



City of Ann Arbor City Administrator's Report April 20, 2020

Prepared for City Council. Kindly forward questions, comments, or suggestions for input to tcrawford@a2gov.org, ifournier@a2gov.org, or shiggins@a2gov.org.

Safety Notes

A2 Be Safe! Coronavirus (COVID-19) update. City of Ann Arbor Emergency Management personnel are in active collaboration with the Washtenaw County Health Department, local hospitals, the University of Michigan, and the American Red Cross for the coronavirus outbreak. It's important to note that the Washtenaw County Health Department is the lead agency as they have emergency operations plans to address infectious disease and pandemics.

The city will continue to monitor this rapidly evolving situation and coordinate closely with its local partners, including Washtenaw County Health Department, to determine if this closure date should be expanded. This and other information will be shared via the city's website at www.a2gov.org/covid19 as well as its [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [NextDoor](#) pages.

For the latest COVID-19 health information, please visit www.washtenaw.org/COVID19 or the Centers for Disease Control <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/>. Individual safety reminders include:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water or use hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid handshakes.
- Avoid contact with sick people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Per the State of Michigan's "Stay Home, Stay Safe" executive order, City of Ann Arbor nonessential operations and all city buildings are closed through Thursday, April 30. These measures will not impact critical services such as drinking water, waste water, police, fire, emergency operations and waste and recycling pickup.
- While city buildings remain closed through at least April 30, following the governor's recent extension of the State of Michigan Stay Home Stay Safe Executive Order, the city's executive team continues to meet regularly to address COVID-19-related issues and ensure essential services continue to be delivered. Discussions are starting for plans for the eventual re-opening of city buildings and services at some future date. All of these discussions include a focus on employee safety as well as ensuring physical distancing practices can be continued.
- All permitted events through the city have been cancelled through April 30.

- All parks facilities are closed, and usage of city parks and natural areas is limited to activities that do not involve direct contact with others. Activities such as walking, hiking, running and cycling are still permitted. Please make sure while engaged in any of these activities to remain at least 6 feet from others who do not live with you in your household. And if you are sick, please do not visit the parks until you are well. Public and private gatherings of any number of people occurring among persons not part of a single household are prohibited, and in an attempt to make every effort possible to stop the spread of COVID-19, the following park amenities are closed until further notice: playgrounds/play structures, game courts (basketball, tennis, pickleball), groomed and ungroomed athletic fields, golf courses, the skatepark, disc golf courses, dog parks, BMX course and pavilions/shelters.
- All advisory board and commission meetings have been cancelled through Friday, May 1. Please check the [city's meeting calendar](#) for the most up-to-date information.
- The April 20 City Council meeting will be held in a digital format. Residents can still view the meeting live on CTN cable channels or via [live webstreaming](#). City residents are encouraged to give feedback on agenda items via [eComment](#). Details on other ways to participate electronically and via telephone will be on the city's website soon. Please check the [published agenda](#) for more information. All [special and electronic meeting notices](#) are online.
- To pay parking tickets, water bills, property taxes, apply for permits as well as other customer service options, residents and visitors are encouraged to take advantage of online services by visiting www.a2gov.org/services.

Enforcement

Following the announcement of the governor's "Stay Home, Stay Safe" executive order, law enforcement agencies have received many questions related to how citizens can report a business or individual that is violating the order. Originally, the public was directed to the attorney general's office. However, due to the overwhelming response, local law enforcement agencies are asking residents to report complaints directly by contacting 9-1-1.

While all aspects of the executive order are to be followed and law enforcement will respond appropriately to reported violations, callers are being asked to report only those behaviors that pose a credible and serious risk to public safety and that may exacerbate community spread.

- Public safety leaders from each agency within Washtenaw County, including the Ann Arbor Police Department, have aligned response protocols to include the following: Upon calling 9-1-1, dispatch will relay the complaint to local police agency.
- Each agency will determine the severity of the violation and respond appropriately.
- Initial response will focus on education in order to gain compliance with the order.
- The intent is not to arrest, but enforcement action will be taken as deemed appropriate.

The city will continue to monitor this evolving situation and coordinate with local and state partners. City information is shared via the city website - www.a2gov.org/covid19 - and via

social media channels: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [NextDoor](#).

For the latest COVID-19 Washtenaw County Health Department information, please visit www.washtenaw.org/COVID19 or the [Centers for Disease Control](#).

A2 Be Safe! Stay home, be safe, be well!

Success Stories

Success. Thank you to staff throughout the organization who have worked tirelessly and have gone above and beyond during the COVID-19 pandemic. You are appreciated! I have been tremendously impressed with your commitment to continue the work of the city in difficult circumstances. Each unit of City Government has remained open for business and responsive to the public, an accomplishment for which we all should take extreme pride. I have received numerous notes and comments of praise for the work you are doing from across the community, from vendors, from developers, and from our elected leadership. I want you to know that your professionalism and dedication is noticed, it is notable, and it is very much appreciated. Keep up the great work, for our city and this community. ***Thank you!***

Sustainability & Innovations Corner

A²Zero — Our carbon neutrality work is moving swiftly, so to stay up to date, check out our website: www.a2zero.org. Monthly reports have been included as written communications from the City Administrator in Council Agenda packets. We have completed the first full draft of the plan and shared a recorded video about the plan with Council in lieu of the cancelled March 30th work session. We also presented the plan virtually at the April 13th City Council Work Session. [The Plan is currently undergoing final design to make it more aesthetically pleasing and accessible.](#)

March 30 Council Work Session – We presented [electronically our draft Carbon Neutrality Plan: A2Zero](#) to City Council on Monday, March 30 at 7:00 p.m. The [Carbon Neutrality Plan](#) is a living document and quintessential roadmap for the City of Ann Arbor’s goal to reach carbon neutrality by 2030.

April 13 City Council Work Session – We presented our draft [Carbon Neutrality Plan: A2 Zero](#) to City Council on Monday, April 13, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. A [resolution to accept the plan](#) is on the April 20th Council Agenda.

Earth Day Events: The City of Ann Arbor’s Office of Sustainability and Innovation and GIVE 365 on behalf of the Earth Day Festival Committee and in partnership with A²Zero, are delighted to share that we plan to have a virtual Earth Day celebration this year. This virtual event will run from 9am-8:30pm and will feature speakers, story hours, local musicians, a movie premiere, and more! This special event is being brought to you by. You can see the agenda and register for the virtual event [here](#). In tandem with the virtual event, we are also running a Earth Day Pledge, which you can see and participate [in here](#).

Earth Day Activities: April 22 marks the 50th anniversary of Earth Day and we are continuing to work toward a celebration of this momentous event. OSI has partnered with City of Ann Arbor GIVE 365 to ensure the celebration lives on! To stay involved, visit www.a2gov.org/earthday for all of the tools you can use to celebrate our Big, Blue Planet from home! Included is a variety of educational resources, videos, articles and activity challenges from a range of sources, suitable for many ages. The activities are mindful of what you may already have on hand, and are meant to guide you to connect with our natural world.

May 2nd Virtual Solar Power Hour: Join us for a virtual “happy hour” on Saturday, May 2nd at 4pm to learn more about how rooftop solar works, the cost and environmental benefits, and the new Ann Arbor Solarize group-buy program. We’ll also be discussing energy efficiency opportunities so bring your neighbors, friends, and colleagues to learn more and potentially join our next group-buy (and get the associated discounts). Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/SolarizeHappyHour>.

May 9th Solarize Meeting: The City’s Office of Sustainability and Innovations is organizing a special event for individuals ready to install solar on their home. This virtual public meeting will present an opportunity to learn more about a new program we are launching called Solarize. This program brings together multiple individuals interested in solar to increase the demand and thereby lower the costs for your future solar installation. To learn more about the program, about solar, and to potentially move forward with an installation at your home, join our May 9th Solarize event (at 3pm) by RSVP’ing here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1tVbk2t3Y3fwjzuyypNo7Lr54iNUguNzp3S3IG0RbXu80/edit>.

Council Priorities/Initiatives

Transportation Commission Monthly Report. The April 2020 Transportation Commission Project Report is attached.

Police Monthly Report. The March 2020 AAPD Monthly Comparison Report – Monthly Pedestrian Crash Report is attached.

Previews

The **April 20 Council Meeting** will feature the following items of interest:

Consent Agenda. There are 10 items on the consent agenda.

Public Hearings. There are three (3) public hearings which are listed below and under second readings.

- **An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 55 (Ann Arbor Unified Development Code), Rezoning of 0.6 Acre from C2B (Business Service District) to C3 (Fringe Commercial District), MSGCU Rezoning, 2151 West Stadium Boulevard (CPC Recommendation: Approval - 6 Yeas and 0 Nays) (Ordinance No. ORD-20-04).** Approval of this resolution will rezone 0.6 acres of this parcel from C2B (Business Service District) to C3 (Fringe Commercial District) to match the zoning on the remainder of the parcel and allow the development of a credit union building proposed in the Michigan Schools and Government Credit Union Site Plan (SP19-019).
- **Resolution to Approve MSGCU Site Plan, 2151 W Stadium Boulevard (CPC Recommendation: Approval - 7 Yeas and 0 Nays)** Approval of this resolution will allow for the construction of a new 3,800 square foot credit union branch building.

Ordinances – Second Readings

- **A public hearing and an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 112 (Non-Discrimination), Sections 9:150, 9:151, 9:152, 9:156, and 9:157, Title IX of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor To Clarify Definition of Source of Income, Add Ethnicity as a Protected Class, and Add an Exception Allowing Discounts for Veterans.** The revisions to the Non-Discrimination Ordinance include the following:
 1. Clarification of the definition of source of income to make clear that the City’s ordinance prohibits landlords from discriminating against prospective renters based on their source of income, including government housing vouchers, child support, and Veterans Administration payments.
 2. Adding ethnicity as a protected class.
 3. Adding an exception to allow businesses and other City entities to provide discounts to veterans.

Ordinances – First Readings

An Ordinance to Amend Section 1:156 of Chapter 7 (Downtown Development Authority) of Title I of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor. The purpose of the proposed code amendment to Section 1:156 is to align the unit income target goals of the DDA Housing Fund with the City of Ann Arbor’s Affordable Housing goals as 60% of Area Median Income (AMI) and to clarify that the DDA Housing Fund can be used for plans, studies and processes that support the development of affordable in the downtown that includes 60% AMI households within a range of incomes.

Other

Water Quality Matters April Edition. The April issue of A2H2O: Quality Water Matters includes important information from our Water Treatment Services Manager regarding the steps he and

his staff are taking to address staffing and drinking water safety during the COVID-19 pandemic. Download the issue at www.QualityWaterMatters.org. Rest assured, our dedicated staff are working 24/7 to delivery water that is safe to drink and vital for good hygiene.

Curbside Compost Collection Began April 6 with Carts Only Until Further Notice. The City of Ann Arbor 2020 curbside compost collection program began, as scheduled, on Monday, April 6. However, to ensure the safety of staff and protect them against the possibility of COVID-19 exposure, yard waste bags and bundled brush/limbs will not be serviced at this time. Collection will be done only from carts, using the mechanical arm on solid waste vehicles. To clarify, residents will only be able to use curbside compost service to discard their compost if the materials are placed into their compost carts.

The city is requesting that residents and property owners who may have already loaded and placed yard waste bags at the curb, remove those bags and store them in a dry location until full service can be restored. In addition, be advised that the city's compost facility is closed to all residential and contractor drop-off and compost pick-up operations until further notice.

The city understands this change in service will be inconvenient and very much appreciates the community's help in keeping city staff safe and healthy. The city is offering a compost cart, 64 or 96 gallon size, to any home that doesn't currently have one for a delivery fee of \$59. To order a cart, please contact the Customer Service Center by phone at 734.994.7336, or via email at customerservice@a2gov.org. Supplies are limited. Orders for additional carts will be charged the additional cart fee. Please note that repeat orders will be placed behind first-time orders.

Residents are encouraged to visit www.a2gov.org/compost for more information, service updates and resources and tips for composting at home.

2020 Census. April 1 was 2020 Census Day, bringing extra attention to the importance of being counted in our community ... and presenting the perfect time to fill out your census form, if you haven't already! By now, households throughout the country have received their invitations in the mail to respond to the 2020 Census. If you haven't received a census form in the mail or if you've misplaced it, you can still respond online by using your address. You can also response to the census via phone, in English or in one of the 12 additional languages if needed. Visit 2020census.gov to learn more and to respond online.

For information with a local focus, visit [the city's 2020 Census website](#) tailored just for students and residents of Ann Arbor.

Be counted, Ann Arbor! There's too much at stake not to be. Providing funding for roads, healthcare, food assistance and education as well as representation, our community depends on you.

Ann Arbor 2020 Planned Road, Utility & Resurfacing Projects. The City of Ann Arbor is planning for a significant 2020 construction season with nearly 10 miles of resurfacing/restoration

projects, some with utility improvements included, as well as 9 miles of capital preventative maintenance work. Due to Michigan's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, a timetable for when these projects will begin and conclude is not yet available. All projects are listed online at www.a2gov.org/roadconstruction.

Construction work will cause road and lane closures, so travelers are advised to sign up for email or text alerts, at www.a2gov.org/roads.