

Downtown Improvements

City of South Haven, Michigan

Awards

Merit Award, 1990

Downtown Research & Development
Center

Special Award, 1986

ASLA/Michigan Chapter

Special Achievement Award, 1985

Michigan Department of Commerce



In 1981, the South Haven City Commission authorized the formation of a Downtown Development Authority to revitalize its retail center. The downtown center had suffered economic woes even though tourists were flocking to South Haven's beautiful Lake Michigan beaches. O'Boyle, Cowell, Blalock & Associates, Inc. (OCBA) was retained to develop a plan and specific strategy to recapture the interest of the pedestrian shopper.

South Haven's downtown improvements included a new landscaped pedestrian island in the middle of main street, on street parking was changed from parallel to angle, parking meters were removed, trees were added, and pedestrian scaled character light fixtures were installed to change the image from a pass through street to a desirable destination for community and vacationing shoppers.



Client

City of South Haven