Jackson City Council sets goals, makes plans to raze vacant ACME building, downtown hotel
by Fredricka Paul | Jackson Citizen Patriot

Thursday April 23, 2009, 10:39 AM

The former Riverwalk Plaza Hotel could be torn down soon, under plans from the city council.

Within the next two years, the city of Jackson hopes to demolish the vacant ACME building and former Riverwalk Plaza Hotel — and firm up its vision for the Armory Arts Village.

And that's just the beginning.

City leaders also identified several ways to save money via consolidation with neighboring municipalities. Some suggestions included: creating a metropolitan fire department, and merging the County Road Commission with neighboring municipalities. Some suggestions included: creating a metropolitan fire department, and merging the County Road Commission with neighboring municipalities.

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"Everyone can do something about everything on the list," the league's Eleanor "Coco" Siewert told city leaders.

Several of the goals identified are under way, including the Grand River Arts Walk, selling the former Hotel Hayes and creating a five-year financial plan, City Manager William Ross said.

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The ailing economy could slow progress on some goals, but Ludwig said, it was beneficial to identify tasks they would like to see accomplished.

The city's current model of working with other municipalities, businesses and service organizations is key to fulfilling the city's goals, Siewert said.

"The word of today is collaboration," she said. "Economic challenges make collaboration even more attractive."

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-JayEdwards on 04/23/09 at 2:14PM
I'm surprised that ACME building hasn't fallen down yet. Whenever I drive by it, I'm reminded of the ugly photos from the bad areas of Flint. Despite the same always reminding me of watching Loony Tunes as a child, I can't say I'll be sad to see that eyesore gone.

Inappropriate? Alert us.

-1stnd10 on 04/23/09 at 1:18PM
It's amazing, that acme building holds so many different things. This building should be given to the artists, exspecially after what they did to the garage next to it, if they could do that to the building it would not be an "eyesore" but one of the greatest pieces of art around

Inappropriate? Alert us.

1st and 10, what's that building even used for? I had assumed it was vacant since it has a bunch of broken windows and what looks to be very little maintenance done to it in the last couple decades.

Having it turned into an art exhibit is an idea I hadn't thought of before, although I think I would rather see it torn down and something new built in its place. We could use the jobs.

Inappropriate? Alert us.

-jacksonista on 04/23/09 at 2:42PM
1st and 10,

The garage next to Acme is wonderful. I wish more bare walled brick buildings and train trestle underpasses would be handed over to local artists to "pretty up" and make interesting with murals and signs or something.

I won't be sad to see the "styrofoam" building downtown go...

Hooray for Armory Arts!

Inappropriate? Alert us.

-JayEdwards on 04/23/09 at 10:34PM
I will believe it when I see it...whats a bigger flasco and never ending story than the "hotel"

Inappropriate? Alert us.

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