



City of Ann Arbor City Administrator's Report March 4, 2019

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

Safety Notes

A2 Be Safe! The City of Ann Arbor strives to incorporate safety and health in every aspect of our operations.

CodeRED. Boil-water alerts, flooding and other dangers can strike with little or no warning. If you rely on a cell phone only or have recently disconnected your landline telephone, then it's more important than ever to sign up for the city's [CodeRED emergency notification system](#). This could be the city's only way to reach you in an emergency situation. You can select text, cell phone, home phone and even email notification options. This free and vital service is managed by the City of Ann Arbor office of emergency management. Register online at www.a2gov.org/codered.

Success Stories

Conquer the Cold! The City of Ann Arbor smashed all opposition in the Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority (AAATA) Conquer the Cold Challenge and came in first place in the extra large organization (500+ users) category. Congratulations to all of our winter warriors!

Bridge Inspections. MDOT recently selected the City of Ann Arbor to have its bridge files reviewed/audited. The audit took place on Wednesday, February 20, 2019, and the City passed with flying colors. Congratulations to Mike Nearing of our engineering staff in leading this effort.

Public Meeting Automatic Alert System. In response to a call for greater transparency surrounding public meetings, the City of Ann Arbor has enabled an automatic alert feature providing members of the public a convenient way to keep informed about meetings of boards, commissions and committees. Alerts will inform subscribers when the city adds or updates information in the Legistar database. The alert email will also provide basic information about the meeting, with a direct link to the full meeting details. There will no longer be a need to open attached meeting notices and search online.

Starting in March, this robust alert feature will operate concurrently with the email distribution list for meeting notices maintained by the City Clerk's Office and will replace the subscriber list on April 1. So, if you currently receive meeting notice emails from the City Clerk's Office, please be sure to subscribe to the Legistar calendar alerts by April 1, 2019.

A guide to setting up Legistar alerts is available on the City Clerk's webpage or in the online [Guide to Setting Legistar Calendar Alerts](#) (PDF).

Council Priorities/Initiatives

FY20-21 Budget Planning. City Council Work Session discussions with staff for budget purposes will be held at Larcom City Hall, Council Chambers 2nd Floor, 301 E. Huron St. 7 p.m. Meetings will be available to view live in a variety of formats including: Comcast cable channel 16, AT&T UVerse Channel 99 or live [webstream](#). Citizens can also view the meeting later at their convenience via [CTN's Youtube channel](#). Topical items and scheduled dates are listed below:

DATE	TOPIC
February 11	General Fund (Completed)
February 25	Public Services (Completed)
March 11	Water Cost of Service Review and Rate Structure Alternatives Analysis

In accordance with City Charter, the City Administrator will submit the recommended financial plan for FY2020/2021 to City Council on April 15, 2019. Although the plan covers the next two fiscal years, City Council can only adopt one fiscal year at a time. City Council, with at least seven affirmative votes, must adopt the budget no later than its second meeting in May (May 20).

Citizen's Academy Version 2.0. The second session of the Ann Arbor Citizens Academy kicks-off with its first meeting on Wednesday, March 6th in the Basement Conference Room of City Hall. Slots for the academy were filled from the last year's waiting list.

Previews

The **March 4 Council Meeting** will feature the following items of interest:

Administrator's Communications

Memorandum from Parks Advisory Commission (PAC) regarding Proposed Resolution to Add "The Center of the City" to the List of Available Public Park Rental Facilities - February 15, 2019. At this point, with the property under contract to the DDA, PAC recommends continuing the process in place for the rental of the public space known as "Center of the City."

Communications from Council

A proposed ***Resolution to Appoint Members to the Independent Community Policy Oversight Commission (7 Votes Required)***. This item is currently scheduled a communication item on the March 4 Agenda and with intention for consideration at the March 18 Council meeting.

Items on Consent

Resolution to Approve Street Closings for the Ann Arbor Marathon Running Event - Sunday, March 24, 2019 (postponed from February, 2019 regular session)

Resolution to Enter a Lease with Huron River Holdings, LLC for Argo Overflow Parking at 412 and 416 Long Shore Drive. This resolution approves a one-year lease with up to three automatic renewals with Huron River Holdings, LLC for use of the parking lots at 412 and 416 Longshore Drive. These parking lots amount of street parking in the neighborhood during the livery season by park users.

Resolution to Petition the Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner for the City of Ann Arbor FY20 Tree Planting Project in the Huron River Green Infrastructure Drainage District. The petition will permit a project to design and implement stormwater control measures in the City through a Citywide Tree Planting Project. These improvements will reduce the amount of stormwater entering the City's stormwater piping network and reduce contaminant loading to the downstream creeks and the Huron River. The proposed improvements will improve water quality and reduce localized flooding in the project areas. The trees will be planted during the 2020 fiscal year (Fall 2019 and Spring 2020).

Resolution to Approve Execution of Articles of Incorporation for, and Becoming a Constituent Member of, the Washtenaw Regional Resource Management Authority (WRRMA). In 2017, Washtenaw County completed the 2017 Washtenaw County Solid Waste Management Plan Amendment. On January 16, 2018, City Council adopted a resolution supporting the amended plan, one of the goals of which is to "operate collaboratively within the County and regionally outside the County for a comprehensive sustainable materials management strategy."

Ordinances at Second Reading

An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 8 (Organization of Boards and Commissions), Section 1:210, Title I of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor to Allow Council to Waive City Employment Restriction (Independent Community Police Oversight Commission) (Ordinance No. ORD-19-05). This ordinance change provides Council with the ability to waive the five-year waiting period for former City employees for appointment to the ICPOC.

WIP (Work in Progress)

Street Construction Selection. The City's street selection web page has been updated. Most of the street construction work occurs through projects developed as part of the City's Street Resurfacing Program. The City plans work on major streets as part of the [Capital Improvements Plan](#) process. Residential streets are selected on an annual basis through the Resurfacing Program. Currently, the program operates by selecting a different area or cluster of areas in the City each year, and focuses the local street construction work within those areas. It is not surprising that streets in poor condition attract the most attention and generate the most complaints. Typically, once a street has deteriorated to this point, the only viable

options are either major resurfacing, rehabilitation, or reconstruction. If you would like to report a street that you feel is in poor condition, please contact the City's Street Resurfacing Program manager, David Dykman, at 734.794.6000 ext. 43685 or by e-mail at ddykman@a2gov.org. Staff also take into account issues submitted via [A2 Fix It](#). Please leave the following information:

- Name of the Street
- Limits (i.e. from First Street to Second Street)
- Your address and contact information (in case we have any questions)
- Any specific remarks or comments

Quiet Zone. The City of Ann Arbor is releasing the results of its [Quiet Zone Assessment](#), a study to consider options to improve safety and minimize the impacts of train horn noise at multiple at-grade highway-rail crossings throughout the community. The assessment began with a community engagement process in 2018, followed by a thorough review of Ann Arbor's infrastructure. The study determined that multiple crossing improvement scenarios are available, which would allow for the implementation of one or more quiet zones in Ann Arbor. Costs for the various options range from \$2.5 to 7.8 million. Staff will extend the response period for the survey through mid-March. We believed the brevity of the survey and the number of emails, approximately 120, we had for people who had expressed interest in this topic over several months meant that a 14 day period of time would suffice. The [full report](#) can be found online. In addition, city staff is seeking feedback from residents on the options presented in the report. A [two-question survey](#) is available until March 15, 2019 on the city website through A2 Open City Hall.

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

ITEM	DUE DATE	DUE DATE	STATUS
R-18-498	Resolution Providing Council Guidance on the Citizen Survey to Obtain Community Input on the Utilization of Council Mental Health & Public Safety Millage Proceeds	February 28, 2019	Underway; anticipated by March 25, 2019

Other

Portion of B2B Trail in Riverside The Riverside Park Closed for Repairs. The Riverside Park boardwalk portion of the Border-to-Border Trail, between Wall Street and Pontiac Trail, is in need of repair as part of ongoing maintenance. Work started on Tuesday, Feb. 26 and is expected to be complete in May, based on the weather. Signs and barricades will be installed to safely direct users away from the construction zone. The city asks that trail users follow the posted detour as they ride, walk, rollerblade and commute along this trail.

While the temporary closure is an inconvenience to users, the replacement of the boardwalk is intended to provide longer-term durability. A [detour map](#) (PDF) is available for an alternate route. Additionally, the city bike map is available at www.a2gov.org/bike to determine other alternate routes.

A generous grant from the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission will pay for 50 percent of the construction costs.

Any questions can be directed to Landscape Architect/Park Planner Hillary Hanzel at hhanzel@a2gov.org. The city thanks trail users in advance for their patience.