



CITY OF RENSSELAER

RENSSELAER, INDIANA

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City of Rensselaer
Office of Stephen A. Wood, Mayor
124 S Van Rensselaer St
Rensselaer, Indiana 47978

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 5, 2023

The City of Rensselaer will renovate the downtown brick streets at the historic Jasper County courthouse square in 2024. The project includes full reconstruction of both Van Rensselaer and Harrison Streets, as well as the integration of wider sidewalk space along the storefronts of Van Rensselaer St.

Construction is expected to start in late February or early March of 2024, with a Ground Breaking event to be held prior to construction start.

A majority of the \$2.4 million project is funded through United States Economic Development Administration (EDA) Travel, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Grant as part of the American Rescue Plan. The American Rescue Plan provides funding to support communities across the country whose economies were hard hit by damage to these sectors from the COVID-19 pandemic.

“The Economic Development Administration plays an important role in supporting community-led economic development strategies designed to boost coronavirus recovery and response efforts,” said Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development Alejandra Y. Castillo. “The upgrades to downtown Rensselaer will help attract visitors to the area and bolster the business district that was hit hard by the pandemic.”

Construction will be completed by Grimmer Construction, Inc. of Highland, Indiana. The first stage of the project will include the removal, storage and preservation of the historic bricks. Updates will be made to the underground utilities including new storm sewer and watermains, pouring new sidewalks and curbs, and installing decorative LED streetlights. The final stage will be rebuilding the historic brick streets with new and preserved pavers, along with adding streetscape furniture, signage and landscaping.

The City began planning for the revitalization project of the City’s downtown in late 2017 with a Downtown Master Plan being adopted by the City Council in May 2018.

Construction is expected to be completed prior to the end of 2024.