


THE BIRMINGHAM BEAT

VOLUME TWENTY-NINE, NO. 1 FALL 2021/WINTER 2022



City of Birmingham Newsletter



 City Government of Birmingham, MI

  @bhamgov

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248-530-1800 | 151 MARTIN STREET, BIRMINGHAM, MI 48009

CITY MANAGER

Changes are on the horizon in Birmingham. As we look toward the upcoming seasons and the year ahead, we have much to look forward to. From recreation and City planning to new elected officials and downtown enhancements, it's an exciting time to be in Birmingham.

Change can be uncomfortable, but ultimately should be embraced. As terms end and we bid farewell to Commissioner Rackeline Hoff, Commissioner Mark Nickita and Commissioner Stuart Sherman, we are grateful for their many years of service. We are pleased with the strong interest in our three open City Commission positions and encourage you to vote this fall. Find information about the upcoming election on page 5.

Changes are also underway as the City continues to evaluate and improve the way we communicate with you. Our redesigned website, still at www.bhamgov.org, will launch this fall. The site's updated design and improved functionality will make it easier than ever to find the information you are looking for. Plans are also underway to utilize a citizen request app to assist residents in submitting a question or concern to the City. Keep an eye on www.bhamgov.org/stayintouch for the latest updates on this initiative.

As we gear up for the next phase of downtown infrastructure improvements, we are excited about changes scheduled for South Old Woodward between Brown and Landon. The 2022 project is the third phase in our enhancement process, and will be a continuation of the award-winning 2018 Old Woodward Reconstruction Project and 2020 Maple Road Reconstruction Project. Learn about the South Old Woodward Reconstruction Phase 3 project on page 7.

By the time you receive this newsletter, the highly anticipated second draft of the Citywide Master Plan for 2040 will soon be available for public input. This important document will guide Birmingham's future for the next 20 years. We encourage you to view it in mid-October and share your feedback at www.thebirminghamplan.com. Learn more about the plan on page 4.

As changes unfold in our community, I encourage you to get involved by joining a board or committee. From art and historic preservation to parks and transportation, we offer boards and committees that satisfy many interests. Volunteer opportunities are also available at the Birmingham Museum (see page 10). The exceptionally high level of resident involvement in Birmingham strengthens our community and makes it the special place it is today.

Cooling temperatures and changing leaves are right around the corner. As we head indoors during the upcoming seasons, I encourage you to use caution as we experience yet another spike in COVID cases. Fall is a beautiful time to be outdoors. Enjoy the crisp air and the colors around you as you walk along the trails, explore our parks or hit the links at our golf courses. I encourage you to get vaccinated, mask up, and stay safe.

If I can be of assistance to you, please contact me at tmarkus@bhamgov.org or 248-530-1808.

Sincerely,

Tom Markus
City Manager



Quarton Lake Trail

COVID UPDATES

The City continues to stay connected with residents and share the latest City and COVID-19 information in a rapidly changing environment. Residents are encouraged to visit www.bhamgov.org/virusprevention for information pertaining to COVID-19.

City Offices

The City Hall lobby remains accessible to the public through the Martin Street entrance on the north side of City Hall during regular business hours, Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Main floor services, including the Clerk's and Treasurer's offices, are accessible. Necessary in-person meetings between City Hall employees and the public will take place at a designated location on the main floor of City Hall. Please note that social distancing of 6 feet should be maintained during all in-person meetings. The Police Department lobby entrance on the east side of City Hall on Pierce Street continue to operate as the point of contact for all off-hour requests. Visit www.bhamgov.org/contacts to view a list of department contact numbers for services needed.



City Meetings

City Commission and other City boards meet in-person with a virtual option available to the public. The virtual option is provided to help reduce the volume of people inside meeting rooms at any given time. Individuals who would like to attend meetings in person can access City Hall from the Martin Street entrance during normal business hours, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. For meetings that occur after hours, visitors can access City Hall through the Police Department lobby entrance on Pierce Street. Members of the public who prefer to attend meetings virtually may learn how to participate at www.bhamgov.org/participate. You may also watch many City meetings on your local cable access channel and by webstreaming on the City's Vimeo channel.



Masks

The highly transmissible COVID-19 Delta variant is spreading throughout the nation at an alarming rate. As a result, the CDC is recommending that vaccinated and unvaccinated personnel wear a face mask indoors while in public if you live or work in a substantial or high-transmission area. Oakland County is currently classified as a high transmission area. The City has reinstated mask requirements for all City employees while indoors. The mask requirement also applies to all board and commission members as well as the public attending public meetings.

Forms & Payments

Forms and payments may be submitted 24/7 via the drop box located behind City Hall, or use the drive-up drop box located near the driveway entrance off of Henrietta. Documents such as building permit applications and plans can be picked up at the Police Department entrance on the east side of City Hall and dropped off in the Community Development drop box located behind the building. As part of the City's operational relief efforts, most City forms, applications and payment submissions are also available at www.bhamgov.org/formsandpayments.

WHAT'S NEW

Register and Share Feedback on Engage Birmingham

Exciting new projects will debut on Engage Birmingham this fall. Are you registered?

As an Engage Birmingham participant, you will have an opportunity to share feedback about a revised Adams Park concept drawing, pickleball site evaluations, food trucks, South Old Woodward reconstruction and more. Register at engage.bhamgov.org and share your feedback today. Projects change frequently, so check in often. We are listening!



Second Draft of Master Plan Now Available

By the time this newsletter reaches mailboxes, the highly anticipated second draft of the Citywide Master Plan for 2040 will soon be available for your review. This important document will help shape the future of Birmingham for the next 20 years. While a master plan does not rezone property, it is a framework setting the course for what the City may or may not do in the future.

We want to hear your opinion, preferences, and vision for the community's future. You are encouraged to review the plan (available mid-October) and share your feedback at www.thebirminghamplan.com. The site includes relevant data, surveys, documents and an email communication option to send comments directly to the planning team. Information about how to participate in upcoming Planning Board meetings can be found at www.bhamgov.org/planningboard.

2040

New City Website Coming Soon

Keep an eye out for the new and improved bhamgov.org in the coming months! The new site will feature a clean design with increased functionality to help users find what they're looking for quickly and easily. Advanced features will include a curated homepage search, reservation app, enhanced calendar, citizen request form, and more.

CONNECT WITH US






Are You Receiving Important Updates from the City?

Now more than ever, it is important for every resident to receive real-time information from the City. What information will you receive? Here are some recent examples:

- Police & Fire alerts
- Flooded roadways
- Woodward Avenue closure
- Downed power lines
- Storm debris collection
- Water main breaks

Other important alerts may include a missing person, gas leak and more. Connect with us and don't miss important information that could protect you and your loved ones.

If you haven't joined our email list or followed our social media accounts, what are you waiting for? It's quick and easy!

-  Citywide Email (emergency alerts, neighborhood-specific updates, e-newsletter) – bit.ly/bhamnews
-  Facebook – City Government of Birmingham, MI
-  Twitter & Instagram - [@bhamgov](https://www.instagram.com/bhamgov)
-  Nextdoor – City of Birmingham
-  Nixle – Police & Fire emergency alerts. Text 48009 to 888777 or visit nixle.com.



CITY CLERK

Election News

In Birmingham's Nov. 2, 2021 election, voters will elect three City Commissioners and four Library Board Members (three regular four-year terms and one partial term).

Some important dates to remember:

- **Oct. 18** — Last day to register to vote by mail or at mi.gov/vote
- **Oct. 19–Nov. 2** — Unregistered voters must schedule an appointment to register in person with the Clerk's Office.
- **Oct. 29 by 5 p.m.** — Last day to request an absentee ballot sent to you by mail.
- **Nov. 1 at 4 p.m.** — Deadline for obtaining an absentee ballot in person at the Clerk's Office.
- **Nov. 2 — Election Day.** Polls are open 7 a.m.–8 p.m.
- **Nov. 2 by 8 p.m.** — Deadline for all absentee ballots to be received and processed at the Clerk's Office. Any absentee ballots received after 8 p.m. on Election Day will not be counted.



Additional Considerations

Are you registered to vote in Birmingham? If you're not certain, need to register or change your address, visit mi.gov/vote. This website is a great tool for these tasks and more, including finding the location of your polling place and tracking your absentee ballot mailing and received dates.

If you wish to vote absentee, you must complete an application for an absentee ballot. If your name is on



Michigan's permanent absent voter list, this application was mailed to your address on file in late August. If you didn't receive an application, the fastest way to get one is via MI.gov/vote. On the left sidebar, select "Absentee Voting." Next, under absentee voter ballot applications, click on the first bullet labeled "Apply Online." This takes you to the online application; please complete it and click submit. Alternately, you may download an application from

the City's website at www.bhamgov.org/absenteevoting or pick one up from the Clerk's Office. Please make sure to sign your application and ballot envelope!

Does the Clerk's Office have your current address, phone number and email? We need a method to contact you with questions about your absentee ballot or application, or if you forget to sign. If you will not be at your residential address in October and are voting absentee, please inform the Clerk's Office of your temporary address to ensure you receive your absentee ballot. By law, official election mail cannot be forwarded by the post office.

Birmingham's ballot drop boxes are a secure, 24-hour option for returning ballots, and — keeping in mind the deadlines above — voter registrations and absentee ballot applications. Drive-up and walk-up ballot boxes are located behind City Hall.

Other Election News

The polling location for Precinct 6 will permanently move to the Baldwin Public Library starting with this election. The new location allows more space for voters to socially distance than the previous area in City Hall. Affected voters will receive new voter registration cards by mail before the election.

Interested in becoming an election inspector? Please contact the Clerk's Office at 248-530-1880. A downloadable inspector application and additional details are available at www.bhamgov.org/electioninspectors.

PARKS & RECREATION BOND UPDATES

Birmingham Ice Arena Renovation/Addition Project nears completion

Progress continues on the Birmingham Ice Arena Renovation/Addition Project, which is on schedule for completion this fall. The arena, utilized by more than 6,000 people each year, will benefit from the following upgrades: locker room expansion and remodel of the existing locker rooms, adding an additional locker room and dedicated team locker room, a new observation area and meeting room space, and new concession area upgrades.

Have you seen the exciting changes taking place at the arena? Visit engage.bhamgov.org to view before and after photos, project highlights and the remaining steps toward completion.

Pickleball Courts

The Birmingham Parks and Recreation Board, through its Capital Projects Sub-Committee and City staff, has been evaluating potential locations for Pickleball Courts. The City surveyed the public for input on

Engage Birmingham, engage.bhamgov.org, presenting five potential locations: the northeast corner of Lincoln Street and Eton Street (part of Kenning Park), Crestview Park, St. James Park, Poppleton Park and West Lincoln Well Park.

City administration is working with a consultant who is conducting site evaluations at each location. This

includes feasibility, design, parking, accessibility and more. Their findings, when available, will be shared with the Parks and Recreation Board and on Engage Birmingham — as Pickleball 2.0!

Keep an eye on the Parks and Recreation Board meeting agendas and Engage Birmingham for updates and more public input opportunities on this exciting park project!

Adams Park

Plans are underway for a revised concept drawing of Adams Park. City staff met with neighborhood groups to create the revised concept plan, which has been reviewed by Roeper School and will be shared on Engage Birmingham soon. Visit engage.bhamgov.org to share your feedback on the vision for Adams Park.



HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRANT

City Receives Grant to Create Historical Preservation Guidelines

The City of Birmingham has recently been awarded a \$15,000 grant from the State Historic Preservation Office's Certified Local Government program. With the grant, the City of Birmingham will retain a professional consultant or team of consultants specializing in a combination of historical preservation, architecture and planning to create the City's first set of comprehensive historical preservation design guidelines.

The new design guidelines will synthesize and summarize nearly 50 years of historical preservation efforts in the City while also preparing for the future with design specifics such as materials and architecture. Using the new design guidelines, the Birmingham Historic District Commission will be better suited to perform their duties in an environment where development pressures are tremendous and

ongoing. Ultimately, the new set of design guidelines is intended to refresh the City's preservation efforts, and remain positively positioned as materials, craftsmanship and preferences change with time.

The project is expected to kick off this fall, and we hope that you will tune in and add your input! Keep an eye out for postings on Birmingham's social media pages and the Historic District Commission agenda, or send an email to ndupuis@bhamgov.org for more information.



2022 SOUTH OLD WOODWARD PROJECT

Downtown Infrastructure Improvements Set to Continue During 2022 South Old Woodward Reconstruction Phase 3 Project

Throughout the past several years, we have seen beautiful enhancements to the downtown area during Phases 1 and 2 of downtown infrastructure improvements. Below-ground upgrades resulted in improved water and sewer systems, while above-ground enhancements provided a safer and aesthetically pleasing experience for pedestrian and vehicle traffic. Next year, a third phase of improvements will take place with the reconstruction of South Old Woodward between Brown and Landon.

When will the South Old Woodward Reconstruction Phase 3 Project take place?

Phase 3 of downtown infrastructure improvements will begin in the spring/summer of 2022 and is expected to be complete within four to five months.

What improvements are planned for the project?

The reconstruction project will result in new underground infrastructure and new streetscape between Brown and Landon. Similar to the award-winning 2018 Old Woodward Reconstruction Project and 2020 Maple Road Reconstruction projects, design features will include:

- Curb bump-outs at each intersection to improve crosswalks for pedestrians. Mid-block crosswalks, raised planter beds and landscape features will also be added.
- Enhancements such as exposed aggregate concrete, granite bench seating areas, new street lights, and cell phone charging stations.
- Improved on-street accessible parking spaces, each served with an individual sidewalk ramp to improve conditions for those needing accommodations.



Will there be changes to parking along this section of South Old Woodward?

Yes. This project area has “tee” intersections at Daines, Hazel, East Frank, Bowers, Haynes and George. At these intersections, bump-outs will be incorporated to improve crosswalk conditions and driver safety, thereby eliminating some parking spaces that are located opposite of the street approach. Other factors that will contribute to a reduction in parking spaces include ADA accessibility improvements and moving the bus stop for northbound Old Woodward from its current location on Bowers (under the elevated parking deck for the 555 building) to a safer location on South Old Woodward, north of Bowers.

Recent parking meter data was reviewed to see the current utilization of parking spaces in the project area. There are currently 154 current parking spaces in the project area, with an average utilization of 36% (approximately 55 vehicles occupying spaces). Based on

the concept plan being developed, 94 parking spaces are proposed (net reduction of 60 spaces). Using the current parking meter data, the proposed parking utilization would be 60% for the conceptual configuration.

Our goal for parking space utilization is typically 85% occupancy, so even with the reduced spaces in the proposed concept, the overall utilization shows some excess parking capacity will remain.

How can I share feedback with the City?

The City’s public engagement platform, Engage Birmingham (engage.bhamgov.org), offers the community an opportunity to share feedback about their experiences as a pedestrian and driver on the previous phases of the project.

Want to learn more?

Sign up for the South Old Woodward Reconstruction Phase 3 Constant Contact group at bit.ly/bhamnews. More information can also be found at www.bhamgov.org/oldwoodwardphase3.

BIRMINGHAM SHOPPING DISTRICT

All Birmingham Shopping District events follow current public health and safety state and local guidelines and recommendations in place at the time of the event.

Celebrate Halloween at the Birmingham Farmers Market

Sunday, Oct. 31, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Public Parking Lot 6,
660 North Old Woodward Avenue

The Birmingham Farmers Market will host the final market of the season on Sunday, Oct. 31, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Find bountiful fall produce, flowers, Halloween-themed decor and more. Children are encouraged to wear Halloween costumes and stop by vendors for a special treat. Celebrate with us as we say goodbye until next spring!



Santa House* and Carriage Rides

Nov. 27-Dec. 24, Weekends — All Season
Shain Park

Make an appointment for a personal visit with Santa at his quaint home in Shain Park this holiday season. While you're here, be sure to take a horse-drawn carriage ride for a tour of beautiful downtown Birmingham. As always, Santa House and carriage rides are complimentary and all are welcome!



Small Business Saturday — Join Us As We Kick Off the Holiday Season!

Saturday, Nov. 27, 9:30 a.m.
Downtown Birmingham

Kick off the holiday season with shopping incentives and holiday festivities during Small Business Saturday on Nov. 27! Children of all ages are invited to participate in welcoming Santa to town during the Birmingham Santa Walk — a short walk through town that ends at Santa's quaint home in Shain Park. Stay for a personal visit with Santa*, complimentary horse-drawn carriage ride and all that this special event has to offer! Parking is free in structures all day.

Thank you for supporting Birmingham businesses by shopping local during Small Business Saturday and throughout the holiday season!



*Santa visits are by appointment only. Please visit the Events Calendar at www.ALLINBirmingham.com/Calendar for details closer to the event date. Sign up to receive the latest information on events from the Birmingham Shopping District at www.ALLINBirmingham.com/enews. Join us on Facebook @ [Birmingham Shopping District](https://www.facebook.com/BirminghamShoppingDistrict) and Instagram @ [bhamshopping](https://www.instagram.com/bhamshopping).

BIRMINGHAM SHOPPING DISTRICT

Birmingham Winter Markt and Holiday Tree Lighting

Dec. 3-5 • Shain Park

- Friday, Dec. 3, 4-9 p.m. (Holiday Tree Lighting, 6 p.m.)
- Saturday, Dec. 4, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.
- Sunday, Dec. 5, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Experience the magic of the holidays at the annual Birmingham Winter Markt, featuring displays from local artists and vendors, European cuisine, thousands of holiday lights, ice sculptures, live entertainment, complimentary carriage rides and more. Warming stations, Santa House, live reindeer and the Kinderhaus children's activity area are sure to please visitors of all ages! Opening night, Friday, Dec. 3, will feature the Holiday Tree Lighting at 6 p.m. All are invited to join Santa and Birmingham's mayor for live caroling and the lighting of the 35-foot holiday tree adorned with over 40,000 LED lights! Learn more at www.ALLINBirmingham.com/WinterMarkt.



SAVE THE DATE: Birmingham Restaurant Week Returns in January!

Visit www.ALLINBirmingham.com/Restaurantweek for dates, participating restaurants and menus.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Building Department

We Hope to See You Soon, Birmingham but Until Then...

As we remain hopeful COVID-19 restrictions will continue to lift, we still find ourselves pivoting from state and local mandates and developing strategies for the continued safety of the public and our staff.

Fortunately, the Building Department has remained adaptable because of the extensive and diligent planning that we had already committed to our online transition.

Even as we slowly but optimistically plan our re-opening, we will continue the use of our online platform for project submissions and inspection scheduling. Since

the launch of online permit acceptance, we have processed 3,881 permit applications! You can find more information about this digital transition, including instructions for creating an account and navigating the BS&A Online site, on our website at: www.bhamgov.org/buildingpermitsandapplications.

When we do resume in-person business, please know that we have implemented several operational safety measures such as the installation of Plexi-glas dividers, use of air purifiers for enhanced air filtration, daily office disinfectant and cleaning, and we are also continuing to utilize the Community Development drop box for project submissions. This drop box is located in the Police Station parking lot across from the Townsend Hotel.

If you need to submit oversized drawings or have project submission questions, call the Building Department at 248-530-1850.



BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM

Birmingham Museum Offers a Range of Volunteer Projects — Help Us Tell Birmingham's Story!

Volunteers and museums just naturally go together, but the Birmingham Museum wants to help volunteers find just the right project for them. The museum's mission is to tell Birmingham's story — and there is a lot to tell.

Because there are many ways to tell it, the museum has refreshed and expanded its volunteer program to offer more ways for you to participate. There are lots of ways (on both a regular and occasional basis) that volunteers can help the museum accomplish its goals. We are flexible and able to accommodate most interests and ages — from students to seniors.

Interested? The following questions might be helpful in determining if we would be a good fit for you.

What do you love? Your passion can offer a lot in helping the museum in its mission. Is genealogy your thing? Do you enjoy wandering through our beautiful Greenwood Cemetery and appreciating how special it is? We have research projects and tools that you can use to help us map out information about Birmingham's families or those buried in Greenwood, to make it easier for others to learn about our past. Do you like talking with people of all ages and sharing your love of history? Our small group walking tours and on-site building tours are especially successful with enthusiastic tour leaders.

What are you curious about? Your curiosity might just open up a whole new area of research, or you might discover an important treasure trove of information. Do you wonder what life was like in Birmingham in a previous period of history? Do old photos and newspaper items spark your interest? Would you like to learn how to research a family tree? Or how to digitize archival photos and documents?

What can you offer from your background and experience? Many hands

make light work, and the Birmingham Museum seeks to provide the best experience we can with the resources we have available. Skilled volunteers can help us achieve even more. Are you good at reading old documents in longhand or reading original blueprints? Do you know your way around a camera or have a background in photography or videography? Maybe you have expertise in planning and coordinating public events? Or have a graphics and communication background? If so, we have special projects from time to time that might be just the ticket for you!

When are you available? Volunteer projects are often going on behind the scenes, but our public hours are the busiest for volunteers. The museum's staff are on site all day, but our public hours are Tuesday to Saturday, 1 to 4 p.m., and the first Thursday of the month, 1 to 8 p.m., pending COVID conditions. Remote volunteer projects are also occasionally available.

Fill out a volunteer interest application at bit.ly/2VBY47o and let us know more about you! Or, for more information, contact the Birmingham Museum at 248-530-1682, via email at lpielack@bhamgov.org or visit the museum's webpage to find out more about Birmingham's history at www.bhamgov.org/museum.

You can also do a deeper dive at Facebook (www.facebook.com/TheBirminghamMuseum/) Instagram (www.instagram.com/birmingham_museum_mi/), Twitter (twitter.com/bham_museum) and at YouTube (www.youtube.com/watch?v=9VNTTymC0Bk)!



POLICE DEPARTMENT



Birmingham Police Accredited by the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission

After an extensive process, the Birmingham Police Department has officially obtained the status of an accredited agency through the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Program.

Accreditation is a progressive and time-proven way of helping law enforcement agencies calculate and improve their overall performances.

A thorough self-analysis was completed to determine which of our existing operations already met some of the standards and/or how the procedures can be adapted to meet the standards and professional objectives. Once the procedures were in place, a team of trained Accreditation Commission assessors verified that applicable standards have been successfully implemented and our agency was in compliance.

A hearing was held by the Accreditation Commission to review the assessors' report and to conduct an interview with Chief Mark Clemence and our accreditation team. The Accreditation Commission voted unanimously to approve the Birmingham Police Department accredited status.

Birmingham Police is one of only 6% of all law enforcement agencies in the state that have reached this accreditation status.



Left to Right: Commander Scott Grewe, Officer Gina Moody, Sergeant Mike Romanowski, Chief Mark Clemence, Lieutenant Greg Wald and Commander Mike Albrecht

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Smoke Alarms

The Birmingham Fire Department would like to share some important information with our community about smoke alarms and other fire safety devices that every home should be equipped with. Did you know that, nationally, smoke alarms were present in only 74 percent of house fires from 2014-2018? Three out of five fatal house fires were found to have no smoke alarms or alarms that failed to operate. Smoke alarms are an easy and affordable way to ensure added safety for your family and home.

Places to install smoke alarms are:

- In each sleeping area with a minimum decibel rating of 75 db.,
- Within 10 feet of a sleeping area (i.e. hallway outside of bedrooms) with 85 db.,
- On each level of the home.



Fire Extinguishers

Fire extinguishers are recommended to be installed in every home. A 5-pound, ABC extinguisher is recommended.

Places to install extinguishers are:

- On all levels of the home (basement, main floor, upper floor),
- Master bedroom or where adults sleep,
- In the garage, whether attached or detached.

Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detectors/Propane, Natural Gas and Explosive Gas Detectors

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, and tasteless gas. It's often called the "silent killer," because it sneaks up on you and can be fatal. This gas is a byproduct of combustion caused by gas-fueled appliances such as furnaces, hot water heaters and engines.

Carbon monoxide detectors can be purchased as a standalone unit or as a combination CO/explosion detector. Combination CO/explosion detectors are affordable and can be purchased at your local hardware store. The Birmingham Fire Department responded to 66 calls for service related to carbon monoxide, propane, natural gas and explosive gas odors in 2020.

Places to install carbon monoxide and explosion detectors are:

- On each level of the home (basements, main floor, upper floors),
- In garages or enclosed areas.



Left to right, Fire Marshal Jack Pesha, Assistant Fire Chief Matt Bartalino and Fire Chief Paul Wells.

Maintenance of Safety Devices

Remember to check and maintain your safety devices. Smoke alarms, CO and CO/explosion detectors need to be tested monthly.

If the device is battery powered, change the battery at least every six months or sooner, if necessary. Fire extinguishers should be installed near doors and stairs. Placement near these locations gives you an opportunity to get out if the fire is too big or out of control. Have your fire extinguisher mounted to a secure object such as a wall or post. Make sure you replace your extinguishers before their expiration date or after using them.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES

Yard Waste Collection

Please note yard waste collection will end on Dec. 17. After that date, yard waste may be taken to the SOCRRA Troy Transfer Station (located at 14 Mile Road and Coolidge Highway) at no charge during the winter months.

Holiday Schedule

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday on Thursday, November 25, trash collection will be delayed one day for Thursday and Friday collection (Wednesday collection is not affected).

Christmas Tree Chipper Schedule

Chipper service for Christmas trees will be offered during the month of January. Simply place your bare Christmas tree on the easement (between the sidewalk and curb). Trees will not be picked up if they have any of the following attached: base, lights, ornaments or bags.

Be Aware of City Snow Ordinance

- You're required to clear the sidewalk in front of your home of any snow and ice.
- When a Snow Emergency is declared and/or when there are 4 inches of snow or more, residents must remove their cars from the streets so the snow plows can get through. Cars in violation of this ordinance will be ticketed.

To view the complete ordinance, visit the City's website, www.bhamgov.org/code.

Brush Chipper

Please be advised that, beginning the third week of November, brush chipping is on a call-in basis only. Normal chipper service will resume in the spring.

Bulky Items and Pick-Up Fees

Wondering what items you can place at the curb and what items would require a "special pick-up" fee?

Couches (under 8 feet), fridges (take doors off), stoves, washers, dryers, mattresses, box springs, carpeting (rolled and tied under 4 feet) and toilets are ALL acceptable items to place at your curb by 7 a.m. on your trash day with no additional fee required.

The following items require advanced notice and a fee to pick up: Cast iron items such as tubs or sinks, decks, hot tubs, play structures, pianos, privacy fences, sheds, trampolines, or more-than-normal, large amounts of trash (usually move-outs).

Please call Car Trucking at 586-791-8480 in advance to pay for and arrange pick-up of those items.

Recycling Information

The drop-off center remains closed to the public and is available by appointment only. If you have any hazardous materials or liquids that you need to dispose of, please visit SOCRRA.org to schedule an appointment.



BALDWIN PUBLIC LIBRARY



Use BPL in Any Season!

With dozens of resources available, you can enjoy and utilize so much of what the Baldwin Public Library has to offer remotely! Holiday shopping? Consider consulting the Consumer Reports database. Looking for some entertainment as the weather chases us indoors? Stream movies on Kanopy or Hoopla, or access the NYT games. Want to get outside on one of those rare sunshiny winter afternoons? Read and move along with Books on Foot at baldwinlib.beanstack.org. Find all of these, and more, at baldwinlib.org!

Winter Reading Challenge

Why should summer reading get all the hype? Join us for our Winter Reading Challenge at baldwinlib.beanstack.org. Readers of all ages can track their progress from Dec. 1, 2021-Jan. 31, 2022 for the chance to win prizes!

Curbside Pick-up Continues

Curbside pick-up remains an option for collecting your library items. Simply pull into the marked space on Bates Street, call the number on the sign and have your items delivered to your vehicle.

Baldwin Public Library is located at 300 W. Merrill St. in downtown Birmingham. Visit us online at baldwinlib.org or call 248-647-1700.



ADULT SERVICES



Next, Your 50-Plus Community Center

Do you, or someone you know need a little extra help?

The Next Support Services Department offers information and referral services to seniors and their families. Additional assistance includes door-to-door transportation, medical equipment loans, Medicare, Medicaid, legal and income tax counseling, and more. Yard service (lawn and snow) and minor home repair is available to income-qualifying seniors.

Please call the Next office for more information at 248-203-5270.

- ✓ Accomplished speakers
- ✓ Fitness
- ✓ Creative arts
- ✓ Travel
- ✓ Enrichment
- ✓ Intergenerational
- ✓ Discussion groups
- ✓ Book clubs/cards
- ✓ Health and wellness
- ✓ Support services
- ✓ Camaraderie
- ✓ Friendship



WHERE TO GET ANSWERS

EMERGENCY: Police, Fire, Medical.....911
 After Hours (non-emergency) —
 To report a concern that needs immediate attention 248-530-1870
 For TDD use, contact 911.

CITY GOVERNMENT

City Manager’s Office 248-530-1808
 Clerk’s Office 248-530-1880
 Community Development..... 248-530-1850
 Engineering 248-530-1850
 Finance 248-530-1820
 Fire Department 248-530-1900
 Human Resources..... 248-530-1810
 Information Technology..... 248-530-1888
 Maintenance/Facilities Services..... 248-530-1881
 Police Department..... 248-530-1870
 Public Services..... 248-530-1700
 Treasurer’s Office 248-530-1890

CITY SERVICES

Birmingham Museum 248-530-1928
 Birmingham Shopping District 248-530-1200
 Citizen Notification/Concern Line 248-530-1805
 City Hall Main 248-530-1800
 Code Assistance 248-530-1859
 Building & Permit Information..... 248-530-1850
 E-mail..... website@bhamgov.org
 Fire Marshal 248-530-1903
 Fire Services 248-530-1900
 Golf Course — Lincoln Hills..... 248-530-1670
 Golf Course — Springdale 248-530-1660
 Golf Course Website golfbirmingham.org
 Greenwood Cemetery..... 248-530-1880
 Historical Preservation 248-530-1850
 Ice Sports Arena 248-530-1640
 Mayor (Clerk’s Office or Voice Mailbox)..... 248-530-1801
 Parking Lots & Garages 248-530-1840
 Parking Violations 248-530-1890
 Parks & Recreation..... 248-530-1640
 Passport Information 248- 530-1880
 Planning and Zoning Information 248-530-1850
 Police Services (non-emergency)..... 248-530-1870
 Property/Assessing Information 248-530-1899
 Skate Park 248-530-1640
 Trash Collection & Recycling information..... 248-530-1700
 Voting Information..... 248-530-1880
 Water Service & Billing 248-530-1830
 Water & Sewer Line/Main Repair..... 248-530-1700
 Water & Sewer Main Repair (after hours) 248-530-1870
 Street & Water/Sewer Line Maintenance 248-530-1700
 Sidewalk, Street & Bridge Construction Projects 248-530-1840
 Website Questions (www.bhamgov.org) 248-530-1812

2021 BIRMINGHAM CITY COMMISSION

Pierre Boutros, Mayor
 Therese Longe, Mayor Pro-Tem
 Clinton Baller, Commissioner
 Rackeline J. Hoff, Commissioner
 Brad Host, Commissioner
 Mark Nickita, Commissioner
 Stuart Lee Sherman, Commissioner

CITY STAFF

Thomas M. Markus, City Manager
 Jana L. Ecker, Assistant City Manager
 Alex Bingham, City Clerk
 Mark H. Clemence, Police Chief
 Marianne Gamboa, Communications Director
 Mark Gerber, Finance Director/Treasurer
 Bruce R. Johnson, Building Official
 Sean Kammer, Birmingham Shopping District Executive Director
 Joseph Lambert, Human Resources Manager
 Leslie K. Pielack, Museum Director
 Vacant, Planning Director
 Paul Wells, Fire Chief
 Lauren A. Wood, Director of Public Services
 Hubbell Roth & Clark, Inc., City Engineer
 Beier Howlett, P.C., Legal Counsel

COMMUNICATION TOOLS

City Website www.bhamgov.org
 Citywide Email Sign-Up www.bit.ly/bhamnews
 Nixle Emergency Alerts www.nixle.com
 City News & Information www.bhamgov.org/news
 Webpage Enotify..... www.bhamgov.org/enotify
 Public Notices..... www.bhamgov.org/publicnotices
 City Agendas and Minutes....www.bhamgov.org/agendasandminutes
 City Forms and Payments... www.bhamgov.org/formsandpayments
City of Birmingham Social Media
 City Facebook www.facebook.com/BhamGov
 City Instagram & Twitter [@bhamgov](https://twitter.com/bhamgov)
 Police Department Facebook..... <http://bit.ly/bhamPDFacebook>
 Museum Facebook.....www.facebook.com/TheBirminghamMuseum
 Museum Twitter [@bham_museum](https://twitter.com/bham_museum)
 Museum Instagram [@birmingham_museum_mi](https://twitter.com/birmingham_museum_mi)
Birmingham Shopping District (BSD)
 BSD Website www.AllinBirmingham.com
 BSD Facebook... www.facebook.com/BirminghamShoppingDistrict
 BSD Instagram & Twitter..... [@BhamShopping](https://twitter.com/BhamShopping)
 Farmers Market www.facebook.com/BirminghamFarmersMarket

The City of Birmingham participates in the State’s City, Village, and Township Revenue Sharing (CVTRS) program. This program provides additional funding to eligible local units which publicly display documents which meet State requirements for accountability and transparency. To view these documents please go to www.bhamgov.org/revenuesharing.

THE CITY OF BIRMINGHAM WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Your ideas and suggestions help us to better serve you.

Please fill out the form below and:

Mail it to:

Thomas M. Markus
City Manager
City of Birmingham
151 Martin Street
P.O. Box 3001
Birmingham, MI 48012-3001

Drop it off at:

The drive-up drop box
located near the driveway
entrance off of Henrietta.

Fax it to:

248-530-1080

Call the City at:

248-530-1800

Email your response to:

contactus@bhamgov.org

Suggestions/Questions:

(Optional)

Name _____ Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Address _____

City of Birmingham
151 Martin Street
P.O. Box 3001
Birmingham, MI 48012-3001

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