for Midlanders and others to stay and play in Midland!
Real restrooms to replace the portables, monitor noise levels of some of the music
More winter evening events - beer tent/concerts with food and drinks supplied by downtown businesses. Summers are thriving but how do we extend that and get out of the Michigan hibernation mentality for the other 6 months of the year Permanent road closure year round to allow for winter activities like igloos, ice skating rink, curling etc on main st. Also could allow for small more permanent kiosks and bathrooms to be installed. Think hot cocoa/coffee vendor next to ice rink, etc. Extend commons cup area down to the Tridge. Lots of business downtown are closing or hurting. The Downtown area is only as good as the business that are there so need to do what we can to support them.
Very nice place for the community to gather that anyone can afford
I think the way Bay City has their area set up looks a lot better - the poles to block off the streets instead of the barricades - which would make more sense if the Pedestrian Plaza comes back year after year.
Add permanent bathrooms without closing McDonald St. permanently.
I like it how it currently is.
Move it!
Free water stations, with paper cups.
I would like to see a police presence. I think that the crowd is well behaved, but could use a chance to think about it. And, it is a good opportunity for some interaction.
Maybe a little more security presence
it's great
there's nothing that I know of that you could do to improve it. My husband and I like it the way it is.
If possible, close more of main street and extend plaza. I realize that parking is an issue, also.
More seating and tables not associated with a specific business.
Random tables w/umbrellas for some shade in the green area, out of the way of games. More than just restaurant seating.

No changes are needed, it's working really well.
More shaded areas.
Golf cart shuttle to assist people to and from distant parking spots.
Provide an area of shady covering during daytime hours
Like it as is.
Start it up a week or two before Memorial Day. Move Farmer's Market there
Make sure enough enough handicap parking
I'm sure there are ways it can improve but it's fantastic just the way it is. One suggestion is that it would be nice if the retail stores stayed open later.
More shaded areas of some kind
Put some stores in downtown worth shopping in or attract some more restaurants
I would recommend moving the pedestrian plaza to the 4 side streets that intersect McDonald and Larkin. That way Main Street would still be completely accessible by both pedestrians and motor vehicles, and doesn't have as much parking impact.
There are specific games for children and adults. I am not sure if it is the store owners, or the city that is responsible for these - but these allow a great opportunity for "stickiness" and wanting to stay downtown while enjoying the stores, restaurants and other activities.
Keep it all year long
On the Ashman end of the barricade, or the Rodd end, or both, it would be lovely if the barricade was on a curve inward toward the open Plaza, so that folks could more easily drop off disabled folks, in a safer method. Presently, people do it, but it blocks a lane of traffic, which causes confusion to drivers.
Have a longer season for the plaza or make it permanent. Host other events there throughout the year, like various holiday festivals.
Add more stores to downtown
Extend it year long. Downtown Denver has it year round and their climate is just as cold.
Extend the time and distance (more blocks of the street). Perhaps bring in more events. Consider lengthening the season--all year except for the coldest months.
Have plaza open only on weekends
Not sure
I would run it later into October.
More tables and eating outside.
Local bands more often. Food trucks on some days. More games
I have no input for improvement.
Shade umbrellas or easy-ups or shade sails or something around the outdoor seating
None
More parking for the disabled.

I think the two blocks are fine as they are.
Not sure
Add more picnic tables.
Businesses should be open when people are there. That only sometimes happens. Daytime weekend events would be great to add... There are a few of these currently, but more consistent programming might drive an increase in traffic.
Keep it open in winter. With ice skating rink, hot chocolate/food truck vendors. Special events.
Keep it going past 2025!
No specific ideas
More activities on Monday-Thursday evenings and Sunday afternoon
Make more up close handicap parking. Parking at old farmers market and walking uphill is near impossible for me, as is walking very far. I like that more younger families are gathering. I feel seniors are not considered in your effort to please younger newcomers and potential newcomers.k
Make it bigger! Encourage more food businesses to join the fun. Maybe allow people to pedal items like they do in the ballpark like food or toys for the kids.
I love what Midland is doing with the downtown transformation for the summer months... It's fun!!
Ban smoking and vaping. We attended a concert on Main Street and left because of the smoking, both tobacco and marijuana along with vaping.
Do away with it.
Not sure.
The police need to operate some stings during the high occupancy nights. Multiple times on Friday nights Waitresses have said to my face "we're too busy to card tonight" when I pointed out kids that I knew are not 21 being served drinks.
Look could be improved by not using the road construction barriers, and have the concrete posts like other places with pedestrian Plazas. Move the office-type businesses out of downtown, and fill the Oscar's location. Downtown's should be predominantly shops, bars, restaurants and goodies. Extra credit: Not to be insensitive, because I understand this would be a burden on the folks and their families, but dozer the giant eyesore retirement community at the end of main st. This is prime riverfront real-estate that is knee-capping the beautiful potential our downtown area has.
expand the area
More shaded areas
N/A
Allow outside bartenders to reduce crowds inside restaurants. Maybe set up designated walkways in parts of the seating areas.
Move it back to the sidewalks, improve vehicle access.
Nothing, it's awesome
Post more publicly about events going on at the Plaza. I hardly see anything online and its all word of mouth.
Bring back the hammock swings
Make it a block longer?

Better bathroom facility access and more tables we enjoyed the addition of open mic night this year. Cleaner tables and trashcans would be nice too.
More restaurants and places to eat/drink in general. More of the businesses should remain open especially when the concerts are taking place.
Honestly, expanding it down Ashman towards proper Taco and such
Ban scooters. Make it year round.
No additional suggestions.
More seating and shaded areas.
Once Riverfront Renovations are completed, moving the Plaza events to the riverfront would showcase our natural resources, newest investments, open Main Street to new uses, and signal that Midland continues to evolve as a place for everyone. I avoid doing business downtown when access is limited by the street closure. Carrying goods back to my car is made easier when streets are open. The Riverfront is a great place for concerts and recreation.
Shorten the time to the summer months. Provide better parking parking for Main Street businesses .
More seating in the shade
I am still confused by the open carry alcohol rule. It feels like each bar does it differently and it is a little bit of a pain to have to walk into each bar to get a drink. Not sure if there is an easier way for the bars to sell alcohol to the pedestrians outside.
make it handicap friendly
Figure out how to acquire or tear down all the Huntington Bank real estate that does nothing for bringing people, business and excitement to downtown. That space could be used for authentic restaurants (think Indian, Thai, upscale American, Vegetarian friendly). Might also figure out how to have additional non-paid parking in that space or with the covered lot adjac
More adaptive equipment/play options. Additional shade -- sail cloth?
It might be nice to keep it open so long as the weather permits rather than having an end date.
I'd like to see more picnic tables and seating options.
Not gave it closed all day every day. Maybe just weekends.Thursday thru Saturday.
Cancel it
Turn down the volume.
I would continue to focus on accessibility. Most parking is a block or two away and some people have difficulty walking the distance. Not sure exactly the solution.
Extend it down to the H hotel. More game areas for kids. Other businesses involved.
Not sure.
I would like the minigolf to be all Season long
I think the pedestrian plaza should be open longer in the year. It's a great space for community gatherings and celebrations, even festivals. Even in cold weather, I think we could come up with things to do down there that would draw people in.
Doing events that's free for kids and familys

Keep it open in October! There are still nice fall days in October.
No idea
Start earlier, and end later!
More events that try to utilize the full spaces like markets, October fest, and other community drop in events.
Continue to improve businesses and restaurants for more choices. Is there an art walk?
Nothing
I wouldn't. Just open it up and don't shut down Main Street . You would have more people if you didn't shut it down. I think it's ridiculous to shut a Main Street down
Bring back the chili tasting.
One issue I have observed almost every weekend is the too few garbage bins. I believe this is the reason that some nights you will see tables with garbage left on them.
Can't think of a single thing.
Permanent restrooms
Not sure
The more activities, the better. Family activities, food specials, carnivals-anything that brings the community together.
I can't think of anything that I would add.
It was great this year
Make Midland a dog friendly community. Giving people who travel in the summer from other areas ability to eat outdoors with dogs and attend outdoor events and community venues
Have it somewhere else. Don't block the streets all summer.
I would start it earlier in the year and keep it through Halloween. I would also remove the parking hour times on the parking lot across from St Brigids.
MORE free parking.
Move the bathrooms behind the barricade on McDonald's Street
Add a block or two
Honestly, I feel the pedestrian plaza is as good as it could get! There are things to do for the whole family, entertainment, opportunities, dining/lounging experiences! The whole gambit!
Probably up to business. Need more food variety which requires more commitment from the restaurant business.
Completion of a public restroom(s)
Food trucks day. A few extra kids games (maybe a small portable playground). Latino music days.
Encourage shops to stay open later on select nights.
I want a FOUNTAIN! Somewhere in downtown there needs to be a fountain where people can gather and observe. Every good city has one, why don't we?? it becomes its own destination and focus point, something iconic, like the tridge.
Some themed Food Truck evenings
Keep stores open later.

Eliminate the high back chairs on the northwest corner of Main & McDonald that block views of the stage.
I like it the way it is, Provide more seating.
Perhaps have more food trucks or booths from different vendors
Unsure
Lights that span the street between two buildings, similar to what Bay City has on 3rd street.
Make it expand over one more street!
Offer more events for kids
I think it would be nice to have year round. Maybe there could be snow hills to play on or an ice rink in the winter.
No improvements, we love it!
Pedestrian Plaza People Guiders to remind people to be Kind, and pick up garage and guide them to do the right thing! People don't do! I have seen it too many times! We have picked up someone elses Garbage!
Not sure
None
Better restrooms
More seating
Improve areas to park
Never used it, so I don't know.
I wish downtown had a public bathroom facility like Frankenmuth on Main Street. Maybe when the Shaheen building goes into the old Midland Daily News?
Food trucks, produce stands and vendor stalls on weekends.
More temporary stands for food, drink, and vendors. More public restroom options
It could be improved by making available parking closer to Downtown Businesses. Now in order to shop at any Downtown Business my friends and I have to walk 5 blocks in a hot summer day. Therefore, we take our business elsewhere.
bands play at lower volume
disabled parking closer for those that have difficulty walking or a place for them to be dropped off closer
Encourage more restaurants for the Plaza area, especially in the empty location where Oscar's was located (corner of Main and McDonald)
More parking, or a better way to get to downtown.
I would love to see better bathroom & sink & drinking fountain options. I would also love to see a canopy for over the band so that, in case of rain, bands are less likely to not want to play. For example, last Friday was great weather but it appeared that band equipment was at risk of getting wet so it was canceled.
Close it down, get rid of the horrible parking.
No smoking and more downtown restaurants with patios.
Keep it permanently
Leave it open longer! Incorporate fall activities, maybe cold weather igloo/dining pods for colder months.

Not much
Public restroom, extend the commons area to tunes by the tridge
N/a
Easier walk ways replaced
Covered stage for performers, covered sidewalk areas in the event of rain
Make the area larger
There's nothing more frustrating than going to enjoy an evening downtown, only to find so many retail stores closed. Not asking anyone to be open 24/7 or unreasonable hours, but why not open a little later in the morning/noon timeframe and stay open into evenings/weekends. Sundays are like a ghost town downtown. For those who work regular 8-5/M-F business hours, it's increasingly difficult to support small, local downtown businesses. On more than one occasion, we have also experienced frustrated and unkind wait staff. I understand that busier establishments can cause a hustle for wait staff and others, but it's no excuse to be rude to customers who are trying to give them business. With more revenue coming in, restaurant owners need to invest in adding staff and aiding the mental health of current staff.
Make the pedestrian plaza a smoke-free zone. It feels absurd to allow smoking in an area so popular with small children.
I would better publicize and coordinate events.
Make it bigger, last longer. Don't force businesses to take in their furniture when they may be willing to leave it out longer into the Fall. More seating.
Only have Main street closed between cross streets, i.e., keep McDonald St. open to through traffic to make it easier to access certain businesses and easier egress from downtown events. I was downtown for fourth of July fireworks and getting out was a complete bottleneck which could have had some relief if McDonald St was open.
none
I would like to see the traffic free area expanded in size (Maybe the entire length of Main Street from M-20 to Dow Diamond? And/or maybe include some of the side streets such as Townsend. Car-free Townsend would definitely improve the outdoor dining experience at Crepe Et Amis, Iron Dame, and El Carretonero) and I would like to see the time frame of the Pedestrian Plaza expanded. Preferably year round but from spring (March) to winter (December) would also be great! I understand snow removal issues may prevent that but an expanded time of the Pedestrian Plaza beyond June to September would be awesome.
Love it
continue to bring in creative and engaging experiences, whether toys or art, so that individuals can engage, or not, with the space. plenty of seating, with and without awnings for shade. flowers and greenery throughout, while being mindful that some may have an aversion to such due to allergies or other concerns. quiet spaces away from games and activities. perhaps partitions like half walls to block off seating space.
I have no suggestions.
Allow us to take our purchased drinks on Thursday's down to the Tunes by the Tridge. The signs stop us (those who are rule followers) at the corner of Ashman & Main.
Would be nice to have through October but maybe not year-round.

I would move this "Plaza Area" away from the main drive through for the downtown area. There are too many one ways, and then this blockage of the driving area, is a problem.
Extend it to the old farmers market and allow a beer garden and food trucks
It's frequently difficult to find a temporary parking spot for picking up takeout downtown with all of the closed roads and events going on. Some designated short term pickup parking designations would be very helpful (15 minute or less). I want to continue to support local businesses, but the streets were blocked so much this past year it was often frustrating.
More businesses open in the evenings and during special events
There was so much work and money spent to improve the downtown, again; but there are still empty buildings likely due to excessive rent/cost?? It would be nice if someone could figure out a balance so we stop losing businesses that brought people downtown such as Oscars and Rays.
Expand it to cover a larger area
Run through end of August, push out a couple weeks.
Have more of the non-restaurant businesses stay open during event evenings.
Sometimes the crowds can be overwhelmingly large and fill every available space on the streets and even the sidewalks. Not sure what else may help disperse the crowds. The stage locations are centralized, which is a good thing. Perhaps adding some seating at the far ends of the plaza? Talent stages will not be visible, but the music can surely be heard. Perhaps outdoor closed circuit screens?
Continue to improve seating options, service for outside and trash/recycle bins.
End it.
Have it not be a ghost town on Sundays. Why are so many businesses closed on Sundays?
More seating
No smoking, one cigarette can really aggravate my allergies and make for an uncomfortable night. Many states have no smoking in public gatherings and it's time Michigan joined.
Perhaps some younger bands or events that would attract more of the late 20s-40s crowd. We love the Commons music series but would like more variety in bands (less 80s music).
I'm not sure. It's pretty awesome as it is. Maybe Food Trucks so there is more of a variety.
I would get rid of the ping pong equipment before events that draw large crowds
Keep it up through the winter...
Have shops open later
More accessible parking
Bring in younger bands or host events to attract a younger crowd. We love the Commons music series but it would be nice to have more variety in genres (less 80s music).
I would give local bands first bid to share their talents rather than bid out to bands from further away.
I would mark off a designated dance area so people sitting do not encroach on it
Covered stage for rainy days. I'll sit with an umbrella if the music is playing. Easier said than done.

Additional seating
Small bikes for toddlers with a little "race track", ladder golf, more shaded sitting areas
Better patrolling and fining if necessary smoking (including e cigarettes!!!) in the pedestrian plaza area. Smoking by inconsiderate individuals not following the rules is an issue. Same thing with the scooters!!! I've seen a few people get hit or nearly hit by kids (and some adults!) riding the scooters on the sidewalks!! That is not allowed and should be better monitored!!!
Bathrooms! The city of Midland needs easily accessible public restrooms that do not require going into a business or walking all the way down to the tridge. Having to go into a business you aren't shopping at just to use a restroom is not ideal.
More seating
Paint a square where dance floor should be. Other than that is is great.
No improvements needed!
I would love more picnic tables and permanent seating
It doesn't need to be closed 7 days a week
More themed events on weekends
Have more available seating.
More shopping events to promote the small businesses
I love the little activities/games like cornhole, I'd love even more of those!
Not sure
It would be great if there was a closer parking garage. Parking is an issue for people with mobility issues.
No suggestions- it's great!
Make the season longer! And get actual outside bathrooms.
More seating
Increased access for children's activity (games, activities, etc.)
Need better way to get a drink from merchants
We see a lot of families with kids and that is great. We may need a few more picnic tables so they can settle in a spot where they can watch the kids playing.
More outside seating.
Our only wish is that there were more public restrooms. My kids refuse to use Porta Potty's and Pizza Sam's is about the only place that you can use the bathroom without being a patron.
permanent wheelchair accessible restrooms. More weeknight events.
More drink carts allowed on sidewalk... maybe food trucks at the very ends for more choices
Can't improve perfection!
More food to go options. Starting the music in May. Would love to see the old Oscars space filled. Few more tables set up would be nice too.
Add more seating
Open container throughout plaza area

More accessible parking
At least end it at Labor Day.
Do away with it
It seems fine as it is now.
food trucks or food/drink kiosks available at various times
Keep doing what you are doing. I'm all for activities like this. Just wish I was younger to be able to enjoy it with others.
It is great. No complaints. Maybe public restrooms but the portable bathrooms work
More small games like the cornhole and table tennis
I would like to see another ping pong table added!
Without knowing the original purpose and who is expected to benefit financially. It is difficult to answer.
I would love to see more daytime and weeknight utilization.
Open the street until 3pm then close the street . Improve the appearance of the 2 barriers
Open the streets.
Additional themed events and concerts.
Have it be permanent.
Expand it past Cafe Zinc
More activities like putt putt available all the time, public restrooms or more bathroom access
I don't have any specific recommendations. I know the city is looking at adding public restrooms. This is good.
Stop it for one year.
More food options. Maybe food trucks. Hard to believe Amazing Deli closes for it!!
Some canopies for shade during the middle of the day would be nice.
Week ends only
More shade
End the Plaza and bring it back for cars
More seating and more games, maybe.
Discontinue it.
More activities for ages between 21-29
I think you have taken this as far as I can imagine with this venue. And we have Fairgrounds, MCFTA, Creative 360, Dow Gardens & Whiting Forest, Loons Ballpark,etc. for other events. The Art Fair does fit in this space too! You seem to be able to expand the area when needed. The audience/participants have been very friendly and pleasant; there does not seem to be any concern for safety. Midland is an International City of Peace, after all.
Get more restaurants to open
I really like it as is. My ideal world, the road would be shut down year around. I would also like to see music and events geared people in their 20s and 30s. I feel like most things are directed at the older community.

No ideas at this time
Need a beverage cart wait times and lines were out of control and staff seemed always stressed
stores could stay open later
More tables to eat at, more games. Maybe one end dedicated for children and the other end towards adults. A variety of entertainment, mix in comedians
Can't think of anything!
I like it the way it is but if good ideas come, great.
Can't offer anything.
It's chaos on the nights bands are playing. It would be nice to just have non dance type music sometimes for a more peaceful evening on a Friday or Saturday evening.
More stores open until at least 8
I can't think of anything.
NA
Add sun umbrellas for shade
I'm pretty happy with it as is. The port-o-johns are a good solution for the season, but it would be a nice addition to downtown if there were permanent public restroom facilities up near Main.
Add more games and outdoor seating for families and friends.
I would like the merchants to show that their businesses show financial gains with the streets and parking blocked off for citizens pleasure.
1-2 more blocks blocked off.
Expand the season for it. Construct some public restrooms on Main Street. Allow to-go beverages at the Tridge on Thursday (Tunes @ Tridge)
I love it as is!
it's fantastic. No improvements needed.
More seating
It's really great as it is. It would be fun to see more ideas for games and activities, or even a food truck area.
Expand the allowable area.
More activities - climbing wall, Jenga blocks, ping pong table, street games, hoola hoop competition, folks simple competition on Friday night, events for non alcohol drinker, jump rope competition make people sign waiver online prior to competing.
Make it bigger!
More interactive stores.
Move porta johns to more discreet place please!!
Shut it down
I would like to have no smoking in the area. People are in very close proximity to one another and it's very offensive.
Maybe expand! It gets pretty crowded!

Theyâ€™ve really done a lot to keep it busy so all I can think of is keeping things open later on the weekdays if possible.
Honestly, I just love the colors and community that gathers. I love the events and the atmosphere that music etc bring! â€”
Since we have never attended, we have no suggestions.
No idea :)
Get rid of it. go back to the way it was
More small child friendly areas, and waterproof seating, more outdoor games.
Better set up for music, would also do an after hours for people who can't leave work for recess. Maybe a happy hour on the street.
Make it permanent and open all year.
The music is sometimes too loud, even if you are not right near the band. This makes it difficult to have a conversation and is concerning for the hearing of small children.
We would love healthier food options.
Permanent bathrooms
Fountain.
More outdoor games and seating, I'd even maybe extend it if possible to cover more of downtown.
I'd replace the ping pong tables with a game that is less affected by the wind
No recommendations, love it.
More handicap parking is needed closer to McDonald and Main Street.
Potentially look at the volume limit of the bands playing downtown. Some seem very loud while others not as much.
Update both Google and Apple Maps indicating that the streets are closed so routing doesnâ€™t take your car down those routes. A wider variety of restaurants in the pedestrian strip.
More events. Maybe "themed" nights.
Expand it to include Tunes by the Tridge.
Make it permanent and all year long
There is really not much you can improve on. The music is great every weekend, and all the games and activities are inviting to all. Food and beverages of course are up to the local businesses. However, some of the restaurants are price gouging (beverages), so they better be careful or they will lose customers.
Allowing it to be available for years to come :)
I'm not sure if this already occurs, but allowing food trucks within the plaza would be fantastic for events, having more hands-on activities for all age groups, a wider variety of events that would attract different kinds of people with different backgrounds, more visible directional signs for those traveling in the area via motor vehicle that may not know the area.

1) Have a designated area for trash pick up and arrange to have businesses place their trash just outside the Pedestrian Plaza so the weekly pick up can easily access the bins and bags. 2) Encourage businesses to have outside sales during events and entertainment, especially food and drink service. I have noticed during a 2 hour show, people are reluctant to stand in a line for 20 minutes to get snacks and drinks. ie. pizza by the slice, canned drinks, etc. 3) Invite vendors to sell goods kiosk style in the plaza. Perhaps a vendor row in an area where there aren't any restaurants shops in the plaza would be worth a try. 4) More dance lessons in conjunction with the bands.

Nothing identified

N/A

No ideas for improvement at this time. I think you have made this a wonderful addition to the downtown area....I hope the city will allow this to continue!

Nothing. It's great!

Discontinue it. Not a good location. Midland is too small for such an inconvenience.

Permanent stage, public restrooms,

Chair rental? Potentially more seating.

Improve the selection and hours of local businesses.

More seating, free popcorn

Really think it's pretty much covered.

Love it downtown

I get frustrated when people bring coolers and drink beverages from home. It's a free event. Supporting the local business is the least we can do.

NA

More music ᄇᄇᄇᄇ ᄇᄇᄇᄇ

Uniform business hours -safety perhaps a cop or two

More vendors for food and drink plus additional participation from area retailers would be welcomed.

Add parking buildings and/or transportation to and from the Plaza. Add well maintained toilet.

More restaurants

not sure

A tad more seating options... we'd like to ride our bikes down, but seating and snacks...too much cargo on a bike.

Food trucks!

Closer Better parking for disabled drivers making short stops!

When I go there, it's early day, so it's not very busy. It would be nice to do some morning activities to bring in more people.

Close the streets and open up a pedestrian plaza during the fall and winter holidays. Restaurants could have heated igloos if they choose, stores could also have outdoor activities, more gas or wood firepits could be placed for people to sit with their families, live music around weather friendly seasons could continue, etc. The weeks and weekends around Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years could all be great for a family friendly venue.
I would like more stores to be open at better hours, if possible. More bars would be great, too, to be able to have a drink outside in the Plaza
While the outhouses are the best I've used anywhere, a permanent restroom facility would be great, I don't see it as a "need" but I can't think of any other improvements.
More organized community activities?
Food trucks
Keep it open even longer. Do we even need car traffic on Main Street?
Music later into the evening, more nightlife in general. Businesses close too early. More musical entertainment. Extend area to include side street businesses such as the taco bar
There are not enough handicap parking places for those individuals that want to visit Main Street, but have mobility issues. The plaza closes much of Main Street.
More seating brought in for concerts. it's hard for some to park far away and carry lawn chairs etc
I think it would be better on Larkin. I think it's a nice idea for engaging people in outdoor activities, but I just don't like it interrupting the traffic flow on Main Street. I think Larkin would also allow for more highlighting of the really nice murals and public art downtown, and might even help familiarize people with how convenient the parking options are downtown.
I would make it year round don't open Main Street. Make a permanent pedestrian area
More, frequent garbage pickup especially on Saturday mornings as my daughter and I like to visit after the farmers market and don't like seeing trash cans overflowing
Can't think of anything at this moment
Make it smaller.
More stores or street vendors
An area for kids/parents and then an area for adults with some separation for people without children who want to relax.
Need roof over performers stage. Pizza Sam's could have a grab & go pizza & breadsticks on Main Street for the events.
Perhaps more themed nights?
More activities
Maybe a few more picnic tables.
I don't see any need for improvement at this time
Invite food trucks to park inside. Have local bands play here and there. Host a community yard sale.
Food trucks would be a nice option.
I would like more picnic table eating options

<p>If there were more stores and more restaurants as opposed to offices, it would be more attractive. there is not enough comfortable seating for people with disabilities who are not in amigo type chairs. The constant fire pit is a waste of gas as most times I've been there, it was not in use, needs to be on demand and for a set short period of time. Games and concerts seem to be aimed at the mobile and young crowd, so older and less mobile folks do not feel welcome.</p>
<p>Better parking options that are actually close to downtown. There needs to be options for older people who can manage the distance or hills for parking - i know my Mom and her friends avoid downtown stores and restaurants because of lack of nearby parking</p>
<p>None</p>
<p>More music and craft shows</p>
<p>Make it permanent.</p>
<p>It's perfect to me</p>
<p>encourage vendors to do more outside seating.</p>
<p>not much else i can think tat isnt being done for it other than expand its time .</p>
<p>N/A</p>
<p>A couple more late music nights.</p>
<p>Expand it both in size and duration</p>
<p>Better bathrooms and donâ€™t allow people to smoke where everyone is. Maybe have a designated area away from crowd.</p>
<p>Canâ€™t think of anything.</p>
<p>I wouldn't</p>
<p>Make it year round</p>
<p>I think the setup is great. There doesn't seem to be as many draws outside of the evening hours. I've been to similar downtown areas, ex. Northville, that were very busy on weekend days due to popular breakfast, brunch, and lunch options or other forms of entertainment.</p>
<p>Make the pedestrian plaza a smoke-free zone. There are too many children there for people to being smoking in such close proximity.</p>
<p>Canâ€™t think of anything.</p>
<p>More restaurant options and ease of getting a drink of water! More shade areas?</p>
<p>Dump the music over the speakers --- it is terrible! Or limit it to summer evenings. It makes no sense on Sunday morning or other normal times. The basketball thing event in early August turned the Plaza into a nightmare and kept us from visiting stores.</p>
<p>More seating and more activities like cornhole. I also love when businesses get involved and offer fun little things to do in front of their business.</p>
<p>Move the porta potties to the back (rather than middle) of the side street that they are on (people sitting on that section of street for music have to see the constant opening & closing of the porta potties (which is nonstop, distracting, & gross).</p>
<p>Need to find a way to add more shade. Maybe some like the sun sails that were added by the Miracle Field. Also, have shops open later on more days than Thursdays.</p>

More enforcement of folks bringing coolers of alcohol. Some definitely have a few too many.
No dogs allowed. Not everyone likes or wants dogs everywhere!
Expand Plaza, alcohol limit, and festivities down to the tridge.
I think it's mostly great as is. It would be amazing if another business moved into the old Oscar's building but that's not necessarily a City of Midland issue. I can really only think of a few things. Anything that can get wet, stays wet for days and days, like the furniture and turf. It would also be cool to incorporate the Loons stadium more into downtown activities. For a while, the Larkin Beer Garden was near the Loon's stadium and typically had music and I thought it was a great place to be but completely disconnected from downtown and often losing the competition for attention. It may also be nice to have later options for music or some other entertainment. The 9-ish ending coincides well with local bar music at places like Three Bridges but sometimes those places are completely full or you're just in the mood to be outside on a beautiful night and 9 is still early for lots of people who attend the shows. Whatever is done, or not done, the Pedestrian Plaza absolutely has to stay long term.
Perhaps more shade with hanging sails?
Other variety of activities other than bands maybe have a comedy act one evening or different type of performance? I enjoy the bands but change could be nice.
Add workout stations
More shaded areas on hot days
Events and things for kids like this little houses should be better advertised
I mean, I think it's great as it is. Could there be improvements? Sure, but that costs \$\$\$ and I'm perfectly content with it as is.
I would have some age targeted events at different times of the week (maybe middle of the day) so people with young kids can enjoy it without worrying about it their kids bothering people
Have a designated spot to go to find more ping pong balls. Keep the Dow championship mini golf out longer. I didn't see the hammock chairs this season, would love to have those out more regularly! And a reach would be more shade.
Start in may
Looking forward to the permanent bathrooms.
Make it permanent 365
Higher quality seating throughout
More shade areas. It gets really hot in the summer and the pavement holds the heat of the day. The lights strung across Townsend can't really be enjoyed by the people because the street isn't closed like Fourth street in Bay City.
Nothing comes to mind.
It would be nice if more stores stayed open later on weekends when entertainment is scheduled.
I think it's great!
More porter pottys at the end of the street towards Grape Beginnings. The two bathrooms in Three Bridges was not enough for live music nights.

I feel whatever has been done to it thus far has been aligned with what the people want. Keep doing whatever it is you are all doing!
A grocery store as an anchor, perhaps where Oscar's is (think Westborn Market ala Plymouth, MI or even Lalonde's locally) would greatly increase the amount of foot traffic without overburdening the plaza, as a smaller market like this wouldn't require tons of parking compared to Kroger or meijer.
I'm not sure I could improve it more, I love it every year.
Continue. More of the same
More yard games
Move it to the Loons parking lot like the farmers market and stop blocking streets.
Extend the timing to include football season and project Lion, MSU, and UoM games and create a community tailgate.
A few more picnic tables for the busy nights
The porta potties need to be moved further away from where people are sitting. Also need to add more of them so people aren't going into the open restaurants and using theirs.
maybe some social media opportunities for teens (place to plug in; free wifi; cute photo backdrops maybe?)
Longer Season
Even more restaurants and bars. Maybe a cannabis shop (if Midland will allow it). More shops and live music!
Why block off the street all summer? Why not select days or even a week at a time
It's great the way it is!
Hand sanitizer station
I love it just as it is.
Better music. Country western.
If there were any sensory shutdown areas I'd love that. My son is nonverbal autistic and sometimes gets overwhelmed in more public and crowded spaces. If there was an easier way to do that it'd be great, but I honestly don't know what that looks like and it has such value as is that I don't even know if this is a valid ask or how to engage with it. It might just be that for now, that downtown space isn't the best space for him.
More benches to sit and enjoy the surroundings
Have more "comfortable" seating. The few couches and easy chairs are great.
Discontinue it
Make it no smoking!
Eliminate open outside smoking within the commons area.
Have more shops open
More of a variety of music
needs to last later (sometimes we work on weekends!)and more than one per night also SUNDAYS! Duh
Make it kid friendly
Get Northwood involved

I would only block off the street on weekends. It's a pain to shop with the streets blocked off.
More events that utilize Pedestrian Plaza.
Free coffee and water kiosk - with attendant providing information of today's activities and fun happening around the town.
Nothing, It is incredible just keep getting more ppl and businesses involved which is already happening!
No idea. It seems pretty good the way it is.
Upgrade the barricades used in closing the street.
It's great as is.
Would love to see more community events facilitated downtown
Encourage/require businesses to stay open later-especially when outdoor events being held downtown
Have it all year round!
Na
.
I would like more food trucks, possibly down at the old farmer's market area.
Wouldn't change a thing!
Put shade structures at the farmers market. And on main Street.
Public restrooms
A little more shade would be lovely. Possibly misting fans for the very hot days?
More board games - chess, checkers, etc.
To be honest, there's not much that needs improving in my mind.
Make it a permanent feature.
Iâ€™ll leave that up to KG
More shade
More places open on Sunday. Extend it until the end of October and do a Halloween party.
Adjust parking accordingly and put it into place permanently with steps to expand weather access in cooler and cold weather such as winter heaters, pods, retractable rain covers etc
I would plan real and permanent infrastructure for pedestrians. Make the plaza permanent. Extend the pedestrian plaza. Ideas include brick pavers instead of asphalt and barrier protected bike lanes that connect tot he rail trail and the rest of the plaza.
Nothing comes to mind!
Have it all year long. Make sure the stores are open through the whole weekend and later nights on Thursday, Friday, Saturday. Have more business events in the plaza in the warmer months. Don't host as much inside. Do more things like Cancer Services long table, but more open to the general public. Have the Farmers Market closer to the pedestrian plaza.
I think a few more tables would help the space a bit. An official bar hopping schedule would be so fun
I would consider extending it to the end of October or possibly keeping it year round.
More stores open if they can.

<p>The concert stage should have a roof type covering. I think this would allow bands to set up when weather is in question, and then even if the concert was interrupted by rain, it could stop and recontinue when the rain has stopped. More chairs scattered around the commons would also be nice. More Bicycle Racks.</p>
<p>I like the set up, but people bringing their dogs downtown on super crowded nights is not cool. Also need to encourage folks storing in front of and nearer the stage to leave walk ways for others sitting back further to come up and dance. Sometimes you can't even get to the dancing area by the time the song is over.</p>
<p>I think it's great the way it is, but it might be nice to have food trucks once in awhile.</p>
<p>You all have done good so far . Bring back Mr E , love that you had music on Sunday afternoon. It did bring more people downtown.</p>
<p>I would love to extent it a couple more months from April to October would be perfect. Food trucks or booths with snacks and other goodies for sale.</p>
<p>Very little kid friendly. Maybe something for teenagers and old folks</p>
<p>Food carts</p>
<p>Nothing.</p>
<p>The music downtown just needs to be June-August to focus on higher quality bands - quality versus quantity. It does not need to continue thru September. Keep the plaza open in the fall for businesses.</p>
<p>More close handicap parking</p>
<p>Misting fans would be great for when the bands play. it's gets very hot on the cement. Hydration station With water to fill your water bottles. rooftop restaurants, cafés, or bars would be good over top of molasses and the joyful tantrum and serendipity Road. Ambient lighting with strings of lights instead of fluorescent street lights. Or even just tone down the street lights. I notice the bright lights when watching the bands and the lighting seems too bright and fluorescent. I suppose you could put some lighting in the trees?</p>
<p>it's really important to keep rent down. I still see way too many downtown businesses not make it and that's really sad. Would love to see businesses establish and stay, need variety, multiple food options and cheap rent to keep everyone happy.</p>
<p>Love the local bands but also would enjoy a few more tribute bands.</p>
<p>More events!</p>
<p>Coordinating with the businesses to stay open later while people are able to come down town. Most working folks can't get down here before 7 and these shops are losing out on business.</p>
<p>More events</p>
<p>Bars open later</p>
<p>Bring in different bands that haven't played yet</p>
<p>My financial problems are not the plaza's fault, so there's nothing on your end that could be done to improve the experience for me.</p>

Keep businesses open later. This town completely lacks a night life scene. This area provides a great safe space to increase nightlife, which could ultimately provide an avenue of encouragement for young adults to remain in this community. Many leave due to lack of "things to do" in Midland for young adults.
Open it earlier in the year, or even make the street closures permanent.
Make it year round and add barriers that are better looking
More restrooms which I see has been addressed already
n/a
I would have it open in the spring also!
The new bathroom building will be a great addition. Much better than the ports-potties. Would like to see Amazing Deli stay open on weekends. More choices for food would be nice.
Permanent adequate bathrooms.
Begin earlier in the year, or simply make it permanent.
it's pretty great as it is
Extended hours, drink specials.
Work hard to meet the needs of the businesses that front the pedestrian plaza. It needs to be a win-win for all!
Parking
Recycling bins
Even further enhancing of the outdoor restaurants spaces w flower / tree etc.
If it has to be should be closed only after Memorial Day and opened up / again right after Labor Day.
Could even be extended street wise and time wise.
MOVE IT. There is a whole lot of space at the old Graners Market at the foot of Ashman, as well as handy parking. The local businesses could have an area to serve their dishes, but why not get all our local food trucks involved as well? Concerts would work well there, along with family activities.
I believe that the new bathrooms will definitely be a benefit. More shaded areas during the day would help. Easier access for seniors, and those with disabilities.
not sure
Stop it after Labor Day.
More events
I believe it's already been addressed, adding restrooms
Having a spot to cycle out food trucks for variety. Also very excited for the plan to make a public restroom
Allow a couple small rotating food and drink trucks. Sometimes the options are limited and some variety would be nice.
Have more public seating areas to enjoy beverages from multiple restaurants.
More seating
Good as is

Entertainment on Sunday afternoon.
Nothing. It is awesome!
Keep it in place all year
Not sure, it's great
Food truck night?
Extend it to include the block with Pizza Sam's and the "H", also down to Riverisde
More activities
lower volume of music. i can hear it all the way to my house over 2 miles away at night
Possibly more covered seating (patio tables w/umbrellas)
More games for young children
More bathrooms, maybe a little more organized seating. I take my elderly mother and my legally blind husband, it can be a little difficult to navigate.
The flowers downtown look so lovely. Could flower arrangements be done near the entrances to the plaza to make it more visually attractive?
Starving artists mused street musicians
The Pedestrian Plaza should be extended to all seasons
Build the permanent washroom facility. Upgrade the barriers (they look a little worn out).
My experience has been very good.
I don't have any recommendations as I feel that the current setup is optimal.
Better restrooms
More variety in music. A bit more "presence" of authorities/watchfulness (on Labor Day, some unruly kids were having their run of the block; I finally got them to stop putting their bikes on the couches).
Comfortable the way it's currently running.
Play music until 10 pm.
More food trucks for some variety in meals. This question may be coming, but it would be nice to draw in a bit of a younger crowd with bands that play more current music. I thoroughly enjoy the "oldies" but I would be happy to see more diversity in the ages of those who attend for the music.
Get rid of it.
More games and activities, business open-houses and open times during evening events, added engagement pieces such as conversation starter cards, prizes for keeping your cell phone off and away, seek and find games for kids, other presentations throughout the summer beyond the evening music nights, more varied seating
Roving beer and drink carts.
I don't know if I could improve it. Its pretty good
Other events during the day. Outdoor recess is cool but during the summer it would be cool to have a weekly event or something for young people, families, stay-at-home moms could do! Especially during the summer; trying to keep kids entertained!

Nothing comes to mind, huge fan
Add more restaurant seating. It is quite limited right now with a lot of unused space. Allow the restaurants to push out farther for more seating.
NA
More outdoor seating available.
A diaper changing station/kid friendly portable toilet.
Permanent bathrooms rather than portapotty, more police presence during larger events
Bathrooms, of course. But I think you are already taking care of that. It would be nice if tea or coffee places were open. Somewhere to buy non alcoholic, non soda drinks.
More easy access to businesses for those that cannot walk long distances. That, in my opinion, is an unfair limitation to those who have mobility issues.
Maybe try to extend the pedestrian plaza until mid or end of October.
Can't think of much that I would want to be different.
Do not have any ideas!
Make it permanent and expand it.
Expand through most of main.
No porta-potties
Continue having fun activities and music, more play equipment for kids.
No suggestions, its really good as is
More soft seating, more events/markets/fairs, bike rentals available in the plaza to ride down to (and on) the Rail Trail, and water stations (refill water bottles)!
Some "low key" concert events during the day? Food truck events?
More seating
No notes.
it's great this way!
eliminate it
What about a single night or place to meet people! Kids night Family what about a 50-50 to put more money towards keeping it going
Food truck area for more food vendors
Create more ways to encourage non-car transportation downtown. Have more places for bike parking.
Lower the sound volume on the bands! We strategically sit to the side of the speakers, but still awfully loud.
Allow for a drop off zone for people with mobility issues.
I would love for it to extend into the winter. I think it would be cool to have a European Christmas market.
Keep it year round with holiday celebrations and more warming stations. Rip up the street and plant trees, grass, put in a pond for catching frogs and playing in.

At the moment, I think it reflects the daytime demand from younger constituencies/families, and the setup works also for an older crew in the evening.
Love the way it is
Food samples from volunteering stores.
When advertising the bands put what genre they play.
Have a better stage for the bands
More secure places to lock up your bike.
None.
Christkindl market in December
Outside vendor carts selling non alcoholic beverages and snacks
it's good the way it is
Lessen time roads are blocked. Take a page out of Bay City's book and only close Friday afternoon through Sunday and open the street during the week. Also, move the art show back to MCFTA. The venue at MCFTA was more relaxed, provided more shade, and had ample parking. The whole point of the re-doing the street was to have more events, but I have just seen them moving events from areas that had good homes.
Block it off permanently and add some more seating. Encourage more businesses to participate and have specials.
Get creative on how to open the plaza up during the day during retail store hours. The closure severely impacts foot traffic to retail shops.
I have been down there several times, at night, on the weekends and an awful lot during the day. My opinion is that is quite frustrating not to be able to park in front of the businesses down there during the day and have to go find a spot at least a block or more away. It's very inconvenient and every single time I have been down there during daytime hours, there is either no one utilizing the Pedestrian Plaza or at most, either one couple sitting is sitting there or another time, one small family was there. It is a huge disservice to the businesses that are affected and I am afraid they are losing business during this time.. Could the areas blocked be shorter or not blocked off for such long periods of time? Thank you!
Like it as is.
More places to sit for conversation and rest for us old folks
make it larger
Maybe add some more outdoor games and some more, fun lighting for the concerts.
More food trucks.
More vendors during the music
More nights of music, and day time Saturday and Sunday afternoons
Possible food trucks at one end of the plaza
Attract more restaurants like where Oscars was located.
If all the stores remained open, im sure it would be beneficial to them.

Bathrooms that are potapotties, more space for dancing and seating, bigger and better covered stage for band,
Possibly more seating (tables and chairs)? It's pretty fantastic as is.
Not at all
Public bathrooms
it's pretty great but a Saturday or Sunday special day music event would be cool. I went to the Sunday rain make up music event was hot but very enjoyable!!
The porta-johns should be cleaned more often.
Remove it.
Hire a full-time sound production company for Commons Music. It would provide consistency and quality of production (Lights/volume/adherence to set-times)
No alcohol
I would suggest keeping Main St closed to vehicles through Halloween.
Keep it closed off year round and host winter themed weekly events. A portable ice rink, fireplaces in the streets (check out what Rockford, Mi did with this; it was fantastic!), street curling, performances, etc.
More seating options
More seating on Main Street
What is the attendance after Labor Day weekend?
No improvement needed!
I'd like parking to be less strict.
It would be nice to have Saturday and Sunday afternoon entertainment.
Expand more streets
Keep doing it!
I'd have a decibel limit. The volume on many bands gets dangerously loud. I would keep the shops open. Add more games and a way to clean the paddles and other games that require equipment that many people have touched.
more portable restrooms.
We love it as it is. Just as a suggestion it would be nice to have some music groups just for kids where the kids can dance like a baby dance night!.
More bathrooms
Have the music play later. 10:00 even. Or base it off the energy of the crowd.
Have the bands play until at least 10 o'clock.
Longer time and events specifically targeted to kids and young teenagers.
More art.
Limit it to various weekends.
Continue to add games/activities for all ages to enjoy.
The Pedestrian Plaza is excellent at supporting dining experiences, but I feel it is a slight con for retail businesses.

More retail businesses or pop-up retail, market days, artist days, etc. Not just drinking outdoors.
More places that serve drinks. Totally love that Three Bridges has bands playing at 9:00! They need to keep that up!!
Extend the concerts by 30 minutes
Move it to the Mall
The recent streetscaping was a huge improvement. I don't see it missing anything particular at this time.
I question the value of the pedestrian place Monday - Thursday. If the pedestrian plaza could be opened to thru traffic (but without parking so as to still allow outside dining) I think it would be helpful to the businesses. I have to believe that Main Street businesses that are not bars or restaurants suffer because of the street being closed. My observation is that the street is desolate during the day and on evenings where there is not an event such as a concert.
More games and seats close to stage.
Keep it year round ;)
More shaded area with seating underneath.
Music go later in the night
More events, side vendors
More open stores. An Art Gallery would be nice. More cultural events.
I would move the stage back at McDonald & Main to create more dance and viewing space in front of stage, and I would DEFINITELY MOVE THE PORTA JOHNS FURTHER NORTH ON McDonald Street so foot traffic does not obstruct viewers sitting in front of the stage, possible find ways to route foot traffic behind the seating or behind the stage.
I'm unsure if this is part of the Pedestrian Plaza, but the old Midland Daily News building is just sitting there & as far as I know (which isn't much) collecting dust so either turning it into multiple office buildings, a museum, or demolishing it to be turned into a green space would be good.
Add trivia contests. Much like at a pub. Someone leads the questions, answers are written down and handed in at the end. No cell phone searches. Winners names posted on a leader board. Bragging rights instead of prizes.
Make the traffic barriers more visual pleasing.
Iâ€™d make it permanent year-round!
Make it a permanent installation.
Find ways to get more people to come down there
More walk up concessions from local businesses. Lines are very long.
Start at memorial day, and extend into October. Need more restaurants on main Street. Add food trucks
Better music and more of it
Maybe have a different food truck every weekend
More sitting options
Add more benches.
I think it's perfect.
NA

I would like to see some police presence. It is in general just fine, but I feel it is an opportunity for the the police to be seen in a good light and be aware of what is happening.
No ideas
So many friends and family members the are older or have physical problems we not able to shop, go to restaurants or attend events. The parking and walking for them was horrible. It was not inclusive for them.
The bathroom will really help!
Extend the dates into the fall. With the fire pits available, it would be fun to be open through October. it's often so warm through October. Concerts aren't necessary since weather could be an issue but other fall fun!
Bathrooms Bathrooms
I can't think of any complaints that I have, I enjoy the pedestrian plaza and hope it stays!
It's already perfect!
Expand communication to those residing outside the city limits. Seems like there is a divide between the city and county. Example: City of Midland calendar is only available to city residents; however, county residents would like to be aware of activities each month to take advantage of these programs.
Have Adult Recess be twice a week
More Cornhole
Focus on quality and shorter season. No one goes in September. Just schedule top bands. It does not have to be during river days and it can be either Friday or Saturday but not both. Have it June-August
Provide a cover for the bands. They are great about playing even if it's raining but would like to have them sheltered. Glad there are plans for restrooms! Would like more businesses to be open during events
Perhaps crafts for families sponsored by local businesses?
Need more restaurants downtown to enjoy before the shows!
I thought 2 years ago there were more bathrooms available than this year. I could be wrong though. Maybe other yard games. Big jenga, bug connect 4?
NA
More food options. Food trucks ect
Maybe have the downtown car show again?
I would add more games
More events and possibly better adverstising
A few shaded areas would be great
Get another restaurant into Oscar's property so we have even more options for dining there. More cornhole.

Somehow find a way to have more family seating for eating. Not every restaurant has enough seating and, obviously, you need to eat there to use it. Often we like to treat the Plaza as a food court with each family member desiring something different. It is not easy to do that and find a place to sit together. But, it is not worth shutting the plaza down!
More kid activities
Extending it to the tunes by the tridge area
Something like the beer garden shipping crate for drinks. Maybe the restaurants cycle thru being in charge. Or share profits?
Expand it to include area in front of H hotel and Pizza Sam's
More kids area
Would not block the whole downtown off.
I would only block off this part of town for the weekend, which I know is impractical. But there have been many times I've wanted to shop, but didn't have time to park so far away.
I can't think of anything. Love it the way it is.
Block off a side street not Main Street.
Move it to a grassy area or one of the many many parks we have in town.
More live music
More public restrooms available
Keep it open throughout the fall!
Start music earlier sometimes so easier for younger kids to come. Otherwise it's great!
I'd like more kid free play items. For all ages. Not just geared towards smaller kids.
Earlier music options
More outdoor bar ordering options.
More shade, more seating areas, more games for kids. More businesses open during evenings. New businesses in vacant spaces.
Add more bars
Real bathrooms for use. I am a woman in my 70s and can't use the porta johns easily.
N/A
Have a night where businesses are open late on weekdays. I often want to go after work but so much is closed after 5.
Extend it, add more seating and restrooms for the public.
Extend it to cover more of main street
The music on the plaza is awesome. A Sunday day time music on the plaza would be great. Maybe feature only local talent.
Close it
I would consider how we might display it better as a safe environment, especially when it gets crowded or congested. Maybe more police presence, or security cameras in conspicuous locations (obviously, if legal).
not sure

I think the street barriers need to be improved. When at Telluride, CO, they used mining cars filled with flowers and telluride logo to be a very attractive blockage. Midland should consider something creatively similar.
Nothing I can think of!!
NA
Move it. Open Main Street up.
More outdoor drink and food stations
String lights at night
There needs to be shade. The summer was hot. I ended up getting heat exhaustion while visiting the Pedestrian Plaza this summer!
Include the genre with the music groups playing
I would love to see more restaurants maybe a breakfast/brunch place to bring an earlier crowd.
I like it as it is, perhaps adding more shade opportunities. There are periods in the season that it can be very hot.
More parking
While I love the art fair, I wish there was also a craft fair. They tend to be a little bit less expensive, and much more buyer friendly. This brings in a ton of people that are there to spend money. I also wish when there are down town events that main street stores are required (or at least strongly encouraged) to be open. I think of the memorial day parade (I know not when the plaza is open) but would love to be able to shop the main street stores during this event. and every year my grandkids are disappointed that the cookie store is closed
I would extend it through October and have Halloween booths for young kid trick or treating and activities.
More adult only things stop letting kids in bars
Public restrooms in the vicinity of the Plaza.
Perhaps a few more tables for eating.
i believe it is working fine as is
I like it now
No suggestions. Love it!
Start the bands earlier! ..6pm
Talk to the businesses and access how you can bring dollars to them - other than the bars!
NA
As I understand, a restroom is being planned and i agree with this as needed.
Parking and sidewalk access must be improved to handle the artificial traffic being generated.
Recommend businesses offer outdoor vending. Having the ability to grab food or a drink on the go without having to go into the establishment would be great.
Extend it down the the tridge and over to Whichcraft
No suggestion at this time. We have a great time with our family when we are there.

I would like traffic to continue through the plaza

Over the past two years the only suggestion I have heard is more food vendors. Especially a coffee vendor would be appreciated. We have learned to bring our own coffee and snacks due to the lack of vendors. The only vendor that isn't centered around alcohol is Pizza Sams and they sell alcohol. Having a coffee shop/coffee truck open would be a huge hit. The city used to have a concession stand down at Emerson, something selling coffee, hot dogs, popcorn, pop, and snacks would be very successful. Limiting the use of scooters and bicycles in the pedestrian plaza would be wonderful. For the most part people are very conscious of each other, but there is very little room for scooter or b I realize that it would have to be monitored but once enforced people will comply. More bathrooms for public use should be considered. Community police presence would be appreciated, not due to crime or anything, but the public likes to see the police interact in a social environment. A walk through a couple times per event would suffice and allow for casual interactions.

Overall, the pedestrian plaza is a huge success for Midland, it draws people together in an atmosphere that we all can enjoy. People in nearby communities are also joining in on the Midland Music (I heard people calling it that). People staying in Midland for business, or a family visit enjoy the nights out also. We have had family from Ohio in town and they enjoyed the nights out and made comments like " I didn't realize Midland offered so much (Wednesday night band shell music, Thursday tridge music and Downtown Music on Friday and Saturday." One vendor does sell pop in glass bottles, and I feel that is dangerous in this environment. Maybe someone could talk to them about this.

Include some classical music ensembles or choral groups.

Definitely need restrooms. Using "out houses" is not pleasant. Having restrooms with running water and real facilities will be a great addition. I also think there should be NO SMOKING. WHY are smokers allowed in a crowd where there are people who are young, elderly, have health conditions, or allergies to smoke?

We know that cigarette smoke is a carcinogen... Can they have a section away from the Commons instead of being free to smoke wherever they want?

I also think they need additional food vendors. People need to/like to eat when spending several hours at an event.

I don't think it helps the businesses in downtown and it conditions people not to go there because it is difficult to drive there. We have the tridge area and so many natural environments where it would be a much nicer environment that would encourage more families and children.

Extend it to the Santa House and leave it up year round

Make it bigger and permanent.

Permanent green space

More visually pleasing road barriers

I think it's just fine

More offerings of activities during the day.

It seems pretty complete as it currently exists.

More food options. Maybe a food truck area.

Can't wait for improved toilets!
It is no amazing down there, the seating, the games, the sounds, and the beautiful scenery we have in Midland.
I think more opportunities for shaded seating/areas would be more inviting. The downtown is a lovely space, but the lack of shade can make it feel quite hot in an unwelcoming way during the hottest of the summer months. Larger trees (ex: portland, OR) can create for a more welcoming space, but for a more immediate fix; something like sun sails spanning the road could be a very welcome addition.
I thought it is set up well and enjoyed it.
Extend the season!
Better Parking
Make it permanent.
Ideally there would be a way to cross Rodd and Ashman for those with disabilities, like rerouting that traffic behind the hotel or a long stoplight cycle that allows a minute or more of no-traffic time on these streets at certain times of day.
On street parking
Parking downtown is miserable
Continual music (could be recorded); some rallies; church participation nights
I understand that with our weather and all-year situation is impractical, but what about temporary town events like a winter/Christmas Market or pumpkin carving contest with apple cider, donuts, cocoa, etc...costume contest?
I understand you are making restrooms. That will be a great bonus.
I'm like it just as it is
Make it easier for cars to be able to get to the stores
better bathroom situation.
No real suggestions. Would be great to have the empty storefronts filled and more shopping/restaurant choices in the area though.
Sound system for the stage - make it more consistent
I love that the restaurants and some of the business take advantage and participate, it would be nice if more businesses participated and stayed open a little later.
More outdoor eating with shade like umbrellas
Having permanent bathrooms available would be nice. Also, if the stores stayed open later, I think they would get more business
?
Perfect the way it is
Not sure
I would expand it if the traffic worked out
More social events
The new bathroom will be very nice, and it' wonderful that the bars now set up street service weekend evenings ending the long lines. Popcorn would be nice :)

No clue
Some shade would be nice. One of the days we were out, I forgot to put sunscreen on and I was VERY conscious of how little shade there was other than at Molasses.
I think it's great
1. No scooters in the Pedestrian Plaza; 2. Limiting dogs to the streets but not in the Pedestrian Plaza; 3. Encouraging more businesses to be open during concert nights; 4. Controlling children. Have seen small children walking unattended. Last concert of season kids 10 to 12 were slamming into dancing senior women. They don't me they were afraid of falling and left.; Having dancing area roped off. Or at least have borders on a couple of sides. Preventing setting up of chairs in crosswalks. More parking. Bathrooms instead of port a johns; Handicapped seating areas.
Have more stores open later during Thursday thru Sunday. Have one day a week with just food trucks but it has to be a variety of them. From all different types of foods including desserts. If that day is not Friday, have musical entertainment there as well.
Longer season!
Remove it!
Maybe make a designated dance area
bathrooms but that is coming; one more little playground area; drinking fountain, bottle filler?
Have more restaurants stay open
During concerts keep sidewalks free.
Expand it
Add just a little more of the super comfy seating
Larger dance area. The music was too loud sometimes.
Downtown just needs more vibrancy in general. This town has so much potential and has great amenities, downtown isn't enough of a draw. Better food scene, food festivals.
Would like activities available in the winter time.
Wish more of the non dining/drinking businesses were open later.
Love it as it as
More advertising to attract non-residents like me.
Discontinue it
The outhouse placement. Cleanliness. Sidewalks going to main street area repaired for even walking
Keep it going.

9. If you answered "Something else" to the question above, what other programs or amenities brought you to the Pedestrian Plaza?

Free amenities, like cornhole, ping pong, and Joyful Tantrum's little houses, in a safe place for my child to play without the fear of vehicles.

Just hanging out with my kids playing the games.

Festivals

Art Seen festival

My disabled child likes to come downtown to look for Pokemon in the game pokemon go

People watching exercising dog walking

Mini golf through the plaza and hot air balloons on Main Street

I love Ace hardware but hate the gauntlet getting there.

We don't go downtown in the summer because there is less handicap parking

Art Fair

The games and comfortable seating

The pop up events like the Newsies preview.

Free Putt putt

Shopping a local business

Visit with friends, walk a few blocks, etc.

Walking pets.

Ping pong and corn hole

We avoid the Pedestrian Plaza

I work on main street, so I'm downtown everyday.

Hot air balloons

The lack of other things to do in Midland

A nice gathering spot. Like the games and sitting areas.

Going for a walk and relaxing

I attended a meeting and walked through the area.

Riverdays, Tunes by the Tridge

Snacks

No programs brought me to the Commons. The only reason I visit it was to meet a friend who works downtown.

mini-golf during dows championships

Did not go there in 2024

The games in the street

Just to hang out

Had to pick up something. Haven't been back

Enjoying the beautiful updates and store fronts.
Freinds
The picnic tables. Being able to just outside and watch people, enjoying the sensation of being outdoors knowing I could get a meal or drink and just sit in the area enjoying the downtown environment.
Meeting up and visiting with friends and neighbors
Just enjoy great weather in Downtown Midland.
Met friends to enjoy the Band we usually know playing, and enjoy the outdoors together with friends.
Dig Park and park
We live downtown and love to just walk the area.
Fourth of July fireworks, River Days - specifically the Main Street glow on Thursday.
Kayaked earlier and then just hung out in the area.
My daughter takes piano lessons downtown
Rock the Block for the Dow Championship, Art Show
Open mic night
Only visited because I had to in order to walk to the establishment I order lunch from. No one was using the area. Makes it difficult to utilize the businesses and get back to work within my lunch hour.
just the opportunity to see other people we had not seen for a while. we almost always find someone we know, and if we don't, we just enjoy the music
My kids love to play the ping pong and yard games. It's nice to have a free activity for families and we end up usually getting dinner or an ice cream cone while down there.
Music lessons, played with Resonators
None. Too far to walk.
to play ping pong and corn hole
Sorry but I couldn't get there
The cornhole and ping pong!
I didn't go downtown for the plaza. i went to get dinner
Meeting and hanging out with friends.
Fun activities like scavenger hunt
Go to the bank.
None of it
Balloon glow
Corn hole with my granddaughter or just sitting and hanging out
river days
NA
Kid friendly areas of the plaza

An online scavenger hunt
Met out of town relative
Community Connection
Did not go there.
I did not attend this year.
Glow fest. Activities with grandkids (they loved the little houses!)
Available games
Just a nice space to hang out and be with friends
It is beautiful in the Pedestrian Plaza, we bring out of town friends on bike rides through the space even if we do not stop. It is a great way to show what Midland has to offer and show our visitors a nice time.
Wanted to go to Peel and Pare...too inconvenient to shop!
The children a play area
I just liked lounging in the chairs, eating and watching others enjoy downtown.
Art Fair
Great place to
Bringing out of town guests, hosting a girls night out, and scheduled dinners with Bible study group.
Art fair. I like the art fair setup down town. I've really enjoyed it since it's moved from the mcfta parking lot.
art show, fireworks,
Met visiting business colleagues. Took interviewees (including out of state candidates) - all very impressed
live downtown
To enjoy a night with family outdoors. Wanted to hear a concert and had a toddler with us so it was nice to be able to do that
a fun safe place for my grandson to explore
Missed out on it this year.
Outdoor meeting space
Mini golf on main
The games always available
River days
Things for kids to play with
Na
An interesting place to walk through
Balloon festival/Riverdays
The seating areas and games are just a great place to gather. My teen and her friends like it as well
Run the River/River Days and other Greater Midland races
Pick up a take out meal
Pingpong and bean bags. Also my daughter and I sat in the hammocks

Live performances and activities from local bars and businesses
Nice bike ride from Loons stadium to Tridge.
I was meeting a friend and we sat and watched, then visited a restaurant.
A great place for families.
Fun for kids, nice place to catch up with friends
Place for kids to walk and play safely
Informal work meet-up events
Walking downtown.
Just having a nice place to sit without having to listen to engines or worry about where I'm stepping.
Meeting friends
Kayaked from the nature center to downtown. Then it's a good excuse to stay out for dinner or drinks. Brought grandkids to the spray park Then to dinner and ice cream at the Commons.
Family
Do not go downtown when the road is closed
Just enjoyed being part of the city for something other than food and shopping. Although nice to have the music and a meal and enjoy being outside. Being around lots of people. Outside is nice
lawn games
Meeting spot for family & friends
Ice Cream from Heather and Holly
Hang out with friends
Just a nice spot to walk around and sit.
Game
Didn't visit
I often use it as a safe, beautiful place to visit during bike routes.
Cornhole games
I don't go for the plaza, I only come downtown now infrequently and usually to go down to the Tridge or a restaurant that I would anyway (and much easier) without the plaza. I in fact don't frequent places like the shops any more unless there is no other place to find a specific item at.
I took my daughter down there to show her the Pedestrian Plaza and for us to play Ping Pong
To sit and relax
Other events going on in the area
Enjoyed a picnic near the tridge with my niece before some live music, visiting the tridge other times with family before and after the live music.
I went to retail stores but avoided the public drinking plaza and kept to the sidewalks to get from store to store.
To show it off to our out of town friends. We brag about it a lot!

The outdoor seating
River Days Balloon Fest
Playing corn hole while eating ice cream
I had out of town visitors and couldn't wait to show off the fact that the streets are closed off for fun and socialization!
Ice cream
I am unaware of where the Commons Refreshment Area is ????
Being able to picnic downtown, ping pong
The open space and freedom for my children to roam some
My mother wanted to see it. Only went once and didn't go back.
Nothing. I never went.
Wedding reception at The H
Activities with kids on build outs
Open space to bike or walk thru
I didn't do anything there that I can't do without the streets closed. Restaurants, stores. I frequent downtown more often when Main St. is not closed off - Fall, Winter, Spring. I used to like to include downtown in my daily walks but I find your piped in music really annoying.
Quiet space during day
With a small child, the spaces that are for 'play' in the common area have been great! Adding more options for playing would always be a good option.
Artist and craft displays.
Visited MDN to talk about advertising program
Friends wanted to meet there but we all decided we would not go back again.
A nice place to spend time with out of town visitors. Makes me feel proud of my city when I can take them there and show off how nice the flowers are and how walkable the area is
We took advantage of the pleasant atmosphere and held some informal organization meetings in the space.
To enjoy our town and the weather.
Met up with friends to hang out, ended up walking around and window shopping a bit but most of the stores had closed. It was still light out and just a little after dinner time.
Taste of downtown
I think I was home for the fireworks
Entertainment for my son and the ability to visit multiple vendors at a time. For example, we might get a cookie from Aviator, Pizza from Pizza Baker, and a smoothie from Heather and Holly.
It's beautifully maintained with incredible flowers. Just enjoy being there and taking pictures.
Meeting friends
Games (cornhole/ ping pong, putt putt, and shopping)

Question 16. Please provide any additional feedback you have about the Pedestrian Plaza:

It's great!

Our Pedestrian Plaza is truly a gem for 'tourism' - not just for visitors to Midland, but for people within our own community who want/need somewhere to go and gather. It's one of the few non-park amenities we have that provides multiple options for entertainment free of charge. Every single time I visit, no matter what time of day or day of the week, there are people in the space enjoying it. What an amazing way to promote wellbeing and connection to our community! There are also numerous opportunities for economic development within the Downtown District thanks to the Pedestrian Plaza - I'd love to see even more businesses and organizations take advantage of it. I have family from out of town who rave about how well-designed, clean, safe, and

Might be nice to have some umbrellas/an awning for the really hot days so there is shade.

Downtown is impossible to utilize during the summer for the businesses

Would love to see it open longer and provide heaters in the winter and more shaded areas in the summer. Please work on the sound system to make it

The idea is great but not for the whole summer. Possibly the week leading up to Riverdale would be sufficient and not an inconvenience to the rest of the citizens who do not participate in the events.

Please keep this open. It is a great addition to the city of Midland!

The non-renewal of The Commons for summers beyond 2025 would be a huge loss for our community.

It's a great idea and I think has helped promote a sense of community! I'm really excited about the future of the downtown with the coming changes to business 10 and the work being done to better connect downtown to the surrounding neighborhoods. As a resident just north of downtown I do wish the changes to Rod and Ashman had been implemented as it would have made me feel safer biking downtown with my young kiddos on there bikes.

Love it. I wish it started earlier in the year (May 1) and ran later (10/31)

We love the firpits, we enjoy the free events. We certainly would shop downtown after work if the shops were open. The advertising for events is lacking though we never hear of events unless someone tells us. I hear that a lot from people they didn't know an event was happening

Please keep it going! It's a great idea that is being emulated in other nearby towns because it works.

I don't mind seeing Main St closed for special events on the weekend but it should be open Monday-Friday.

Great idea! We moved back to Midland for some of the great amenities the city has and this is one of them.

I think It's a great asset and fun.

Thank you for all the work that goes into setting the commons up and keeping it going.

It should not be there. It only benefits the businesses in a very specific area. And for some businesses it is a hindrance since people like myself will not shop there because of it. It takes up parking. It makes it harder to drive around. It is something that my family and I do not enjoy doing.

I think all the barricades and orange cones in this city are very unattractive. Has Midland invested in orange cones and barricades? Theyâ€™re

Possibly allow drinks down to the tridge area

I don't think shopping is generally the purpose of most people in the plaza in the evenings, especially on the weekends, but retailers that sell things for

It is great for Midland

It's a great addition to Midland and makes the city feel more alive than prior to 2020. Keep going with the great work! Every year the Plaza has improved.

It is hard enough for disabled and older people to find accessible parking during the year so when these parking spaces are taken away it is even harder to park. We stay away in the summer. The city seems to forget about older citizens, who, by the way, pay more taxes than the younger people you are catering to. Plus we would prefer to listen to nature rather than someone elseâ€™s choice of music. Stop closing off the plaza and let all citizens enjoy

I love the pedestrian plaza and I'm down there almost every day. I understand the residents of riverside don't like the noise from it, is there a way to dampen the sound for them so we can get live music down there longer? Probably not, but try please ðŸ˜.
The concert series is always amazing. Sometimes the music is not my favorite but I will still go just to hang out and watch everyone have fun while chatting with friends. I don't think the downtown will be visited nearly as much if The Commons doesn't come back.
The increase in quantity and quality of programming has been great! The upkeep is also top-notch and it's nice to visit a clean space in an urban area. I'm
We really enjoy having this in Midland. So glad we have this now. Before the area and Midland just seemed dead. I believe this has really gotten people
We really enjoy hanging out here with the grandkids. The younger ones love the play area outside the toy store. We enjoy going to the candy store and then playing the games (ping pong, corn hole). Having comfortable seating is a plus.
I think the improvements every year, the comfortable seating, children activities are wonderful. I would suggest more tables & chairs for seating when getting takeout from the restaurants. Also, more visible trash containers.
It's always such pleasant surroundings we bring visitors to that area to enjoy a meal.
Gallup has measured American's views of the health effects of moderate drinking 10 times since 2001. The latest data, from the July 1-21 Consumption Habits poll, show a new high of 45% of Americans say drinking one or two alcoholic beverages per day is bad for one's health. https://bit.ly/3M7R3SJ
There's been a noticeable increase in the number of property damage and personal injury accidents being reported by Nexle ever since the city decided to introduce and advertise the sale of adult (alcoholic) beverages in approved walkable To Go cups purchased from the 11 hospitality vendors downtown. The City of Midland is prepared to provide concerned families, motorists, cyclists and local pedestrians access to the public safety records of exactly how many of these motor vehicle crashes downtown mention alcohol or drug impairment for the economical price of just \$242.42.
I think it, along with the bars and restaurants and activities that Midland is providing in the downtown area, was a great idea. It definitely seems to have drawn young people to the area and made Midland thrive.
This has been and is a positive aspect of Midland - be sure to keep it active
Keep up the great work with planning events, and look to see how we can continue to grow that community space in the non peak seasons
Thank you for continuing to make Midland more inviting for people of all ages!
I truly love how unique it is to the area. I like that it brings business to the downtown stores.
more emphasis on NON alcoholic drinks!!!!
Remember to empty the trash containers.
Keep on improving the experience!
It's so nice being able to walk around downtown and eat/ drink, enjoy live music and be with the community. Not extended the Plaza beyond 2025 would be a poor decision and would hurt the small businesses downtown.
Please keep it going! The pedestrian plaza is a major plus for Midland and downtown specifically. I remember back in the 90's when I thought our downtown was going to die due to the mall area. I now go downtown MUCH more than going to the mall area and quite frankly enjoy being there more than the mall area because I can walk around easily. The mall area is all driving with mostly crazy inattentive drivers.
Thank you for providing it! We also love Movies on Main!
Fantastic offering for our community.
A great asset to community
Do not cancel the music unless It's raining. Canceled for threat of rain too often

Difficult to go to restaurants and shop. I have limited walking
The Pedestrian Plaza makes our city special and draws people in from the region
A nightmare for emergency vehicles to through. Midland is confusing enough to drive in this only makes things worse for people out of town. The shops downtown are terrible. You moved the farmers market and the beer garden down to the Diamond so the businesses downtown loose all that foot traffic.
It's a nice looking area, but I completely avoid it, as I do with Bay City's pedestrian plaza area. The few times I have visited nearby, it seems barren except for events. I don't go to the area generally because I can't park close to my destination and prefer to avoid the hassle of figuring out where I
I love the different food options available in downtown Midland - I love to support local!
Keeping all year long please!
I like the idea of more stores being open at night. Advertising that they will be open would help us know! I checked all evenings. I do think the more businesses that stay open, the more successful it would be. I could see that being open when there are musical events could work well, OR it could make it harder for people to make it into their store, so maybe non music nights would make more sense. With that said, I still believe the more venues that stay open until 7 pm or 8 pm, the more successful it will be. That means the vendors need to work together to make decisions which evenings would work best! I loved it when ALL the stores downtown were open Monday and Thursday nights. It brought me downtown. I stopped shopping as often
The Plaza is a great idea that has been well received by the community. We should definitel continue it and examine opportunities to improve and this seems to be a current fad with many towns cluttering up their downtown areas with closed streets
Love it, keep it going!!!!
Incorporating the use of the old farmers market for a group of food trucks on some weekends would be a great addition.
Our past experience with trying to go to Downtown venues during the Pedestrian Plaza season leads us to avoid Downtown as much as possible.
I enjoy the music Thursday and Friday evenings. I'm down there if I'm in town.
From the very beginning I thought closing part of Main Street for a safe pedestrian area was a good idea. I still think that.
We absolutely love the downtown area and how it is evolving. We mark on our calendars all the musicians we want to specifically see and we are always bringing friends down. We also spend more money at the shops when they are open later when we are down there. We would love to see the commons expanded to the east end building. It was be great to grab a drink and walk to Maru for dinner or vice versa. We really hope they are here to stay, we talk
I understand why you have it, but it makes Main Street stores inaccessible to me.
Unable to walk far. I quit shopping downtown, altogether, because of lack of access. I found other places and frequent them.
Love the plaza and the commons. Please keep it going beyond 2025. It is a huge draw and benefit of living in Midland.
No additional feedback, other than Joe's that it will continue
We love the pedestrian plaza and the growth of our downtown.
Please keep the pedestrian plaza! It's a real gem and it really gives us a sense of community
I feel like the Pedestrian Plaza disrespects the older people who built the city. Also it promotes excessive drinking. We have beautiful parks for group
Bay City on a Wednesday night in the summer is buzzing with activity. Maybe planners can go look to see what they are doing right and try to implement some of that here. The main draw for me to Bay City is the number of NON CHAIN independent restaurants and businesses available. Midland seems to
Majority of people come for the free stuff, few spend more than what they would normally on a regular visit. It is incredibly inconvenient to not be able to drive to the store front, shop, and then leave. Waste of money.
It truly reflects the drive, skill, and competency of City of Midland's employees. Other municipalities look like roasted garbage in comparison.

Consider ending earlier in September since it gets colder & there are other fall activities after Labor Day.
Consider ending just after Labor Day since the weather is cooler & there are other community & school activities.
We love the Pedestrian Plaza and hope it remains open past 2024 with new additions/activities to bring more people to our beautiful downtown area that just keeps getting better and better each year.
It's a wonderful area. But please ban scooters. I've seen people hit by them.
none
Third Place is critical for developing community. Let's keep it going.
Great programming that would be ideal for the renovated riverfront in 2026.
Keep doing it!
The Pedestrian Plaza was a bright spot in COVID times. I really hope it continues so we can take advantage of Michigan's gorgeous summer weather.
I understand why Larkin Beer Garden went away, but that vibe with easy access to drinks and food trucks was just more convenient than the current way seems like older people are not considered in Midland and therefore spend more time at home
On The topic of shopping, I would visit stores for food products such as Heather and Holli or aviator cookie. I would not generally shop while enjoying a
Seems like a no brainer to keep this going beyond 2025.
I love the fireplaces when it is cool outside!
It's been amazing and I hope it continues for years to come! I appreciate all the work that is done to have the bands and they are an amazing draw to get
It's a nice concept.
I've been a citizen of Midland for 58 of my 70 years. Unfortunately, my concern is that you offer surveys, but the "powers-that-be" downtown are going to
City could put money and time in better things needed by all in the city
We really enjoy the music. Sometimes it is way too loud and I feel sorry for the people who live nearby. I really don't think the rock music needs to be
The downtown pedestrian plaza is a good use to the area and a benefit to the local businesses and the community.
I love it!
When I heard about downtown being converted, I thought it was a bad idea; but once I went I really enjoy it and think it should continue.
We're so thankful for the opportunities this space has provided since it started and for the effort that has been put into it.
The plaza makes it too hard to visit and shop the stores during the summer. I have driven down there to go to get a sandwich at lunch and then see the
I love the pedestrian plaza. Any time people come from out of town, they think it's so great we have it downtown.
Only thing disappointing about the downtown area is the complete and utter lack of businesses being open later, and closed on the weekends! Come on folks! If I'm down there on a Sunday! I want my stores open so I can shop on my days off!
I see so many happy faces! It is wonderful to see families spending time together outdoors, enjoying each other and being entertained by other than cell
I personally would never shutdown any downtown. You are losing money. Other people have said it's rarely busy and lack of parking.
I enjoy having this downtown, walkable from my home.
We have enjoyed the Pedestrian Plaza from the very beginning. If we are in town, you will find us downtown every Thursday, Friday and Saturday. We enjoy the music but also enjoy sitting downtown enjoying the outdoor restaurants and enjoying a drink 2-4 times each week. If the Plaza was closed, it is likely we would find other locations to visit in town but also Bay City & Saginaw. Keep the Plaza open indefinitely. It's the best thing Midland has done in
it's a great inexpensive place to visit and have fun.

It's fabulous! I see people from neighboring communities coming in to see bands with children and parent, lovely events.
Bring back the "Tridge Troll" souvenirs and Midland souvenir store. A Tridge Troll store with fishing poles as well.
I really encourage you to continue the Pedestrian Plaza. It is a good way to bring people downtown.
Great family fun
I live close to downtown but no longer go downtown when the streets are blocked off. Again, I'm disabled and don't like the parking situation or the streets being blocked off. I liked our downtown before the last renovation. It was friendlier.
Other than the Dow Diamond, there really isn't a place in Midland that I would go on a frequent, regular basis. It's a great place to meet up with friends.
MORE free parking.
I love that you have this going every summer. Thank you so much. Please continue bringing great music to Midland.
We love the new downtown area and love what our beautiful city has to offer.
Please keep it going!
The Pedestrian Plaza has become a true "Midland Community Asset" and has so much more to be explored and provided. Keep it up! Provide periodic reports on the Plaza attendance, activities etc. Maybe some "man on the street" reports showing how people are using/enjoying the
I love it! Our family loves it. I would love to continue to experience the Pedestrian Plaza for years to come. I would add the Larkin Beer garden trailer to the commons as a place to buy quick drink at the commons.
Please keep expanding and growing, and also keep the Pedestrian Plaza open as late in the fall and as early in the spring as possible. The community really
Ask event attendees not to smoke near others. Many concerts do this.
Though I live in Bay City, the Pedestrian Plaza is what has brought me to midland several times this summer.
Excellent way for people to enjoy the community in a friendly, happy, free environment! Please keep it, maybe even extend it out to fall!
Great usage of downtown!
I used to bring my dog down there she loved it. Until someone didn't control their dog, and it went for mine so now mine doesn't like that kind of dog. So we don't bring her down there now. People control your dogs.
Love this for our city. Please keep it
I would like to see it start earlier in the year and last longer into the fall
Closing it would be a detriment to the city.
Please continue it beyond 2025.
Now let me speak for my mother who is 83 and her friends. If you care about active members of this generation, they no longer go to this area because they feel like the City kicked them out: parking is unavailable, especially handicap spaces, seating is not made for older people.
I wish the pedestrian plaza extended into October like it did when it started. We get such beautiful weather in September and October. There could be so
Time to shut this down. Move the music to Plymouth Park, Emerson Park, or the Central Park Bandshell. Only time to shop downtown is during the day.
We look forward to visiting every year. Based on the traffic of people, I think many would be disappointed to see it end and many of the establishments
It's a great safe place to gather and have fun
Thank you for taking the time to seek feedback. Let's get our businesses aligned to common 'open' hours so visitors to downtown can get the full
Please don't mandate to businesses what date they *have to* remove their furniture from the sidewalk. This should be the business's decision. This has caused us to come downtown less often than we would in the Fall / early Spring. We prefer dining / socializing outside to avoid Covid (and other

I'd just like to say again that it is a nice outdoor gathering space for summer (Memorial day - Labor day makes the most sense, easy to remember), but it would be better if McDonald St were open to cross traffic to make it easier to access, park, and egress. Also, the incredibly loud speakers at McDonald St. were not only annoying, but a safety hazard to have to yell over them to get my young children to hear me.
It's a welcoming space for the community to gather. Please consider keeping it open past 2025
I love the Pedestrian Plaza and I'm hoping we keep (and expand upon) an awesome thing our city has!
I love the beauty and vibe of downtown. Would love to see something in the old Oscar's building. I especially love the flowers and choice of beer.
shopping accessibility doesn't always mean in-store. creating opportunities to engage with shopping, vendors can be outside of the stores. creating common or shared shopping booth or something even inside an area that could open/close - co-shared. Inviting. Offering access to messaging, merchandise, online shopping. What's frustrating is not having another option offered when a store is closed. Even storefront QR code to connect with a person to ask a question, accessing websites and online shopping if available. When making effort to visit a store, people need more than hours on door
Thank you for all that you do and keep up the great work making Downtown Midland a destination!
Include Tunes night so we can purchase drinks and walk down there to enjoy the music. I know I can bring a cooler with alcohol, so why can't I walk down
Please Open the Driving Route for the Downtown Area. It is a traffic hazard!!! I'm not opposed to the idea of a Pedestrian Plaza. Just not right in the middle of the street. Create it in an Area designed for Gatherings. Perhaps on the Grass across from one of the new hotels, or perhaps down by East End. Or Even down at the old Farmer's Market under the Ring. Still brings folks to the downtown area, but away from the traffic flow!
We love it for the music series, and we just discovered the Tunes by the Tridge, another evening to visit.
To answer the previous question about shopping, generally I would not go to the downtown in the evening to shop but if we were down there for a meal I might stop in a business to pick something up, but it likely would not be planned.
Expand the size of it and expand the time of year and how long it lasts. I think if you kept it going through New Year's, you could do some amazing things for the holiday season in the New Year's Eve party.
Summer concert series was great!
Would love to see the Pedestrian Plaza continue.
Assessing the need for the Plaza yearly is a fine idea. As new amenities are built elsewhere along the river, perhaps the Plaza will no longer be needed or
I love the Pedestrian Plaza and would love to see it come back every year.
It's such a great idea. We have family that loves to come into town, stay at the H and enjoy the Pedestrian Plaza. They come multiple times a year for the
Would be nice if more handicap parking was available
I would love a snack station on concert evenings. If one of the restaurants offered a quick way to purchase chips/fries/popcorn/pop without having to go inside and wait for an order I would do that often.
Continuing this is pertinent to Midland. We've become a city people love to visit on weekends because of this summer event! I love being a part of this
Even though I don't live in Midland, my husband and I have driven there every free weekend to eat, shop, drink and listen to the live music. We love the Commons and have told all our friends about it.
We love the pedestrian plaza. We look forward to it every year. My nine year old enjoys the games and live music. This gives us an opportunity to get out and support local. We love getting drinks and from a variety of restaurants in the area. We would miss it greatly if it were to be discontinued.
Stop with trying to make our nice small community like a large city. Let citizens drive down the road and park where needed.

I sure hope the Pedestrian Plaza continues (including the music!) It is one of the things that makes Midland a very special place. If it is decided to end it, I will be extremely disappointed and know many, many others will too.
My husband and I moved to Midland about a year ago. We attended our 1st summer concert series in August after learning about it. We had a great time
This is truly one of the main reasons we come to Midland. We love the downtown and tell everyone about it.
There are stores that aren't open in the evenings that I would like to check out but they aren't open and I generally only go downtown for the music or to buy my coffee at Peel-n-Pare, which would be nice if they were open on a Friday night.
I have brought many friends from out of town up here they are impressed with the set up in the live music my observation is most people behave I love the convenience of refreshments on Friday and Saturday nights
This is an amazing asset to our community that brings business and tourists, making Midland a destination. The DDA team does a phenomenal job keeping this going and I can't wait to see what Selina, Joe and Christina are able to come up with for years to come!
thank you for all the work you have done making this a great place to enjoy
Love the family friendly atmosphere. Love all the seating provided and parking has never really been an issue for us. The Commons music series is one of
I love it and will visit every year as long as we have it!
For seniors who have walking difficulty, they are not likely to come downtown during this time since there is no close parking available.
I think it works great now. I don't go there a lot, but when I'm downtown I notice lots of people using the space.
The Pedestrian Plaza should continue. It seems busy with community participation. The activity and events are a true testament to Midland being a great
Thank you for all you do for the citizens of Midland. We appreciate it.
The pedestrian plaza has become one of my favorite spots to go in the summer! Every single time I'm there, everyone looks SO happy and connected. It's a great way to bring the community together. Along with bringing so much business to the restaurants and bars. I believe it is an asset to everyone and it
The pedestrian plaza is a testament to what makes Midland a special community. I would encourage City Council to make it permanent.
It's hard to get older people there
As a neighbor just a few blocks t from downtown I love the fact that I can walk there and back.
Cancel it for one year 2026 to see how it goes.
Can't shop.
It is OK to have it, but we are wasting a lot of money to have it.
Please keep it!!!
I enjoy the commons music, but parking is not convenient. In the daytime it is difficult to visit stores on Main Street because of long walks to parking.
This is a big plus for Midland; it is great to see so many younger people out and about!
Would be nice if it was easier to get a drink. Lines are very long on music nights.
I LOVE the pedestrian plaza and really hope It's extended!
I think It's an awesome concept but It's grown so quickly there's a lot of kinks that need to be worked out. Places are often closed or out of food by 7.
Based on the attending crowds, this plaza idea is a popular event and should not be shut down.
Please keep it, it is fun for all ages.
I honestly have heard negative comments about families taking their kids there and just letting them dance and run around while the parents just drink and ignore them. Most of the photos shared show my example. There is just too many people to make the band nights fun. Toons at the Tridge are

I believe it would be nice to have a section at the beginning and end of the Pedestrian Plaza that has a couple handicap parking spots for those who have difficulty getting around. Also, maybe one to two on each side road. That might appease people in the community that say they do not go downtown during the summer because of the lack of close parking. Other than that, I have no problem walking an extra block or driving around a couple blocks to
NA
The pedestrian plaza is a great feature of downtown and I hope it continues.
I would prefer more encouragement of adding more good retail stores and making downtown a busy shopping area instead of an entertainment area.
The PP is such a great sense of community and fun. It brings our downtown to life.
Please continue the plaza! It is one of my go to destinations all summer. I go from going to Midland every other month in the off season to nearly every other week while the plaza is open, and always stay for a meal and a drink.
This is a fabulous way to get out and enjoy downtown Midland. I would not go down there otherwise. I spread the word about the Commons to many others and have made many friends down there that I would otherwise never have met.
Keep it up, Downtown Midland. It's a beautiful place to visit and have fun.
move it so we can use the roads we pay taxes on
Bars and restaurants should be allowed (if they aren't already) to sell canned adult beverages ie: beer, seltzers in front of their establishment. The wait time for drinks in the dedicated lines can exceed 30 min (Molasses for example) and if someone is there for a concert that only last 2 hours they miss out on a good portion of the show. This COULD be why so many people bring their own (even though they aren't supposed to or even allowed by
The pedestrian area, together with the social district and music series brings me to Midland regularly during the warmer months when I otherwise would not make the trip. Midland has become a regional destination for me that I often choose over going to Lansing, Grand Rapids, or another small city.
Great idea. Great events. Good for the people!
Seriously love it, it would be a big loss if it were to be discontinued.
I think Midland more than ever needs these types of community gathering locations and events. Especially since we have so many remote workers since the pandemic and the Dow/Dupont/Corteva split so many people (especially men) in our community are lonely and lack the connections they once had.
I'd love to see a Euchre night or game night if sorts. That could be fun.
Stop closing down the streets, It's very annoying!!
We would love for you to continue the live concert series events. Also think It's great that you have the different activities such as corn hole, ping pong,
I love it, I love the community it brings together! I love reading about adult recess even if It's at a time I can't make it. I love the bright colors and aesthetic that the plaza brings to downtown. I hope that this can continue as long as this brings in more revenue for downtown.
Large, crowded areas were never attractive to us, especially after 12+hr. days at our own business that is now closed.
It has been a wonderful change to our downtown area. We love coming downtown and this now gives us a reason to do so. If retailers stayed open a few nights a week, we would shop more downtown too
We moved here after the plaza was installed. It was a big factor in moving here (having a family friendly outdoor environment is amazing)
Please close the street year around so permanent accommodations can be made.
I think it has been a great idea and that there is always room for growth and improvement as the years come.

Adding to the previous page, I'd be likely to visit a shop that I wanted to go into, but not very likely to visit a random shop. For example, my kids love joyful tantrum and I love the kitchen shop, but having the ladies' boutique open wouldn't make me more likely to go in.
Having the shops open is important to the event though as it makes the space feel alive and bustling. It also allows for people who work during business
I have lived in Midland for more than 20 years and I can remember downtown Midland as being a "ghost town" on evenings and many weekends. Downtown has developed so much with shops and restaurants - we love the distillery, wine shop, cookies shop, candy & ice cream shop, and the variety of restaurants available. Downtown has been blessed with seasonal beautiful plantings and we look forward to the trees planted continuing to fill out
I honestly love everything about it. I lived my entire life in Saginaw and now being here its just so incredible to me to have this.
Love the pedestrian plaza.
Make areas in the Plaza with no bikes or skateboard. If its not allowed then we need enforcement
Parking is always an issue when there is an event downtown such as a concert, loons game, or a parade, etc. I hope the police dept does not start issuing parking tickets because that would deter people from coming down.
I work downtown and I see all the hard work that goes into creating the Pedestrian Plaza. Midland has a wonderful group of people making this gathering space what it is. Each year, we have learned what works and make improvements. Every single day I see city workers taking care of the plants, picking up trash, making sure that the seating areas and games are in good order. When the bands play at 7, it takes hours and hours of set up and everyone is so dedicated behind the scenes to create that vibe as the sun is going down. Do not listen to the nay-sayers. This is a huge opportunity for every business within and near the plaza if they are willing to do their part. This Plaza is a celebration of peace and community every time it fills with our visitors and
Area is just too small and inconvenient to be blocked off. Hold the Music gatherings at the Tridge park and keep Main Street open for traffic and easier
Promote the parking garage more. No one ever thinks of using it.
I think the city does a great job. The flowers are always beautiful. The music is great. Try different bands. Maybe some food trucks for competition for lower prices but more on the outskirts so it doesn't effect the pedestrian flow
My family and I absolutely love the Pedestrian Plaza. If I'm being honest, it's the main reason we spend time downtown.
It's great!
Love Stone Street Revival and Leave Those Kids Alone... lots of other good bands too... thanks for great opportunities to meet up with friends!
It's really very nice, I just think it needs some activities that would be more enticing to draw an early crowd. Get some people together of different ages and develop a think tank for a variety of ideas.
Great idea!
A fall art fair and a winter holiday market could also bring about more traffic if the plaza was open during those seasons.
My husband and I vacation around Michigan every summer and we feel Midland has the best outdoor pedestrian plaza we have found yet.
It's just a great place to be on a summer evening
Fun but mostly need to keep everything open later

I like main street as a business district and I like to be able to drive down main street. I think the pedestrian concept is nice for special events like the art fair, but day to day I thoroughly dislike it and am much less likely to be downtown during the times that you block the through traffic on main. I think more events like the art show -glad it has grown over the years
Even though I did not attend this year, my answers for some are from previous years. Thank you.
It is the only spot like this in the area at this time.
Concerts were all great! My particular favorites are "Leave those kids alone" and "SSR"
Difficult to navigate for seniors. Distance to parking too far some areas are not well lit
This is such an amazing thing for a community, it would be a shame to see it end. We visit Bay City for the same reason! Great pedestrianized areas that bring people together for fun! It's energizing! Our summers are short and being able to enjoy the outdoors in a space like this is wonderful!
Parking continues to be the main reason we don't go down when there are live events going on. We went to 1 (one) concert this year but had to go down significantly earlier to secure a reasonable parking spot.
If we went downtown for dinner or drinks, it was definitely on the earlier side so we could find reasonable parking.
We recently moved back to Midland and we came to Midland often for the music and environment even when we lived in a neighboring city.
I would rather see this in the Chippewassee park area or old Farmers Market with more seating and a permanent entertainment venue. The parking
I answered yes to continue past 2025 but the caveat is there needs to be a solve for parking for older people - and not at some parking structure blocks
More restaurants would be nice .. Or even a good truck night!!! Music, music, music
Should be permanent year round.
Great place to be! Right now have music until October. We plan to visit this fall
This shopping area is definitely not for mobility limited people.
It is the best summer downtown around by far! What a great way to spend a summer evening!
I would do more downtown on Sundays if more stores were open
It's GREAT!
Please make the pedestrian plaza a smoke-free zone. Second and third hand smoke have real consequences, especially for children. If the goal is to make the pedestrian plaza a gathering place for the entire community, then smoking should be banned. Otherwise families will not feel welcome.
LOVE IT!!!
Love being able to bike there!!
It is a wonderful addition to our community and I hope it stays around for a long time.
Lovely family friendly area, makes us actually visit downtown with littles!
Love it, please keep it going.
The games are great my kids (6 & 4) really enjoy them, when there aren't many people It's nice to grab a snack and let the kids play.
We think it's a great addition to the city of Midland and hope the parking naysayers don't dampen your spirits.
My kids want it to continue too. Their ages are 13 and 9. Their feedback is that it gives them a safe place to hang out with friends.
Thank you for making down town awesome!

I know porter pottyâ€™s aren't a great âœœlookâœ€ maybe some local artist can jazz them up?
We love downtown and all that the city has done, and is doing, to enhance the area and promote the businesses.
It's fun, it makes Midland an attractive place for young people, so letâ€™s keep it going!
Keep it going!! Us Midlanders love it!
Love it!
Please extend it beyond 2025. Don't make downtown a ghost city again
We walk to the Commons for food and drink, but I drive for my music lesson at Fulkerson's. It can sometimes be a longish walk from available parking carrying my bass in its heavy case. I don't know that you can do anything about parking, but that is my only gripe about having the pedestrian plaza.
Long live the Pedestrian Plaza!
We enjoy it!
I like that it is a family friendly area and people are not there to party.
free live music benefits EVERYONE! keep it up!!
Love it! The live entertainment is fantastic to hear
All that money spent with no public restrooms seems like a big mistake.
It makes getting around downtown very inconvenient. Parking is bad enough downtown.
More handicap parking please
A bathroom location not johns
Communication about whats going on isnt always clear, i think food trucks would be an excellent addition, sometimes its hard to find food with the limited options when its a crowded event. Also the silent party thing is lame and a waste of space and resources. Adult play is awesome and would be better if we had some specifically in evenings.
I admit that I seldom visit downtown any longer. I dislike the difficulty in parking. I want to add that I can understand trying to get young people and famlies to visit our downtown. I am 81, had my time, and am willing to "turn over" that time to the younger generatiion.
Pedestrian Plaza is a great program for downtown Midland.
Yes, more stores should be open later in the evenings - especially when there are events in the city area that are filling the pedestrian area. We would have visited Aviator Cookies, and other establishments had they been open on Sun evenings or later hours.
Love it, don't get rid of it!
We recently moved to Midland, but have stopped for lunch at the Pedestrian Plaza every summer for the last few years on our way to our vacation rental. I've actually talked to several people about how I would have loved to see our town at the time do something similar. I'm looking forward to visiting more
Keep it open year round!!! It's one of the best walkable areas in the state and many of our family members come to midland from other states just to visit
Family from out of town choose to visit and stay longer because of pedestrians plaza. They might actually shop at retail stores if open late Thursday or
Please keep this going! We love going for a walk, shopping, and having lunch or dinner all in one place.
Maybe some sort of security/ Midland PD presence? Once a drunk out-of-towner tried to get my friends and I (2 males and 1 female) to follow him to his car. Fortunately this was quite late, outside of the hours that families are typically there, and we lost him easily, so no harm came of it.
keep up the good work

It's a great place for the whole family!
Cars make most things less safe for pedestrians. They also make it less healthy (air pollution) and louder. We could focus on pedestrian and cycle infrastructure while slowly moving away for the need for cars.
Evening store hour rec 6pm and 7pm. Perhaps more trees or shade.
We love the Plaza SO much! We are newer to the area (and Michigan), and this is by far our favorite part of Midland in the summer. We have said we would be less interested in continuing to live in the area without the Pedestrian Plaza, as it is one of the only places that we can go as a family, grab dinner
Trash on the ground seems to be a problem. Sometimes the trash containers are full, and the trash falls to the ground and blows around. Perhaps more trash containers are needed, or they need to be emptied more often.
The only other suggestion for the plaza is the stage— maybe putting a canopy over it for the bands. And again urging people to leave some open space to get to the dance area a little easier.
This year was great at the commons. It's was nice to see more people enjoying the commons this year.
Parking can be an issue , we try and get there early. Respect the people that live downtown by ending music at a reasonable hour which you do 8½
It only needs to provide music/pedestrian plaza June-August. Also, during river days, It does not need to compete with music Friday/Saturday when River Days is offering bands and it takes away from that entertainment and there are high quality bands at River Days.
Love the concept and visit most weekends
It's wonderful!
We love it!! We really hope it continues!!
Please continue to renew this and work to find a way to keep businesses downtown! We love it and are going to be here for at least ten more years and
Please continue. The PP is one of our favorite things about small town Midland.
I love the plaza and I love bringin out of town guests down there!!
Love the way downtown is transformed into something fun and usable every year. Keep it up! I don't think we would come downtown nearly as much if it
Support Live Music
Businesses being open longer for shopping as well as dining and beverages would draw me and friends of mine from surrounding communities more often, and would likely increase the money we spend in the area.
We love the pedestrian plaza!
Wish the pedestrian plaza was open for a longer time. It makes downtown more friendly and enjoyable.
Great venue for people of all ages. It needs to continue.
I hear people complain about parking, but with everything so close, it's not a big deal. The parking garage is underutilized, and we often park there regardless of where we are heading to downtown. I also hear complaints from people that it is hurting those businesses not being able to park directly in front of them, but anyone actually visiting the commons can see otherwise. When we gather socially, rather than going into a single business and sitting,
Additional live music would be really cool
Great concept— if possible, can more well known music acts be scheduled such as The Verve Pipe?
Will not frequent Main Street businesses when the street is closed to through traffic
My mom is 81 with COPD. She can't walk far, but would love to enjoy the bands. It would be nice to have a way to get her there, without causing her to

nothing comes to mind
We enjoy the pedestrian plaza. Even if we were unable to enjoy it as much as we would like, it is still a benefit to our community. I can honestly say that if the pedestrian plaza were to cease to exist in the future, we likely wouldn't go downtown as much.
Seniors are not likely to visit main street when it is blocked off if they have walking difficulties.
Different events for different age groups. Specials at the restaurants and bars.
Love what youâ€™re doing, It's great for the city
I live in Midland but work outside Midland. Other people are envious of what we have here. It's a draw for many people, and makes our city a destination. I also really enjoy the added activity during Riverdays. Going between Main Street and the events makes for a great, big party. It's nice.
Keep it going,,, good for families and folks gathering NOT dealing with their phones!!
I feel the plaza is very good for Midland and brings a lot of people downtown. Sunday afternoon music would be a nice addition.
Wish it started a bit earlier in season
We love the Pedestrian Plaza. It's the best thing that has happened to Midland in quite a while. We also like the outside games. It gives the kids a chance
Fun place to go to.
have no interest in this change to downtown midland
There needs to be more shade downtown. Canopies, awnings, anything! We will not go there because it is simply too hot ðŸŒµ
Please continue the pedestrian plaza!
People have fun
Great addition to the city. Should be permanent.
Great for the community.
Spending more time there now that I realize just how much stuff is going on there. Could add more variety through out the day. For those of us that dont go kut at night . Would be a nice place to cater to moms with little kids for and inexpensive outing. Something other then the park.
This is a great thing for Midland and I hope it continues!
We do not shop downtown any more due to parellel parking and the Pedestrian Plaza.
Love everything you're doing to make this space amazing! Please continue to improve this space, do everything you can to keep it around, and keep asking for input! I would love to sit in on an idea brainstorming time for ideas on how to improve civic engagement and downtown events!
Love the Pedestrian Plaza. There is a wonderful energy bring people together. Would appreciate some more seating with beverage holders.
The only problem I have seen is bathroom access. Maybe that could be improved
I forgot to write previously it would be nice for folks who canâ€™t walk long distances a designated drop-off area. Also I'm so excited for the permanent bathrooms!!
Love love the Pedestrian Plaza
Closes too early
I love it! A brought a friend who just moved to Midland to see it for the first time last weekend and they loved it and can't wait to show their family.
It is a beautiful space to enjoy music and food.
We love having this space! We had a family wedding this year, and had our rehearsal dinner there (Grape Beginnings) and then our party and friends gathered and enjoyed the music and games that Friday evening. Loved it!

It's fine for Healthy, able-bodied people, but excludes a large population from being able to enjoy of downtown. It's truly a shame that those of us that have lived here all our lives are now excluded from the downtown area.
Midland downtown tends to be quiet on Sundays. I think it needs more activities, events, and places to be open on Sundays to improve the city vibe.
I like it!!!
This Commons area has morphed into a great community gathering space surrounding the live music events of the summer. It is so nice to see the staff in attendance at the events. This makes downtown Midland a special place in the county, and surrounding counties.
Love this concept - we need more in other cities and communities!
I love this - It's been a huge improvement to my quality of life.
Not convenient for seniors.
Meeting the Young gentleman working the concert doing a great job to make sure everybody's needs were taken care of ðŸ˜¸~ ðŸ˜¸~
I would like to see it continue.
Thanks for the great times, thanks for the new bathrooms coming soon
I love it please don't get rid of it!!!!
WE LOVE IT PLEASE KEEP IT UP. It needs to be expanded down to ace, on larkin, and the section of ashman between larkin and main.
It is a delicate balancing act trying to keep retail open during the evenings without at least some hope of adequate business to be worthwhile. I understand that. However, if I'm coming downtown for dinner/drinks/meeting friends, I'm more likely to combine that with retail activity.
I love not getting hit by cars while eating Grilled Cheese.
The guy that puts the downtown music together does a great job and is always there on the weekends.
This is a great public space that brings people of all ages and circles together in an outdoor atmosphere to socialize and enjoy each other's company
Keep it going!!
This plaza doesn't need to shut off the roads all week. Fri-Sun would be sufficient. The city claims they have enough handicapped parking but fails to realize that a lot of people without handicap placards have mobility issues and cannot park blocks away from their destination which can leave them
My wife and love the music
Thank you for the opportunity to do this survey! Would love to see published results, perhaps in the newspaper at some point.
It's a home run!!!
Love it!
Keep it going!!!
We absolutely love Friday and Saturday evenings downtown!!! PLEASE PLEASE keep this going for the unforeseen future.
Different location,shaded area with more seating and dancing space ,like at the tridge,more parking space,more country music bands,variety of music.
LOVE IT!!
Love it! Make it a permanent summer fixture!
I really hope the board votes to keep the pedestrian plaza this is a great thing!!!
Your concerts are the best in the tri-cities. Followed by Wenonah Park and Frankenmuth.
I find the Pedestrian Plaza to be an inconvenience to visiting the stores during business hours. Small, optional outdoor seating at an individual restaurant or tavern can be pleasant. Public intoxication and disruption of traffic and business access is not pleasant. I find it to be degrading to our town.

I'd like to see opening acts for the Commons music. like 5-6:30... some kids or a local cover band on a 2nd stage, side stage, or in front of of the main stage. Maybe think bigger for some of the headliners... lots of talent in Michigan right now, both up-and-coming, and well-seasoned. Love what you've
During the daytime when nothing is going on at the plaza, it is difficult to get to a restaurant that I would like to go to.
It's great, please keep it up. More events throughout the year would be great too. I love the fire places on the street corners.
I would suggest a Midland Back Lot at some point. Maybe the old Rays bike shop location. Check out Petoskey, MI Back Lot, so fun.
Also, bring back the Larkin Beer Garden to downtown. The brewery location is horrible.
Please keep this going! If anything work to expand its opportunities. This is a treasure of midland that sets it apart from so many other towns. My wife, kids, and I are extremely grateful that this didn't stop after Covid. Please, keep it going.
Love it! My son and his family and brother live in Midland and the Pedestrian Plaza is one of the things I love most about visiting and a big reason for
Keep it going!! Love the space. Kids like it. It's a unique place adults and kids can enjoy!
don't like that the streets are blocked off for the whole summer to vehicular traffic. This event should be moved to a lesser trafficked road or a side street
Of all the attempts in the Tri-city area to create a fun, social area, Midland has surpassed everyone in its draw and success!
The area is pretty because of its cleanliness and flowers. The bands are top notch. There are games to play and places to eat and drink. PedPlaz covers all
A unique and very relaxing area, please keep it going, you have something very special here!
Maybe have more seating options
Great job in your efforts of obtaining property for a public restroom!
I think you need to consider the availability of close parking or even valet parking through the summer. I feel it's absolutely ridiculous to cordon off that whole area from close parking through the summer.
I think the Pedestrian Plaza has been very positive in keeping our downtown alive and maintaining an active downtown.
I initially thought the widening of the sidewalks was to be a built in Plaza. While the barriers are a slight inconvenience for traffic flow, I'd imagine the pros have outweighed the cons. My biggest concern are for those retails shops as the Plaza tends to draw dining customers. Therefore, future businesses likely
Drinking and dining is great but it shouldn't be exclusively about alcohol. Downtown Midland is still below-average with a noticeable lack of retail space and a noticeable lack of residents. The eyesore senior living complex should be torn down and redeveloped into a low-rise, mixed-use facility. The banks, government offices, and assorted private sector offices don't do anything and actually hurt downtown since they are typically not working in large numbers on Friday and aren't there Saturday and Sunday. Downtown Midland and the Pedestrian Plaza would benefit immensely from a new 125-150
I would come more often and shop in the commons area more nights when there are free concerts. They are amazing.
Retail stores are few, restaurants are ho hum, parking is absymal. The only reason to go downtown is for special functions such as the balloon lighting.
I think this is a great place to spend time with family. I have seen more events and plan to attend them such as the coco crawl. I think more participation from local businesses would be great. I believe there was a kid then adult Halloween party and I think that is really nice.
Provide an adequate bathroom.
Keep it going, especially the concerts, but get a better stage with an overhead cover for the bands for inclement weather, like the one used at the tridge

I have no idea if this would even be feasible let alone a good idea, but could we look into seeing if the areas above businesses could be used as further shopping space, hotels, and maybe apartments?
Move the bathrooms behind the blockade so people watching the band don't have to see the 'lineup ' or smell the John's.
Please let us keep it forever!!
Great resource, Iâ€™ve really appreciated the experience.
More public chairs. Our friends that have visited didnâ€™t know they had to bring chairs.
It's the reason we visit midland. We love it
Best idea the city has adopted.
I love it and love to see the people of Midland out and about, enjoying each other and the beautiful summer season.
Love the plaza!
So glad you are building a restroom!
This is a great community thing that midland is doing and I think even adding maybe a Sunday afternoon would be great if even one a month. It has brought this city together and family's love it look at the pictures and the smiles
Pedestrian Plaza is amazing! Please keep it going!
Please continue this community building tradition.
Its blocked too long and some of the bands are not very good. Schedule only top bands and shortest season
Love the variety of music!
Any options for more seating? We pften come to enjoy ice cream or treats from heather and holly and their tables were often taken by people there to see the music. They would stake out spots. Totally underatandable, but perhaps more benches or picnic tables?
It was a great summer downtown Midland ðŸ˜Ž
I do very much dislike the bird scooters. I am constantly seeing teens (young kids/adults) just running stop signs, riding them on sidewalks, parking them in the walkways where they are very much in the way. I can understand how they'd be useful, but in practice they are abused and annoying and
Just love seeing people
Of all ages enjoying the outdoor social space.
My adult kids always ask me why Midland didnâ€™t have this Plaza when they were growing up. I think that speaks volumes to the success of the idea
Love it! Keep it!
I love the idea and hope it continues! I've had family/ friends come to town and were shocked at the space and activities, music, events available.
You shouldnâ€™t block it off. It hinders a lot of people to even go. It was hardly busy when I went. Not enough people.
I always get a little disappointed when the plaza goes up for the summer and I'm equally as excited for it to be done, so I suppose I like downtown
Thank you for providing such a comfortable and fun environment.
I do not like this program. Shutting down a Main Street for a relatively small amount of people to â€œenjoyâ€ hanging out isnâ€™t fair nor does it increase business to downtown. It actually hurts businesses.
Loved it!
One of my favorite aspects of this great city!

For shopping I don't feel like they need to be open super late, but most places aren't open past 5 so for someone working even full time It's hard to get there when places are open. Just a night or two where most are open until 7 or something would be nice.
Love the space and we are so lucky to have this as a community! Thanks to all who make this a reality!
This is a great idea to keep going.
This is a great way to show case the city.
Stop this nonsense.
Please continue it! I understand if people don't shop, why stay open. Maybe retailers could agree to stay open certain days and somehow find a way to
I think It's a great and safe gathering spot for friends and crowds.
We should continue to have the pedestrian plaza long term.
Love it! Thank you so much!! Hoping it comes back year after year!!
I have heard positive comments on the plaza from friends outside of Midland County.
It's so lame to have an event that you say is to promote our businesses and then nothing is open during the event. Also, I live close to downtown and the blaring music every Friday and Saturday night that I can hear in my house disturbs my peace in my home and yard. Is there a noise ordinance?
Fantastic space for families and people of all ages. Without it, I don't think people would be downtown nearly as much supporting local businesses. I know with our young family It's hard to sit inside at a restaurant but with the pedestrian plaza we can enjoy downtown drinks and food while our kids play.
Would have visited more frequently if music genre was advertised.
Pedestrian Plaza and all of the downtown events recently have been a wonderful addition to Midland. It's so fun to see the downtown developing a more
I don't know where to go to find out what events are happening at what times
This has been my absolute favorite thing that Midland has ever done. It gives me a place to meet up with family and friends in a unique environment, and it makes me proud to be from Midland and show out of towners our home. I would love to see this continue!
During the live music, there needs to be roped off walking paths to get through the crowd as people block the sidewalk and it's very difficult to cross.
Love seeing the number families with kids there. It is a safe place for kids to play during a concert. Parents can feel more relaxed if the kids are noisy.
Keep it. It is a positive for Midland.
The idea of having special events that draw traffic should be expanded to include all business areas of the city. All should benefit, not just a few.
I only go to Ace in the summer because it's a hassle to visit the Plaza. I buy products at Health Hut and I like Pizza Sams. The other shops aren't of interest
The attractive gardens of the downtown area are a huge draw for us. Color and imaginative designs add greatly to the summer ambiance, especially since the trees are not yet mature in the downtown area.
It's been a wonderful addition to downtown Midland. I am looking forward to it in the future.
I think it is a great idea to bring people together and create energy since Midland lacks energy, but there are better places to do it. You have Emerson Park, The Tridge area, and other places that are nice to spend time with things for all ages.
I you have taught people to not go downtown because you cannot easily park or travel easily. There is so little retail and limited choices for dinner. Instead of spending money on the Plaza, maybe we give incentives for new retail and restaurants. Buy up some of the individual owner properties that
Thank you for all the hard work that goes into making Midland a wonderful place
I love it.

<p>It represents a good excuse to go downtown to listen to music, see the flowers, meet new people.</p>
<p>All good!</p>
<p>The landscaping is beautiful and the environment is very inviting for a place to meet up with friends or to hang out alone in.</p>
<p>I think it is a great way to energize the downtown area. Love it! And I have lived in midland since 1977</p>
<p>Please keep the Pedestrian Plaza!!!</p>
<p>Make it permanent. Go all out and make it a mini-Champs-Élysées. A destination spot. Have more street entertainers. Have our own Tour de France. Heavily decorate for holidays. Build a mini Eiffel Tower. Encourage restaurants to put up café patios like Auberge Du Soleil. Try a rooftop</p>
<p>While I realized that "planned" event periods are scheduled well in advance and government entities are allergic to flexibility, it would be nice if the plaza would exist for the entire usable season. For example. In 2024 it seems the weather is great for outdoor dining weeks after the end of the plaza and</p>
<p>Picking up take out is much harder. Parking is awful. I feel bad for senior citizens who may want to participate.</p>
<p>I am really pleased to see the direction that things have gone with the whole main street area. It is a destination.</p>
<p>When driving to a destination downtown, it's somewhat annoying to have to circle around the plaza, especially during all the hours when there is no one actually in there. The side streets around it (Larkin, Gordon, etc.) are in terrible shape. Dare I ask why year after year the downtown side streets are</p>
<p>Please keep it going. It seems to be something great for the community.</p>
<p>I like feeling safer walking around and dining outside when there are no cars driving by.</p>
<p>Keep it going!</p>
<p>I use the parking garage or one of the lots off Ellsworth or Larkin St in the evenings. It's a very short walk, I mean have you been to Costco?</p>
<p>The Pedestrian Plaza is a fantastic opportunity for people to come together as a community and community building is so incredibly important for everyone's physical and mental health. It would be a true loss to the City of Midland to lose the Pedestrian Plaza. Even parking 5 or 6 blocks away when everyone is down there for a Friday or Saturday night concert is no impediment to so many people showing up, enjoying the live music, and just generally</p>
<p>We love it! Thank you for providing it!</p>
<p>Kids of all ages love it!</p>
<p>It's great to have that car-free area downtown in the summer -- maybe it could be even expanded by a block ...</p>
<p>It's a great thing, keep it up</p>
<p>We love it and hope it continues for a long time</p>
<p>If shop owners are concerned about too many open hours, close early Sunday if open. Close Mondays and possibly Tues as I'm guessing little business those days. Many people, I think will enjoy the entire downtown experience by enjoying a dinner. Then strolling around with a beverage, play a game of two, pop in and out of shops, either buying a small token of remembrance of the evening, or the needed gift for upcoming event. Then and/or in-between</p>
<p>I love the idea of open air social options. If I had a suggestion, allow open air cannabis areas, or even outdoor cannabis lounge.</p>
<p>Thank you! We already miss it!!!</p>
<p>Maybe more food trucks would be nice.</p>
<p>Everything closes so early.</p>
<p>There is no food available anywhere other than Pizza Sam's on Sunday.</p>
<p>I suppose it is pretty dead and it wouldn't make a ton of sense to be open. But I love being downtown in the evening.</p>
<p>You have had wonderful music concerts. Love The Claim Jumpers.</p>

You obviously didn't think or just don't care about anyone with handicaps and disabilities!!
My husband and I ride our bikes down to the plaza, so much easier than driving, but I see a lot of people walking, we get so much exercise by just going then dancing, making more friends, watch young kids out dancing, this is a great social activity
Seems a safe place to visit and shop. Could use more stores.
I plan to semi-retire next year and am hopeful to spend even more time downtown. It has been a wonderful add to our city and i would be very sad to
lâ€™d love to see Viva Rex back slick jimmy the rock show Jedi Miranda and the m80s prior noon and leave those kids alone
I think It's a great place for dates, friend meet ups and families.
The live music makes the plaza come alive. Please keep it coming .
Having areas without automobile traffic can improve interest from non-residents/tourists by keeping visitors safer while shopping and dining. This is a good thing and should be continued. Thank you.
Discontinue
Keep it f
Going in future years. Keep the downtown alive. It was just dead in the evening before the pedestrian plaza.

Harris, Selina

Subject: FW: [faked-from] New submission from Contact

From: noreply@downtownmidland.com <noreply@downtownmidland.com>

Sent: Sunday, October 6, 2024 10:54 PM

To: Harris, Selina <sharris@midland-mi.org>; Loeffler, Kristina <kloeffler@midland-mi.org>

Subject: [faked-from] New submission from Contact

Caution: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Name

Mrs. Karen Munger

Phone

Message

I contacted someone about the commons questioner I wanted to fill out it. Sorry, I don't recall her name. She took my email and was to send me the web site for me to respond. Bummer, I looked for a couple of days, even in spam but to no avail. Days passed before I remembered Late last week. I didn't get a chance to voice my opinion.

I've been a loyal customer to the Health Hut for up to 25 plus years. As, I've been a seasoned senior of 75, now it makes it more challenging to manage getting a close parking spot to the store to get supplies of 9-10 gallons of distilled water and other supplies. through snow and all sorts of weather and with having several surgeries I have kept going. Love the gals there. They are a valuable asset to the community with health knowledge, smiles, caring, that makes this place a better place.

How can you help seniors be able to move around down town easier to get their needs met?
Blocking traffic flow is very challenging.
My concern is how many more years am I going to continue to do so?

Hope you will consider others needs for us seniors.

Thank you for including the public voices,
Mrs. Karen Munger