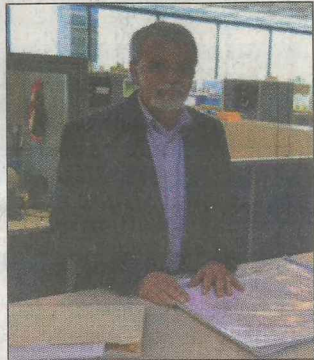


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**Officials to guide  
redevelopment of  
Visteon site — A4**

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# Shelby official committee to help guide redevelopment of former Visteon site

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A committee consisting of Shelby Township Supervisor Richard Stathakis and other local officials is expected to play a role in the redevelopment of the former Visteon site near 23 Mile and Mound roads.

“Obviously the township doesn’t own the property and the township isn’t a developer,” Building Director Tim Wood.

Planning Director Glenn Wynn said: “We’re not developing it, but we wanted to do some brainstorming to determine what we could do to perhaps facilitate the redevelopment, to see what actions we could take at our level to sort of start this process up.”

The 205-acre parcel on the southeast corner of Mound and 23 Mile roads was home to Ford’s Utica Trim Plant for many years and later spun off to Visteon. The facility was phased out in 2008 and 2009, and eventually closed.

Another company, Indiana Metals, purchased the site in 2011 and was in the process of demolishing buildings when health-threatening chemicals TCE and TCA were found in the groundwater during tests.

While township officials initially feared the problem could threaten homes in the nearby Central Park Manor

subdivision as well as the township’s baseball fields near 23 Mile Road and Van Dyke, tests did not show the pollution spreading.

As part of a settlement with the township, Ford Motor Co. later agreed to clean up pollution at the site, monitor the area for future problems and pay \$50,000 to the township to offset costs of the litigation.

“(Redeveloping the site) made our top 10 list, which I was surprised by because we really don’t have a lot of control over it,” Stathakis said. “But what we are going to do is everything possible to make the landscape inviting so if someone is interested, they’ll be able to move quickly. We can’t make it happen, but we can prepare a better environment.”

According to Wynn, the committee will discuss various topics related to redeveloping the site, including:

- Assessing the status of environmental cleanup activities
- Identifying any other surface cleanup requirements
- Looking at the characteristics of the site, including road access, land area, utilities, rail, zoning, master plan, etc.
- Assessing market potential
- Determining whether there are any Brownfield

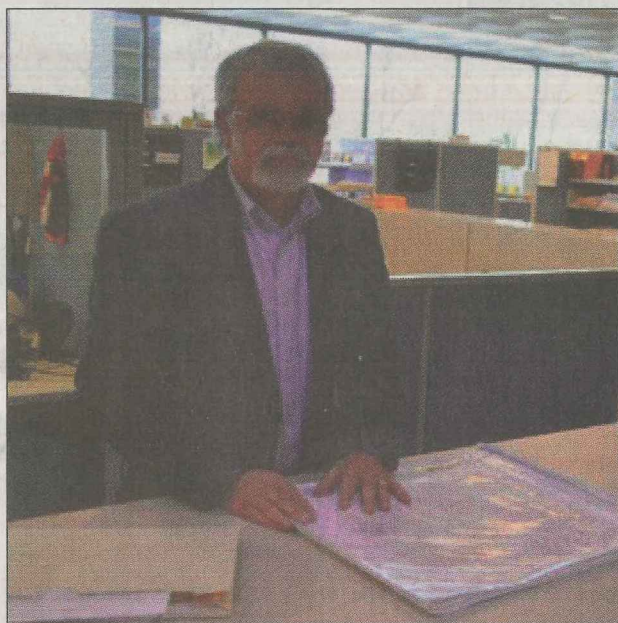


Photo by Sean Delaney

**Shelby Township Planning Director Glenn Wynn will be part of a team that will help guide the redevelopment of the former Visteon site near 23 Mile and Mound roads.**

Redevelopment financing opportunities available

“Perhaps we would use this team as we evaluate some development proposals if someone wanted to come in and talk about the site,” Wynn said. “I don’t think we want to have just one person at the helm. We want have them present it to a team.”

The committee is expected to meet for the first time Jan. 15.

“With this team we’ve put together, led by Glenn Wynn, there’s no doubt in my mind that Shelby Township will do everything in its power to make sure that all opportunities are available for anyone who wants to step in and buy this property,” Stathakis said. “That is our objective. We can’t promise anyone is going to buy it or that there will be redevelopment, but what we can do is make sure that there are opportunities to do so.”

Stathakis said he hopes a local developer will see the potential in the property.

“We want this property sold, hopefully to someone

local who understands what we’re trying to do in Shelby Township,” he said. “We’re not trying to control anything; we’re just hoping it will be sold to someone who has an interest in redeveloping that piece of land.”

Wynn said he believes the township’s involvement in the redevelopment process will be positive.

“I like the idea of having someone do the vetting of the proposals, because over the years we’ve heard some crazy ideas (for the site),” he said. “I think we need to have a reasonable team of people that look at how it works and whether it would work there. At the end of the day, it’s a very valuable piece of dirt that has the potential to improve the tax base and provide jobs. Those are the two goals.”

Others who will be on the committee include Deputy Supervisor Brad Bates, Attorney Rob Huth, Engineer Carol Thurber, and a representative from Macomb County Planning and Economic Development.

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