



CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

April 2024

Baldwin Public Library

Library Board

The Library Board will meet on Monday, April 15 at 7:30 p.m. for its regular meeting. Board meetings are held in the second floor Board Room.

Phase 3 Construction Project

The Phase 3 addition and renovation project was originally scheduled to reopen to the public the week of April 15. Unfortunately, we have encountered an issue with the entry staircase that will delay our reopening until June. At a recent Owner/Architect/Contractor meeting, Building Official Bruce Johnson expressed his concerns with the quality of finishing on the cast in place concrete steps. He had Building Inspector Mike Morad measure the steps for code compliance. Morad found that a few steps were higher or shallower than allowed by code. The expected height of the staircase in the architectural plan was 63", however the steps as built were 63.75" high. While this amount is minimal, this height overage did have a cascading effect on the staircase, which caused it to be non-compliant with the building code. Because the stairs were designed and constructed with nine steps and a center landing, the staircase design left little margin for construction variance, resulting in a total height that exceeded code requirements.

To address this, the staircase has undergone a redesign and will now feature ten shorter and deeper steps without a landing. This necessitates the removal and reconstruction of the existing stairs and handrails to ensure compliance with the building code. Our construction firm estimates this process will take approximately 8-9 weeks at no additional cost to the City. We do not anticipate any other construction related issues related to this phase of renovation and are happy we will be able to access and offer use of some spaces that have been unavailable since July 2023.

In brighter news, the exterior plaza furniture has arrived and been installed. Landscaping work and plantings began the week of April 8. Both the plaza and sidewalks along Bates and Merrill will be accessible to the public from mid-April onwards. Additionally, the Merrill Street entrance and outdoor return slot are slated to open in June upon completion of the project. Until then, library visitors should continue to enter the library via the ramp at the north entrance, at the corner of Bates and Martin Streets. The outside dropbox will also remain available on Martin Street.

Regrettably, the open house scheduled for May 18 has been postponed due to the project delay. We invite you to mark your calendars for our fall open house and ribbon-cutting ceremony on Sunday, September 15, 2024, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. For further details about the project, please visit www.baldwinlib.org/renovation.

Library Tour

If you'd like to learn even more about the library, join 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 Claudia Ireland room on Wednesday, May 15, at 4:00 p.m.

Upcoming Events of Interest

A Night of Poetry with Tariq Luthun

Monday, April 22, 2024, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Please come celebrate poetry month and National Arab American History month by attending a reading from local poet and author Tariq Luthun. In addition to his poetry work, Mr. Luthun currently hosts the Ann Arbor poetry slam, the second longest running tenured poetry slam in the country.

NYT & WSJ from Home

Learn how to access popular newspapers, including the New York Times and the Wall Street Journal with your Baldwin Public Library card.

Free Comic Book Day!

Saturday, May 4, 2024, All Day

It's Free Comic Book Day at local comic shops and BPL. Swing by the library, pick up a comic and vote for your favorite comic book character. We'll have comics for kids, teens, and adults on a first come, first served basis. One comic book per person, please.

Friends of the BPL Used Book & Media Sale

Saturday, May 4, 2024, 10:00am - 4:00pm

Shop tons of great gently used inventory on the lower level of the Library.

Books and Blankets Family Story Time

Saturday, May 4, 2024, 10:30am - 11:00am

Bring a blanket and enjoy a story time that is fun for the whole family. Story times use a first come, first served ticketing system. Tickets will be available 15 minutes before story time begins and will be handed out until 5 minutes after the scheduled start time. Please see [baldwinlib.org/storytime](https://www.baldwinlib.org/storytime) for complete details.

Learn more about these events and other programs coming to Baldwin at <https://www.baldwinlib.org/calendar/>.

The Birmingham Museum

Museum Director Leslie Pielack is one of a cohort of 19 fellow history professionals accepted into this summer's **American Association of State and Local History's 2024 History Leadership Institute**. The competitive program is part educational, part think tank, and represents one of the most highly regarded professional development opportunities for public historians. Through the program, Leslie will work with her colleagues from organizations across the U.S. to refine their leadership skills as well as address contemporary issues and trends affecting community museums. This information will be especially relevant as the Museum Board works toward a comprehensive updated strategic plan for the museum later this year.



Birmingham Shopping District

Executive Director Position

Interviews for the Birmingham Shopping District Executive Director position took place on Monday, April 8, 2024. It is anticipated a candidate will be selected over the next few weeks and presented to the public at the May 2, 2024 Birmingham Shopping District Board meeting.

Farmers Market Opening Day Celebration

Sunday, May 5 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. at 660 North Old Woodward Avenue

The Birmingham Farmers Market returns in May with a record number of vendors, monthly special events, fitness activities, and a new logo! Join us as we officially kick off the Farmers Market season with the Opening Day Celebration on May 5! We have an exciting day planned with over 50 local vendors selling Michigan-grown produce, meat and dairy, floral arrangements, plants, artisan goods and more, in addition to live music, food trucks, crafts for kids and other festivities. Free reusable totes will be distributed to market attendees throughout the event (while supplies last).



The market is open every Sunday, May 5 through October 27 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. For more information and special events schedule, visit ALLINBirmingham.com/FarmersMarket, like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Instagram](#).

Building Department

Board of Zoning Appeals

There were three cases on the agenda for the March 12, 2024 Board of Zoning Appeals regular meeting:

1. 508 W. Lincoln: The property owner requested a variance from the minimum distance between their house and a proposed in-ground swimming pool. The variance was approved by a 5/2 vote.
2. 705 Davis: The owners requested variances from the minimum side yard setback, total combined side yard setbacks and the minimum distance between houses to construct additions to the front and rear of their existing nonconforming home. The variances were all approved by a 7/0 vote.
3. 1982 Haynes: The property owner requested a variance from the minimum distance between houses to construct a new house with a detached garage on the lot. The variance was approved by a 7/0 vote.

Electrical Inspector Ed Rosett

After 23 years of serving Birmingham as its electrical inspector, Ed has decided to retire at the end of June. Ed's expertise in his trade, along with his professionalism in performing his duties made him a valuable member of the team and he will be missed. A recruitment is underway for his replacement.

Online Permit Applications

In March we processed 431 permits online, bringing this year's total permits processed electronically to 1,109.

Monthly Report

The Building Department's [monthly report](#) has been revised to show the previous month's permit activity, along with charts showing the building permit activity trend over the past year.

City Clerk's Office

Birmingham Parade and Party

The Celebrate Birmingham Hometown Parade is on Sunday, May 19, 2024 at 1:00 pm, rain or shine, followed by a family oriented party in Shain Park.



You have three opportunities to participate in the 2024 Celebrate Birmingham Hometown Parade and party in Shain Park:

- Participant - walking proudly with your organization in the parade and/or showcasing your organization with a table at the party in Shain park;
- Sponsor - supporting the parade with a financial, or in-kind donation and being recognized for your contribution; and/or
- Volunteer - donating about two hours of your time on the day of the parade.

Register as a participant, sponsor or volunteer at www.bhamgov.org/parade.

Please feel free to invite all groups with which you are associated to join in the parade celebration.

You are invited to go to www.bhamgov.org/parade for easy online registration. Don't delay, parade participants need to register by May 1, 2024 and sponsors need to register by April 26, 2024. Your email address will be used to notify you of key information as the parade date approaches.

This year we will feature some returning parade favorites as well as welcome new participants to our hometown tradition. At this year's party in Shain Park attendees can expect excitement, entertainment and enticing scents from food trucks. All ages are welcome and encouraged to attend this can't miss celebration!

Election News

August 6, 2024 - State Primary Election

The initial mailing of absentee ballots is tentatively scheduled for the last week of June.

November 5, 2024 - General Election

The initial mailing of absentee ballots is tentatively scheduled for the last week of September.

Voters with an absentee ballot can...

1. Return your ballot by mail or drop box
*Keep in mind the spoiling ballot deadlines listed below
2. Vote your absentee ballot at one of your Early Voting sites (NEW with Prop 22-2)
3. Vote your absentee ballot at your precinct on Election Day (NEW with Prop 22-2)

Early Voting Dates for August and November 2024

<u>Day</u>	<u>August 6, 2024 Election</u>	<u>November 5, 2024 Election</u>	<u>Time</u>
Saturday	7/27	10/26	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Sunday	7/28	10/27	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday	7/29	10/28	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday	7/30	10/29	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday	7/31	10/30	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Thursday	8/1	10/31	12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Friday	8/2	11/1	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Saturday	8/3	11/2	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Sunday	8/4	11/3	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Early Voting Locations:

- Waterford Oaks Activities Center, 2800 Watkins Lake Road, Waterford, MI 48328
- Bloomfield Township Public Library, 1099 Lone Pine Rd. Bloomfield Twp., MI 48302

Early voting is a component of proposal 2022-2 and includes a Constitutional right to no less than 9 days of early voting in each Statewide and Federal election (even year election) for no less than 8 hours per day. Early voting will look and feel just like voting on Election Day.

For more information on early voting check out bhamgov.org/vote.

August 6, 2024 State Primary	<u>Important Election Deadlines</u>	November 5, 2024 General Election
Tuesday, July 23, 2024 through Election Day	Same-day voter registration <u>with your local clerk</u> , proof of residency required	Tuesday, October 22, 2024 through Election Day
Friday, July 26, 2024	5:00 p.m. deadline to spoil an absentee ballot that was already submitted to the Clerk	Friday, October 25, 2024
Saturday, July 25, 2024 through Sunday, August 4, 2024	Early Voting	Saturday, October 26, 2024 through Sunday, November 3, 2024
Friday, August 2, 2024	5:00 p.m. deadline for the clerk to send absentee ballots by first class mail	Friday, November 1, 2024
Monday, August 5, 2024	4:00 p.m. deadline for voters to spoil their absentee ballot that was lost or destroyed in-person at the Clerk's Office	Monday, November 4, 2024
Tuesday, August 6, 2024	8:00 p.m. deadline for absentee ballots to be delivered to the clerk for tabulation	Tuesday, November 5, 2024
Friday, August 9, 2024	5:00 p.m. deadline for a voter to cure a signature on an AV ballot return envelope that was otherwise a valid ballot to be tabulated	Friday, November 8, 2024
Monday, August 12, 2024	Deadline to receive and count a ballot submitted by an Overseas Voter postmarked on or before Election Day	Monday, November 11, 2024

Absentee ballots will be issued as requests are received up until the absentee ballot issuing deadlines.

Becoming a Permanent Mail Ballot Voter

Since the passage of Proposal 2022-2 clerks now maintain a Permanent Mail Ballot List. Birmingham voters began opting into the Permanent Mail Ballot List by checking a box on their November 7, 2023 absentee ballot application. This box is also available on the 2024 absentee ballot applications.

Voters can opt in or out of the Permanent Ballot list at any time by sending a written request to the City Clerk's Office.

Voters on the Permanent Mail Ballot List should make sure they keep current contact information on file with the City Clerk's Office including mailing address (especially for those that travel outside of Birmingham during times that ballots are being mailed) as well as phone and email contacts. Ballots are not allowed to be forwarded so the Clerk's Office will be contacting all voters whose absentee ballots bounced back to the Clerk's Office in the mail.

No Postage Necessary!

Absentee ballot applications and absentee ballot return envelopes for the entire State of Michigan are equipped with a business reply mail permit that will cover the cost of postage for any ballot or application mailed within the United States.

Return Envelopes - What to look out for

Outgoing absentee ballots (to the voter) are blue.

All absentee ballot return envelopes (coming back to the Clerk) will be purple.

Greenwood Cemetery Advisory Board (GCAB)

The next meeting for the GCAB is scheduled for May 3, 2024. To view Greenwood Cemetery Advisory Board agendas and minutes visit www.bhamgov.org/GCAB.

Board of Ethics

The next Board of Ethics meeting is yet to be determined. To view the Ethics Board agendas and minutes visit www.bhamgov.org/ethics.

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. Don't miss out on the chance to make a difference - go to www.bhamgov.org/boardopportunities to view all the available openings and apply at www.bhamgov.org/boardapplication.

Board	Openings	Application Due by Noon	Interview/ Appointment at City Commission meeting 7:30 pm
Ad Hoc Senior Recreation Center	1 Non-voting student	Until Filled	
Advisory Parking Committee	1 Regular member (retail) term ending 9/1/2026	Until Filled	

	1 Alternate member term ending 9/1/2026		
Architectural Review Committee	1 Regular member term ending 4/11/2025	Until Filled	
Birmingham Area Cable Board	1 Regular Birmingham resident terms ending 3/30/27 1 Alternate Birmingham resident term ending 3/30/26 1 Alternate Birmingham resident term ending 3/30/25	Until Filled	
Birmingham Shopping District	1 Member shall be a business operator or person with interest in property located within the district, 4-year term ending 11/16/2026	Until Filled	
Board of Review	1 Regular member to serve a 3-year term expiring 12/31/2025 1 Alternate member to serve 3-year term expiring 12/31/2026 1 Alternate member to serve the remainder of a 3-year term expiring 12/31/2025	Until filled	
Board of Zoning Appeals	1 Alternate member 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	1 Alternate member term ending 6/30/2026	Until Filled	
Housing Board of Appeals	2 Regular member terms ending 5/4/2027 & 3 Regular members, terms ending 5/4/2026	4/10/24	4/15/24
Martha Baldwin Park Board	2 Regular member terms ending 5/1/2028	4/10/24	4/15/24
Multi Modal Transportation Board	2 Alternate members	4/3/24	4/8/24
Parks & Rec Board	1 Alternate member term ending 3/13/2025	Until Filled	
Public Arts Board	1 Alternate member to serve a 3-year term expiring 01/28/2025	Until Filled	
Stormwater Utility Appeals Board	3 Regular member terms ending 1/31/2026 2 Alternate members 1/31/2025		

Triangle District Corridor Improvement Authority	1 Resident of the developed area or area within 1/2 mile of the development area, term ending 12/15/2027	Until Filled	
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City Manager’s Office

Ad Hoc Aging in Place Committee (AIPC)

The AIPC Community Survey closed on April 1, 2024. All of the results are being tabulated by City staff for presentation to the AIPC at their Wednesday, April 24, 2024 meeting. The AIPC will also assign members to interview respondents from the Community Survey who asked for follow-up personal interviews regarding their survey responses. Once all of the Community Survey data is examined and analyzed, the AIPC will begin the process of laying out an outline for the proposed aging in place action plan.

YMCA Building (Ad Hoc Senior/Recreation Center Committee)

The Ad Hoc Senior/Recreation Center Committee has met four times since its creation, including an on-site tour of the YMCA building at their April 10, 2024 meeting. The Ad Hoc Senior/Recreation Center Committee presented their proposed vision statement and their goals and objectives for the project at the City Commission's April 8, 2024 meeting. The City Commission approved both. The City Commission also approved the proposed timeline for the project, which included securing an owner's representative (OR) for the City through a request for proposal (RFP) process. Consistent with the timeline, City Staff will also prepare a request for qualifications (RFQ) for the hiring of an architect for final design and construction plan preparation.

Communications

Around Town e-Newsletter

The communications team is working on the May edition of the Around Town e-Newsletter, which will include information about the Memorial Day Ceremony, DPS Open House, golf and ice arena news, and more. Follow [this link to view the April edition](#) of the Around Town e-Newsletter.



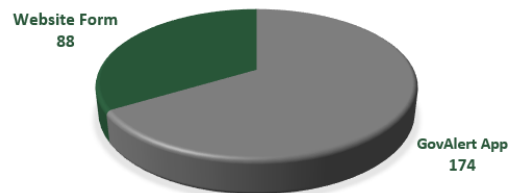
Receive Updates from Birmingham

Receive the latest news from Birmingham by signing up to receive our newsletter and alerts at www.bhamgov.org/enews. Subscribers receive important information specific to their neighborhood, emergency alerts and our newsletter featuring upcoming events, meetings, City projects, developments and more. Also follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) @BhamGov.

GovPilot Quarterly Report

During the first quarter of 2024, we received a total of 262 citizen requests through the GovPilot system, up from 194 requests last year during the same time period. There were 174 requests received via the [GovAlert app](#), and 88 via our [website form](#).

**GOVPILOT QUARTERLY REPORT
JANUARY - MARCH 2024
262 CITIZEN REQUESTS RECEIVED**



BIRMINGHAM CITY COMMISSION - UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

Meeting	Topic	Dates Addressed	Status
4/8/24	Annual update on electric lawn equipment.	4/8/24	In progress
2/12/24	City-run events and sponsors.	3/4/24	In progress
10/2/23	Implementation of crosswalk standards	10/2/23 10/16/23 11/13/23	In progress
5/8/23	Woodward noise	5/8/23 6/5/23	In progress
2/27/23	Bench and Little Library for Pat Andrews	3/13/23 5/8/23	In progress

Department of Public Services

Booth Park Entry Plaza & Trail Improvements Update

Grissim, Metz, and Andriese, the consultant hired to prepare design and construction drawings for this project, held a kickoff meeting with the Parks and Recreation Board at their April 2, 2024 meeting. Topographical survey work is underway.

Residents are invited to participate at the Parks and Recreation Board Meeting on Tuesday, May 7 at 6:30 p.m. at the Department of Public Services to provide feedback on preliminary design work for the Booth Park Entry Plaza and Trail Improvements project. Those who cannot attend may still provide feedback during the month of May via an online survey coming soon on Engage Birmingham at engage.bhamgov.org. Sign up to receive notifications about this and other parks and recreation projects at bhamgov.org/enews.

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant

The DPS's grant application for a MDNR Trust Fund Grant for the Booth Park Entry Plaza and Trail Improvements project was submitted on time, prior to the April 1, 2024 deadline.

Forestry Quarterly Update

Arbor Day Celebration:

Please join us for our annual Arbor Day Celebration this month on Arbor Day, Friday, April 26 at 4:15 p.m. near the Quarton Elementary School tennis courts at the corner of Oak Street and N. Glenhurst Drive. We will celebrate our 46th year as a Tree City USA and Quarton School students will participate in a short program and help plant a new tree, a Hackberry, which is native to Michigan. All are welcome to attend and parking is available at Quarton Elementary School for this event only.

Spring Tree Purchase and Plant Project

The DPS is currently assembling a planting list and will request proposals from qualified contractors to plant 150+ trees along various street right-of-ways and in parks. We anticipate this project to be awarded in May. The City replants trees after they have been removed and/or when there is adequate spacing in the easement using the "right tree, right place" method and a focus on species diversity (native when possible). Existing overhead and underground utilities are taken into account, as well as other standard urban forestry practices such as appropriate spacing from other trees, signs, light poles,

structures, crosswalks, etc. Vacant tree wells in the shopping district will also be replanted as part of this project and in some cases eliminated where safety conflicts were created, such as blocking a stop sign or causing line-of-sight issues between drivers and pedestrians.

Storm Damage Report from January 12th

The City's urban forest was battered by a heavy snow and wind storm on January 12, 2024. Between 250-300 City trees required more than a minor cleanup effort with further work and evaluation (ranging from repairing a broken limb to ensure it heals properly, or removing a completely tipped over tree off of a parked vehicle). The City and its forestry contractor spent weeks cleaning up all of the tree debris and brush from City and private properties. As of February 22, the City arborist had evaluated the trees and determined 139 City trees needed to be removed, 95 of which are prohibited species (68.3%). Silver Maples (47), Norway Maples (40), and Pear trees (5) represented the most populous prohibited species damaged in the storm that require removal.

Engineering Department

Illicit Discharge to Rouge River

The City has determined the source of the sanitary sewer discharge and discussions are occurring with the property owner. We have been keeping the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) aware of the City's progress.

Lead Service Replacement Program

The City will be starting a door-knocking effort to replace water lead services at no cost to property owners. If the property owner is not available, a flier will be left. If you receive a flier, please follow the listed steps to schedule your water service replacement.

Water Service Verification Program

The City has a deadline of October 2024 to submit material information from 364 water service lines to the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). The City randomly selected 364 water services to verify the material for this EGLE requirement. The City will be knocking on doors to talk to property owners about verifying the "In-Home/Business" water service line material. If a property owner is not home, a flier will be left with the next steps. 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.

Redding Road Project

The Redding Road Project began on April 8, 2024, with pavement removal and water main installation. Redding Road is closed westbound between Lake Park Drive and Woodward Avenue. Local traffic only is being maintained eastbound on Redding Road.

Edgewood Road Project

The Edgewood Road Project will start on April 22, 2024. Edgewood Road will be closed northbound between Southlawn and Lincoln. Local traffic only will be maintained southbound on Edgewood Road.

Pierce and West Maple Alley Project

The Engineering Department will host a property owner's meeting on Tuesday, April 23, 2024 from 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm to discuss the upcoming project.

2023-2024 Cape Seal Program

The Engineering Department will host a property owner's meeting on Wednesday, April 24, 2024 from 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm to discuss the upcoming project.

MDOT – Woodward Ave. and Brown/Forest Intersections

Construction started on March 6, 2024. This work requires daily single lane closures along northbound and southbound Woodward. At times, Brown and Forest may be closed for up to 10 days for construction.

South Old Woodward Avenue Reconstruction (Phase 3) – Award

The South Old Woodward Avenue Reconstruction (Phase 3) Project received the American Public Works Association (APWA) Metro Detroit Branch 2023 Project of the Year for Transportation (\$5 million - \$25 million) award on Wednesday, March 27, 2024.

For more information about these projects or programs, please contact the Engineering Department at (248) 530-1840.

Finance Department

The Finance Department is excited to announce that this year's 2024-2025 Manager Recommended Budget was prepared using a new web-based platform from OpenGov. This platform changed the way the City prepares the budget. Previously, the budget preparation process was very labor intensive in that it involved creating several documents in Word and Excel, converting them into PDFs and then combining individual PDFs together. The new platform allows the City to perform all budget preparation in one software. Using this software, City administration is able to see various budget scenarios which assists in the decision-making process. The City is also able to generate two versions of the budget. The first is a web-based budget book which allows viewers to find the information they are looking for much faster. The other version is the standard PDF version. Both versions contain links to project pages and the City's website, making it easier for readers to find information.

Fire Department

LUCAS Chest Compression System

The Birmingham Fire Department responds to over 1,700 medical emergencies each year. Responding firefighter/paramedics bring various medical equipment and medications to help stabilize patients. The rescue trucks are like tiny mobile emergency rooms. One particular piece of equipment that helps during CPR is the LUCAS Chest Compression System. This device provides consistent quality chest compressions during prolonged resuscitation attempts. It allows responders to free up hands to help with additional Advanced Life Support treatments, and eliminates the chance of provider fatigue caused by prolonged resuscitation attempts. It also provides a level of safety to our responders during transport, as the LUCAS device can continue providing consistent quality compressions without requiring the firefighter/paramedics to stand in the back of a moving vehicle.

To give residents an idea of what they may see in response to an emergency medical call involving CPR, the Fire Department, along with help from IT and Communications, put together a short video showing some of our equipment, including the LUCAS Chest Compression System. Watch the video at bhamgov.org/lucas.

A special thank you to the following individuals for helping with this project:

- Lt./Medic Mark Mischle
- FF/Medic Ryan Wiseman
- FF/Medic Hunter Gillick
- FF/Medic Kyle Kraft
- Firefighter Jeremy Turner
- Jamil Kim
- Marianne Gamboa



Human Resources

New Hires

The City of Birmingham extends warm congratulations to our newly hired employees from March 13, 2024 to April 9, 2024. Their skills, expertise and enthusiasm are a valuable addition to our team.

Department	Name	Position	Type
DPS	Green, Austin	P&F Operator	Full Time (Teamsters)
Library	Gusho, Mia	Library Page	Part Time
Library	Lusk, Zoe	Library Page	Part Time
Police	McIntyre, Nancy	Crossing Guard	Temporary
Library	Sulecki, Keegan	Substitute Librarian	Part Time
DPS	Jones, Brian	Seasonal Golf Maintenance	Seasonal
DPS	Kowaleski, Patrick	Temporary Laborer	Seasonal

April Hiring Anniversaries

The City of Birmingham celebrated the hiring anniversaries of several employees. We extend our heartfelt appreciation for their exceptional service and unwavering dedication. Their contributions are deeply valued and recognized.

Years Of Service	Employee	Department	Position
1	Borton, Cory	Engineering	Assistant Director Of Engineering
1	Barnosky, Charles	DPS	Temp Laborer
2	Pedigo, Suzanne	Community Dev.	Coordinator Community Develop
3	Kaminske, Maria	Police	Police Dispatcher
3	Kraft, Kyle	Fire Dept.	Fire / AEMT
4	Clark, Gregory	DPS	Temp Laborer
4	Borse, Todd	DPS	P&F Operator
4	Bonora, Steve	Fire Dept.	Fire / AEMT
4	Bachus, Owen	Fire Dept.	Fire / AEMT
5	Mcgaughey, Brendan	DPS	Parks & Forestry Foreman
5	Asher, Elaine	Library	Substitute Librarian
5	Naples, John	Community Dev.	Zoning Officer Part Time
6	Isbell, Rosemary	Library	Librarian II
6	Gudenburr, Alyssa	Library	Librarian
6	Vassallo, Cheryl	Parking	Parking Meter /Crossing Guard
7	Dupuis, Nicholas	Community Dev.	Director Of Planning
9	Cronkite, Ethan	Library	Librarian II
9	Crawford, Cameron	Library	Library Assistant II

10	Grill, Bryan	DPS	Golf Operations Manager
11	Soper, Nicholas	Fire Dept.	Fire / AEMT
11	Baldwin, Patricia	IT	IT Technician
12	Glenn, Robert	Library	Library Operations Assistant
15	Gvozdich, Carolyn	Library	Library Assistant II
20	Hardy, Bryan	Engineering	Engineering Inspector II
22	Soave, Jr, Alan	Fire Dept.	Battalion Chief
25	Grewe, Scott	Police	Police Chief
28	Kasparian, George	Library	Library Assistant I

Employment Opportunities

The City is currently accepting applications for the following positions. To submit an application or for more information go to www.bhamgov.org/jobs.

Department	Position	Type	Application Closing
Building	Electrical Inspector	Full Time (AFSCME)	April 18, 2024
Golf	Junior Ranger	Seasonal	Until Filled
Golf	Clubhouse Service	Seasonal	Until Filled
Golf	Golf Maintenance	Seasonal	Until Filled
DPS	Park Attendant	Seasonal	Until Filled
DPS	Parks Laborer	Seasonal	Until Filled
Building	Plumbing Inspector	Full Time	Until Filled

Information Technology

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Guidelines

The Artificial Intelligence Committee was created in June of 2023. It was charged with reviewing AI usage among City staff, the possibility of using AI as a tool in City departments, and drafting guidelines or a policy for its use.

The Committee surveyed City staff on current ChatGPT usage, general interest in Generative AI, and possible uses throughout the City. We reviewed guidelines from other municipalities, many articles from industry experts, and discussed whether we should create a policy or guidelines for its usage.

The committee determined guidelines would be an appropriate document at this time. We finalized those guidelines in March of 2024 and have now [published them for the use of Generative AI](#) throughout City departments.

Planning Department

Planning Board

A tentative Planning Board list of scheduled and/or recently completed items is provided below:

1. 33816 Woodward – Auto Europe – Final Site Plan & Design Review (Completed March 27, 2024)
2. The Birmingham Plan 2040 – Prioritization of Key Actions (May 8, 2024)
3. Triangle District Mixed-Use Standards – Study Session (May 8, 2024)

As a reminder, the first joint meeting of 2024 between the City Commission and Planning Board is scheduled for June 10. The Planning Board has been working diligently to provide the City Commission with a prioritization of key actions from the Birmingham Plan 2040 and is eager to discuss their proposals. In addition, the Planning Board would like to discuss Woodward Ave. and the approval process for public projects.

Historic District Commission

The Historic District Commission's [Historic Preservation Master Plan survey](#) is still live on Engage Birmingham! This survey will form the bones of the plan along with the other planned engagements in the first phase of plan writing. Other engagements will include historic property owner roundtable sessions, in-person events, open meetings and workshops, and more.

In other news, the building at 100 N. Old Woodward (historic Parks & Wooster buildings) recently received a 2024 Building Award from the Michigan Historic Preservation Network. The award is presented to outstanding rehabilitation projects that have made a significant contribution to the preservation of Michigan's heritage. Congratulations to the project team, as well as the Historic District Commission for their hard work throughout the duration of the project.

Police Department

Women in Law Enforcement

Sgt. Rebekah Springer, Ofc. Gina Moody and Ofc. Lisa Wayner attended the 2024 Michigan Women in Law Enforcement Conference, hosted by Michigan State Police (MSP) in early April. This conference is designed to showcase equity and promote excellence for individuals working in the policing community. The two-day conference included topics such as "Reshaping Our Law Enforcement Careers into Mentorship", "The Superpower of Sisterhood", a roundtable discussion on women's resilience and a panel on "Justice is Served-Women Defining Justice in Law Enforcement". The conference hosted a variety of speakers that ranged from a Chief Deputy Director with MSP, federal agents, wellness and resiliency specialists, and officers from agencies around the country. A key discussion on the National 30x30 Initiative by Maureen McGough was held. The goal of this program is to increase women in law enforcement recruitment by 30% by the year 2030. Currently, women make up only 12% of sworn officers and 3% of police leadership in the U.S.

At the Birmingham Police Department, women currently make up 11% of all sworn police officers. Additionally, Dispatch Manager Jamie Irwin has been selected to fill an officer vacancy and will be attending the police academy this summer. With this addition, women officers will represent 14% of our agency's sworn positions.

Traffic Safety Summit

Operations Captain Ryan Kearney attended the 2024 Traffic Safety Summit March 11-13 at the Kellogg Conference Center in East Lansing. The conference was hosted by the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP) and included a Project Directors meeting for the current FY24 Project Directors grant.

It was a great opportunity for Project Directors from around the State to meet OHSP staff and engage in a discussion regarding requirements and best practices. Captain Kearney also attended several breakout sessions including grant sponsored traffic enforcement campaigns such as seatbelt enforcement and distracted driving. In addition, he attended legal update classes focusing on operating while intoxicated and the intricacies of sobriety evaluations and reports writing.

Woodward Cruising Update

Since Easter weekend, Birmingham Police have been stepping up enforcement of cruise related traffic due to warmer weather and activity ramping up. Officers are brought in on overtime to specifically address issues related to illegal activity surrounding cruise traffic. A significant amount of this overtime will be covered by the grant the Police Department was awarded through the Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP).

Adopt a Senior Program

Lt. Ray Faes has been very active with our Adopt a Senior program. After being dispatched to a home in Birmingham for an elderly man who had walked away, Lt. Faes began making regular visits to the home to check on the elderly couple. The elderly male, suffering from dementia, continued to walk away from the home at all hours of the day and night. Lt. Faes, using his own funds, purchased and installed door alarms so the man's wife would be alerted should he attempt to leave the home. This has had a tremendous impact on reducing the risk of this resident walking away. Lt. Faes has continued to check in on the residents and is working with our CoRe program to provide the couple with resources in the area.

Anyone wanting more information regarding our department's Adopt a Senior program may contact Dispatcher Joseph Misiak at jmisiak@bhamgov.org.

Youth Police Academy

The Birmingham Police Department is proud to participate in the 2nd Annual Regional Youth Police Academy. The first year was incredibly successful and we look forward to once again partnering with the Auburn Hills Police Department, Bloomfield Township Police Department and Rochester Police Department. Topics covered during the event include criminal investigations, criminal law and procedure, traffic stops, firearms safety, CPR certification, a tour of the 48th District Court, evidence technician training and presentations from officers who have a variety of specialties within their agency. Anyone 14-18 years of age who lives in one of our jurisdictions, attends high school (or recently graduated from a school) in one of our districts, or has a parent who lives or works in one of the participating communities is eligible.

The program is free of charge and all students receive an academy t-shirt and free daily lunch. This year the academy will be held from June 24-27, 2024, and will be located at the Bloomfield Township Police Training Facility. Applications are available at the Birmingham Police front desk and are due by May 24, 2024.

Parking Systems Update

EV Charging Update

Staff submitted an Invitation to Bid (ITB) for EV charging stations in December 2023. The City was interested in installing electric vehicle charging stations (EVCS) in the Shain Park Lot and the Chester Street parking garage. In the proposed scope, interested contractors were asked to design, build, operate and maintain EVCS, including the furnishing and installation of hardware with accompanying software implementation for facilitation and management of EVCS, primarily for public use in the City of Birmingham.

Furthermore, the City desired to enter into a revenue sharing model with one (1) or more firms as a result of the ITB. The contractor would be responsible for all costs associated with the deployment of EV

charging station infrastructure, collecting revenue for providing EV charging services to vehicle owners, and would share a percentage of that revenue with the City under this model.

A mandatory pre-bid meeting was held and six (6) different companies attended, however, only three (3) of the six companies actually submitted bids.

After reviewing the three bids, staff did not feel they were strong enough to proceed with a recommendation. There were significant issues with each of the three bids. One contractor failed to provide a signed agreement, another did not have any experience and was hoping to use Birmingham as a selling point to launch their product, and the third contractor had poor comments from references.

Staff presented their recommendation and bids to the Advisory Parking Committee (APC) for their review and recommendation. The APC agreed that none of the three bids were worthy of awarding the contract. At the direction of the APC, staff will do more research on EV charging and issue an updated ITB to solicit additional bids.

Occupancy

MARCH AVG CAPACITY	
Chester Garage (880)	26.00%
Old Woodward (745)	23.00%
Park Garage (811)	20.00%
Peabody Garage (437)	35.00%
Pierce Garage (706)	38.00%

Free Parking Report

Follow this [link to view the free parking report](#). This report shows a two-month snapshot of the total number of parked cars, broken down by how many paid to park versus how many parked for two hours or less, which is free in all decks.

Monthly Occupancy

Follow this [link to view an occupancy report](#) for the month of March. This report shows a breakdown of both transient (daily) and monthly parkers at each garage, and how full each garage is on average by hour for the month.

Daily Occupancy by Garage

Follow this [link to view the daily occupancy numbers](#) in each garage during the month of March.

Future Agenda Items

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

Future Workshop Items

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