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THE MACOMB DAILY NEWS



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State of Macomb Township: Still growing

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News flash: growth has slowed in Macomb Township.

This year, the township averages about 2.6 new homes per day. Last year, the figure was a little more than 4.

Meanwhile, despite cuts in state revenue sharing payments of about \$1 million, the township still ended up nearly \$2 million in the black last fiscal year.

The population of the 36-square-mile northern Macomb community grew by "only" about 3,000 to 5,000 people in the past year, and Supervisor John Brennan sees no end to the current growth.

"Frankly, I don't see it stopping," he said.

Brennan delivered his annual State of the Township address to members and guests of the Central Macomb County Chamber of Commerce, and his message was remarkably similar to the one he delivered a year ago: Things are pretty rosy in Macomb Township.

"I can understand why there is a strong Optimist Club in Macomb Township," quipped state Rep. Leon Drolet, who represents Macomb Township. "Macomb Township is successful in a very difficult economy."

At the request of the chamber, Macomb Township hosted the annual breakfast meeting in the 2-year-old township hall. The location, near 25 Mile and Broughton roads, is in the middle of what township officials hope will become a vibrant downtown area. That theme was much present in Brennan's remarks.

The supervisor ticked off a list of improvements since last year, which included the opening of a recreation center, a new park and the township's sale of property to a private company for development of at least two ice arenas.

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Next up, Brennan said, is the construction of two fire stations, the likely construction of a senior citizens apartment complex, as well as the start of residential and commercial development surrounding the township hall.

"It's finally coming to fruition," he said.

Although without opposition in last week's general election (they did have opposition last August), Brennan, Treasurer Marie Malburg and Clerk Michael Koebs won re-election to new 4-year terms this week, as did three of the four candidates they backed for the Board of Trustees.

Those results, Brennan said, suggest most residents approve of the direction elected officials have taken Macomb Township.

"The voters have given us a mandate, as far as I'm concerned," he said.



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