

City Administrator's Report – March 5, 2018

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

Safety Notes

Like most of Michigan, Ann Arbor is experiencing a freeze/thaw cycle that results in formation of potholes on our roads. The volume of potholes is much higher this year than in the previous two years. This is a direct result of the harsher winter we have experienced this season.

Each day the City has up to four crews responding to pothole patching requests and filling other potholes they have identified. Additionally, two crews will be dispatched once per week during the overnight hours to address potholes on our major roadways. Michigan winters can be tough on our roadways. The freeze-thaw cycle is a primary cause of potholes and pavement failures. Please assist our Public Works pothole patrol by reporting pavement problems via [A2 Fix It](#).

Success Stories

2019 MDOT Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) grant awards. The City is the recipient of the following Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) HSIP “Safety” grant awards for MDOT FY2019 federal funding. Thank you to Craig Hupy, Nick Hutchinson, Jennifer Nelson, Cynthia Redinger for their exceptional work on these successful grant applications.

Jackson Ave Guardrail

Scope: Extend shoulder, signage, high friction surface, and replace guardrail.
HSIP Grant Amount: \$126,307

State/Packard/Hill

Scope: Road Safety Audit

HSIP Grant Amount: \$12,000*

*While this is below our normal grant amount, the work will be performed by a consultant hired by MDOT, thus mostly eliminating the local administrative burden.

Fuller Road Sidewalk

Scope: Extend sidewalk on south side of Fuller across from Huron High, add refuge island and lighting.
HSIP Grant Amount: \$108,090

Eisenhower/Plaza Dr. Pedestrian Crossing

Scope: Install pedestrian activated beacon

HSIP Grant Amount: \$59,293

2018 APWA Project of the Year Award. The Michigan Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA) announced that Nichols Arboretum Sewer and Siphon Rehabilitation Project won Project of the Year in Michigan for 2017 in the category of Environment \$1 Million to \$5 Million. At the Michigan Chapter

Great Lakes Expo in May of this year, the Michigan Chapter will recognize this project as an award winner. In addition, this project was forwarded to the APWA National office for competition at that level. Congratulations to Michael Nearing and Nick Hutchinson for this excellent achievement!

Council Priorities/Initiatives

Independent Review of Ann Arbor Police Department Community Engagement Practices. The report is available via Legistar and posted on the [City Administrator's AAPD Community Engagement Practices](#) web page. R-18-039 [Resolution Creating an Advisory Task Force to Make Recommendations Regarding the Roles and Responsibilities of a Community Policing Commission](#) was approved at the February 5th Council meeting. In accordance with this resolution, staff will prepare a resolution by the March 19, 2018 City Council meeting to confirm nomination of the task force members and a Chairperson of the task force.

The **City Council Work Session scheduled on March 12** will focus on the “FY2019 Budget and Cost of Services/Rates.” Staff including Mr. Crawford, Mr. Hupy, and Ms. Praschan will present on topics including recommended financial policy changes, capital financing, General Fund projections, water rates, and solid waste services.

ZORO: Zoning Reorganization Project: The Planning Commission held public hearings on December 19, 2017 and January 18, 2018, and recommended approval of the draft on February 6, 2018.

City Council will consider a first reading of the proposed **Unified Development Code (UDC)** on April 2, 2018. If passed at first reading, a second reading and adoption could occur as soon as May 7, 2018. Additional drop-in office hour sessions are offered to learn more about the proposed reorganization and answer any questions about the proposed code:

- **Tuesday, March 6 - 3:00 to 4:30 pm**, City Hall First Floor South conference room. No appointment necessary!
- **Friday, March 9 - 12:00 to 1:30 pm**, City Hall First Floor South conference room. No appointment necessary!
- **Wednesday, March 14 - 8:00 to 9:30 am**, City Hall First Floor South conference room. No appointment necessary!

More information is available on the [ZORO project page](#).

Previews

The **March 5 Council Meeting** will feature the following items of interest:

- A Special Session of Council is scheduled on Monday, March 5 at 6:00 p.m. for the purposes of a closed session for the City Attorney’s personnel evaluation.
- A public hearing and second reading of ***An Ordinance to Amend Section 9:61, 9:62 and 9:68 of Chapter 108, Disorderly Conduct, of Title IX of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor***
- A public hearing and reading of ***An Ordinance to Amend Sections 10:69, 10:70, 10:71, 10:72, 10:73 and 10:75 of Chapter 126, Traffic, of Title X of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor.***

WIP (Work in Progress)

Medical Marijuana Facilities. The City has started to accept applications for new medical marijuana facilities. Planning Services staff has been managing the applications that have been submitted before and after the February 12 effective date of zoning ordinance changes that classify medical marijuana facilities. An interactive map of facilities currently under consideration and other relevant data is available. It is kept up to date and an easy way to track applications on an ongoing basis.

Link to interactive map: [Medical Marijuana Facility Applications Interactive Map](#)

One Community: Advancing racial equity in Ann Arbor and Washtenaw County. The City is partnering with Washtenaw County for ongoing training facilitated by GARE (Government Alliance on Race and Equity). Leadership and various staff from city and county participated in training for the Racial Equity Initiative on Feb. 27 for the second of a series of five trainings scheduled over the next few months.

List of Roads for Reconstruction, Resurfacing and Preventative Maintenance for 2018. The City of Ann Arbor has released the tentative list of roads to be part of 2018's reconstruction, resurfacing and preventative maintenance program. This year's construction season will see a complete reconstruction of North Fifth Avenue and Detroit Street in Kerrytown, in collaboration with the Downtown Development Authority, as well as resurfacing of 24 segments of road throughout the city. In addition, stretches of 44 major streets and local roads will have preventative maintenance performed, which takes only a few days to complete but will help extend their useable life and improve traveling conditions. [A map](#) (PDF) and more information about these and other road/utility projects in Ann Arbor can be found at a2gov.org/engineering.

City of Ann Arbor Citizens Academy. With the success of the Ann Arbor Citizens Police, Fire, and Courts Academy, the City of Arbor will launch an Ann Arbor Citizens Academy (A2CA) this spring to provide a broader view of local government for Ann Arbor residents. The City received a tremendous response rate by the March 2 deadline and applications are under review.

During a series of six weekly sessions, from March 28 to May 2, 6:30–8:30 p.m., participants will connect with city staff and elected officials and learn more about long-term city planning efforts, day-to-day operations and the importance of civic involvement. Session topics include: Finance and Budgeting; Voting and Elections; Parks and Recreation; Planning and Preservation; Public Works; Engineering; Sustainability; Water Quality; Police Services; Fire Services; Community Television Network; and City Council. The class will culminate with a graduation ceremony on May 7, 7–8:30 p.m.

For more information, visit www.a2gov.org/A2CA.

Other

Attend a Neighborhood Watch Community Meeting with the Ann Arbor Police Department. Ann Arbor Police Department is inviting residents and businesses in the city to attend a Neighborhood Watch Community Meeting. AAPD will share information about police department programs and changes within

the department; area-specific crime statistics; prevention tips; and how to stay informed and get involved. These meetings will also provide the opportunity to ask questions or voice concerns.

Meetings are being held throughout the city; and residents and businesses are encouraged to attend the meeting closest to them for information specific to their neighborhoods. ([See the map to determine the neighborhood area you're in](#) - PDF.)

- **Northeast Area Meeting** — Logan Elementary School Multipurpose Room, 2685 Traver Road, Tuesday, May 15, 2018, at 6:30 p.m.
- **Downtown and Southeast Area Meetings will be scheduled later in the year.**

If you have questions about these meetings, please contact the neighborhood watch coordinator, Police Service Specialist Jamie Giordano, at 734.794.6900, ext. 49528 or jgiordano@a2gov.org.

Civic Life in Ann Arbor is Focus of March 8 Forum. Join the conversation about sustainability in Ann Arbor! The City of Ann Arbor and the Ann Arbor District Library are presenting the third forum of the four-event 2018 Sustainable Ann Arbor series on Thursday, March 8, 7–8:30 p.m. This forum will examine the health of our civic life in Ann Arbor and takes place at the AADL Downtown Branch, 343 S. Fifth Ave. More information is available via a2gov.org/forums.

The City, in support of students at Ann Arbor Public Schools - Skyline High School submitted an application on February to be designated as an **All-American City** on February 28th.