



**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM  
MUSEUM BOARD AGENDA  
556 W MAPLE  
Thursday, December 7, 2023  
5:00 PM**

***Mission Statement:*** *The Birmingham Museum will explore meaningful connections with our past, in order to enrich our community and enhance its character and sustainability. Our mission is to promote understanding of Birmingham's historical and cultural legacy through preservation and interpretation of its ongoing story.*

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Roll Call**

**3. Approval of the Minutes**

Minutes of November 2, 2023

**4. New Business**

A. Museum Site Interpretive Plan

**5. Communication and Reports**

- A. Director Report
- B. Member comments
- C. Public comments

**6. Next Meeting: January 4, 2023**

**7. Adjournment**

NOTICE: Individuals with disabilities requiring accommodations for effective participation in this meeting should contact the city clerk's office at (248) 530-1880 (voice), or (248) 644-5115 (TDD) at least one day in advance to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance. *APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MUSEUM BOARD MEETINGS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AND ON THE CITY WEBSITE AT [www.bhamgov.org](http://www.bhamgov.org).* City of Birmingham, 151 Martin, Birmingham, MI 48009; 248.530.1800. Persons with disabilities that may require assistance for effective participation in this public meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at the number (248) 530-1880, or (248) 644-5115 (for the hearing impaired) at least one day before the meeting to request help in mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance.

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**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM  
MUSEUM BOARD MEETING  
556 W. Maple  
Thursday, November 2, 2023  
5:00 PM**

Members Present: Bev Erickson, Alexandra Harris, Pat Hughes, Marty Logue, Jay Shell  
Members Absent: Caroline Ashleigh, Kristy Barrett (Alternate), Judith Keefer  
Student Members Present: None  
Administration: Museum Director Leslie Pielack  
Guests: None

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by Chairperson Logue.

**Approval of the Minutes  
Minutes of October 5, 2023**

**MOTION:** by Shell, seconded by Hughes:

To approve the minutes of October 5, 2023.

**VOTE:** Yeas, 5  
Nays, 0

**New Business**

Museum Director Pielack presented three proposals received for repair of the porch roof, and explained the historic preservation and restoration issues involved. Butcher and Butcher Construction Co., Inc. has the lowest and most qualified proposal, and a budget amendment will be sought from the city commission to cover the cost of the project that exceeds the available funds. If the budget amendment is approved, the contractor will be able to schedule the work before winter. Museum Board members were in agreement that this plan was appropriate.

**Communication and Reports**

Director Pielack provided updates to the Director's Report. The storm windows were just installed the other day, completing the Allen House window restoration project. The ADA parking space is delayed due to encountering unforeseen conditions that will require additional work, and the need to get a budget amendment for additional funds that exceed the budget in order to complete the project. The George and Eliza Taylor marker has been installed, and all donors to the fundraising campaign have been notified with a photo of the marker in place. Several special tours have taken place within the museum as well as two downtown tours; one was a Next auction item, and one was for attendees at a Michigan Downtown Association gathering in Birmingham, given on behalf of the Birmingham Shopping District. The museum has received notification that the Michigan Humanities Council has awarded funds to extend the current UGRR research and exhibit to include all of Oakland County and provide grade school lesson plans and a book about

the UGRR in Oakland County in 2024. However, the uncertainty of funding through the federal government to the Arts and Humanities makes it unclear when/if the project will actually receive the grant award. The museum is considering an exhibit of Anishnaabe work centered on our recent basket donations. We hope to seek grant funding to bring tribal experts from all three Michigan tribes to curate the exhibit, and possibly to help coordinate artifacts for loan. Presentations by tribal members to the public would also hopefully be possible. In lieu of a physical exhibit for November/Native American Heritage Month, the museum has created a virtual exhibit highlighting the Indigenous people who occupied this area before white settlement. It features articles on local Indigenous archaeology and artifacts in our collection, and our recent donation of Anishnaabe baskets:

[https://www.bhamgov.org/about\\_birmingham/city\\_history/birmingham\\_museum/virtual\\_exhibits/birmingham\\_s\\_indigenous\\_peoples.php](https://www.bhamgov.org/about_birmingham/city_history/birmingham_museum/virtual_exhibits/birmingham_s_indigenous_peoples.php).

### **Member Comments**

Ms. Ashleigh was not able to be present, but Director Pielack shared a possible 'harvest feast' menu based on foods available and commonly served in the period of the so-called 'first Thanksgiving.'

### **Public Comments**

None.

**The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 7, 2023, at 5:00 PM.**

Ms. Logue adjourned the meeting at 5:31 PM.

# BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM

## SITE INTERPRETIVE PLAN

### 2024-2027 (DRAFT)



APPROVED BY THE MUSEUM BOARD 12/7/2023

MUSEUM BOARD—Marty Logue (Chair), Caroline Ashleigh, Bev Erickson, Alexandra Harris, Patrick Hughes, Judith Keefer & Jay Shell; Kristi Barrett (Alternate)

MUSEUM STAFF—Leslie Pielack (Director), Donna Casaceli, Caitlin Donnelly & Justin Koch

DOCUMENT PREPARED BY: Leslie Pielack



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An interpretative plan is a foundational document that helps museums and historical institutions tell their stories, interpret their resources and achieve their overall missions. It functions as a guide for planning and targeting programming and community engagement activities by setting out specific objectives and desirable outcomes. By its nature, it is a flexible document that changes as conditions change.

The Birmingham Museum site has a range of compelling features, from the natural beauty of the grounds, pond, and Rouge River to the built environment that includes 19<sup>th</sup> century remnants, a public plaza with the Hill School Bell structure, the John West Hunter House, and the architect-designed Harry and Marion Allen House. As a community park within the City of Birmingham's park system, the site has additional value as well as a responsibility to provide a quality recreational and historical experience to the public. The wide range and type of resources at the Birmingham Museum site offer opportunities as well as challenges to meaningful interpretation for our growing audience.



In recent years, the Birmingham Museum has successfully achieved a number of key objectives in its strategic planning efforts, and the result is a much greater awareness of, and appreciation for, the important role the museum plays in the community. Since re-opening in 2022 after the COVID pandemic, the museum has experienced a robust increase in site visitation of between 35 and 40% over pre-pandemic levels. When compared to a 2023 national survey of museums, this represents approximately 60% greater visitation than the vast majority of American museums studied.<sup>1</sup> Broadened interest in our museum and site is attributable in part to stimulation from our virtual presence and public engagement through programming and exhibits. However, visitors are increasingly interested in our site itself, its historical and recreational attractions, and its context in the bigger picture of the American story. The timing is ideal for establishing interpretive objectives drawn from our understanding of our audience and our experience of what 'works.'

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<sup>1</sup>American Alliance of Museums, *2023 National Snapshot of United States Museums*, [https://www.aam-us.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/SnapshotReport\\_v3.pdf](https://www.aam-us.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/SnapshotReport_v3.pdf)

An effective interpretive plan would incorporate our resources and experience, and help our museum achieve the following:

- Identify physical improvements or budgetary needs for prioritized resources
- Clarify some of our site's main stories and help us integrate our stories with continuity
- Identify additional opportunities for programming
- Seek potential new audiences
- Help audiences form connections to the museum, Birmingham, and its stories
- Demonstrate preparedness and planning to potential funders

## BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM MISSION, STRATEGIC PLAN, AND INTERPRETATION

**Mission Statement:** The Birmingham Museum will explore meaningful connections with our past, in order to enrich our community and enhance its character and sustainability. Our mission is to promote understanding of Birmingham's historical and cultural legacy through preservation and interpretation of its ongoing story.

Our audiences appreciate dynamic and engaging methods of presenting Birmingham's story, and advances in technology and communications offer opportunities that are increasingly available to the museum and its audiences. Effective interpretation at a historic site ideally utilizes approaches



that help visitors derive personal meaning from the experience, while tying that experience to the site, its artifacts, or its particular story. Interpretive objectives are especially effective when they integrate a site's unique features and presence to answer the questions, "What is special about the Birmingham Museum? How are Birmingham's stories relevant to me?" Bringing together the mission

and strategic plan in effect underscores the museum's purpose, while the methodology is designed to help our audience derive personal meaning and value from the experience.

**The 2021-2024 Birmingham Museum Strategic Plan** specifies the importance of an interpretive plan for fulfilling the museum's mission. Specifically, our strategic plan identifies service and mission-related goals with corresponding objectives that integrate interpretive functions:

**Goal I: Enhance community engagement through improved access and appeal, resulting in increased utilization of the Birmingham Museum and broader appreciation of its cultural contribution.**

Objectives for Goal I:

- A. Develop and implement programs that strategically engage and connect with the community to make history and heritage more relevant.
- B. Establish the museum and park as a valued resource, and place to encourage community connectivity.
- C. Enhance utilization of the collection by developing an interpretive plan for the site to engage visitors in impactful events, activities, programs and exhibits

The Birmingham Museum Site Interpretive Plan zeroes in on the themes, resources and methods to achieve the important goal of enhancing community engagement and furthering the museum's public mission. It is a standalone document, but is part of a comprehensive set of plans to help the museum accomplish its objectives and act in the best interests of the public trust.



## PROCESS

The Birmingham Museum Site Interpretive Plan was developed collaboratively between museum staff and the Museum Board to apply strategic plan objectives with staff experience and museum practices in mind. Each of several components was proposed by staff and reviewed by the Museum Board over several months in 2023 to create this document. Concepts from the larger field of museum work were also incorporated as applicable to our site and museum resources and objectives, but visitor experience provided the most important source.

It is a key priority for the museum to respond to our expanding audience's interests, both in physical and virtual contexts. To that end, we have been attending to visitor preferences and



interactive engagement patterns to gain a sense of what works best for content and format. We have found that artifacts, images, documents, displays, the site, and the building itself create the greatest interest when connected with themes of everyday life, foodways, women and children's activities, and family stories. The Birmingham Museum Site Interpretive Plan incorporates these varied sources in addition to social media to create the most effective presentation of the site and Birmingham's history.



# PLAN COMPONENTS



Successful interpretive plans are composed of elements that identify audience needs, central themes, specific objectives and methods that will make the best use of available resources. Each component identifies the specifics that apply to the museum and its site to help maintain a sense of consistency and reinforce the overall museum message.

The four component parts of the Birmingham Museum Site Interpretive Plan are listed below and detailed in the following section.

- I. Interpretive Objectives
- II. Thematic Focus
- III. Cultural and Historic Resources
- IV. Story-based Methodology and Implementation

## I. INTERPRETIVE OBJECTIVES

The Birmingham Museum Site Interpretive Plan Objectives are designed to specify desired outcomes—what the museum wants to see as a result of effective interpretation. They integrate with the museum’s overall strategic plan, are stated as general objectives to allow for adaptability, and are measurable. The plan objectives give direction and focus in interpretive activities.

1. Enhancement of visitor experience
  - a. Engagement opportunities
  - b. Educational experiences
2. Enhancement of collection and historical resources
  - a. Artifacts
  - b. Information
3. Increased community support
  - a. Manpower/volunteer resources
  - b. Financial donations
4. Civic engagement and partnerships





## II. THEMATIC FOCUS

Thematic emphasis provides historic and cultural context that imparts meaning and defines the relationship of Birmingham's stories to the larger picture of American history. Many themes can be applied to historic sites and objects, but visitor experience is enhanced when conceptual ideas are prioritized into key "takeaway" ideas that organize interpretive content into easy to understand patterns.

The themes and sub-themes with the greatest value for conveying Birmingham's place in the larger society are listed below in chronological, not preferential, order. They span the period before settlement up to recent history, affording numerous opportunities to tell stories from varying points of view.



1. Glacial landscape, Rouge River, and Indigenous Peoples
  - a. Physical characteristics of site, landscape, and region
  - b. Importance of Native American occupation and relationships
  - c. Saginaw Trail, early settlement
2. Building of Birmingham; expansion from village to city
  - a. Agriculture
  - b. Manufacturing
  - c. Commerce
  - d. Shaping of Birmingham; role in Oakland County
    - Early schools
    - W.D. Clizbe/Village
    - Harry/Marion Allen
    - Allen House, pool and polio
3. 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> century culture and everyday life
  - a. Adult and children roles
  - b. Migration
  - c. Foodways
  - d. Cultural change
4. 20<sup>th</sup> century preservation/conservation movement; how the community's needs changed over time

### III. CULTURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES

This component of the plan addresses the major physical objects and the primary stories associated with them to build a conceptual timeline for virtual and site visitors. It is the framework that will tie the physical space and museum artifacts to the themes that have been identified, bringing them down to earth and making them tangible for a better experience by visitors of all ages. The Birmingham Museum Site Interpretive Plan primarily emphasize the historic and cultural resources in the Birmingham Museum collection, although borrowing objects from other institutions or utilizing public domain content may be used to support or strengthen items interpreted from the museum collection.



The resources at the Birmingham Museum site include: 1) buildings/landscape/structures, 2) collections 4) off-site or portable resources, and finally, 5) personnel. Personnel is considered a special type of resource, as trained and knowledgeable staff offer a special value through their talents and abilities to facilitate interpretation and engage visitors.

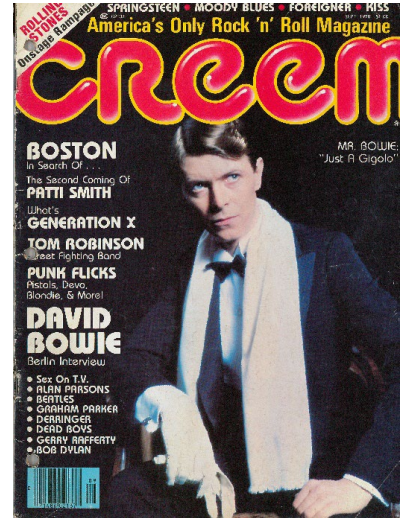


#### A. Buildings/Landscape/Structures

1. Allen House (the Hunter House has a separate Interpretive Plan)
2. Grounds
  - a. Pool
    - Natural springs/environmental importance
    - Allen swimming pool; Jim Allen's polio history
    - Wildlife, native plantings
  - b. Gardens
    - Heritage plants
    - Water gardens for storm water management
    - Pathways
  - c. Walls-19<sup>th</sup> century
  - d. Rouge River
3. Hill School Bell and structure
4. Main museum sign

## B. Collections

1. Permanent collection
  - a. Audio/visual materials
  - b. Born digital/digital only objects
  - c. 2-D objects and archives
    - i. Documents, books, and ledgers
    - ii. Photos
    - iii. Creem Magazine archives
    - iv. Vertical files and information
  - d. 3-D objects
2. Use collection



## C. Off-site/Portable Resources

1. Greenwood Cemetery and digital FindAGrave files
2. Traveling exhibit materials

## D. Personnel

1. Professional staff and trained volunteers

# IV. STORY-BASED METHODOLOGY AND IMPLEMENTATION

As the Birmingham Museum audience ranges widely in age, interest, and preferred experience format (e.g., virtual or physical experience), offering a variety of interpretive approaches will best



meet their needs in telling our stories. These options can be adapted for availability of resources (such as personnel) as appropriate and as conditions allow. In some cases, interpretive content may be made available indirectly through literature or self-experiences, while in others it can be provided directly through personal interaction. Interpretive methods can also be utilized on or off site, and presented virtually or in person.

We have learned that it is *stories about people* that make objects and places dynamic and compelling for audiences of all ages. For that purpose, the museum conducts ongoing research



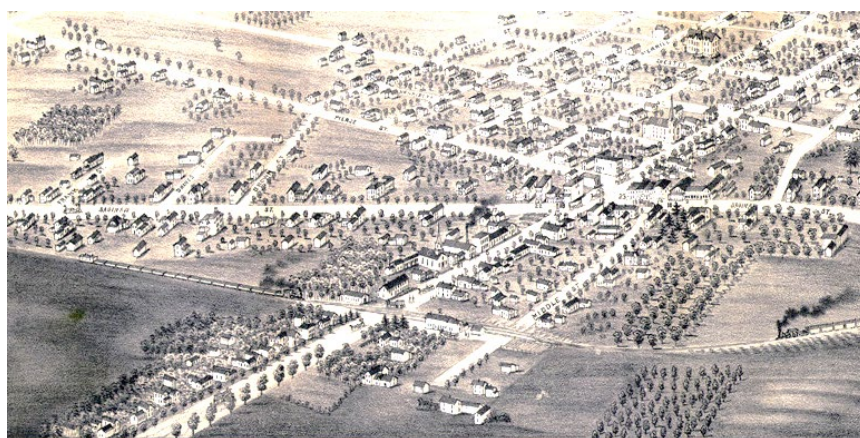
into the people behind the history of Birmingham. Storytelling opportunities, technologies and resources are anticipated to change rapidly in the future, so methods of implementation need to remain flexible to be successful. Direct and indirect interpretation opportunities through storytelling include the following:

1. Physical features of site and Allen House
  - a. Preservation/restoration/reconstruction
  - b. Public access development/expansion
2. Themes and story-based content
  - a. Interactive media and virtual content
    - Social media
    - Video/audio materials/podcast
    - Exhibits and online materials and resources (including digital access)
  - b. Programs/lectures/tours-adult and children, on and off-site, virtual and physical
  - c. Print (e.g., brochures, educational materials, booklets)
  - d. Traveling exhibits and off-site displays

## PLAN REVIEW

As a flexible plan document, the Birmingham Museum Site Interpretive Plan will ideally change with changing conditions, new approaches, enlargement of the collection and new knowledge that becomes available about Birmingham's story and the larger culture.

As interpretation is an integral part of museum planning and operations, regular discussion of interpretive activities will be addressed at public Museum Board meetings, with ongoing verbal



**CHURCHES.**  
 A. Baptist.  
 B. Methodist.  
 C. Presbyterian.  
 D. Advent.  
 1. Public School.  
 2. R. R. Depot.  
 3. Library.  
 4. Soldiers Monument.  
 5. Post Office.  
 6. Express.  
 7. Masonic Hall.  
 8. General Store, Allen, Bigelow.  
 9. Foundry.  
 10. Flouring Mill.  
 11. National Hotel, Geo. F. Barnes, Prop.  
 12. Hardware, Apt. Jan. & Luther H. Irving & Son.



13. General Store, O. Pappleton & Son.  
 14. Drugs, Groceries, & Toilet Articles, F. Hag.  
 15. Meat Market, Thoms & Converse.  
 16. Harness Mfg., Edgar Lamb.  
 17. Cooper Shop, S. J. Mills.  
 18. Black Smith & Wagon Shop, J. Baldwin.  
 19. Tailor Shop, John Bodine.  
 20. Boot Shoe Shop, Samuel McCrumb.  
 21. Contractor & Builder, Lewis Simpson.  
 22. Dental Parlor, C. F. Day.  
 23. Drugs, Groceries, Toilet Articles, etc.  
 24. Birmingham Excavating, Whitehead & Mitch.  
 25. General Store, Winkles & Jones.

reports by the Museum Director to the Museum Board. A written report and review of the Birmingham Museum Site Interpretive Plan document will take place on a three year cycle in accordance with the review of the Birmingham Museum Strategic Plan. Through these mechanisms, the public may participate in discussions of the plan on both an informal and formal basis. In addition, input and feedback from visitors is welcome as part of ongoing operations at the museum.



## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

American Alliance of Museums, "Interpretive Planning," <https://www.aam-us.org/programs/resource-library/education-and-interpretation-2/interpretive-planning/>

American Alliance of Museums, *2023 National Snapshot of United States Museums*, [https://www.aam-us.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/SnapshotReport\\_v3.pdf](https://www.aam-us.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/SnapshotReport_v3.pdf)

American Association for State and Local History, *National Visitation Report (November, 2019)*. <https://learn.aaslh.org/national-visitation-report>.

National Association for Interpretation, *Interpretation Standards: A Pathway Towards Excellence*, <https://interpretationstandards.files.wordpress.com/2018/11/standards-2018.pdf>

National Park Service, *Comprehensive Interpretive Planning*, <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/hfc/upload/cip-guideline.pdf>



## Director Report

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**DATE:** December 7, 2023  
**TO:** Museum Board  
**FROM:** Leslie Pielack, Museum Director  
**SUBJECT:** Director Report

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Allen House Windows, Phase II—Complete!

Construction of Phase 1 and 2 of the ADA/Barrier Free parking and path—Complete!

Allen House Porch Roof—in process. The metal railing has been taken down for repair and repainting, and the roof repair will be scheduled based on weather, hopefully by the end of December.

Special Group Tours—Museum staff has hosted several customized group tours recently, including a walking tour of downtown/our site for 40 from the Michigan Downtown Association, a senior group from St. Clair Shores, and a group of 40 is planning to come in January to see our diversity exhibit.

Birmingham Shopping District Tourism Advisory Committee—The museum will be participating on a newly formed committee whose purpose is to advise the BSD on strategies and collaborations for promoting and growing our local tourism industry and experiences.

Aging in Place Survey (attached)—whether you are personally facing this issue or are close to someone who is, PLEASE take 5 to 6 minutes to fill out the survey and share your views with the City. You can fill it out online (**follow the QR** code or [click the link](#) to the *Engage Birmingham* site) or you can fill it out and leave it at the museum admission desk. Survey responses will be compiled into a report and presented to the City Commission with recommendations in the coming months.

February's Black History Month Programs—Museum staff will be hosting themed programs at the museum on Saturdays at 11:00 am during the month. Ticket pricing (TBD) will include a special lecture with museum admission, and a special pricing package for all four will include a free Friends membership.

- February 3: "Birmingham's Connections to the Underground Railroad," featuring Justin Koch
- February 10: "The 'Delaware Moors': a Multiracial Community with Ties to Birmingham's Story," featuring Leslie Pielack
- February 17: "The Harris-Jackson Family of Birmingham: Three Generations of Birmingham's Black History," featuring Donna Casaceli
- February 24: "Black Artists of the 1970s and 1980s Through the Lens of CREEM Magazine," featuring Caitlin Donnelly

Long Range Planning—The museum's long range planning focus for 2024 will include:

- In depth review/revision of our Strategic Plan for 2025-2028 (beginning early 2024)
- Continuing with Landscape Master Plan improvements, Phases 2 and 3
- Implementing sustainable alternatives for heat, hot water, and landscape design/materials; implementing digital access initiatives (beginning with digital historic yearbook collection)

Budget Planning

- Construction projects: repair of Allen House water-damaged plaster; replacement of main stair carpet; replacement of picket fencing with paintable composite wood; replacement of garage furnace with efficient model; replacement of standard water heater with efficient point-of-use water heaters for public bathroom and staff upstairs area
- Staffing enhancements through increasing hours of current staffing to continue to strengthen staffing and help sustain the high quality of our museum personnel



## ACTION PLAN FOR OLDER ADULTS

Share your feedback about an action plan to improve the health, safety and welfare of older adults in Birmingham. Whether you are an older adult or know of older adults within our community, your feedback is important!

### Did you know?

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines aging in place as "the ability to live in one's own home and community safely, independently, and comfortably, regardless of age, income, or ability level".

Birmingham maintains its small town feel while offering the recreational and cultural advantages of an urban area. What is most important about Birmingham for older adults? Check all that apply.

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts and entertainment          | <input type="checkbox"/> Library/Museum          | <input type="checkbox"/> Safe neighborhoods  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community and social activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Next                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Shops & restaurants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Houses of worship               | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks and trail system  | <input type="checkbox"/> Walkability         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic character              | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____        |

## Demographics

What is your zip code? \_\_\_\_\_

Your age range: ☐ Under 35 ☐ 36-45 ☐ 46-55  
☐ 56-65 ☐ 66-75 ☐ 76-85 ☐ Over 85

Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of people living in your home: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you employed? ☐ Full-time ☐ Part-time  
☐ Retired ☐ Not employed

If not employed, would you like to re-enter the workforce?  
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Considering it

## Birmingham & Your Needs

Circle the number which best describes your feelings about the statements below.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
It is important for me to remain in Birmingham as I age.	1	2	3	4	5
I feel the City of Birmingham's police, fire and public services meet my needs.	1	2	3	4	5
Birmingham has accessible parks and facilities.	1	2	3	4	5
I have a support system in place to assist me as I age.	1	2	3	4	5
I have adequate health care and am healthy enough to age in my residence.	1	2	3	4	5
I would support the continuation of a senior millage (one mill or less) for older adults.	1	2	3	4	5
I am familiar with Next, a nonprofit organization that is the City's primary provider of lifelong learning and activities for older adults.	1	2	3	4	5
I am familiar with Next's comprehensive support services.	1	2	3	4	5

I need help with the following support services. Check all that apply.

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grass cutting | <input type="checkbox"/> Minor home repairs/modifications | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snow removal  | <input type="checkbox"/> Daily living activities          | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____   |

## Transportation

I have adequate personal transportation.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
1	2	3	4	5

I am familiar with the City's partnership with Next to provide SMART transportation services to local appointments/destinations.

1	2	3	4	5
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## Housing

I feel safe in my residence.

1	2	3	4	5
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I am able to modify my residence so I may age in place.

1	2	3	4	5
---	---	---	---	---

It is important to stay in my current residence as I age.

1	2	3	4	5
---	---	---	---	---

The affordability of housing is a factor in my decision to remain in Birmingham.

1	2	3	4	5
---	---	---	---	---

Birmingham offers a variety of living options for older adults.

1	2	3	4	5
---	---	---	---	---

I am interested in the following alternative housing options in Birmingham. Check all that apply.

- ☐ Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)
 ☐ Rental Units
 ☐ Small/Tiny Homes  
☐ Co-Housing
 ☐ Senior Living Facilities
 ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

I have the following concerns about aging in my current home. Check all that apply.

- ☐ Unable to care for myself
 ☐ Unable to care for my property
 ☐ Stairs or other physical barriers  
☐ Unable to afford to live in home
 ☐ Feeling isolated/Being alone  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_ (Attach additional pages if needed.)

## Social & Civic Engagement

I am satisfied with Birmingham's civic destinations and outdoor spaces and facilities.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
1	2	3	4	5

Birmingham has adequate public restrooms.

1	2	3	4	5
---	---	---	---	---

I am satisfied with my social life and feel connected to the community.

1	2	3	4	5
---	---	---	---	---

## Communications

What is your primary source of City information? Check all that apply.

- ☐ City electronic newsletters/eblasts
 ☐ City website
 ☐ Social media  
☐ City print newsletters
 ☐ Family/friends/neighbors

I would like more information about older adult services and opportunities.

☐ Yes ☐ No

I would like to receive a weekly phone call to check on my welfare.

☐ Yes ☐ No

I would like to volunteer my time to assist others.

☐ Yes ☐ No

I would like to be contacted for a personal interview regarding my survey responses.

☐ Yes ☐ No

My contact information (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

If you have additional information you would like us to consider as we develop an action plan to help older adults age in place, please add additional pages or email [clemencem@bhamgov.org](mailto:clemencem@bhamgov.org).

## Submit Your Survey

- 1: U.S. Mail: City of Birmingham Attn: Aging in Place Survey, 151 Martin Street, Birmingham, MI 48009
- 2: Drop Off: City Hall drop boxes, Clerk's Office, Baldwin Public Library or Next (2121 Midvale Street)
- 3: Engage Birmingham - Submit this survey online at [engage.bhamgov.org/aginginplace](https://engage.bhamgov.org/aginginplace)



Thank you for completing this survey and helping to improve the health and wellness of older adults in Birmingham.

December 2023