



## Royal Oak Way Now Open

*City of Royal Oak's first pedestrian friendly alley to host public events, patios and more*

**ROYAL OAK, Mich. (Nov. 28, 2018)** The City of Royal Oak celebrated the grand opening of Royal Oak Way, also known as The ROW, at a Small Business Saturday with Santa event on Nov. 24. The new public alley with decorative paving is part of the Downtown Development Authority's plan to make downtown alleyways more attractive and will complement the new 581-space parking garage, office building, City Hall, police station and two-acre park.

The ROW will serve as a functional alley for deliveries, but with the option for seating, decorative lights, murals, special events and more. The ROW is the alleyway behind businesses along Main Street between 11 Mile and Third Street.

"The Small Business Saturday with Santa event is one of the first of many community events to be hosted in The Row," said Sharlan Douglas, Mayor Pro Tem for the City of Royal Oak. "The City of Royal Oak is looking forward to expanding the alleyway project throughout the downtown."

Additionally, an estimated 14 parking spaces will be added to the alley alongside the new parking garage and office building once completed. The alleyway will help connect pedestrians to the Royal Oak Library, Royal Oak Farmers Market and the two-acre park coming in 2020.

"It's great to see Royal Oak creating other uses for downtown alleys," said Aric Klar, owner of Toyology Toys. "Creativity like this helps make downtown Royal Oak more attractive, and this inviting new space will hopefully be used for events and more to help bring people to downtown Royal Oak."

The Small Business Saturday with Santa event in The ROW, featured family-friendly activities including photos with Santa, arts and crafts from Toyology Toys, ribbon cutting and brief remarks from Mayor Pro Tem Douglas, live entertainment from the Royal Oak Children's Choir and coffee from Dessert Oasis.

For more information about the Rethink Royal Oak development, parking information, including a guide that advises available parking options and more, please visit [www.rethinkro.com](http://www.rethinkro.com).

### About Royal Oak

Royal Oak is a vibrant metro Detroit community home to nearly 60,000 residents located in Oakland County. Destinations within the 12-mile community include The Detroit Zoo, The Royal Oak Music Theatre, William Beaumont Hospital, Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle and a successful Farmers Market among others. The city's recreational services include more than 50 public parks and was recently named one of the Top 10 Most Exciting Small Cities in America by Movoto and the Best Place to Live in Michigan by AreaVibes. To learn more about Royal Oak, visit <https://www.romi.gov>.

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