



# Congratulations to Downtown Farmington: A 2025 GREAT AMERICAN MAIN STREET AWARD SEMIFINALIST

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**One of eight organizations nationally recognized for exemplary downtown revitalization efforts, Downtown Farmington was recently announced by Main Street America as a 2025 Great American Main Street Award (GAMSA) semifinalist. This prestigious award is the nation's top award recognizing communities for their excellence in comprehensive preservation-based historic commercial district revitalization.**

A jury of professionals and leaders in the fields of community and economic development and historic preservation convened to review a nationwide pool of applicants. After thoughtful deliberation, the jury unanimously selected eight semifinalists that demonstrate exemplary use of the Main Street Approach™ to lead community-based transformation strategies in their downtowns.

#### **The 2025 Great American Main Street Award semifinalists are:**

- Berlin Main Street – Berlin, Maryland
- Denison Main Street – Denison, Texas
- Easton Main Street Initiative – Easton, Pennsylvania
- Main Street Farmington – Farmington, Oakland County, Michigan
- Jefferson Matters – Jefferson, Iowa
- Raton MainStreet/Arts & Culture District – Raton, New Mexico
- Vicksburg Main Street Program – Vicksburg, Mississippi
- Downtown Wytheville Inc. – Wytheville, Virginia

“I am honored to congratulate the eight Main Street organizations as 2025 Great American Main Street Award semifinalists and to celebrate their incredible accomplishments,” said Erin Barnes, president and CEO, Main Street America, Chicago. “This year’s semifinalists demonstrate exceptional achievements in reenergizing their downtowns through inclusive, collaborative organizing and innovative economic development, arts and culture, and historic preservation initiatives.”

Collectively, the 2025 GAMSA semifinalists have generated over \$695 million in local reinvestment, helped open 975 net new businesses, facilitated the creation of 7,190 net new jobs, catalyzed the rehabilitation of 1,568 historic buildings, and leveraged 333,050 volunteer hours.

Competing for the Great American Main Street Award is a significant achievement in the Main Street Movement, and receiving the award is an esteemed honor. Since its establishment in 1995, only 112 of over 2,000 Main Street programs have been acknowledged as GAMSA-winning communities. Many Main Street programs set multi-year plans to work towards developing

a strong application based on outcomes that make meaningful impacts in their local communities. Organizations are familiar with the selection criteria—strength of the Main Street program in spurring community transformation, commitment to historic preservation, innovative programming, implementation of cross-sector partnerships, community outreach and stakeholder engagement, and commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion—and build towards this opportunity to be recognized.

“We are thrilled to be recognized for our cumulative work across two decades of Main Street dedication. Downtown Farmington’s momentum these last few years, designing and building public infrastructure is place-based community investment that maximizes opportunities for the private sector now and for future decades,” said Kate Knight, executive director, Farmington Downtown Development Authority and Main Street Program. “Our current vibrant trajectory includes the addition of more than 12 new businesses in the last 24 months.”

The 2025 Great American Main Street Award ceremony will be held at the opening plenary of the 2025 Main Street Now Conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on April 7, 2025, where three semifinalists will be recognized as recipients of the coveted honor.

“We would like to congratulate the Farmington DDA and Main Street Program on this significant milestone in their 22-year history,” said John Bry, administrator, Main Street Oakland County Coordinating Program and Local Business Development. “The work of this organization’s leadership, partners and volunteers has been a model example of thoughtful downtown transformation.”

**Click here to watch the video (3:47) that was part Farmington’s application to qualify as a GAMSA Semifinalist:**  
[youtube.com/watch?v=JgXQop4NI20](https://youtube.com/watch?v=JgXQop4NI20)

Farmington is celebrating their Bicentennial in 2024 and is one of the 28 designated Main Street Oakland County Communities. Thanks to more than 1,000 volunteer hours annually contributing to its robust cultural programs and a dynamic farmers market, Farmington attracts residents, visitors, and businesses to Oakland County. The walkable downtown includes national, regional and many local mom-and pop businesses.