

City Administrator's Report – October 16, 2017

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

Safety Notes

MRF Safety Improvements. The improvements Council approved at its last meeting are almost complete, resulting in a cleaner and safer working environment.

October is **Fire Prevention Month**, which is a great time to talk about fire safety in the workplace and at home. Additional information on how to protect your family and your workforce is available on A2gov.org.

Halloween is just around the corner, and the City again urges all drivers to be wary of ghosts, goblins, and all forms of small ghouls that will be on our streets. These creatures often have limited sight and visibility, so be alert and aware when traversing our neighborhoods on October 31st. **As always, let's GO BOO.**

Along with Halloween, **November 5th marks the conversion from Daylight Savings to Standard time.** The one-hour change means it will get dark earlier, and all members of our community should be aware that travelers will experience less visibility during the late afternoon. Along with the shorter daylight hours as we approach winter, morning commutes will also be darker. Be aware of pedestrians and cyclists, and **BE SAFE A2!**

Success Stories

Snow Preparedness. The Public Works team is prepared for the upcoming winter weather and potential snow events. The pilot program on winter parking restrictions will be extended this year, so check the City's web site for more information. Public Works will also be piloting the use of a liquid brine solution in lieu of salt. If the brine proves to provide better deicing, is more environmentally friendly, and is more cost effective, Public Works will expand its use in future years.

Emergency Management. Council and staff participated in a review of emergency management protocols and practices at Council's October 9th Work Session. The session included an exercise that re-familiarized all in attendance on roles and responsibilities during an emergency. Kudos to Fire Chief Larry Collins, Emergency Manager Rick Norman, and all staff leadership who made the evening a success.

Council Priorities/Initiatives

Ann Arbor Train Station. The Environmental Assessment was released for a 45-day public comment period. Electronic copies are available on the City's website, and written copies are available at the Ann Arbor City Clerk's office, located on the second floor of 301 E. Huron St. and the reference desk at Ann Arbor District Library's downtown branch located at 343 S. 5th Ave. The public comment period remains open through 5 p.m. Nov. 2, 2017. Comments may be submitted via email to: ecooper@a2gov.org or mailed to: Eli Cooper, Systems Planning, fourth floor, PO Box 8647, Ann Arbor, MI 48107.

Independent Review of Ann Arbor Police Department Community Engagement Practices. The City Administrator and City Attorney are reviewing the draft report received from Hillard Heintze. Once finalized the report will be released as a public document and formally presented to a joint Work Session of the City Council and Human Rights Commission, tentatively scheduled for November 16th.

Previews

The **October 16 Council Meeting** will be busy, with the following items of interest currently scheduled:

- On the consent agenda is a **Resolution to Approve Amendment No. 1 to Contract with White Buffalo, Inc. for Combined Surgical Sterilization and Sharpshooting Management Services for the City's Deer Population (\$35,940.00 amendment/NTE total \$205,940.00), Amend the FY18 Budget and Appropriate Necessary Funds (\$110,000.00) (8 Votes Required)**. Council action is requested to support staff moving forward with obtaining approvals and contract requirements to support this year's program, which will move the City closer to being at a "maintenance" stage and reduce future year costs.
- At First Reading is **An Ordinance to Amend the Code of the City of Ann Arbor by Repeal of Chapter 15, Emergency and Disaster Management, Title I, of the Code and Adding a New Chapter 15, Emergency and Disaster Management, Title I of Said Code**. As discussed at the October 9th work session, the amended ordinance clarifies roles and responsibilities, brings the ordinance into compliance with state and federal requirements, and establishes a structure and nomenclature consistent with all relevant guidance documents. A related item is the **Resolution to Accept and Appropriate Emergency Management Performance Grant Funds**.
- **Items CA-1, 2, and 3 Accept and appropriate Michigan Supreme Court Administrative Office Grants** that are necessary to continue the exceptional work of the District Court in the areas of drug abuse, mental health, and veterans' treatment.
- The **Resolution to Approve and Application to the Bloomberg Philanthropies 2017 Mayor Challenge** supports Council's priority to address community-wide housing affordability. The grant application is due October 26th.
- An **Ordinance to Amend Title VII of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor Repealing Chapter 95 (Medical Marijuana Licenses for Medical Marijuana Dispensaries) of Title VII of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor and By Adding a New Chapter 96 (Medical Marijuana Facilities) to Title VII of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor** is necessary to address upcoming licensing requirements from the state. Council had previously tabled this motion.
- Council will **consider a Resolution Establishing the Preservation and Fulfillment of State Funding Obligations to Municipalities as a City of Ann Arbor Legislative Policy**. This action is offered at the request of Council in response to pending state legislation to eliminate the Driver Responsibility Fine, a portion of which is currently designated to support local fire safety. Due to the time sensitivity of potential state action, this matter is being presented without prior consideration by the Council's Policy Agenda Committee.

- Items DS-1 and DS-2 related to **Three-Year Professional Service Contracts for Parks and Recreation were postponed from the October 2nd meeting.** Staff has provided the full draft copies of the contracts as requested.

WIP (Work in Progress)

Water main at the intersection of Plymouth and Green Roads. Work continues and is on schedule for completion during the month of November. More information is on [Plymouth and Green Water Main Replacement Project Page](#)

November 7th Elections. The City Clerk will administer Local elections on Tuesday, November 7th, with two items of note. First, these are the last odd-year Council elections as the conversion to four-year terms will be completed. Successful candidates in this year's election will serve 3-year terms. Second, this is the first election using the new voting machines procured from the state through the County. Voters should not experience any differences with the new equipment. Due to the election, the next City Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 9th. Newly elected Council Members will be seated in time for the November 13th Work Session (see below).

The design of the new **Morehead – Delaware Pedestrian Bridge** is complete. Construction is scheduled to start Monday, October 16, 2017, and will proceed as follows:

- Clearing the working area, excavating, and pouring concrete for the bridge foundations on each side of the creek
- Delivery and installation – scheduled for the beginning of November
- Construction of the sidewalk approaching the bridge and restoration of the disturbed area.

Staff anticipates completing work in mid-November.

Other

November Council Work Session. The November 13 Work Session will be the joint session with the Downtown Development Authority, at the CTN location, and will address parking management strategies.

Acting City Administrator October 18 - November 2. Craig Hupy will be the Acting City Administrator from October 18-29 while I attend the ICMA Conference in San Antonio followed by some vacation time. Please contact Craig Hupy chupy@a2gov.org and Sara Higgins shiggins@a2gov.org during my absence. I will participate as a panelist in the Assistant's Luncheon on the topic of non-traditional career paths to city management.

Network Testing and Upgrades. Wednesday, November 8th – The City's IT servers will be down from 9PM to 5AM on November 9th for maintenance. There will be no access to network applications during this period. Messages sent during this time will be queued in outboxes and will be delivered once the servers are brought on line. Incoming emails should stay queued on the originating servers. Kindly note that the

regular Council meeting for that week is scheduled for Thursday, November 9th due to the election on Tuesday, November 7th. Staff asks that you submit any questions you have earlier in the week to facilitate our responses to you.

Wednesday, November 15th – There will be a brief systems outage between 10 PM and 12AM to support the installation of the City’s new system firewalls. You should not experience any noticeable impact from the outage.

University Cities Conference. I attended the University Cities conference on October 13, 2017 at the University of Kentucky in the City of Lexington, along with Jim Kosteva, Director of Community Relations at the University of Michigan. Mr. Kosteva, Dr. John Burkhardt, and I provided a panel on **Equity in University Cities**. Other topics presented at the conference included the following:

- The Value of University Cities
- What do Concentrations of Human Capital in University Cities Produce?
- Governing a University + Policy Swap
- Impact Philanthropy in University Cities
- Entrepreneurship and Innovation in University Cities
- University-Anchored Innovation Districts.

The City of Lexington supported the costs for attendance. Participating cities are Ann Arbor (University of Michigan), Durham (Duke University), Fort Collins (Colorado State University), Lexington (University of Kentucky), Lincoln (University of Nebraska), and Madison (University of Wisconsin).



EVERYWHERE + EVERYONE + EVERY DAY.
a2gov.org/A2BeSafe