



# **Zeeland, MI Facilities Modernization**

Information Sharing  
Zeeland Planning Commission

June 5, 2025



## Our Purpose

**“Nourish children’s  
best start so they  
thrive today and shine  
tomorrow”**



# ZEELAND

Our investment in modernizing the Zeeland facility reflects our long-term commitment to quality, innovation, and reliability. By investing in our facilities, we ensure we can meet growing customer demand, maintain high standards, and remain a trusted partner in pediatric nutrition.

Our roots in Zeeland run deep. Since 1924, Mead Johnson Nutrition has grown alongside the city – investing in innovation, jobs, and community partnership.

For over **80 years**, Zeeland has been the **global** hub for our hypoallergenic infant formula, Nutramigen® – a market leading, global, specialized formula designed as a solution for babies with cow's milk protein allergies.

Mead Johnson is committed to continuing our partnership with the Zeeland community for smart, sustainable growth while continuing to provide nutrition to our most sensitive babies (our customers).



Zeeland 1925



Zeeland 1925



Zeeland 1930s



Zeeland 2022



DRAFT



DRAFT



DRAFT



DRAFT

# COMMUNITY

*We hear you.*

Our plan for modernizing our facility is designed with a “community-first” approach – acknowledging and addressing concerns from the community.

**Environmental:** As with all Mead Johnson Nutrition facilities, the facility will comply with all federal, state, and local environmental regulations. Air handling, filtration, and waste systems will meet or exceed industry standards.

**Pollution:** Our operations adhere to stringent environmental regulations, and we continuously seek opportunities to minimize our ecological footprint through sustainable practices and technologies. Our goal is to raise the bar – setting an even higher standard for environmental responsibility.

**Noise:** New and better technologies have been developed, will be implemented, and will assist with noise control.

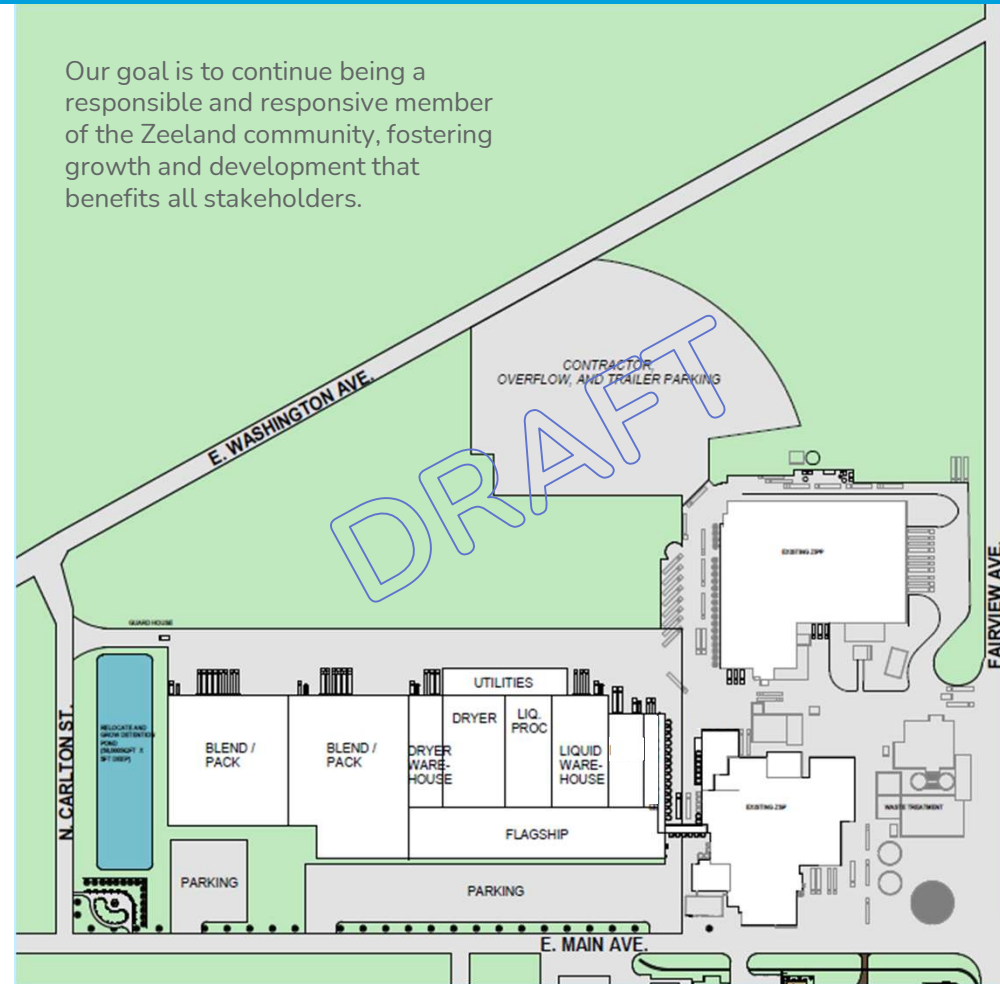
**Odor:** Mead Johnson has some of our best scientists and engineers working on new technologies on odor elimination for the new facility.

## Traffic Pattern Change

We have proactively addressed reducing traffic on Fairview and Main Avenues by rerouting our onsite logistics traffic flow, and relocating overflow and all contractor parking to Washington Ave.



Our goal is to continue being a responsible and responsive member of the Zeeland community, fostering growth and development that benefits all stakeholders.



Mead Johnson is committed to doing this the right way: through thoughtful design, traffic planning, and ongoing collaboration with the city and its residents.

# EMPLOYEES

Through our commitments and benefits, Mead Johnson Nutrition is dedicated to creating a positive and nurturing work environment for all employees.

Mead Johnson Nutrition's Zeeland facility currently employs nearly 450 full-time team members plus contractors, many of whom are long-standing members of the local community.

In addition to our internal workforce, we partner with local contractors, suppliers, and service providers – creating a strong ripple effect across the Zeeland economy.

Our renovated facility – designed to maintain production during the modernization of our main plant – will also bring new benefits to the local workforce. Beyond supporting critical supply continuity, it will feature modern employee amenities created with employee well-being in mind. This reflects our commitment to health, comfort, and productivity, including:

- Employee Center
- Comfortable break rooms
- Changing rooms and locker facilities
- New hot food cafeteria
- Proud to feature innovative mother's room
- Open, flexible collaborative workspaces along with private, quiet spaces



# COMMITTED TO ZEELAND

Mead Johnson has been a responsible corporate citizen for more than a century, and we are committed to expanding on that heritage as we continue to grow.

We have a coordinated approach to our Corporate Social Responsibility activities built along three elements:

- **Serving the Marketplace:** Fostering trust through our commitment to the highest business standards and best nutritional quality
- **Protecting the Environment:** Committed to a more sustainable business to preserve resources for future generations
- **Nurturing Communities:** Working to create communities where individuals and families can grow and prosper

## Our investments in the local community have included:

- Sponsorships of Zeelmania, Pumpkinfest, Show and Shine Car Show, Easter Egg Hunt and Spring Peddlers Market, Magical Christmas Parade and more
- Donations to Nestlings Diaper Bank, Community Action House
- Monthly donations of products, purchased by our team, to local charitable organizations



# COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENTS

## Community Enhancements

One exciting component of the plan includes supporting the East Main Beautification initiative by building a new community park space on the corner of East Main and Carlton.

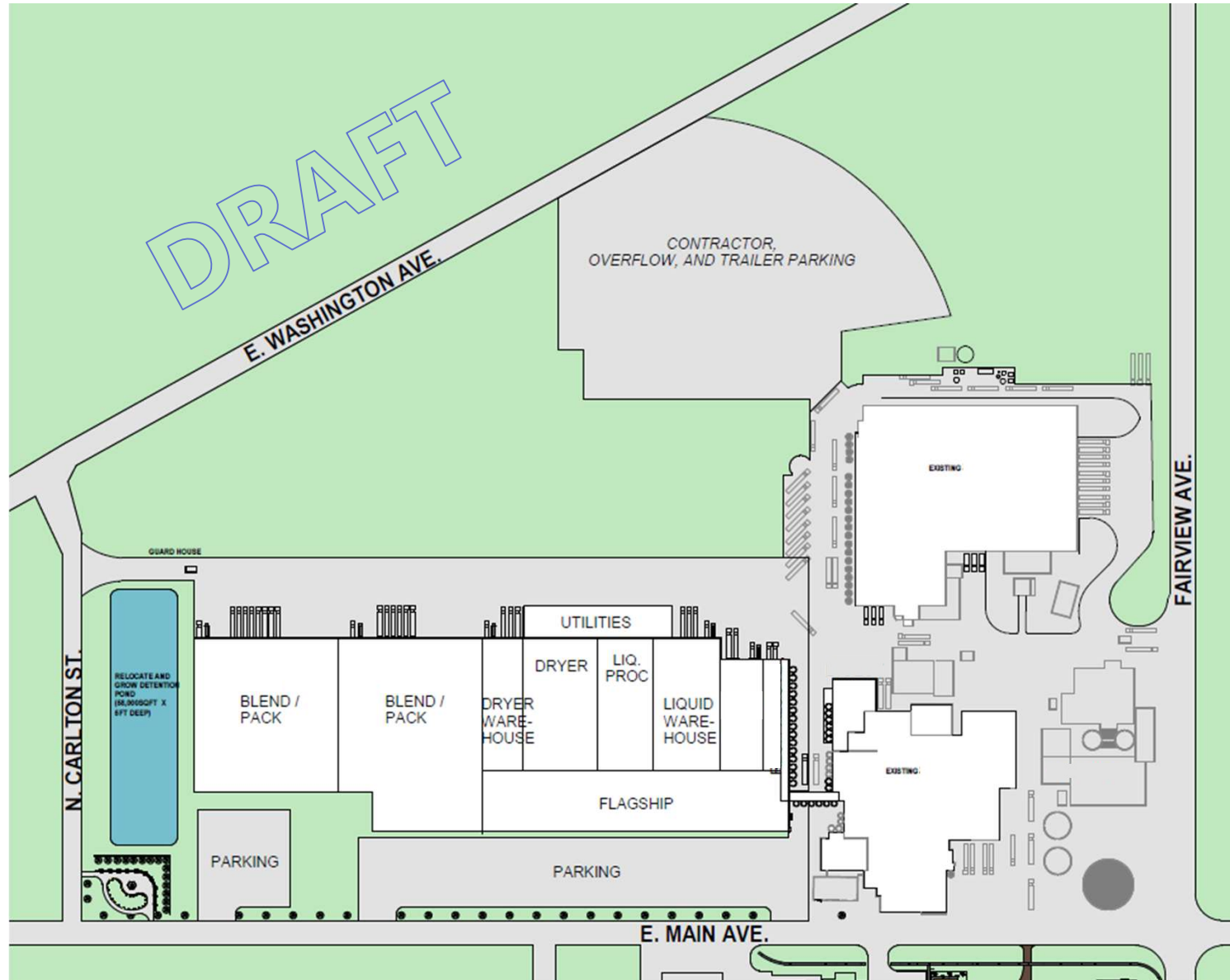
Additionally, with collaboration with the City, Bethel Church and Zeeland Public Schools, we plan to develop an upgraded Veldhof Playground.

Furthermore, we are working with the City to identify a community garden plot for the Bethel Church members to continue supplying the local community with fresh healthy produce.



# PRELIMINARY MASTER PLAN

We have incorporated the needs of our employees, residents, and the City into the preliminary site plan.





MeadJohnson<sup>™</sup>  
NUTRITION

# Rezoning

## Zeeland Master Plan

**Zoning and Land Use:** To continue meeting the nutritional needs of our most vulnerable infants – uninterrupted production is critical. As we begin necessary upgrades to our current facility to meet modern standards and regulatory requirements, we must have a fully operational site in place to handle production demand. Repurposing nearby residential land for commercial use allows us to establish an essential facility to **prevent disruption, avoid supply shortages, and ensure families across the country continue to receive the formula they depend on.**

“Change is constant and usually unpredictable, and there may be circumstances that warrant changes to the zoning boundaries that are not consistent with the Master Plan. If and when this occurs, the Master Plan should be updated to conform to the changed circumstances.” (2011 Master Plan, p. 63)

The desire for expanded industrial opportunities was clearly expressed in the public opinion survey conducted in conjunction with the 2011 Master Plan. Over 78 percent of respondents agreed that more industrial employers are needed. (2011 Master Plan, p. 79)



### Request for Rezoning of Residential Property to Industrial Property for Mead Johnson

May 15th, 2025

Dear Mr. Maday,

I am writing regarding the request for rezoning of the residential properties located at 633 E Main Ave (currently zoned R-2) and 605 E Main Ave (currently zoned R-3) in Zeeland, Michigan, from Residential and Public Facilities districts to I-2 Industrial. This request is made on behalf of Mead Johnson, a company committed to contributing toward the economic growth and industrial development of the community.

#### Background and Justification:

The City's Master Plan, both the 2011 version and its 2020 amendment, serves as a guide for future land use decisions. While the Master Plan emphasizes the importance of adhering to planned zoning boundaries, it also acknowledges that conditions may change, and unanticipated opportunities may arise. As stated in the Master Plan:

“Change is constant and usually unpredictable, and there may be circumstances that warrant changes to the zoning boundaries that are not consistent with the Master Plan. If and when this occurs, the Master Plan should be updated to conform to the changed circumstances.” (2011 Master Plan, p. 63)

“Although this plan is a comprehensive guide for land use planning over the next 20 years, there is no way to predict what changes may occur that were not contemplated at the time this plan was created.” (2011 Master Plan, p. 63)

“It is important to understand that the Master Plan is a guide and should be an integral part of decisions related to zoning, land development, and capital investment. However, conditions change, unanticipated opportunities may arise, and new challenges may emerge. The Plan should be kept current. Deviating from the Plan should not occur without sound rationale. When

- Encouraging new industrial development only in areas where there will be minimal negative impact on other land uses. (2020 Master Plan, Policy 4A, p. 16)
- Evaluating areas of inconsistent land uses and determining the best long-range use of these areas, consistent with the Future Land Use Map. Where appropriate, rezone accordingly. (2020 Master Plan, Action 14, p. 30)

#### Public Support:

The desire for expanded industrial opportunities was clearly expressed in the public opinion survey conducted in conjunction with the 2011 Master Plan. Over 78 percent of respondents agreed that more industrial employers are needed, and 67 percent supported the expansion of the industrial park. (2011 Master Plan, p. 79)

#### Conclusion:

In light of the above points, I strongly urge the City to consider rezoning the residential properties at 633 E Main Ave (R-2) and 605 E Main Ave (R-3) to I-2 Industrial. This change will not only support Mead Johnson's growth but also align with the community's vision for industrial development and economic prosperity.

Thank you for your consideration.

Arthur Pike  
Vivad Program External Affairs Director

*Arthur Pike*  
Electronically signed by: Arthur Pike  
Position: External Affairs Director  
Date: May 16, 2025 11:14 CDT





**MeadJohnson**  
NUTRITION



MeadJohnson<sup>™</sup>  
NUTRITION

DRAFT



**MeadJohnson**  
NUTRITION



# Thank you

June 5, 2025

