



CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

May 2023

Baldwin Public Library

Holiday Closures

The Library will be closed for Memorial Day weekend from Saturday, May 27 through Monday, May 29. It will reopen on Tuesday, May 30 at 9:00 a.m.

The Library will be closed on Monday, June 19 in observance of the Juneteenth holiday.

Library Board Update

The Library Board met on May 15, 2023 for its regular meeting. The board approved updates to several policies, including the Library Card Policy, Fines and Fees Policy, Electronic Device, Network, and Internet Use Policy, Collection Development Policy, Fund Balance Policy, Credit Card Policy, Financial Policy, Trust Investment Policy, and Staff Development Policy.

Phase 3 Construction Project of the Library's Front Entrance

The project will start on or shortly after Wednesday, July 5, 2023. MCD and PCI Dailey have completed all construction pre-bid meetings. PCI Dailey is currently preparing the AIA contract for Construction Management services. The GMP for the project is currently set at \$3,688,896. Board President Wheeler, Director Craft, and City Manager Markus will sign this contract once it is approved by the City Attorney.

The City of Birmingham's Fire Marshal and Building Official have reviewed the site plan for the project. The Children's Terrace door will be the temporary entrance to the library for the duration of the project (July 2023 – March 2024). A construction fence will be placed along Bates Street and Merrill Street and signs will be placed on the fencing directing visitors to the north entrance. A temporary Knox Box will be placed outside the Terrace Door so that Birmingham Fire Department personnel can access the building in case of an emergency. The loading dock door will be a second means of egress. As such, the loading dock steps are currently being repaired so that they will be operational by July 5. The full loading dock will be resurfaced and repaired in FY23-24, per the City's maintenance plan.

A temporary ramp will be placed on the north side of the building to make the Youth Terrace door fully ADA-accessible. As you walk into the new temporary entrance, two circulation workstations will be set up inside the door. The first station will face the door. The second station will be located next to the existing Youth self-check machine.

The curbside drop box will be temporarily moved to the north side of the building at the southwest corner of Martin and Bates street. One diagonal parking spot will be blocked off for drop box access. DPS will relocate the box for the library at no charge.

During the project, the Rotary half of the Rotary/Donor room will be closed off for construction staging and installation of the new HVAC system and elevator. Because of this, we are reducing some of our large scale programs for adults and children throughout the duration of the project due to lack of meeting space. Beginning in July or August, all library board meetings will be held in the Board Room. BCTV will broadcast the recording of the meeting on local television.

Library Tour

If you'd like to learn even more about the library, join Library Director Rebekah Craft for a Behind the Scenes Tour. You'll visit staff areas, learn how items are added to the collection, and hear about new programs and services. The next tour will meet in the Library's vestibule on Thursday, June 15 at 4:00 p.m.

Learn.Connect.Discover Newsletter

Baldwin's quarterly Learn.Connect.Discover newsletter has been mailed to all homes in Birmingham and includes information about upcoming programs this summer. Register for these upcoming programs and more at baldwinlib.org/calendar.

College Info Series: How to Write a Great College Essay

Wednesday, May 24 — 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The college essay is an important part of the application where you can really differentiate yourself. What do you want the admissions committee to know about you? What story do you want to tell? We'll talk about tips and tricks for writing a successful Personal Statement. Teens and parents are welcome. You may attend these sessions in-person or on Zoom. Registration required.

Boblo Boats: A Detroit Ferry Tale

Sunday, June 4 — 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

When Ste. Claire and SS Columbia sounded their whistles, every Detroit kid knew it heralded the coming of summer and the magic of ferrying over to nearby Boblo Island Amusement Park. After 85 years of operation, these two sister steamships – the oldest in America - awaken from a deep slumber to find a devoted team of enthusiasts have set out to rescue them from their deteriorating state. SS Columbia has been whisked away to New York while Claire's fate rests in the hands of an unlikely band of heroes: a doctor, a psychic, and an amusement park fanatic. Martha Reeves, the Motown legend, narrates this revelatory fable-doc that's full of heart and hard truths about a challenging restoration. Join us for a showing of this local documentary and a Q&A session with the filmmaker Aaron Schillinger. This is an in person event.

Summer Reading Kickoff!

Friday, June 9 — 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Join us as we kick off "All Together Now" Summer Reading 2023 at the library, and enjoy crafts, games, an ice cream truck and more. There are summer reading challenges for adults, teens and children - sign up and track your progress at baldwinlib.beanstack.org, from June 9 to August 4.

The Birmingham Museum

Juneteenth became a federal holiday in 2021 after the passage of Senate Bill 465 following decades of effort by Opal Lee, a retired teacher and African American activist. Juneteenth commemorates the emancipation of enslaved African Americans, and is a contraction of "June" and "nineteenth," in reference

to the June 19, 1865 proclamation of freedom for enslaved people in Texas. Since that time, Juneteenth has been broadly observed as a celebration of African American culture in many parts of the U.S.

In honor of Juneteenth, the Birmingham Museum will display a special exhibit banner during June at the Municipal Building. It will feature Birmingham's connection to the Underground Railroad and the stories of formerly enslaved **George and Eliza Taylor** and abolitionist **Elijah Fish**. The Taylors and Fish are buried in Greenwood Cemetery, and their burial sites are now listed on the National Park Service's Underground Railroad Network to Freedom and the Michigan Freedom Trail. This retractable banner is the first of several planned by the museum to create portable exhibits that can be displayed throughout the city. The banners will focus on varying themes of Birmingham history as an expansion of our community outreach programs, and will be available as loans to schools and civic organizations.

Birmingham Shopping District (BSD)

Strategic Planning

The Birmingham Shopping District (BSD) approved its Strategic Plan at the April 19, 2023 Board meeting. The BSD Board started this process by holding a Strategic Planning meeting on Feb 6, 2023, with Board and committee members, as well as local businesses and City staff, to brainstorm and chart the next three-to-five-year strategy for Downtown Birmingham. The strategic plan is informed not only by those in attendance at the meeting, but also from a survey sent out prior to the meeting and individual conversations with key stakeholders. The Board and Committee members then met on April 4, 2023, in a work session to finalize the attached draft plan.

The plan includes a prioritization of internal and external goals, as well as key performance indicators. During this overall process, the Board further refined its vision and mission statements which are included in the plan.

The BSD's focus is to grow the economy by broadening the appeal of Downtown Birmingham that attracts and retains businesses and residents. It will do this through business recruitment and retention, marketing and promotion of the district, and maintaining and enhancing the downtown environment. For the next 3-5 years, the BSD will focus on the following goals:

- Increasing Local Frequency
- Expanding Regional Attraction
- Balancing the Business Mix
- Improving Ease of Access
- Sustaining Services & Appeal
- Increasing the BSD Value

Decisions by the Board on what and how it will achieve these goals will be based on the fundamental beliefs and driving forces of the BSD, including:

- Acting for the Collective Interest
- Engaging its Stakeholders
- Being Sustainable
- Bringing a Return on Investment

View the [full Strategic Plan here](#).

Notable Recognition

The BSD Board recently acknowledged a few long-standing businesses in the district for their years in business, including Tiffany Florist for 50 years, and The Community House and Village Players for 100 years each. The BSD also recognized Melinda Comerford, BSD Office Specialist, for 30 years of service. Executive Director Cristina Sheppard-Decius was recognized at the Main Street Oakland County Main Event for her 23 years of service in downtown management in Michigan.

Business Mix Analysis and Recommendations

The BSD Business Development Committee presented its business mix analysis and recommendations to the BSD Board at its May 4, 2023 meeting. Highlights of the analysis included:

- 71% of businesses are local entrepreneurs, which is a high average in comparison to the benchmark communities of Birmingham. Therefore, the BSD has the ability to attract a few national retailers without jeopardizing the local feel; and
- There is an opportunity to fine tune the business mix in the BSD, such as meeting the lunchtime needs of office workers with fast casual options, and there is room for growth in the apparel, books/entertainment, toys/hobbies, children's, eyewear, health, and electronics/technology categories.

The Business Development Committee will be focusing its efforts on increasing local frequency of consumers and regional attraction by:

- Recruiting businesses that will appeal to office workers and residents to drive daily foot traffic; and
- identify and help recruit regional small businesses with incentives and resources to fill gaps in product segments and maintain the local feel; and
- Influence higher-end, sophisticated and experiential national retailers, especially in apparel categories, by developing retail attraction assets and building landlord/broker relationships.

The Board suggested a few minor additions to the report, therefore, the final full report will be made available next month. The BSD has also updated its [Retail Market Profile](#) for business attraction efforts.

New Restaurant Promotion

The BSD is launching a new restaurant promotion, the Birmingham Rosé Soirée, June 5-11, offering featured dishes paired with rose wines, cocktails and mocktails at participating restaurants. A portion of each purchase will go to Cap & Conquer, a local charity that breaks down financial and educational barriers for reducing hair loss during chemotherapy. Each time you dine or purchase a pink drink, you can also enter for a chance to win a \$1,000 Birmingham Bucks E-gift card shopping spree. For details and the growing list of participating businesses, go to <https://www.allinbirmingham.com/visitors/rose>.

BSD Summer Calendar of Events

Birmingham Farmers Market	Every Sunday now until Oct. 29 at Lot 6
Movie Nights	June 9, July 14, August 11 and September 8 at Booth Park
Birmingham Rosé Soirée	June 5-11
Super Farmer Day @ Farmers Market	June 25
Day on the Town	July 29
Corn Festival @ Farmers Market	August 6
Birmingham Cruise Event	August 19
Harvest Festival @ Farmers Market	September 10

BSD Bylaws & New Committee Members

The BSD adopted bylaws at its April 19, 2023, Board meeting. The bylaws set forth rules for attendance, committee structure, responsibilities and reinforces the State statute and local ordinance that created the BSD. A copy of the [bylaws will be available online](#) shortly.

A slate of Committee members, including some new community members, were also appointed on May 4, 2023, including Carlie Quezada of Supernatural Lingerie, Angela Thomas of Aeres Real Estate, Daniel C. Gilbert of Bank of Ann Arbor and Richard Lilley, resident and Dream Cruise aficionado.

Annual Corporate Sponsor Packet

The BSD has created an annual [corporate sponsorship package](#) to showcase all of the opportunities available throughout the year, and the marketing success statistics with our events and programs. Much of the events and programs of the BSD wouldn't be possible without the help of our partners like Chevy, Bank of Ann Arbor, Wells Fargo, SMART, Mercedes-Benz of Bloomfield Hills, and many more!

2023 Dashboard Metrics

Retail Occupancy Rate - 96% (out of 1.5 million sq.ft.)

Office Occupancy - 89% (out of 2 million sq.ft.)

9 New Business Openings in 2023 (9 more in process)

Commercial, Mixed-Use & Residential Development Projects In Construction/Planning - 12 projects totaling 827,727 sq. ft.

Building Department

Ed Rosett to Serve as Reciprocal Electrical Council of Michigan Board President

Electrical Inspector Ed Rosett was elected by his peers to serve as President on the board of the Reciprocal Electrical Council of Michigan for the next two years. This is Ed's second time in this role. He first served as president from 2012 -2014. The mission of the organization is to educate and train both electrical inspectors and contractors to promote uniform application of the code and industry professionalism.

Staff Update

Two of the department's four front line permit technicians recently left employment with the City. One retired after 23 years and the other went to another community. We are in process of replacing these positions and ask for your patience while we welcome and train new individuals for these roles. Our permit processing times will increase a little during this period.

Monthly Report

The [Building Department's monthly report](#) provides an update on the following construction activity: building permits issued, building inspections conducted, trades permits issued and trades inspections conducted. In April, we processed 346 online permit applications bringing this year's total to 1,239.

City Clerk's Office

Celebrate Birmingham Parade and Party in Shain Park

The highly anticipated Celebrate Birmingham Hometown Parade and Party took place on May 21, 2023 in Downtown Birmingham and Shain Park. The event was well attended and had something for everybody

to enjoy. The Clerk's office extends its heartfelt gratitude to the entire community and all those who joined the parade or participated in the activities at Shain Park.

Many thanks to our sponsors!

- Parade Presenting Sponsor: Bank of Ann Arbor - Birmingham
- Party in Shain Park Presenting Sponsor: Bloom Pediatrics
- Parade Master Beier Howlett, PC
- Parade Supporter Piety Hill DAR
- Parade Friends Birmingham Bloomfield Area Democratic Club and Goldfish Swim Club

Thank you to our parade participants:

Baldwin Public Library, Birmingham Bloomfield Area Democratic Club, Birmingham Martial Arts, Birmingham Next, Bloom Pediatrics, Bloomfield Village Fire Department, Disabled American Veterans South Oakland County Chapter 19, Dream Arts Company, Distinguished Gentleman's Ride Motorcycle group, Harlan Elementary Girl Scouts, Goldfish Swim School, Hunter House Hamburgers, Kate DeGood School of Dance, Oakland County Sheriff, Pierce Elementary Girl Scout Daisies, Piety Hill Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Redford Township Unicycle Club Inc, Seaholm Marching Band, Veterans of the Senior Men's Club of Birmingham.

Thank you to all the organizations which made this a success:

Birmingham City Commission, Birmingham Communications team, Birmingham Clerk's Office, Birmingham Police Department, Birmingham Fire Department, Birmingham Department of Public Services, Birmingham Golf Course, Birmingham Area Cable Board, Oakland County Parks and Recreation, and Arts and Scraps.

General Election on November 7, 2023

Birmingham will hold a general election on Tuesday, November 7, 2023. At this time, the ballot will include four Birmingham Commissioner seats and three Birmingham Library Board positions, all for four-year terms. Filing deadline for petitions and candidates is 4:00 p.m. on July 25, 2023.

City Commission and Library Board Candidate and Petition Information

City Commission and Library Board candidates must be registered voters and residents for at least one year before the November 7, 2023 election. Petition packets containing all the information needed to run for these positions are available at the City Clerk's Office during regular business hours. Candidates must complete the petition packet's required paperwork and collect more than 25 but not more than 50 signatures from Birmingham registered voters. Signers must print their names with their current address and date. A signer may only sign one petition for each available seat; in this election that means a single voter can sign no more than four City Commission petitions and three Library Board petitions. The Clerk's Office must receive all candidates' paperwork no later than July 25, 2023 at 4:00 p.m., after which the Clerk's Office will review to ensure all petition requirements are met. The clerk cannot extend the filing deadline for any reason. For more information regarding petition and candidate filing please visit www.bhamgov.org/elections.

Absentee Voter Information

Voters who wish to vote absentee will need to fill out an Absentee Ballot Application. This application will be mailed out to anyone on the Permanent Absentee Application List in late August for the November 7, 2023 election. An application will need to be completed and returned to the

Birmingham Clerk’s office in order to receive the absentee ballot. If you are not on the Permanent list, you can request an Absentee Ballot application by going to www.michigan.gov/vote after August 24, 2023.

Absentee ballots will be mailed not earlier than September 28, 2023 to voters who submitted an application. Absentee ballots can be returned in person to the Clerk’s office, in the dropbox located behind City Hall, or mailed to City Clerk, P.O. Box 3001, Birmingham, MI 48012.

New Military and Overseas Voter Changes

The governor signed legislation on May 3, 2023 to allow additional time to receive absentee voter ballots from military and overseas voters. This change comes after Michiganders approved Ballot Proposal 22-2 to amend the state’s Constitution last year. The new law states that absentee ballots from military and overseas voters will be counted if the ballot return envelope was postmarked on or before Election Day and received within six days following the election. Voters who are in the military or will be overseas during the November 7, 2023 election must apply for a MOVE ballot at <https://www.fvap.gov/michigan>.

Greenwood Cemetery Advisory Board

The next meeting for the Greenwood Cemetery Advisory Board will be Friday, June 2nd, 2023 at 8:30 am. The board will be discussing future grave release recommendations and participating in strategic planning.

Ethics Board

The Board of Ethics met on Tuesday, May 15, 2023, at 2 p.m. to review the draft advisory opinion 2023-01 Requested by the City Manager Thomas M. Markus regarding City Commissioner Brad Host.

Detroit Board of Ethics Conference

Mayor Pro Tem McLain, Ethics Board Chairperson James D. Robb, and City Clerk Bingham attended the first Detroit Board of Ethics Conference on May 16, 2023. Chairperson Robb sat on a panel regarding strengthening Ethics Ordinances and Enforcement. Other topics of the conference included rules of debate, improving the deliberation process, and Open Meetings Act laws.

Board Appointments

The City of Birmingham is looking for dedicated individuals who want to give back to their community by serving on one of our many boards or commissions. Birmingham’s different boards and commissions make recommendations that shape the city’s future. Serving on a board or commission is a great way to get involved in your community, meet new people and make a positive impact. Visit www.bhamgov.org/boardopportunities to view all the available openings and apply to make a difference.

Board	Openings	Application Due by Noon	Interview/ Appointment at City Commission meeting 7:30 pm
Ad Hoc Aging in Place Committee	6 Members	6/21/23	6/26/23
Advisory Parking Committee	1 resident shopper term ending 9/1/2025 1 large retail member term ending	Until Filled	

	9/1/2025		
Architectural Review Committee	1 regular member term ending 4/11/2026 1 regular member term ending 4/11/2025	Until Filled	
Birmingham Shopping District	1 business representative term ending 11/16/2026	Until Filled	
Birmingham Area Cable Board	1 regular member term ending 3/30/2026 1 regular member term ending 3/30/2024 1 alternate member term ending 3/30/2025	Until Filled	
Board of Review	2 alternate members term ending 12/31/2025	Until Filled	
Board of Zoning Appeals	1 alternate members term ending 2/18/2026	Until Filled	
Brownfield Redevelopment Authority	1 regular member term ending 5/23/2026 1 regular member term ending 5/23/2024	Until Filled	
Ethics Board	2 alternate members term ending 6/30/2026 1 regular member term ending 6/30/2026	ALT: 5/17/2023 REG: 6/21/2023	ALT: 5/22/2023 REG: 6/28/2023
Greenwood Cemetery Advisory Board	1 regular member term expiring 7/6/2024 2 regular members terms expiring 7/6/2026	5/31/23	6/5/23

City Manager's Office

Update on 48th District Court

In 2021, Bloomfield Hills withdrew from the funding agreement for the 48th District Court that had been in place since 1985 between the cities of Bloomfield Hills and Birmingham, and Bloomfield Township and

W. Bloomfield Township. As a result, the remaining three funding units negotiated a new agreement, which allows any funding unit to opt out of the agreement at the end of January in each year, with all obligations under the agreement then ceasing at the end of the calendar year in which the notice is given. In January 2022, the City of Birmingham considered providing notice to the other funding units to opt out of the agreement at the end of 2022. The City Commission ultimately decided not to do so, and directed the City Manager to negotiate a more equitable funding agreement by January 2023 to avoid the City providing notice to opt out of the agreement.

On November 30, 2022, representatives from all seven jurisdictions that make up the 48th District Court met at the courthouse. Mr. Dunn, Judge D'Agostini and Judge Barron presented the details of the court's budget request for the upcoming year. There was much discussion regarding the expenditures proposed, cost increases, sources of funding and related issues. Representatives from the seven jurisdictions questioned court staff on the proposed expenditures, and once again the issue came up regarding the long term funding of the 48th District Court. After approximately one and a half hours of heated discussion, a verbal agreement was reached, in concept only. The conceptual agreement was that the four political subdivisions of Bloomfield Hills, Keego Harbor, Orchard Lake Village, and Sylvan Lake would agree to contribute their statutory revenues to the funding of the court in years where the court's expenditures exceed revenues, to offset the additional costs to the current funding units of Birmingham, Bloomfield Township and W. Bloomfield Township. Given that the meeting was attended by the management staff and some elected officials for many of the jurisdictions, it was agreed in concept that Birmingham would prepare a draft memorandum of understanding for consideration by the four non-funding political subdivisions based on the conceptual agreement. It was then discussed that this could be executed by the political subdivisions and attached as an exhibit to an updated funding agreement between Birmingham, Bloomfield Township and W. Bloomfield Township, to ensure funding for the court would remain in place without the need for costly litigation.

City staff prepared draft language consistent with the verbal agreement reached on November 30, 2022, and distributed to representatives for all seven jurisdictions in December 2022 in order to obtain conceptual agreement from all jurisdictions. The understanding was that once all four political subdivisions respond that this is, in concept at least, what the jurisdictions coalesced around in November, Birmingham would prepare a complete draft of the agreement for legal review and potential approval from the elected bodies of Bloomfield Hills, Keego Harbor, Orchard Lake and Sylvan Lake.

Based on the positive response received from representatives of Bloomfield Hills, Keego Harbor and Orchard Lake, the attached draft Political Subdivision Distribution / Funding agreement was prepared and distributed to representatives from all 7 jurisdictions of the 48th District Court. Sylvan Lake had outlined several concerns in response to the draft agreement. City staff conducted a lengthy telephone conference with the City Manager of Sylvan Lake, and ultimately came to an understanding on January 13, 2023.

Accordingly, a revised draft of the Political Subdivision / Funding agreement was distributed for review and approval. In years when the 48th District Court's total expenditures exceed total revenues, the proposed agreement establishes that the four political subdivisions agree to contribute their statutory revenues to the funding of the court to offset the additional costs that will be allocated to the three funding units. This will thus reduce the amount the City pays to the court in years when the court's total expenditures exceed total revenues.

In January, all four political subdivisions committed to conduct a legal review of the revised draft of the Political Subdivision Distribution / Funding agreement, and to have their respective elected body consider approval of the agreement.

Since that time, the City of Orchard Lake Village has conducted a legal review and placed the 48th District Court agreement on their council agendas as a standing item. The City Commission for the City of Bloomfield Hills has reviewed the draft agreement and authorized the city to work with the other political subdivisions to finalize the agreement. Keego Harbor has completed their legal review of the revised draft of the agreement. However, all three municipalities are waiting on word from Sylvan Lake that they are in agreement with the revised draft of the Political Subdivision Distribution / Funding agreement distributed in January in response to concerns raised by Sylvan Lake. All are hesitant to have the revised draft of the agreement approved by their elected bodies until Sylvan Lake has signed off on the changes they requested. The City Manager for Sylvan Lake indicated that the city has been overburdened with other time-sensitive issues, and will complete the approval process with their council shortly. Once the City Council for Sylvan Lake has approved the agreement, Keego Harbor, the City of Orchard Lake Village and the City of Bloomfield Hills will bring the final draft of the agreement to their elected bodies for approval. The executed Political Subdivision Distribution / Funding agreement will then be attached as an Addendum to the existing funding agreement for the 48th District Court with Bloomfield and W. Bloomfield Townships.

2022 Case Load Breakdown by Jurisdiction

At the November 14, 2022 City Commission workshop, commissioners requested a breakdown of court usage based on the percentage of caseloads for each of the 7 communities. The breakdown was provided at that time using actual case counts for 2018 and 2019, as well as the draft 2021 case counts, to calculate a 3 year average (excluding 2020 due to the pandemic). Actual case load percentages have now come in for 2022, and are reported below. These are the case load percentages that will be used to estimate each funding units share of payments to the court in 2023. As noted in the chart below, Birmingham’s share of case load has increased over the previous years.

Jurisdiction	Average % of Case Load (last 3 years, excluding 2020, draft 2021)	2022 Actual Case Load
Birmingham	24%	31.6%
Bloomfield Hills	10%	7.11%
Bloomfield Township	34%	25.19%
Keego Harbor	3.5%	1.76%
Orchard Lake	6%	6.21%
Sylvan Lake	2%	1.47%
W. Bloomfield	20.5%	25.07%

Pat Andrews Tribute Update

During a recent City Commission meeting, Commissioner Host stated the area intended for the tribute to Pat Andrews was too close to the intersection and should be moved further back onto the open Fire Station property. Follow [this link to read correspondence](#) between Fire Chief Paul Wells and City Manager Markus regarding the location of the tribute.

Communications

Around Town e-Newsletter

The communications team is working on the June edition of the Around Town e-Newsletter, which will include the Consumers Annual Report on Water Quality and information about summer events, Parks & Recreation bond projects, the inaugural Police Department Open House event, new businesses and more. Follow [this link to view the May edition](#) of the Around Town e-Newsletter.

Summer Birmingham Beat Newsletter

Residents will receive the summer edition of The Birmingham Beat newsletter around July 1, 2023. The communications team is working on the publication, which will feature information about the Ad Hoc Environmental Sustainability Committee, Day On The Town, Birmingham Cruise Event, barbeque safety tips and more.



AROUND TOWN E-NEWSLETTER • MAY 2023



Stay Connected

INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD
Sign up for customized messaging at bhamgov.org/amenews.

EMERGENCY ALERTS
Register for emergency alerts at www.nixle.com or text 48009 to 888777.

VIRTUALLY EXPLORE BIRMINGHAM
Enjoy our 3D virtual tour at birmingham.ekyva.com.

SOCIAL MEDIA
[Facebook.com/BhamGov](https://www.facebook.com/BhamGov)
[Instagram @bhamgov](https://www.instagram.com/bhamgov)

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IN THIS ISSUE

LATEST NEWS

PARADE, MOVIES,
CONCERTS & MORE

BBQ SAFETY TIPS,
POLICE YOUTH ACADEMY

JUNIOR GOLF PROGRAM

BIRMINGHAM CITY COMMISSION - UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

Topics brought up by the Commission

Meeting	Topic	Commissioner	Staff Follow Up	Dates Addressed	Status (resolved/ongoing)
In Progress					
5/8/23	Parking Operations	Baller	CM to direct staff	5/8 Request to discuss parking operations at a workshop meeting	In progress
5/8/23	Woodward Noise	Host	Baller & Host	5/8 - Request to discuss noise on Woodward as an agenda item	In progress
2/27/23	Bench and Little Library for Pat Andrews	Host	Host	3/13 - commission to discuss further - staff working on plans and cost estimate 5/8 - Estimated costs provided, item referred to B. Host for fundraising	In progress
12/5/22	Mayor/Mayor Pro Tem Selection	McLain	CM to direct staff	12/19 - Motion to make a workshop. Workshop Scheduled 5/8 5/8- CC direct CM to have staff prepare language in the Commission Rules of Procedure to hold a workshop before the first meeting in Nov for purposes of selecting Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem	In progress
11/14/22	Renters Rights	M: Host	Mary	11/28 CC Discussion Scheduled - Voted to make a	In progress

				formal agenda item at the next available meeting 1/23/23 Tabled 4/24 Tabled, will bring back	
1/10/22	Leaf Blowers	M:Baller S:Host	Nick Dupuis	1/24/22 - make formal item 10/3/22 Workshop - staff given direction to return with recommendation 4/3 Baller brought up issue again, commission consensus that it is a topic for sustainability board 5/8- Host recommends leaf blowers as a CC agenda item.	In Progress
1/10/22	Commissioner Conduct	No vote	Commission Workshop	2/14/22 - Workshop 2/28/22 Directed CM to prepare Code of Conduct for future agenda 7/11/22 - Initial presentation to Commission by CA 2/13/23 - City Commission reviewed draft Code and will provide feedback to CM for future workshop 4/24 Memo June 5 - Workshop Scheduled .	In progress
Resolved					
4/11/22	BBCC - Mental Health Workshop - More time to talk	M: Baller S: Haig	Marianne Gamboa	4/25/22 - clarify commissioners intent 5/9/22 - added time on the agenda to discuss Tom directed staff to add mental health info in city publications	Resolved
5/9/22	Pickleball	Baller, no vote	DPS	Agenda item 5/23/22	Installed on 6-3-22
1/24/22	Social Districts	M: Schafer S: Boutros	Nick Dupuis/Jana Ecker	2/14/22 - make formal item 3/9/22 - Workshop 3/14/22 - Informally brought up by Host 6/20/22 Commission and Planning Board Discussed	No formal action taken by the Commission
5/23/22	Commission Meeting Start Time	Baller	Mary Kucharek	On agenda for 6/27/22 - Mary to draft generic ordinance language and discuss in july On agenda for 7/11/22 - Commission decided not to proceed	No changes for now
8/15/22	Birmingham Country Club	M: Host S: Haig	Fairbairn, Dupuis, Clerk's Office	8/29 - CC Discussion Possibly plan to write a letter, invite bham cc and twp to meeting to collaborate	Resolved, letter sent

				*Draft a letter	
8/15/22	Speed Bumps	M: Haig S: Host	Grewe/Brooks	8/29 - Staff report *Further study by MMTB *Report/Resolved in March Mgr Report 2023	Resolved
9/12/22	Banner	M: Baller S: Host	TBD	11/14 CC discussion scheduled	Completed
12/5/22	Lighting to sustainability board	Haig	Nick Dupuis	12/19 - Direction for staff to prepare list for Sustainability Board	To be explored by Sustainability Board
6/13/22	Sustainability Board	M: Schafer S: Host	Nick Dupuis	On agenda for 6/27/22 - direction for staff to draft requirements to establish board, coming back at next available meeting 10/3/22 Workshop - staff given direction to return with recommendation 1/23/23 - ad hoc board established	Resolved
1/10/22	Food Trucks	M: Host S: Schafer	Nick Dupuis/Jana Ecker	1/24/22 - CC req. more info 3/9/22 - Workshop 3/14/22 - Informally brought up by Host 6/20/22 Commission and Planning Board Discussed 6/27/22 - City Manager Directed to encourage food trucks at all city sponsored events, BSD events, and direct the BSD to organize a rotation of food truck events	Staff monitoring
4/25/22	Improvements in Information Provision and Methodology	M: Haig S: Baller	TBD	1/9/23 M: Haig, S: Host To continue discussion -Addressed in Jan 2023 CM report	Resolved
3/13	Community foundation (review former letter from Kucharek)	Baller	CM/Atty	4/3 - see prior advice from atty Commission voted to not pursue	Resolved
3/28/22	City Manager Selection Process	M: Host S: Boutros	Managers Office & HR	4/25/22 - direct to formal agenda item 5/9/22 - New Business Item 5/23/22 CM report 10/3/22 - motion for CM to conduct formal recruitment 10/25/22 - CM recruitment portfolio posted 1/9/23 - Scheduling Interviews	Resolved

				2/8&2/9 First round interviews 2/15 Meet & Greet March - Final Interviews & Direction from CC, contract negotiation March 13 - Ecker Appointed March 27 - Commission approved contract with Ecker	
1/9/23	Ad Hoc Senior Services Committee	M: Baller S: Longe	CM	2/13 Commission to discuss further - no action at this time, 3/13 Commission gave direction via resolution to discuss establishing an AHSSC 4/3 - Vote to formulate ad hoc board specs and bring back at next reasonable meeting	Resolved

Topics Failed

4/25/22	On Street Parking Study	M:Haig S: Host
4/11/22	Downtown Parking	M: Host S: Haig
3/28/22	Parking Matters	M: Host S: Haig
6/13/22	479 SOW (Doraid) PAD	M: Boutros

Topics With No Vote - Resolved

1/10/22	Unimproved Streets	Discussed during the Long Range Planning meeting.
2/28/22	Solidarity with Ukraine	City Manager arranged for exterior lighting at City Hall.

Topics With No Vote

5/9/22	-PAD ordinance/cleanup	Baller, no vote	No vote
5/9/22	-Policy for granting public space ODD/Valet	Baller, no vote	No vote

Department of Public Services

Spring Tree Purchase and Plant Project

The awarded contractor, KLM Landscape, began the Spring Tree Purchase and Planting project this month. One-hundred and forty-four (144) trees will be planted in total in the city’s rights of way and parks. The project will be complete by mid-June.

Pickleball

The Crestview Pickleball court project is currently underway. The project will result in six (6) new Pickleball courts. Posted signage will be displayed onsite and includes designated time periods for open play along with rules explaining open play, the ability for residents to make reservations and instructions on how to do so, and rules of conduct for players. We anticipate the courts being available for play by Memorial Day, weather permitting.

Trail Improvements Update

As reported in the [November 2022 City Manager Report](#), MCSA Group prepared a preliminary concept design for trail improvements including the Booth Park corner feature, which was undergoing review, comment and feedback by various boards and the public.

This preliminary concept plan has been in front of the Multimodal Transportation Board, the Museum Board, the Martha Baldwin Park Board, the Parks and Recreation Board, sustainability liaisons from the

Planning Department and city departments. All feedback is currently being reviewed by staff and the architect. Appropriate modifications to the plan will be made in the short term and the concept plan will return to the Parks and Recreation Board at an upcoming meeting.

We are re-applying for round two of the MI Spark Grants, as we were not awarded funding for round one. We have applied for a pre-development grant through the 2023 Oakland County Parks and Recreation Community Park and Trail Grant program as well.

Engineering Department

2023 Construction Update

The following construction projects are underway:

- Westwood, Oak, and Raynole Project: Water main replacement and extended storm sewer are almost complete, and the cape-seal roadway starting afterward. Construction is anticipated to be completed in June.
- Parking Lot No. 5 Slope Repair: Fence installation occurred, and plant installation will occur at the end of the summer.
- 2021 Asphalt Resurfacing Program – Parking Lot No. 5: Construction Paving will start the week of May 15th, weather permitting
- Lincoln Hills Golf Course Tee No. 1 Tee-Box and Cart Path Improvements: The lower wall is completed with installation occurring on the second wall.
- 2022-2023 Cape Seal Program (Southeast corner of the City): Sidewalk installation occurred with the cape seal treatment starting after Memorial Day.
- Water Tower Maintenance and Coating:
 - o Derby Tank: Overcoat painting is occurring with the upcoming new logo installation.
 - o Hunter Tank: Repairs will start at the end of May with overcoat painting occurring in June with new logo installation.
- 2022 Concrete Sidewalk Program: The contractor is working on miscellaneous sidewalk repairs throughout the city, and the Ann Street sidewalk located on the west side of Ann Street between Landon Street to Lincoln Street.

The following construction projects are scheduled for the rest of the construction season:

- Cranbrook Road Non-Motorized Pathway Improvement Program: Construction is starting on June 12, 2023, for this project. A new 10-foot-wide shared path will be installed on the west side of Cranbrook Road from 14 Mile to Midvale, and a new sidewalk along:
 - o East side of Cranbrook Road from Northlawn Blvd. to Midvale Street
 - o South side of Lincoln Street from Cranbrook Road to Arden Lane
 - o 14 Mile from west City limits to Cranbrook Road
- 2023 Concrete Sidewalk Program: The contractor will start work at the beginning of July on the following items: residential area 6: Quarton Road to Maple Road, and western City limits to Lakeside Drive, downtown area 1A: Chester Road to N. Old Woodward, and Rouge River to Maple Road, ADA Ramps within the Downtown Area, miscellaneous repairs throughout the City, miscellaneous sidewalk repairs in Shain Park, installation of bicycle pads and racks in various locations throughout the City.
- Pierce Street Paving Project (14 Mile Road to Lincoln): Construction will start on the water main replacement in July.
- 2023 Asphalt Resurfacing Program: Construction will start on resurfacing in July on the following streets:
 - o Birmingham Blvd: Northlawn to Lincoln
 - o Smith Street: Cummings to Woodward Ave

- Grant Street: Bennaville Ave to Humphrey Ave
- Holland Street: Adams Road to Torry Street
- S. Old Woodward: Landon Street to Lincoln Street
- Redding Road (Lakepark Drive to Woodward Ave): Work includes water main replacement, sewer system improvements including new storm sewer outfalls, pavement replacement, and minor structural repairs to the bridge with streambank stabilization. The project is anticipated to start in the summer with completion in the fall.

Affected property owners will receive information about these projects. For more information please contact the Engineering Department at 248-530-1840.

Water Service Verification Program

As a reminder, the “In-Home/Business” water service line material needs to be determined as part of this program and included in the City’s reporting for the State of Michigan. Property owners can schedule an inspection by an authorized City Representative at 248-303-2292 or determine the in-home/business material themselves with the steps provided in the property owner letter.

Fire Department

Chief Wells becomes Vice President of Southeast Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs

On Thursday, May 11, 2023 Chief Paul Wells was sworn in as the Vice President of the Southeastern Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs (SMAFC). Southeastern Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs has made it their goal to promote the advancement and education of the fire service. This is Chief Wells’ third year on the executive board which covers the largest region in Michigan. The region covers all of Michigan east of Lansing and south of Midland. Chief Wells’ goal is to continue to work with local fire chiefs and State officials on fire safety codes, and funding for training, recruitment, and retention of firefighters.



Cost Recovery Funds

The fire department received \$22,776.40 in cost recovery for the extended mutual aid use of Ladder 1 at the Oakland Hills Country club fire last year. These funds were deposited into the fire department vehicle replacement fund for future use.

Planning Department

The Birmingham Plan 2040

On March 8, 2023, the Planning Board completed its review of the Birmingham Plan 2040 (“2040 Plan”) and provided a recommendation to the City Commission at a public hearing to adopt and approve in its entirety the Birmingham Plan 2040, inclusive of all maps, plans, charts, and other related matter, figures and the Future Land Use Map.

On April 3, 2023, the City Commission moved to set a public hearing date of May 22, 2023 to being the final review and approval process of the 2040 Plan per the requirements of the Michigan Planning Enabling Act.

On May 22, 2023, the City Commission will review the 2040 Plan at a public hearing, and any further happenings as it relates to the status of the 2040 Plan will be advertised accordingly.

All of the documents related to the 2040 Plan remain available on www.thebirminghamplan.com. You can also watch a recording of past meetings on the City of Birmingham website.

Planning Board

A tentative Planning Board list of scheduled items is provided below:

1. B1 Zoning District Commercial Permitted Uses – Public Hearing (6-14-23)
2. 33866 Woodward – Polestar – Final Site Plan & Design Review (6-14-23)

Multi-Modal Transportation Board

The Multi-Modal Transportation Board will be reviewing final concepts and begin to finalize a recommendation for S. Eton Road at their June 1, 2023 meeting.

Public Arts Board

Piano in the Park Painting was held Saturday, May 13, 2023. Final preparations for tuning and weather coating will be completed before the piano is placed in the park. Two new sculptures by Stanley Hank Marx were installed in Martha Baldwin Park. Flowers will be planted around the sculptures which will bloom in spring of 2024.

Sustainability

The Ad Hoc Environmental Sustainability Committee (ESC) held their first meeting on Monday May 15, 2023. At the meeting, the Planning Division set the stage for a busy 16 months of work ahead. As a reminder, the defined role of the ESC is to perform a greenhouse gas emissions study, and to draft a sustainability and climate action plan. In the meantime, the Planning Division has been busy attending trainings, webinars, and holding regular Green Group meetings to help ramp up sustainability practices in Birmingham and locate opportunities for available funding and support.

Police Department

Co-Re Program

The Birmingham Police Department's CoRe (co-response) program, which is a multi-agency interlocal agreement that pairs a certified social worker with officers, has been a very successful program. Our CoRe program has received significant praise locally and throughout the state. As a result, we have received several requests to present the CoRe program to promote the use of the interlocal agreements that have resulted in a highly successful program. On June 1, 2023, we will be presenting to the Michigan Association of Campus Law Enforcement Agencies (MACLEA). In August, our CoRe team will be presenting at the CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) International Conference which is being held in Detroit this year. Also, the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police (MACP) has requested our CoRe program present at the annual winter chief's conference which will be held in Grand Rapids in early 2024.

Staff Update

The Birmingham Police Department would like to introduce two new police officers, Officer Megan Bade and Officer Andrew Howaniec, who have joined our department filling vacancies created by the resignation of an officer and the retirement of former Chief Mark Clemence.

Officer Bade was sponsored by our department while attending the Mott Community College Police Academy and graduated on May 4th. Officer Andrew Howaniec was previously a certified officer with the City of Waterford and started with our department on May 3rd.

Parking Systems Update

Financial

Beginning July 1, 2023 the rate for monthly parking at all five City garages will increase. The last time rates were increased was five years ago. The increase will help offset the cost of essential repairs and improvements, such as upgraded parking equipment, concrete repairs, ADA compliance upgrades, installation of LED lights, EV charging compatibility and more. The daily rates are not increasing and the two-hour free parking will still remain in effect. The table below shows the upcoming rate increase:

Location	Current Rate	New Rate
Chester Garage	\$50.00	\$70.00
Old Woodward	\$70.00	\$90.00
Park Garage	\$70.00	\$90.00
Peabody Garage	\$70.00	\$90.00
Pierce Garage	\$70.00	\$100.00

Construction

Repairs are expected to resume at the N. Old Woodard Garage starting in June. Included in the repairs will be continued concrete restoration, repairs to the handrails, painting of ceilings, walls and stairwell walls, and the installation of LED lights.

The entrance lane, exit lane, and island to the Woodward side of the N. Old Woodward Garage was removed and replaced. The old concrete had deteriorated causing issues with safety and resulting in significant pot holes. The new island will improve the customer experience significantly along with the installation of an overhead LED to make the alley where the island is located much brighter.

The Engineering Department plans to repave all of Lot 5 in early June.

Occupancy

APRIL AVG CAPACITY	
Chester Garage (880)	68.00%
Old Woodward (745)	68.00%
Park Garage (811)	66.00%
Peabody Garage (437)	66.00%
Pierce Garage (706)	74.00%

Future Agenda Items

Download a summary of [future agenda items](#).

Future Workshop Items

Download a summary of [future workshop items](#).