

Search news:


- Website (7 days)
- Archive (1999-)

Tuesday, May 3, 2005

[SUBSCRIBE TO THE TIMES HERALD](#)

Home

News

- Local News
- Archives
- Local Sports
- Obituaries
- Opinion
- Occasions
- Health
- Forums
- Nation/World
- Technology
- Weather

Entertainment

Classifieds

Shopping

Cars

Homes

Jobs

Customer Service

## Port Huron considers lot developers Officials weigh whether to continue talks about downtown revitalization

By CHRIS SEBASTIAN  
Times Herald

The Port Huron City Council will decide Monday if it wants to continue development talks with the only company to publicly step forward with a plan to revitalize downtown.

The Terra Land Group of Novi unveiled its \$50 million plan to develop city-owned park-

ing lots to meet Port Huron's goal of bringing more business and residents downtown.


The announce-

ment during a special council meeting Monday was met with mixed reactions.

The company's design calls for six mixed-use buildings to be constructed in the next four to five years. The buildings have the potential to bring as many as 450 people into downtown, occupying 232 condominiums.

Next Monday's decision would be whether to continue discussions. The city and developer have not signed any contracts or exchanged money.

### ADVERTISEMENT


 **Are you paying too much for auto insurance?**

ZIP code where you park at night.

Do you currently have auto insurance?  Yes  No

Have you had a U.S driver's license for more than 3 years?  Yes  No

Has any driver in your household had 2 or more accidents or moving violations in the last 3 years?  Yes  No





"It is a big plan ... based on very solid development concepts," said Geof Greeneisen, Terra's vice president. "The plan is not to cannibalize the downtown, but to complement it."

**B. Mark Neal**



Several council members were interested in discussing the plans further, but Mayor B. Mark Neal was not impressed. He said the group's plans do not adequately address parking concerns, and the plans could hinder downtown development.

"You're sucking everything away from downtown," Neal said. "I like options, and I don't see them."

**Tom Hutka**

City Manager Tom Hutka denied a claim by Neal that Hutka and his staff have made up their minds about going with Terra Land. "We are a long, long way from closing on a property," Hutka said.

The first building phase would occupy the east side of the southern McMorran Place parking lot. It would consist of small storefronts on the first two levels. Those business owners could live on the building's third floor.

Terra Land is targeting people such as glass artist Michelle Corsich, owner of The Painted Lady. She works out of her home on Military Street.

"I think it's a good idea. The more people you can get living downtown the better," said Corsich, 48. "I've always enjoyed it. I like living in a city as opposed to living in the country."

Should the city decide to sign an agreement with Terra Land for the first building, it immediately would not have to commit to the whole six-building plan.

**Contact Chris Sebastian at (810) 989-6273 or [csebastian@gannett.com](mailto:csebastian@gannett.com).**

**Originally published May 3, 2005**

 [Print this article](#)  [Email this to a friend](#)  [Subscribe Now](#)



[Home](#) | [News](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Communities](#) | [Directories](#) | [Customer Service](#)  
[Classifieds](#) | [Shopping](#) | [Homes](#) | [Cars](#) | [Jobs](#) [Customer Service](#)



[Contact Us](#) | [Subscribe](#) | [Place an ad](#)  
Copyright ©2005 The Times Herald. All rights reserved.  
Use of this site indicates your agreement to the [Terms of Service](#)  
(Terms updated 12/20/02)

