

City of Ann Arbor

City Administrator's Report – November 19, 2018

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

Safety Notes

A2 Be Safe (and NFPA) reminds you about Thanksgiving safety! For the most part, the kitchen is the heart of the home, especially during the holidays. From testing family recipes to decorating cakes and cookies, everyone enjoys being part of the preparations. Keeping fire safety in mind when in the kitchen during this joyous but hectic time is important, especially when the home is full of activity. As you start preparing your holiday schedule and organizing that large family feast, remember, by following a few simple safety tips you can enjoy time with your loved ones and keep your family safe from fire.

Thanksgiving by the numbers

- Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires, followed by Christmas Day, Christmas Eve, and the day before Thanksgiving.
- In 2016, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 1,570 home cooking fires on Thanksgiving, the peak day for such fires.
- Unattended cooking was by far the leading contributing factor in cooking fires and fire deaths.
- Cooking equipment was involved in almost half of all reported home fires and home fire injuries, and it is the second leading cause of home fire deaths.

Success Stories

City staff conducted **New Councilmember Orientation** sessions on November 15th and 16th for incoming elected officials. Although the days were long and amount of information presented intense, the new Councilmembers received an overview of the breadth and depth of services City staff provides to our community. Staff will host a day of site visits on November 30th that will conclude the orientation.

Staff from the City Administrator's Office, Police Department, Fire Department, Parks and Recreation Department, the City Clerk's Office, the Office of Sustainability and Innovation, and the City Attorney's Office supported a regional **Merit Badge Day on November 10th**. Over 40 scouts from the area participated and were able to earn credits toward the Citizenship in the Community, Fire Safety, Sustainability, Law, Crime Prevention, and Fingerprinting merit badges.

Council Priorities/Initiatives

Budget Priorities Online Community Survey. On Sept. 4, City Council approved engaging the professional services of The Center for Priority Based Budgeting (CPBB) to conduct a Priority Based Budgeting Survey

for the City of Ann Arbor. The goal of the community survey will be to obtain meaningful and broad citizen input to assist staff and City Council members in developing the city's budget and spending priorities for fiscal years 2020 and 2021.

In accordance with City Charter, the City Administrator's recommended fiscal year 2020 budget will be submitted to City Council on April 15, 2019. Fiscal year 2020 runs from July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020. City Council members can only adopt one fiscal year at a time even though the city plans for multi-year budgets.

The city encourages all residents to share their insights and opinions through this survey on what they believe the city's priorities should be for the upcoming budget. The deadline to take the online-only survey was Nov. 18, 2018. Results of the survey will be provided to City Council members in early December and made available to the public via the city's website.

2018 Road Construction Project Updates

This past construction season has been a busy one, and the City has made significant strides in addressing the needs of our mobility infrastructure. However, a few of our major projects that were scheduled to be completed before the winter months have experienced delays due to weather and labor disputes that were beyond our control. The status of these efforts is provided below:

Pauline Boulevard: The paving has been completed, and the road is open to traffic. Not all of the pavement markings have been completed yet (particularly the cross-hatching on the bike lane buffers). This work may have to be completed in the spring, due to temperature constraints.

Scio Church Road: The first to layers of paving have been completed, however the final layer of pavement will not be able to be completed this year. Staff is working with the contractor on a plan to get the road fully open to traffic in both directions over the winter, and the remaining work on the project will be deferred to the spring. In addition to the final layer of pavement, other work to be completed next year includes the remaining paving work on the Scio Church/Seventh intersection, and the construction of the sidewalk on the north side of Scio Church.

Fifth & Detroit: The project will not be completed as scheduled for two main reasons. First is the early onset of cold weather. The second is that some of the bricks that were shipped to the site were flawed and are not suitable for placement. Prior to the end of this year, the contractor will complete all the concrete work and brick work on the sidewalks and on Fifth Avenue. Detroit Street between Fifth and Kingsley will be temporarily paved with asphalt and all the streets and sidewalks will be reopened for the winter. In the spring, suitable brick will be delivered, and the contractor will removed the temporary asphalt and complete the project. This change in schedule is not anticipated to have any cost implications for the City or the DDA.

Local street resurfacing: Most of the work scheduled for this year has been completed. The primary exception is resurfacing work that was added to the contract for Wynnstone Drive and the shared use asphalt path along Ann Arbor-Saline Road between Eisenhower and South Main Street. This work will be deferred to the spring of 2019.

Crest/Washington/Buena Vista: This project is substantially complete.

Federal/Commerce/Green Sidewalks: The sidewalks have been installed, and the project is mostly completed. Some ancillary items will need to be addressed in the spring such as additional landscaping restoration and permanent pavement markings.

Previews

The **November 19 Council Meeting** will feature the following items of interest:

Ordinance – First Reading

- ***An Ordinance to Amend Section 2:22a of Chapter 27 (Water) and Section 2:42.2 of Chapter 28 (Sanitary Sewer) of Title II of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor (Connection Requirements).*** If adopted, this ordinance will provide for an 18-month waiting period after the date of annexation before sending a 90-day notice to connect to impacted property owners. The waiting period applies only to properties that annexed by petition and only if the water and/or sanitary sewer lines are in place on the date the annexation of the property is final.

Resolutions:

- ***Resolution to Adopt an Updated Traffic Calming Program.*** This resolution provides an update to the current Traffic Calming Program intended to lower the thresholds for neighborhood participation, expand the toolkit of options, maintain a high level of participation, and reduce the administrative burdens. The Transportation Commission has expressed its support of the updated program.
- ***Resolution No. 1 - Prepare Plans and Specifications for the Fuller Road Sidewalk - Sidewalk Special Assessment Project – postponed from September 17, 2018.*** This resolution was postponed from the 9/17/18 Council meeting to provide for additional stakeholder input. The project proposed relocating the current crosswalk from its current location at the entrance to Gallup park to a location further to the west to improve sight distance and to move pedestrians away from conflicts that occur at the current location.
- ***Resolution No. 2 – Northside STEAM Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Gap Project – Sidewalk Special Assessment.*** This resolution requests Council approval to establish the estimated cost and distribution of costs for new sidewalk that would be constructed as part of the Northside STEAM Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Sidewalk Gap Project (Sidewalk Special Assessment District #51). Because this is a federal-aid project, approximately \$400,000.00 of the construction cost of the sidewalk will be paid by the SRTS Grant. The remainder of the costs will be local share. The City’s ability to use grant funds for this project creates the opportunity for the private property owners impacted by the special assessment to receive the sidewalk improvements at a significantly lower cost.
- ***Resolution to Amend the Office of Sustainability and Innovations FY 2019 Budget and Appropriate Funds for New and the Scaling-Up of Existing Climate and Sustainability Programs in the City of Ann Arbor (8 Votes Required) – postponed from October 15, 2018.*** This resolution seeks to amend the budget of the Office of Sustainability and Innovations to provide \$313,000 from the County Public Safety and Community Mental Health millage “fairness rebate” to provide funding in support of the

Ann Arbor Housing Commission’s net-zero energy improvements at the Broadway Apartments (\$200,000); purchase and install three charging stations for electric vehicles (EV); construct community resilience hubs (\$10,000); support Municipal Clean and Renewable Strategy Implementation (\$25,000), provide community education and engagement materials (\$10,000); provide staff professional development opportunities (\$14,000); and provide the necessary incremental staffing costs to support these initiatives (\$39,000).

- Council will also consider an alternative to the preceding, **Resolution to Fund Pilot of Net Zero Energy Affordable Housing Initiative and Electric Vehicle Chargers**, which (a) provides funding only for the named initiatives in the combined amount of \$215,000. The funding source under this alternative is the City’s General Fund.

WIP (Work in Progress)

Staff is working on the following items pursuant to Council directions:

ITEM	DUE DATE	DUE DATE	STATUS
R-18-195	Resolution to Adopt FY19 Budget: Amendment No. 2 – Community Participation and Engagement in development City Budget and Spending Priorities for FY20-21	December 1, 2018	The deadline to take the online-only survey was Nov. 18, 2018.
R-18-293	Resolution to Appoint a Task Force to Review Policies and Procedures for Special Events	December 31, 2018	Under review

Other

City Thanksgiving Schedule. There will be no trash, recycling or compost curbside collection services in the City of Ann Arbor on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 22. The normal Thursday pickups will occur on Friday, and the normal Friday routes will be serviced on Saturday, Nov. 24, this week only.

Ann Arbor municipal offices, including the customer service center at Larcom City Hall and the 15th Judicial District Court, will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 22, and Friday, Nov. 23. Safety services and utility operations will maintain 24-hour schedules throughout.

The seasonal curbside pickups of compostable materials will end for the season on Friday, Dec. 7, 2018. Ann Arbor's compost collection provides an opportunity for pickup of fall leaves and other yard debris that have been placed on lawn extensions in paper bags or compost carts or tied into brush bundles, as described online at a2gov.org/compost. Leaves are not permitted in the street and will not be collected if pushed there.

For more information on solid waste, recycling and compost please visit a2gov.org/recycle.

The Ann Arbor Parks and Recreation has many events planned for the coming week. Though Buhr Park and Veterans Memorial Park ice arenas, as well as Mack Indoor Pool, will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 22

(Thanksgiving Day), there will be skating and swimming fun post-Thanksgiving Friday and through the weekend.

Applications Being Accepted for Citizens Police, Fire & Courts Academy. The City of Ann Arbor is offering those who live or work in the city an opportunity for an inside look at our local public safety and justice systems. Those 18 years old and older who are interested are invited to submit an application to attend the 2019 Jack Dentler Ann Arbor Citizens Police, Fire and Courts Academy. The program has been renamed this year to honor the memory of long-time, beloved volunteer with the Ann Arbor Police Department, Jack Dentler, who passed away earlier this year.

The deadline to apply to participate in the CPFCA program is Friday, Jan. 25, 2019, or sooner, should the 20 available spaces become filled. Find the application on the City of Ann Arbor website at www.a2gov.org/departments/police/Pages/Getting-Involved.aspx#citizens.

The CPFCA is a free program that will be held at the Ann Arbor Justice Center, Ann Arbor Fire Department Fire Station No. 6, AAFD Fire Training Grounds and Washtenaw Community College. Classes will take place once a week on Tuesdays, 6:30–9:30 p.m., beginning Feb. 12 and ending April 9, 2019.

CPFCA topics will include: AAPD and AAFD history, emergency management, fire responder's role, use of force, hazardous materials, K-9 unit, investigative unit, court duties/processes and much more. Through this program, participants will gain a better understanding of the challenges facing police officers, firefighters, prosecuting attorneys, defense attorneys and judges. Participants will take part in various mock trial roles such as judge, juror member, prosecutor and defense lawyer; learn about operations of AAPD's Patrol and Support Services Division including procedures and equipment, community outreach programs and participating in a mock traffic stop; role play in scenarios, such as selecting the appropriate fire extinguisher and demonstrating the use of that fire extinguisher to put out a small, controlled training fire; and much more.

The goal of CPFCA is for its graduates to become partners in finding solutions to the safety issues that affect their Ann Arbor communities. Graduates are expected to share their knowledge with their neighbors.

If you have questions, please contact Ann Arbor Police Service Specialist Jamie Giordano at 734.794.6900, ext. 49528, or jgiordano@a2gov.org. A background investigation will be conducted on all applicants; applicants will then be notified if accepted into the program.

Volunteer Opportunities with NAP. City of Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation (NAP) works to protect and restore Ann Arbor's natural areas and to foster an environmental ethic among its citizens. This involves conducting plant and animal inventories, ecological monitoring and stewardship projects in Ann Arbor parks. These tasks are performed by both staff and volunteers. Find more information about NAP at www.a2gov.org/NAP.