

City Administrator's Report – September 17, 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! Check out the [tips and resources](#) on the city website to help ensure safe travels for all, including:

- Pedestrians, cross at marked crosswalks, and make sure to give motorists enough time to see you and stop.
- If you see vegetation obstructing visibility, please report to the city via the [A2 Fix It](#) app or online.
- Bicyclists, ride on the road when possible — and obey the traffic signals. Use bike lanes when available. To report vehicles parked in marked bike lanes, please call the police nonemergency phone number at 734.994.2911.

Accident Reductions at Public Works. A big round of applause goes out to the employees, supervisors, and managers at Public Works. Over the last several years a large amount of collective effort has gone into making sure that safety is a top priority. These efforts are paying dividends in the form of huge reductions in injuries rates. A steep downward trend has been established over the last several years that amounts to a greater than 50% reduction in injuries. Please take a moment to congratulate the Public Works team members for this achievement.

Success Stories

Greenbelt Program Preserves Three Additional Properties. The City of Ann Arbor Open Space and Parkland Preservation Program, also known as the Greenbelt Program, is happy to announce it just closed on three land protection projects.

- A 27.5 acre conservation easement on Seeley Farm, a certified organic vegetable farm in Ann Arbor Township. Washtenaw County also contributed toward the purchase price.
- Drake Farm in Lodi Township, a 72-acre agricultural operation that is a family-owned dairy, also grows corn and hay. Funding came from the USDA-NRCS under their Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP), Washtenaw County and Lodi Township in addition to the Greenbelt. The City of Ann Arbor holds the easement rights.
- Shatter Family Trust, a 25-acre fee acquisition where the Greenbelt partnered with Legacy Land Conservancy, Washtenaw County and Salem Township. Legacy was the lead on this project and now holds the preserve, which will ultimately be open to the public once a trail is built. It is located about ¼ miles south of Legacy's existing Creekshead Preserve. The name of the preserve

will be the “Anthony and Rose Shatter Family Preserve.” This is the 10th publicly accessible preserve that the Greenbelt contributed to.

The Greenbelt has now protected more than 5,340 acres in 57 projects; 98 acres of the protected land are part of the city's parks system. The Greenbelt Program is funded by the Open Space and Parkland Preservation Millage, a 30-year millage approved by Ann Arbor voters in 2003 that also funds the acquisition of parklands for the city's parks system and raises more than \$2 million annually. The millage is expected to generate \$80 million over 30 years. These funds are matched by locally funded programs, landowner donations and federal grants, including funding from ACEP, a Farm Bill program administered by USDA-NRCS that provides financial assistance to eligible partners for purchasing agricultural conservation easements, with the goal of helping farmers and other producers keep their land in agriculture.

Council Priorities/Initiatives

The **Advisory Task Force on Community Policing** had its final meeting on Thursday, September 6, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers for a discussion of the Administrator’s recommendations. The Administrator reviewed his recommendations for the Community Policing Commission at the Work Session held on Thursday, September 13th at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers prior to formal presentation at an ensuing Council meeting.

Previews

The **September 17th Council Meeting** will feature the following items of interest:

Administrator’s Communication items:

- **Memorandum from City Administrator: Proposed Plan for Achieving 100% Clean and Renewable Energy for City Operations – September 11, 2018.** This memorandum provides the staff response to Council Resolution [R-17-442](#), Resolution Committing the City of Ann Arbor to 100% Clean and Renewable Energy for City Operations, dated December 4, 2017. The strategy presented in the paragraphs below involves four core elements: 1) energy efficiency; 2) electrification of equipment and appliances; 3) renewable energy installation; and 4) green fleets. The accompanying PowerPoint presentation provides additional details about how staff arrived at these recommendations. Importantly, all recommendations are “living,” with the intention and anticipation that adjustments, changes, and new activities emerging over the course of our work will influence our achievement of the goal of 100% clean and renewable.

Introductions:

- **Welcome to John Fournier**, Assistant City Administrator
- City of Ann Arbor Water Treatment Plant Participation in the Water Utility Energy Challenge (WUEC)
- Water Treatment Plant Presentation: Water Quality

- **Farewell and Thank You to Ruth Thornton**, Greenbelt Program Manager

Public Hearings (7)

- At second reading **An Ordinance to Amend Section 1:207 of Chapter 8 (Organization of Boards and Commissions) and to Repeal Chapter 85 (Taxicabs) of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor (Ordinance No. ORD-18-23) (Continued from the September 23, 2018 Regular Session)**
- At second reading **An Ordinance to Amend the Zoning Map, Being a Part of Section 5:10.2 of Chapter 55 of Title V of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor, Rezoning of 0.76 Acre from R4C (Multiple Family District) to C2B (Business Service District) WITH CONDITIONS, 151 East Hoover (including 200 E. Davis Ave., 202 E. Davis Ave., 204 E. Davis Ave, 913 Brown St., 915 Brown St., 917 Brown St., 919 Brown St.) (CPC Recommendation: Approval - 6 Yeas and 0 Nays) (Ordinance No. ORD-18-25)**
- **A Resolution to Approve the 151 East Hoover Site Plan and Development Agreement on a Site Bounded by Brown Street, East Hoover Street, Greene Street, and East Davis Avenue (CPC Recommendation: Approval - 6 Yeas and 0 Nay)**
- At second reading **An Ordinance to Amend Sections 2:41.2a Through 2:41.2f, 2:43.1, 2:43.4, 2:44.2, 2:44.4, 2:45.2, 2:45.5, 2:47.2, 2:49.3, 2:49.5 Through 2:49.8, and 2:50.2 of Chapter 28 (Sanitary Sewer) of Title II of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor (Ordinance No. ORD-18-26)**
- At second reading **An Ordinance to Amend Section 9:106. - Periodic Fire Safety Inspections Required of Chapter 111 of Title IX of the Ann Arbor City Code (Ordinance No. ORD-18-27)**
- **A Resolution Establishing Ann Arbor Commercial Rehabilitation District No. 2018-001 - Kensington Hotel**
- **A Resolution to Approve the Cottages at Barton Green Site Plan, Wetland Use Permit, and Development Agreement, West Side of Pontiac Trail, South of Dhu Varren Road (CPC Recommendation: Approval - 2 Yeas and 7 Nays) (Postponed from July 16, 2018)**

WIP (Work in Progress)

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

ITEM	DUE DATE	DUE DATE	STATUS
R-18-173	Resolution of Interest Regarding 350 S. Fifth Avenue	August 31, 2018	Work in Progress.

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The City’s Mission is to deliver exceptional services that sustain and enhance a vibrant, safe and diverse community.

ITEM	DUE DATE	DUE DATE	STATUS
R-17-442	Resolution Committing the City of Ann Arbor to Using 100% Clean and Renewable Energy for City Operations	September 2018 to Environmental and Energy Commissions	AC item on September 17 Council Agenda
R-18-039	Resolution Creating an Advisory Task Force to Make Recommendations Regarding the Roles and Responsibilities of a Community Policing Commission	September 4, 2018	The City Administrator presented his recommendations at the September 13 th Council Work Session.

Scooter Share. On Friday, September 7, 2018 Bird eScooters appeared in Ann Arbor, unofficially initiating the city into the era of scooter sharing services. Bird scooters launched without the city’s awareness. Despite their initial popularity, the scooters are not licensed and riders may not legally ride them in the right-of-way right-of-way at this time. In the intervening week since their introduction, City staff have discussed a balanced approach to regulating this and other scooter-sharing services so we may allow their operation. We also want to ensure that the right-of-way remains safe for all users, without unnecessary obstruction for other modalities, and with respect for our obligations under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Every community strives toward and struggles to manage a sustainable transportation system. By providing mobility options for our residents and visitors, fewer people—even if in incremental amounts over time—will drive single occupant vehicles. In cities across America this has helped to lower impacts on physical road infrastructure, calm congestion, and improve pedestrian safety. Scooter sharing and other innovative mobility services can be an important part of a city’s transportation network, and an important step forward in producing mode shifts toward more sustainable transportation choices.

Preliminarily, City staff is proposing to create a basic regulatory environment for these scooter-sharing companies where they sign license agreements to operate in our right-of-way. These agreements will charge a basic franchise fee, plus a license fee for each scooter. The city will be held harmless for liability purposes, named as coinsured on each company’s insurance, and will establish a fee structure and process for seizing scooters that are left inappropriately in the right-of-way. These agreements will be short term and will renew at the city’s discretion to ensure compliance with our laws. Each company will be limited to operating no more than 100 scooters in our City so we can prevent them from overrunning our sidewalks and rights-of-way.

With the right balance of regulation, we believe that these mobility-sharing companies will help to strengthen the quality of life and the community environment that makes Ann Arbor such a wonderful place to live.

Other

Celebrate National Public Lands Day with NAP September 23. On Sunday, Sept. 23, Natural Area Preservation volunteers at Kuebler Langford Nature Area will join volunteers across the country at their favorite parks, beaches, wildlife preserves and forests to give back to the treasured lands where we play, learn and relax in celebration of the 25th annual National Public Lands Day (NPLD). Anyone interested in participating in this event is welcomed to join. Both staff and volunteers perform these tasks. For more information about NAP, visit www.a2gov.org/NAP.

A2energy Power Hour Event September 25. The City of Ann Arbor is committed to significantly reducing its carbon emissions by encouraging local building owners to use energy wisely and invest in renewable energy. To meet this goal, the City of Ann Arbor Energy Office is partnering with the Ann Arbor District Library to host an upcoming A2energy Power Hour event.

- Tuesday Sept. 25, 7–8:30 p.m., AADL Westgate Branch, 2503 Jackson Ave. (Westgate Shopping Center), west side room.

To learn more about the city's energy office and initiatives, please visit www.a2gov.org/energy.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Open House Saturday, September 29. The City of Ann Arbor cordially invites the public to get a firsthand look at the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant on Saturday, Sept. 29, 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Located at 49 Old Dixboro Road in Ann Arbor; the Ann Arbor Wastewater Treatment Plant recently underwent a major renovation.

Open house tours will begin at 11 a.m., with the last beginning at 2:30 p.m. Along with tours, exhibits by the Huron River Watershed Council and activities provided by the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum will mean fun and engaging activities for all ages. Light refreshments will be available.