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Tax abatement cleared for work on Depot Town building

Posted by [Staff Reporter Khalil Hachem](#) June 20, 2007 13:15PM

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The state has reversed a previous decision and granted Stewart Beal of Ypsilanti a crucial tax abatement, clearing the way for renovating the largest building in Depot Town.

The Michigan Tax Commission denied the abatement in April because it received information from David Kircher, the previous owner of the building, that Beal began rehabilitating the property before the city approved his request and that Beal was not the owner of the building.

But Beal appealed the decision, providing necessary documents to the commission to change its decision last week, said Treasury spokesman Terry Stanton.

Beal said the project would have not gone through without the abatement.

"We continue to look forward to working very closely with city, state, and federal officials to overcome the immense cost of redeveloping the Thompson Block," he said.

Beal is proposing a \$4 million in renovations to convert the vacant Thompson Building into luxury lofts, retail space and restaurants. The 12-year-abatement will freeze the taxes on the project, saving Beal about \$1 million.

Read Thursday's Ann Arbor News for more details.

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