



## City of Ann Arbor City Administrator's Report April 1, 2019

Prepared for Council. Kindly forward questions, comments, or suggestions for input to [hlazarus@a2gov.org](mailto:hlazarus@a2gov.org) or [shiggins@a2gov.org](mailto:shiggins@a2gov.org).

### Safety Notes

**A2 Be Safe!** Severe weather is most common during spring and summer and tornadoes are known for developing rapidly, with little advanced warning. The average lead time for a tornado warning is 10 to 15 minutes, which is why Ann Arbor residents are encouraged to prepare and make a plan before a tornado strikes.

To be ready for a tornado, the Michigan State Police recommend that you do the following:

- Know the difference: **Tornado Watch** means conditions exist for a tornado to develop; **Tornado Warning** means a tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar.
- Know the signs of an approaching tornado dark, often greenish sky; large hail; a large, dark low-lying cloud; and loud roar, like a freight train.
- Develop an emergency preparedness kit with essential items such as a three-day supply of water and food, a NOAA Weather Radio, important family documents and items that satisfy unique family needs.
- Conduct regular tornado drills. Make sure each household member knows where to go and what to do in the event of a tornado.
- Stay tuned to commercial radio or television broadcasts for news on changing weather conditions or approaching storms.

### Success Stories

Our human resources staff is prepared to implement the **New Michigan Paid Medical Leave Act**. The City's benefit plan provides greater coverage for temporary employees than the state mandates, including workers under the age of 18, a waiver of the 90-day waiting period, and extending the law to cover all temporary part-time (TPT) and temporary full-time (TFT) staff members.

The **Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority (AAATA) Commuter Challenge** begins May 1<sup>st</sup>. All staff members and City Council members are encourage to sign up and record their trips. Let's continue the winning momentum from our smashing of all opposition in the Conquer the Winter Challenge, and set an example for sustainability and carbon reduction.

**Public Services** staff who supported the City of Grand Rapids in the aftermath of a February ice storm are being recognized for their service. Staff members are Logan Stolly, Kyle Tite, Bill Dale, Aldo Ianelli, and Glen Thomas.

## Council Priorities/Initiatives

**FY20-21 Budget Planning.** The City Administrator will submit the 2020/21 Financial Plan to Council at the April 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Council will consider the first readings of proposed rates on that date. Council will hold public hearings on rates and fees at its May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, and will adopt the final budget on May 20<sup>th</sup>. Council meetings are scheduled 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 meetings later at their convenience via [CTN's Youtube channel](#).

## Previews

The **April 1 Council Meeting** will feature the following items of interest:

**Items on Consent.** The consent agenda includes Resolution No. 3 Establishing a **Public Hearing** on May 6, 2019 for the **Northside STEAM Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Gap Special Assessment Project**. This improvement includes constructing a new sidewalk along both sides of Traver Street between John A. Woods Drive and Barton Drive, along the south side of John A. Woods Drive between Pontiac Street and Pear Street, also along the north side of Barton Drive west of Starwick Drive, also along the west side of Starwick Drive north of Barton Drive, and along portions of both sides of Brookside Drive between Delafield Drive and Pontiac Trail. Also included on the consent agenda are numerous construction contracts related to upcoming 2019 Sidewalk Repair Program construction projects. These contacts are necessary to support our goal of maintaining a safe infrastructure.

Three contract resolutions supporting the **2019 Sidewalk Repair Program** are on the agenda. During the past seven construction seasons, the Sidewalk Repair Program has provided repairs to sidewalks throughout the City. Beginning in 2017, the Program returned to neighborhoods repaired in 2012. The attached map shows the areas of the City that will be targeted in 2019. The Program work included in this agreement consists of the replacement of sidewalk slabs with "vaulted" or "displaced" joints greater than 1 inch in height, and installation of new sidewalk or Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant ramps.

The **Resolution to Approve a Five-Year Collaboration Agreement with Community Action Network for Operation of Bryant and Northside Community Centers** continues the collaboration to meet the social and recreation needs of our community.

The **Resolution to Approve and Ratify an Agreement with the Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority** continues to promote bike-sharing benefits the City by introducing cycling, providing bicycles throughout downtown and campus areas, enhancing transit access, improving public health, and reducing greenhouse gases and congestion. The City's Non-Motorized Transportation Plan identified bike sharing as an

appropriate initiative. Further, the City's 2012 Climate Action Plan identified "a community-University bike-sharing program" as a plan goal. The Program is a joint effort of the City, AAATA, the DDA, and the University of Michigan, with AAATA serving as program administrator. Last fall, AAATA selected a new operator, Shift Transit. for the 2019 Bikeshare Program

**Public Hearings.** The agenda includes one Public Hearing:

**PH-1:** At second reading is **An Ordinance to Amend Title VI (Food and Health) of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor by Adding a New Chapter 73 (Two-Cycle Power Equipment).** This proposed ordinance would ban the use of two-cycle power equipment within the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) area.

**Unfinished/New Business items from Council.** The agenda contains the following items:

**DC-2: Resolution Establishing Center of the City Task Force** (postponed from the February 19, 2019 Regular Session)

**WIP (Work in Progress)**

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

ITEM	TITLE	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	<a href="#">Ann Arbor Spending Priorities Survey Report 2019-03-22</a> provided and posted on web.
ORD-17-02	Chapter 120 (Solicitation of Immigrant Status)	March 31, 2019	<a href="#">Annual report</a> included as a City Administrator's Communication Item on April 1, 2019 Council Agenda. There were no violation complaints.
R-18-291	Resolution to Support One Community Initiative and Ongoing Equity Work	March 31, 2019	<a href="#">FY19Q3 Report</a> included as a City Administrator's Communication item on the April 1, 2019 Council Agenda
R-18-499	Resolution Directing the city Administrator to Develop and Present to Council by March 31, 2019 a List of Feasible Alternatives to Review the Recently-Adopted Water Rate Restructuring Ordinance	March 31, 2019	<a href="#">Memorandum from City Administrator: Water Rate Alternatives – Revenue Requirements</a> included as a City Administrator's Communication Item on the April 1, 2019 Council Agenda. Council Work Session held March 11, 2019

**Compost Collection Resumes April 1.** The weekly curbside collection of compostable material in the city of Ann Arbor resumes Monday, April 1, 2019, on regular collection days. Compost season runs through Friday, Dec. 6, 2019. Residents can take advantage of curbside composting by utilizing optional compost carts, yard waste bags or by bundling larger branches/brush and placing at the curb.

**Annual Spring Fire Hydrant Flushing Begins April 2.** The City of Ann Arbor’s annual fire hydrant inspections and system maintenance will begin Tuesday, April 2, 2019. This annual process consists of testing the flow and/or flushing water through selected area hydrants. Residents may observe a fire hydrant with water coming out of the side opening during this spring maintenance. A map of the hydrant flushing/inspection/maintenance areas is available at [www.a2gov.org/annarborhydflush](http://www.a2gov.org/annarborhydflush). The boundaries shaded in red indicate the current hydrant flushing area(s) (as of April 2, 2019). Any blue-shaded boundaries that appear indicate the areas scheduled next for flushing.

Why is it helpful to know when hydrant flushing and flow testing are happening in your neighborhood? On occasion, the water in your home or businesses may have an orange or rusty appearance. The water is safe to use and drink, but it can cause stains to laundry if the discoloration is not first cleared from the lines. If this occurs, products like “Rover” can help remove temporary laundry coloration. The water discoloration is being caused by iron sediment in the water main being disturbed by the hydrant flushing. If this occurs, please run your **COLD** water for several minutes and flush your toilet to clear your lines.

Please do not run hot or warm water, as this forces the discolored water into the water heater, mixing it with clear stored water. If you do get rusty water in your hot water tank, it is necessary to drain the hot water tank per the manufacturer's instructions.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the hydrant flushing process, the city is available to help you. Please call City of Ann Arbor Customer Service at 734.794.6320 or visit [www.a2gov.org/departments/public-works/Pages/Hydrant-Flushing.aspx](http://www.a2gov.org/departments/public-works/Pages/Hydrant-Flushing.aspx), where you can also subscribe to receive free email updates of the hydrant flushing schedule.

**April 8 Public Meeting will Discuss Water Treatment Plant UV Disinfection System Project.** The City of Ann Arbor Water Treatment staff will hold a public hearing on the proposed water treatment plant ultraviolet (UV) light disinfection system project for the purpose of receiving comments from interested persons. The hearing will be 6–7 p.m. Monday, April 8, 2019, at the City of Ann Arbor Water Treatment Plant, 919 Sunset Road, Ann Arbor.

The purpose of the proposed project is to install an additional disinfection barrier at the Ann Arbor drinking water treatment plant to assist with meeting new regulations for the treatment of cryptosporidium. Cryptosporidium is a microscopic waterborne parasite that can be found in stormwater runoff, agricultural runoff, failed septic systems or sewage overflows. The city's current treatment processes, including ozone disinfection and filtration, are effective at removing cryptosporidium, but new regulations require additional treatment. For more information regarding the project, visit [www.a2gov.org/news](http://www.a2gov.org/news).

**City to Host Free Power Hours April 11 & April 29.** The City of Ann Arbor is inviting residents to learn more about installing solar energy and improving the energy efficiency of their homes at free "Power Hours." With the cost of solar potentially increasing soon, residents can find out now how to make their homes more comfortable, reduce the cost of energy bills, help combat climate change, and potentially get the solar panels they've always wanted.

Upcoming events are taking place:

- Thursday, April 11, 6 p.m. at Slauson Middle School, 1019 W. Washington St., Ann Arbor 48103.
- Monday, April 29, 6 p.m. at Cobblestone Farm, 2781 Packard St., Ann Arbor 48108.

Presenters at the events will include representatives from the following organizations:

- Michigan Saves: Discussing their contractor network and energy efficiency and solar financing options.
- DTE Energy: Discussing their home energy consultations and rebate programs.
- Ann Arbor Energy Commission members: Sharing details on how to go solar.

Attendees can also speak with solar installers and energy efficiency contractors to learn about opportunities to increase the energy efficiency of their homes. Residents can get connected with resources, as well, to evaluate whether their homes are candidates for solar. A children's area will be provided while parents attend the sessions. To learn more about the city's energy office and initiatives, visit [www.a2gov.org/energy](http://www.a2gov.org/energy).

**April Events with Natural Area Preservation.** 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's parks. These tasks are performed by both staff and volunteers. To find out more about volunteer opportunities coming up in April are for more information about NAP, visit [www.a2gov.org/NAP](http://www.a2gov.org/NAP).

**Apply by May 1 to Participate in Read Ann Arbor Training.** The Ann Arbor Police and Fire departments are launching a new community preparedness training for residents. Modeled after the Department of Homeland Security's Ready campaign, Ready Ann Arbor will aim to educate and empower the public to prepare for, respond to and mitigate emergencies, including natural and manmade disasters, while promoting preparedness through public involvement. This two-day program will take place Saturdays, May 11 and 18, 2019, 8 a.m.–3 p.m. The topics covered during Ready Ann Arbor training will include crime prevention, hands-only CPR, personal safety, basic first aid, active shooter response training, home fire safety, an overview of resources in the community and how to use a fire extinguisher. Participants selected into the program will be required to attend both days of training.

Ann Arbor residents, ages 18 years and older, wishing to apply to attend the Ready Ann Arbor training can find the application on the police department website, [www.a2gov.org/police](http://www.a2gov.org/police). The deadline to apply to participate is Wednesday, May 1, 2019. The class is limited to 23 people.

If you have questions, please contact Ann Arbor Police Service Specialist Susan Casey at 734.794.6900, ext. 49526, or [scasey@a2gov.org](mailto:scasey@a2gov.org). A background check will be conducted on all applicants; applicants will then be notified if accepted into the program.