



CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

January 2023

Baldwin Public Library

Library Board

The Library Board met on January 18, 2023 for its regular meeting. The Board completed the Director's annual review on January 9, 2023 at a special meeting.

Phase 3 Construction

Construction drawings for the Phase 3 expansion and renovation are nearing completion and city and library staff are working with PCI Dailey and Merritt Cieslak Design to begin planning the bidding process for the Phase 3 project. The Board's Building Committee will meet with City staff and Merritt Cieslak Design on February 6, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. for a page turn meeting.

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 Wednesday, February 15 at 10:00 a.m.

At Home COVID Testing Distribution

In late December, BPL served as a distribution point for free at-home COVID tests that patrons were able to collect at their convenience, provided through a special grant by the State of Michigan. In one week, 360 two-packs of tests were picked up in the lobby. We received additional tests in early January, which were again placed in the lobby for pickup.

Student Representative to the Library Board

We received three applications from local high school juniors and anticipate the placement of a new student at the February 2023 Regular Board Meeting. Olivia Reeves, a senior at Bishop Foley, has served as student representative during the last year. She helped Teen staff to establish a new TikTok account for the library. You can follow the library @baldwinlib.

Staffing Updates

We're happy to welcome new faces to the staff this month. Youth Substitute Librarian, Lindsey Block recently graduated from Wayne State with her MLIS as well as a Certificate in Public Library Services to Children and Young Adults. She works part time as a children's librarian at the Sterling Heights Public Library. Lindsey grew up using BPL as we are her home library.

Youth Reference Assistant Jennifer Rohrer Walbert started on January 9 and will have regular shifts on the Youth Reference Desk. Previously, Jennifer was a Children's Resource Librarian at the Cleveland Heights Public Library where she assisted patrons on the reference desk and created programming for

children. An artist, Jennifer creates her own artwork and has taught art to children in school and privately.

IT Assistant Harrison Porter started with us on January 11 and will work part time in the IT department helping us ensure more coverage during hours that we are open. Harrison has extensive IT experience having worked for the City of Berkley since 2019. Part of his duties for the city is helping with IT projects at the Berkley Library, so he also has a fair amount of experience with library products including Envisionware and BSA.

Additionally, we are pleased to announce that Phoenix Nash will be our new Reference Assistant in the Adult Services department. Phoenix already enjoys a strong reputation at Baldwin, due to her excellent work behind the Circulation desk. Anyone who has worked with Phoenix has noted her quick thinking, deep knowledge, and engaging manner. These qualities will enable her to thrive in her new role.

The Birmingham Museum

On December 13, 2022, Representative Haley Stevens' office entered a formal statement into the Congressional Record regarding the importance of the Underground Railroad in Birmingham's history and details about the lives of abolitionist Elijah Fish and freedom seeker George Taylor, who are buried in Greenwood Cemetery. View an online version of the extended record [at this link](#). A framed version of the statement from Stevens' office is being sent to the museum and will be displayed in the lobby. This is an exciting way to acknowledge our community and its significance in the shaping of Michigan's history!

Birmingham Shopping District (BSD)

Holiday Event Recap

The BSD produced a number of events and marketing promotions this past holiday season including Small Business Saturday, Santa Walk, Winter Markt, Santa House, Carriage Rides, special feature weekends like free hot chocolate, chestnuts and characters, as well as the holiday gift guide, video and online marketing. Attendance was high, as well as vendor participation compared to previous years. A business survey has been conducted regarding the success of the holiday shopping season for our local merchants, and results will be available soon.

Retail Recruitment Strategy

At its January 5, 2023 Board meeting, the BSD rejected all proposals received for the Retail Recruiter RFP being that only two were received and they were not comparable. In lieu of reissuing the same extensive Retail Recruiter RFP, the Board is exploring adding an incentive-based program for local realtors already working for properties in the district that would be based upon meeting the target recruitment list of the BSD to qualify. A business mix analysis and tenant recruitment recommendation is in the process of being prepared. The Board will then determine whether or not a revised scope of work is needed for a retail recruiter in the future.

Strategic Planning Meeting

The BSD will be holding its Strategic Planning Meeting on February 6, 2023 from 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. at the Baldwin Public Library. The session will focus on long-term vision, economic goals and strategies to meet those goals.

Merchant Meeting

The BSD's monthly Merchant Meeting was held on January 18, 2023, at 9 a.m. at Faherty, one of the newest retail store additions to the district.

Restaurant Meeting

The BSD will be holding a Restaurant Meeting on January 24, 2023, at 3 p.m. at Hazel's to discuss the future of Restaurant Week or other promotions that would market the dining experience and offerings in Downtown Birmingham. The BSD recently decided to pause holding this annual event for the first quarter of the year in order to gauge restaurants' opinions, ideas and collective goals.

Special Assessment Notices & Year in Review

The City of Birmingham will be issuing the BSD special assessment notices for 2023 this month. Along with the notice, the BSD is producing a Year in Review marketing piece that will be included in the mailing and available online.

New Businesses

This past year, the BSD welcomed the following new businesses to town:

- Christie's International Real Estate
- Circa Lighting
- Majda Diamond Vault
- Paris Baguette
- Swift Home Loans
- The Apap Realty Group
- Waymaker Salon
- Brilliant Earth Jewelry
- Rotate Boutique
- sweetgreen
- Faherty
- O2PT
- Serena & Lily
- Zana
- EM
- Via Manzoni (2023)

2022 Dashboard Metrics

Retail Occupancy Rate - 96%

Office Occupancy - 89%

15 New Business Openings in 2022 (5 more in process for 2023)

59 FYE2022 Hosted Event Days

13 million in PR media impressions FYE2022

120,392 Website "hits" or "unique viewers" annually

230 Flower planters and baskets maintained

56,814 linear feet of sidewalk snow removal

1.5 million sq. ft. retail space

2 million sq. ft. office space

Building Department

Congratulations, Doug Manigold

Code Enforcement Officer Doug Manigold recently earned his Property Maintenance and Housing Inspector certification from the International Code Council (ICC). The Building Department staff now collectively holds 36 ICC Certifications with credentials spanning many professional disciplines.

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 December, we processed 240 online permit applications for a total of 4,728 in 2022.

City Clerk's Office

Ethics Board

The next Ethics Board's meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 30, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. in City Hall rooms 202 and 203. The board will continue their work on reviewing the city's current Ethics Ordinance.

Ethics Conference in Detroit

Christal Phillips, Executive Director of the Board of Ethics for the City of Detroit continues to talk with various ethics boards and professors in the area to plan a conference this April. A variety of topics are tentatively being planned which include conflict of interest issues, revising or creating an ethics ordinance, and creating a more effective and enforceable board. Any public servant with the City of Birmingham is welcome to attend. Stay tuned for more information.

Greenwood Cemetery & Greenwood Cemetery Advisory Board

The Greenwood Cemetery Advisory Board will meet on Friday, February 3, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. in City Commission room 205. Topics on the agenda include a discussion on the Cemetery Services Contract and continued work on a strategic plan and goal setting for the cemetery.

On January 6, 2023, DPS staff prematurely completed March spring cleanup work, which included disposing of grave blankets and any temporary decorations. The City Clerk's office is continuing to monitor this issue. Any concerns regarding this matter should be reported to the City Clerk's Office at (248) 530-1880 or clerksoffice@bhamgov.org. City staff sincerely apologizes for this mistake. Going forward city staff will improve communication regarding the coordination of cleanup projects taking place in the cemetery.

Board Appointments

The following City of Birmingham boards and commissions have vacant positions or members with terms expiring soon. Applications are due before noon the Wednesday prior to the commission interview/appointment date:

Board	Openings	Application Due by Noon	Interview/ Appointment at City Commission meeting 7:30 pm
Advisory Parking Committee	1 resident shopper term ending 9/1/2025	Until filled	

Birmingham Shopping District	1 regular member term ending 11/16/2026	Until filled	
Birmingham Area Cable Board	3 regular member terms ending 3/30/2026 1 regular member term ending 3/30/2024 1 alternate member term ending 3/30/2025	2/8/23	2/13/23
Board of Building Trades Appeals	1 regular member term ending 5/23/25 1 regular member term ending 5/23/24	Until filled	
Board of Review	1 alternate member term ending 12/31/2025	Until filled	
Board of Zoning Appeals	2 alternate member terms ending 2/18/2026	2/8/23	2/13/23
Brownfield Redevelopment Authority	1 regular member term ending 5/23/2024	Until filled	
Historic District Commission	1 alternate member term ending 9/25/25	Until filled	
Public Arts Board	2 regular member terms ending 1/28/2026, 1 alternate member term ending 1/28/2026, 1 alternate member 1/28/2025	1/19/23	1/23/23
Stormwater Utility Appeals Board	3 regular member terms ending 1/31/2026 2 alternate member terms ending 1/31/2025	2/8/23	2/13/23

City Manager’s Office

Communications

Around Town e-Newsletter

The communications team is working on the February edition of the Around Town e-Newsletter, which will include information about new parking structure equipment, upcoming construction projects, winter sports, ice skating classes and more. Follow [this link to view the January edition](#) of the Around Town e-Newsletter.

3D Virtual Tour of Birmingham Now Available

With the start of a new year, the city has introduced its brand new virtual tour by Skyway Interactive. The tour, available at www.birmingham.skywayvr.com utilizes 360-degree images and drone footage to create a fully immersive experience. This interactive virtual tour is embedded on the city’s website at www.bhamgov.org/residents and will serve as a resource to attract those considering relocating to Birmingham, opening a business, visiting the city, or holding a special event in Birmingham. Those familiar with Birmingham may discover something new as they explore remarkable aerial and ground



footage of the city's golf courses, parks and facilities such as The Birmingham Museum, Birmingham Fire Department, Birmingham Ice Sports Arena and more. Visit www.birmingham.skywayvr.com to virtually explore Birmingham!



GovPilot Instruction Cards

GovPilot instruction cards, sized to conveniently fit inside a wallet or pocket, are now available. Stacks of cards are set out at city offices, and will be provided to each city commissioner for distribution to residents and neighbors who wish to share a concern with the city. As always, residents are encouraged to use the GovAlert app or [website form](#) to submit non-emergency concerns to the city.

City Calendar

There is a misprint in the city calendar (print edition) for the meetings listed below. All meetings are accurate on the city website and gmail calendars. We have added messaging to our communications calendar for the budget hearing and October meetings.

Meeting	Calendar (Print Edition) Misprint	Correct Dates
Budget Hearing	May 6, 2023	April 29, 2023
Joint City Commission/Planning Board	October 9, 2023	October 23, 2023
City Commission Meeting	October 23, 2023	October 16, 2023

Communication Tools

The city uses a wide variety of communication tools to share information with the Birmingham community. View a list of all communications distributed by the city and learn how to sign up for newsletters and alerts at www.bhamgov.org/communications.

Human Resources

The Human Resources department has promoted Scott Zielinski to the role of Director of Public Services. Melissa Fairbairn has also promoted internally to the role of Assistant City Manager. Last for promotions, Brandon Wynn has been promoted from a Parks Operator to a Parks Technician. Maryna Elia is a new hire in the Police Department, with a start date of January 16th, while Meagan Bade started on January 17th. Applicants for the role of Secretary A in Community Development's Building Department are currently under review. Joshua Parks is a new Operator, hired into the Department of Public Services. Applications for the Plumbing Inspector position continue to be collected. Applications have also completed review for the BSD Events & Office Assistant position, with interviews to be scheduled shortly. The Fire Department roles of Assistant Fire Chief and Fire Marshall, and the DPS roles of Public Services Manager, Parks & Recreation Manager, Streets Foreman, and Parks Foreman have all been transitioned from hourly positions to salaried exempt positions, reducing potential future overhead costs.

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					
1/9/23	Ad Hoc Senior Services Committee	M: Baller S: Longe			
12/5/22	Lighting to sustainability board	Haig		12/19 - Direction for staff to prepare list for Sustainability Board	
12/5/22	Becoming Mayor	McLain		12/19 - Motion to make a workshop	
11/14/22	Renters Rights	M: Host	Mary	11/28 CC Discussion Scheduled - Voted to make a formal agenda item at the next available meeting	In progress
9/12/22	Banner	M: Baller S: Host	TBD	11/14 CC discussion scheduled	
8/15/22	Speed Bumps	M: Haig S: Host	Clemence/Brooks	8/29 - Staff report *Further study by MMTB	In progress, sent to MMTB
6/13/22	Sustainability Board	M: Schafer S: Host	Nick Dupuis	On 6/27/22 agenda - 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	In progress

4/25/22	Improvements in Information Provision and Methodology	M: Haig S: Baller	TBD	1/9/22 M: Haig, S: Host To continue discussion	In Progress
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 1/9/23 - Scheduling Interviews	CM Recruitment Portfolio posted 10/25/22
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	6/27/22 In progress/ being monitored
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	In progress
1/10/22	Commissioner Conduct	No vote	Mary Kucharek	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	Will be revised and presented again at an upcoming CC meeting
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	Resolved

				Tom directed staff to add mental health info in city publications	
5/9/22	Pickleball	Baller, no vote	Lauren Wood	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 *Draft a letter	Resolved, letter sent

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 - Unresolved

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

Birmingham Public Schools Facility Assessment Committee

Birmingham City Manager Tom Markus and Cris Braun, Executive Director of Next, were invited to serve on the [Birmingham Public Schools Facility Assessment Committee](#). The committee will create a report with recommendations and options for the Board of Education to consider for facility usage.

Board and Committee Communications

Based on commissioner feedback, department heads have been encouraged to include additional information about their boards and committees in future City Manager reports. Updates may include information such as: upcoming meeting topics and dates, updates regarding ongoing and future projects, challenges/difficulties, etc.

Beier Howlett, P.C.

Baldwin House Update

Over the past few months, the City Attorney's office, with the assistance of the Police Department, has conducted surveys with the Baldwin House residents regarding their parking situations and whether the agreement for 69 free parking spaces in the Chester Street parking garage has been breached. The City Attorney's office has also been meeting frequently with two attorneys representing Baldwin House in order to come to some resolution regarding the parking situation. Presently, the attorneys for Baldwin House will be hiring an independent auditing firm in order to help establish the correct facts regarding restitution to all tenants that improperly paid for parking. Also, the attorneys are currently working together to form an agreement as to how the free parking will work in the future. Our Parking Manager, Aaron Ford, has drafted a letter that will ultimately be given to Baldwin House residents, both present and future, in order to inform them of the steps needed to assure that they receive a complimentary parking pass if needed. The City Attorney's office is hopeful that a resolution will be completed and restitution will be received for all the tenants who incorrectly paid for parking. The City Attorney's office is also confident that the tenants of Baldwin House will be protected going forward.

Update Regarding Tax Tribunal Lawsuit

On May 10, 2022, the New 555 Commercial, 555 Residential, Manorwood Properties, and Associates of 555 ("Petitioners") filed a petition against the City of Birmingham to the Michigan Tax Tribunal to dispute the special assessment imposed on their properties arguing that the special assessment was invalid as it was not reasonably proportionate to any benefit. On November 21, 2022, Petitioners filed a Motion for Summary Disposition arguing there was no genuine issue of material fact because the special assessment that the city assessed against Petitioners' properties was invalid. On December 22, 2022, the Michigan Tax Tribunal denied this motion. On January 12, 2023, our attorneys were served with Petitioners' Application for Leave to Appeal to the Michigan Court of Appeals, based on the Michigan Tax Tribunal's Order Denying Petitioners' Motion for Summary Disposition. The main argument for this appeal is that the Tribunal erred in denying their motion for summary disposition because the city did not determine any increase in value or benefit to the property before imposing a special assessment. We intend to file our answer on or before February 2, 2023, when our answer is due. We do not believe the Tax Tribunal made any error and will ask the Court of Appeals to deny hearing their appeal.

Engineering Department

Water Service Verification Program

As a reminder, the "In-Home/Business" water service line material needs to be determined as part of this program. 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.

South Eton Public Open House

Thank you to everyone who came to the South Eton Public Open House on Tuesday, January 17, 2023. The next step is the Multi-Modal Transportation Board (MMTB) review and recommendations of options this winter and spring, with the second Public Open House reviewing the recommendation of MMTB this Spring.

Westwood, Oak, and Raynale Project

The city recently received bids on this project and will be brought forward to the City Commission for approval toward the end of February / beginning of March. The Engineering Department will host a property owner meeting to provide construction information on the project on Thursday, February 9, 2023, from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Property owners will receive a letter with additional information about this meeting.

Fire Department

The city was awarded another FEMA Public Assistance Reimbursement Grant in the amount of \$119,753.42. The time frame for expenditures that were reimbursed covered COVID-19 test kits and cleaning supplies bought July 1, 2021- October 31, 2021 and employee overtime costs from September to October 2021 that were caused by COVID-19 illnesses. Overtime costs came mainly from fire and police department staffing. The city has been awarded over four million dollars' worth of COVID-19 grant reimbursements over the past three years.

Planning Department

Master Plan 2040

The City of Birmingham has begun its review of the third and final draft of the Birmingham Plan 2040, which is available to read and download on www.thebirminghamplan.com. At a minimum, the remaining schedule of review will consist of reviews and a public hearing at the Planning Board, and a public hearing at the City Commission. The remaining schedule of review should closely resemble the following:

Date	Meeting Type	Action Needed
February 8, 2023	Planning Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final review of plan for minor, non-substantive issues/corrections.• Set public hearing date.
March 8, 2023	Planning Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hold a public hearing and further discuss comments received during the distribution period as needed.• Adopt plan; recommend to the City Commission for adoption.
May 2023 (Exact date TBD)	City Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Present the final Plan and hold a public hearing.• If prepared to do so, the City Commission may adopt the Plan by resolution.

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. As a reminder, you can still submit comments directly to the consultant team through the aforementioned 2040 Plan website, and can submit comments directly to the Planning Division to be placed in the next available Planning Board agenda.

Planning Board

The Planning Board is gearing up for a big 2023. With the wrapping up of the 2040 Plan, new development projects, a robust action list, and an ever-changing landscape of new ideas and issues that need addressing, the Planning Board is due for a busy year. A tentative Planning Board list of scheduled items is provided below:

1. 2040 Master Plan – Draft #3 Review (Ongoing)
2. 34350 Woodward – Lavery Porsche – Special Land Use, Final Site Plan & Design Review (1/25/22)
3. 479 S. Old Woodward – Special Land Use, Final Site Plan & Design Review (1/25/23)

Multi-Modal Transportation Board

The Multi-Modal Transportation Board will begin review of South Eton design concepts for the resurfacing scheduled for 2024 in February. The first open house took place on January 17, 2023. The Multi-Modal Transportation Board will be reviewing input and design concepts throughout the spring of 2023 before making a final recommendation to City Commission.

Public Arts Board

The Public Arts Board does not have any active applications at this time and will be using their meeting time this winter to go over goals for 2023.

Historic Preservation

The Planning Division recently attended a Museum Board meeting to discuss the proposed Heritage Home program and gather feedback on how we may improve the program to best suit the historic preservation goals of the city. The Birmingham Museum plays an integral role in preservation in the city, which often extends beyond the walls of the Allen House. The Heritage Home project collaboration is one of many examples of an increased connection between the Birmingham Museum and the city's Historic District Commission (HDC) and Historic District Study Committee (HDSC). In addition, the Historic District Commission is on to the third draft of the Historic Design Guidelines project, which is expected to be completed later this summer. The HDC has provided feedback to the consultants, and City Staff has remained attentive to the requirements of the Certified Local Government grant process and requirements.

Sustainability

Recently, the city has engaged with Oakland County to learn about a residential green infrastructure pilot program that is being considered by the County to reduce the amount of storm water entering the combined sewer systems within the George W. Kuhn drainage district, which encompasses most of the east side, and some of the south western portion of Birmingham. The Planning and Engineering departments have participated in scoping sessions and have provided feedback to the County and hope to be selected to participate in the program over the next couple of years. In addition, the Planning Department is mapping out a vigorous approach to sustainability in the next 1-3 years, which was presented to the City Commission during Long Range Planning.

Lighting Issue Update

On December 5, 2022, Mr. George Dilgard came before the City Commission to raise an issue with light fixtures at the Eton Square Apartments on Southfield Road. and express his dissatisfaction with City Staff in remedying the perceived issue. At that meeting, the City Commission was presented with a history of correspondence between city staff and Mr. Dilgard, which included in-depth research by City Staff that was performed over a period of several months. This research was performed (1) to demonstrate the complex nature of the lighting ordinance and (2) to confirm or dispel some of the arguments brought forward by Mr. Dilgard. The essentiality of this work was not to find a way to disprove or denounce the arguments brought forth, but to ensure that city staff understood completely what factors go into determining what the terms cutoff or full cutoff mean and how we may apply the lighting ordinance consistently and accurately moving forward. It is the belief of the Planning Division that this research also revealed an aged ordinance that is in need of a fresh approach that addresses new technologies and lighting science, most notably the proliferation of LED's. Regardless, the city has engaged with management at the Eton Square Apartments to remedy the issue, which should conclude in short order.

Police Department

Chief of Police/Promotions Update

On January 12, 2023, Police Chief Mark Clemence ended his 37-plus-year career with the police department and started his retirement. We thank Mark for his dedicated service to our department

and the City of Birmingham. With the retirement of Chief Clemence, Captain Scott Grewe was sworn in as the next Chief for the Birmingham Police Department. This internal promotion to chief created an opening for internal promotions to back-fill each position. A promotional process was conducted in December of 2022.

The Birmingham Police Department's promotional process is based on a point system where applicants are awarded and earn points. This process includes a written examination, oral interview, yearly evaluations, seniority and education. The panel for the oral interview consisted of a deputy chief and two captains from outside agencies.

As a result of this process, the Birmingham Police Department is pleased to announce the promotion of Sgt. Alex Linke to the Lieutenant position. Additionally, we are also pleased to announce the promotion of Ofc. Jordan Zale to the Sergeant position.

Parking Systems Update

Equipment

The long awaited installation of new parking structure equipment has started. New TIBA parking equipment has been installed at the Chester Street garage, and the equipment will be installed at the Pierce, Peabody, Park, and North Old Woodward structures (in the order listed) by the end of February/early March.

Once the new TIBA equipment is installed, city staff is looking to extend the agreement with ParkMobile into its parking structures, giving the city one consistent online payment provider for all things parking. Currently ParkMobile is offered as a form of online payment for all metered parking.

Construction

WJE Engineering has been working on completing their assessment of the Pierce Street Garage, as well as having an MEP (mechanical, electrical, and plumbing) consultant review all the garages. WJE hopes to have the construction documents finished by April, with the bidding process taking place in May. This work is part of a larger five-year repair project that not only continues the ongoing concrete restoration and repair, but includes MEP of the garages. This will include designing the staining of ceilings, LED lights, etc. Construction bidding will take place around April/May 2023.

Occupancy

DECEMBER AVG CAPACITY	
Chester Garage (880)	33.31%
Old Woodward (745)	42.92%
Park Garage (811)	49.98%
Peabody Garage (437)	69.82%
Pierce Garage (706)	66.41%

Future Agenda Items

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

Future Workshop Items

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