

DCDC reflects on year of community investment, projects and partnerships

From improvements at local parks and downtown to grant writing, housing development and some of Dunlap's largest community events, the Dunlap Community Development Corporation spent the past year working with local organizations, businesses, donors and the City of Dunlap on projects throughout the community.

As DCDC looks back on 2025-26, much of the organization's work centered on leveraging local support to bring additional investment into Dunlap while continuing to improve public spaces and support other community organizations.

One of the year's most visible areas of progress was Dunlap's parks and recreational spaces.

At the Dunlap City Park, work included finalizing the second pickleball court, installing shade structures, adding trees and placing new benches near the basketball court and swimming pool. New picnic tables were also added at the pool, while the basketball court received a fence extension and new light poles.

At Pleasant View Park, a new swing set and rubber mulch were installed, and improvements continued on the park's disc golf course.

Accessibility and inclusion were also part of the year's improvements. A nonverbal communication board was installed at the City Park, with similar communication signage added at the Dunlap swimming pool.

Downtown and community improvements

Downtown Dunlap also saw several additions during the year, including new black metal benches, planters and trash receptacles along Main Street.

Public art continued to grow with the installation of the Bad Dog mural and a new mural at the Dunlap Senior Center.

DCDC continued to promote available commercial space and development opportunities in the community and hosted a ribbon cutting for Massage by Rajeana.

Housing development also saw progress with the sale of two residential lots at Prairie Meadow Estates.

DCDC continued its Welcome Bag program for new families entering the Boyer Valley School District, in partnership with the Boyer Valley PTO, and participated in the Boyer Valley Business Partner Program. The organization also hosted residential and commercial Christmas decorating contests during the holiday season.

Helping local organizations leverage funding

Behind many of the year's projects was DCDC's continued emphasis on grant writing, fundraising and partnerships.

DCDC assisted with the organization of the Dunlap Community Foundation, providing another avenue for charitable giving and long-term investment in the community.

The organization also worked with the Dunlap Senior Center to help obtain donations and grant funding for a series of improvements, including restroom renovations, floor and wall improvements, a new counter and bar area and an accessible entrance.

DCDC also continued providing marketing and grant-writing assistance to community groups and nonprofits. Marketing assistance included promoting projects and events such as the Girl Scouts' Paws in the Pool and the Community Garden.

Rather than every community organization having to independently navigate grant applications, fundraising and promotion, DCDC has continued to serve as a resource to help local groups move projects forward.

A busy year for community events

Community events remained another significant part of DCDC's work during 2025-26. The organization helped coordinate the Dunlap Fourth of July Celebration, Putt the Putt, Dueling Pianos and Shop Hop.

The year also brought one of Dunlap's largest undertakings when the community welcomed thousands of bicyclists and visitors during RAGBRAI in July. Planning required months of coordination among DCDC, the City of Dunlap, local businesses, organizations and volunteers to prepare the community for the event.

More projects moving forward

While DCDC is reflecting on the work completed during the past year, several additional projects are already underway.

Two aging pedestrian bridges on South Seventh and South 10th streets have been removed, with replacement bridges planned as part of the community's ongoing effort to replace aging pedestrian infrastructure.

Additional projects in progress include residential decorative lighting, further anchoring and improvements to the Dunlap swimming pool deck and a new drinking fountain at the Boyer Valley Youth Organization.

Grant writing, fundraising and community marketing will also continue as DCDC works with the City of Dunlap and other organizations on future projects.

While the individual projects range from park benches and murals to housing lots and pedestrian bridges, collectively they represent DCDC's broader goal: bringing people, funding and organizations together to continue investing in Dunlap.

Much of that work would not be possible without local businesses, residents, volunteers, donors, organizations and DCDC members who provide the local support necessary to pursue larger projects and outside funding.

As another year begins, DCDC plans to continue building on those partnerships and looking for opportunities to bring additional investment and improvements to the Dunlap community.