



CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

May 2024

Baldwin Public Library

Holiday Closures

The library will be closed for Memorial Day weekend from Saturday, May 25 through Monday, May 27. It will reopen on Tuesday, May 28 at 9 a.m.

The library will also be closed on Wednesday, June 19 in observance of the Juneteenth holiday.

Library Board

The Library Board will meet on Monday, May 20 at 7:30 p.m. for its regular meeting. The board will be voting to withdraw interest earnings in the amount of \$58,897.97 from the Trust's Endowment Funds at the meeting. These funds will be used to pay for programs and services at the library.

Phase 3 Construction Project

The Phase 3 addition and renovation is nearly complete and the library should reopen in early June. Tile installation of the main staircase is progressing well and most punch list items have been completed. The materials handling machine has been installed and is fully operational in its new location adjacent to the new front door. For the time being, visitors are welcome to enjoy our new outdoor terrace at the corner of Bates and Merrill streets. We invite you to mark your calendars for our fall open house and ribbon-cutting ceremony on Sunday, September 15, 2024, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. For further details about the project, please visit www.baldwinlib.org/renovation.



Library Tours and Outreach

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 Monday, June 24, at 6 p.m.

Library staff have been busy conducting local history tours for Birmingham Public School second graders and visiting most K-12 students in the district to talk about the upcoming Summer Reading Program, which begins on June 7.

Newsletter Mailed to Homes

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

Michigan Library Association Thinkspace Conference

Rebekah Craft will be attending the final session of the Thinkspace Conference for Michigan Library Directors on May 23-24 on Mackinac Island. The theme of the conference is future-ready libraries and topics covered include artificial intelligence, deconstructing barriers to access, building future focused spaces, fostering resilient workplaces, and questioning the why behind library policies.

Upcoming Events of Interest

Baldwin Boosters Orientation: Ages 11 to 14
Tuesday, June 4, 7 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Find out how you can earn community service hours by joining our Summer Reading Youth Volunteers. Applications are now available and due by Sunday, June 9. Head to www.baldwinlib.org/youth for the application. Registration required.

Summer Reading Kickoff!
Friday, June 9 — 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Adventure Awaits at Baldwin's Summer Reading kickoff on June 7 from 3-5 p.m. Spin the prize wheel, visit the ice cream truck (while supplies last) and more. Sign up and track your progress at baldwinlib.beanstack.org. Summer Reading runs from June 7 to August 2. For more information, visit www.baldwinlib.org/summer-reading/.

Friends of the BPL Used Book & Media Sale
Saturday, June 22, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

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

Learn more about these events and other programs at baldwinlib.org/calendar.

The Birmingham Museum

This month, the museum is hosting approximately 500 2nd grade students from Birmingham on their annual local history field trip. The program is specially designed to reflect curriculum standards, with a student-centered inquiry-based approach. Small groups of students tour each room of the Hunter House and museum staff interact with each group to encourage critical thinking and comparisons of the past with the present. This approach was developed to accommodate students' needs and learning styles that

have emerged as effective in post-pandemic programming for younger children. Teachers, parents, and especially students have responded very positively to this experiential form of learning, which improves student engagement and makes the most of their field trip outing.

Birmingham Shopping District

Executive Director Update

The Birmingham Shopping District (BSD) Board of Directors announced the appointment of our new Executive Director, Erika Bassett, at the May 2, 2024 board meeting.

Bassett brings over 20 years of experience in Marketing and Business Administration, and has served as the Marketing and Public Relations Specialist for the BSD and City of Birmingham since October 2020. Bassett has experience in administration, public relations, downtown marketing and advertising, and business attraction and retention, all of which will help her serve the Birmingham Shopping District.

Marketing and Special Events

The Birmingham Farmers Market is now open at 660 North Old Woodward Avenue, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. every Sunday through October 27.

The outdoor Movie Night series kicks off on Friday, June 7 at 6:30 p.m. and will continue on select Fridays throughout the summer in Booth Park. More information and events can be found at ALLINBirmingham.com/events.

Several marketing initiatives are currently underway including the development of a spring fashion campaign and promotional video series highlighting the various business sectors and general downtown environment.

Building Department

Board of Zoning Appeals

There was one case on the agenda for the April 16, 2024 Zoning Board of Appeals regular meeting:

1. 2694 Dorchester: The property owner requested a variance from the minimum distance between their proposed house and the neighbor's house on the west side to construct a new house with an attached garage. The request was approved and variance granted by a 6/0 vote.

Mariah Trovato

Mariah passed the International Code Council (ICC) Permit Technician Exam on May 10, 2024. This achievement demonstrates Mariah's excellent knowledge of the laws pertaining to various permitting processes, increases her creditability, and helps substantiate the professionalism of the Building Department and the City. This achievement is impressive since Mariah began working in the department just six months ago! Congratulations, Mariah!

Online Permit Applications

In the month of April, we processed 380 permits online bringing this year's total permits processed electronically to 1,451.

Monthly Report

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

City Clerk's Office

Calling All Election Inspectors!

The City Clerk's Office is taking applications for election inspectors for the August 6, 2024 State Primary Election and the November 5, 2024 General Election. Individuals must be at least 16 years of age and a registered Michigan voter if over the age of 18.

Becoming an election inspector is a valuable opportunity to actively support our democratic process. As an election inspector, you play an essential role in ensuring fair and transparent elections, while safeguarding the rights of your fellow citizens. With training and experience, election inspectors build a deeper understanding of the election process and all of the safety and security measures in place to ensure that elections continue to be conducted with accuracy and efficiency in a safe manner.

In June, the Clerk's Office will reach out to inspectors who have served in previous elections. Training and placement notifications for the August election will take place throughout the month of July. Visit bhamgov.org/vote for more information.

Absentee Ballots

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)

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

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 Township, 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 visit bhamgov.org/vote.

August 6, 2024 State Primary	<u>Important Election Deadlines</u>	November 5, 2024 General Election
Tuesday, July 23, 2024 thru Election Day	Same-day voter registration <u>with your local clerk</u> , proof of residency required	Tuesday, October 22, 2024 thru 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 thru Sunday, August 4, 2024	Early Voting	Saturday, October 26, 2024 thru 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

Becoming a Permanent Ballot Voter

Since the passage of Proposal 2022-2, clerks now maintain a Permanent Ballot List. Birmingham voters began opting into the Permanent 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, pictured below.

MI ABSENT VOTER BALLOT APPLICATION 2024 Presidential Primary Feb. 27/Primary Aug. 6/General Nov. 5
[See Reverse Side for Instructions](#)

I certify that I am a United States citizen and a qualified and registered elector in the CITY OF BIRMINGHAM, County of OAKLAND, State of Michigan, and I apply for an official ballot, to be voted by me in the election(s) checked below, and the statements in this application are true.

Other Elections: Complete to join the permanent absent voter ballot list (optional)
☒ Automatically send me an absent voter **ballot** for each future election for which I'm eligible.

1 Check One
☐ **ALL**
☐ **FEBRUARY 27, 2024 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY**
☐ **AUGUST 6, 2024 PRIMARY**
☐ **NOVEMBER 5, 2024 GENERAL**

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 Ballot List should make sure they keep current contact information on file with the City Clerk's Office including mailing address (especially for those who 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 September 6, 2024. View Greenwood Cemetery Advisory Board agendas and minutes at www.bhamgov.org/GCAB.

For those visiting the cemetery and placing decorations for loved ones it is important to be aware of the [Greenwood Cemetery Operational Procedures, Conditions & Regulations](#), specifically sections II, III, and V.

Board of Ethics

The next Board of Ethics meeting is yet to be determined. View the Ethics Board agendas and minutes at 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 bhamgov.org/boardapplication.

Board	Openings	Application due by noon Wednesday before the intended interview date
Ad Hoc Senior Recreation Center	1 non-voting student	Until Filled
Advisory Parking Committee	1 Regular member (retail) term ending 9/1/2026 1 Alternate member term ending 9/1/2026	Until Filled
Architectural Review Committee	1 Regular member term ending 4/11/2025	Until Filled
Birmingham Area Cable Board	1 Regular Birmingham resident, term 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 Building Trades Appeals	2 Regular members terms ending 5/23/2027	Until Filled
Board of Review	1 Regular member to serve the remainder of a 3-year term expiring 12/31/2024 1 Alternate member to serve the remainder of a 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 5/23/2027	Until Filled
Housing Board of Appeals	3 Regular members, terms ending 5/4/2026	Until Filled
Martha Baldwin Park Board	2 Regular member terms ending 5/1/2028	Until Filled
Multi Modal Transportation Board	2 Alternate members	Until Filled
Museum Board	1 Regular member term ending 7/6/2026	
Parks & Rec Board	1 Alternate member term ending 3/13/2025	Until filled
Stormwater Utility Appeals Board	3 Regular member terms ending 1/31/2026 2 Alternate member terms ending 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

City Manager's Office

Congratulations, Alex Bingham

Congratulations to City Clerk Alex Bingham, who recently obtained certification through the prestigious Michigan Professional Municipal Clerk (MiPMC) certification program. The program recognizes clerks for their knowledge of the multifaceted Clerk's profession. Alex's commitment to education and desire to attain this certification clearly defines her commitment to the Clerk's profession and our community. Please join me in congratulating her for this accomplishment and well deserved recognition.

Congratulations, Christina Woods

Congratulations to Human Resource Manager Christina Woods, who recently passed the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) Senior Certified Professional exam. The certification is for individuals whose work includes duties such as developing HR policies or procedures, overseeing the execution of integrated HR operations, directing an entire HR enterprise or leading the alignment of HR strategies to organizational goals. Congratulations, Christina!

Birmingham Recognized for Environmental Leadership

The City of Birmingham recently earned a gold seal of achievement in the 2024 Michigan Green Communities (MGC) Challenge. The statewide MGC challenge is an annual program that serves as a guide to help communities measure their progress towards sustainability. The current challenge recognizes actions taken through the 2023 calendar in areas such as energy efficiency, climate adaptation and resilience, recycling, environmental justice and more.

The City entered its first MGC Challenge two years ago, achieving silver status. Since then, the Birmingham City Commission's strategic goal to "position itself for a changing future by instituting policies and practices that protect the natural environment and reduce extreme weather impacts on the community" helped launch a series of actions that propelled Birmingham to a new level of commitment to sustainability that continues to grow. Learn more at www.migreencommunities.com/challenge. Thank you to the Planning Department for their work on our submission.

Ad Hoc Aging in Place Committee (AIPC)

On April 24, 2024, the AIPC held its regular meeting at City Hall. The AIPC received the first draft of the Community Survey results. The AIPC went over each category contained within the Community Survey and made comments about the results. The committee also discussed how the material was presented. City staff will facilitate the changes and respondents who indicated they would like a follow-up personal interview to discuss their Community Survey response were assigned to a committee member or City staff to complete. The AIPC also addressed all of the questions received from the public from the February 28, 2024 public engagement meeting.

The AIPC discussed the conflict on Wednesdays at 4 p.m. with the City's new Ad Hoc Senior/Recreation Center Committee. After debate, there was consensus to move the AIPC meeting to 1 p.m. on Wednesday, May 29, 2024 for the next regular scheduled meeting.

YMCA Building (Ad Hoc Senior/Recreation Center Committee)

In the past month, City staff and the Ad Hoc Senior/Recreation Committee have met five times and accomplished the following:

- Created and issued an RFP for an Owner's Representative for the City for the Senior/Community Center Project. RFP posted on the Michigan Intergovernmental Trade Network.
- Created and issued an RFQ for architects to qualify for Final Design and Construction Plan Preparation. RFQ posted on the Michigan Intergovernmental Trade Network.
- Conducted a community open house with NORR, LLC at the YMCA Building on April 26, 2024 to receive community input.
- Reviewed the current project progress with NORR, LLC. After discussion, NORR, LLC assigned a new lead architect for the project, Mr. Brian Colburn.
- Conducted an optional pre-bid meeting at the YMCA building (including a building walk-thru) for the RFQ for Architectural/Engineering Services for Final Design and Construction Preparation. Thirteen firms were present.
- Completed an extensive federal grant request through Congresswoman Haley Steven's Office with accompanying letters of support from City Commissioners, County Board Representative, State Legislators and other local government officials (Next partners). The federal grant requested eight million dollars (\$8,000,000.00) be dedicated to the Senior/Recreation Center project.
- Reviewed the Community Survey with NORR, LLC and completed the needs assessment report for the City Commission.
- Received five bids to be the City's Owner's Representative from the RFP. City staff and all members of the Ad Hoc Senior/Recreation Committee were provided with the proposals and asked to score each proposal using a scoring sheet authored by City staff.
- Provided the City Commission with a recommendation for an Owner's Representative for consideration.

Share Feedback on Engage Birmingham

The City's online public engagement platform, [Engage Birmingham](#), makes it easier than ever for the community to share feedback at a place and time that is convenient for them. Current projects on the site include topics such as the Booth Park entry plaza and trail improvements, sustainability goals and historic preservation. Share feedback about these topics and others coming soon at engage.bhamgov.org.



Communications

Around Town e-Newsletter

The communications team is working on the June edition of the Around Town e-Newsletter, which will include information about In the Park Summer Concerts, special events at the golf courses, the consumers annual report on water quality, election news and more. Follow [this link to view the May edition](#) of the Around Town e-Newsletter.



AROUND TOWN E-NEWSLETTER • MAY 2024



Receive Updates from Birmingham

Receive the latest news from Birmingham by signing up to receive our newsletter and alerts at 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.

Public Education Video Series

As a reminder, all public education videos (including the recently released Fire Department CPR Lucas device video) are available on the City's website at bhamgov.org/watch and [Youtube channel](#).

City Board and Committee Promotions

The communications team has been working on the following new initiatives to promote board and committee openings:

- Videos featuring Parks and Recreation Board member Jessica Einstein. Jessica did a fantastic job promoting City board and committee opportunities! The first video is now available on the City's [YouTube channel](#) and at bhamgov.org/boardopportunities. Additional videos will be published later this year. Thank you, Jessica!



- Flyer promoting the benefits of joining a City of Birmingham board or committee that is now included in new resident welcome packets and set out at community events. Follow this [link to view the board and committee flyer](#).
- A new, online form for applicants to easily submit their board or committee application. Access the form at bhamgov.org/boardapplication.

BIRMINGHAM CITY COMMISSION - UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

Meeting	Topic	Dates Addressed	Status
5/6/24	Garbage/Dumpsters Downtown	5/6/24	In progress
5/6/24	Consider moving up road project on Lincoln east of Eton	5/6/24	In progress
4/8/24	Annual update on electric lawn equipment.	4/8/24	In progress
4/8/24	Update Advisory Parking Committee duties	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

The Parks and Recreation Board held a Booth Park Entry Plaza & Trail Improvements Public Input Session at their May 7, 2024 meeting. A preliminary park plan and some concepts and ideas were presented for feedback. The preliminary plan is being routed through City departments and to various boards. Feedback is also being received via a survey on Engage Birmingham at engage.bhamgov.org/booth.

Tennis Courts

Maintenance on the West Lincoln Well Tennis Courts included crack repair and new acrylic surfacing earlier this month. The work was performed by a contractor for the amount of \$25,500. Crack repair can extend the life of the courts by up to 10 years.

Poppleton Park will receive pickleball lines over the tennis courts to make the courts multi-use in an effort to provide additional locations for pickleball. This will be scheduled within the next couple of weeks.

American Public Works Association Scholarship

The Department of Public Services applied for and received a scholarship to attend the American Public Works Michigan Chapter's Great Lakes Expo in May of this year. Attendees will learn the latest trends and best practices in infrastructure management, technology and sustainability from both seasoned professionals and emerging leaders.

Rouge River Clean-Up Day

The City of Birmingham has hosted Rouge River Clean-Up Day events for over twenty years with the help of volunteers from our community, churches, schools, scout troops and neighborhood associations. On Saturday, May 18, 2024 volunteers gathered at Lindon Park and worked paths along the Rouge River to clean up trash and remove invasive species such as Garlic Mustard. Thank you to all who participated in this event.

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 in finding the source.

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. Flier recipients should follow the 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 Paving Project began last month. The contractor installed the water main on Redding Road, including horizontal directional drilling under the Rouge River. 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 began in April and the contractor is continuing with sewer installation. Edgewood Road is closed northbound between Southlawn and Lincoln. Local traffic only is being maintained southbound on Edgewood Road.

Arlington, Shirley, and Brandon Project

The Engineering Department will host a property owners meeting on Tuesday, June 4, 2024 from 5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m. to discuss the upcoming project.

MDOT – Woodward Ave. and Brown/Forest Intersections

Construction started on this project in March. 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.

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

Fire Department

Trench Rescue Training

Last month the OAKWAY technical rescue team performed a trench rescue deployment. The deployment scenario consisted of an 8-foot-deep, 16-foot-long trench with failures with a trapped "occupant". The team members used low-pressure airbags, Paratech struts, and trench panels to shore up the unstable walls to extricate a 200-pound training mannequin safely. The soil weight is multiplied as the trench gets deeper and reaches weights of several tons. The team uses tabulated data to ensure all benchmarks are achieved for the safety of the rescuers and victims inside the trench. All Fire Department members are trained in trench rescue collapse in case of a local emergency at the scene of a trench such as a sewer repair, new basement, sink hole, etc. The Birmingham Fire Department has 7 members on the OAKWAY Technical Rescue Team and has a consistent leadership presence with its senior leadership from Battalion Chiefs Tom Hughes and Chris Deman.



Want to be a hero?

Join fire fighters and City employees on Friday, June 14 at Birmingham Fire Station 1 and donate some blood. The American Red Cross will be on-site from 7:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. taking much-needed donations. This a great opportunity for us to give back to the community.

Visit www.redcrossblood.org, enter 48009, click Refine Search and select June 14 to make a donation appointment and learn more about donating. Please take the time to give to this great cause!

Human Resources

New Hires

The City of Birmingham extends warm congratulations to our newly hired employees from April 10, 2024 to May 7, 2024. Their skills, expertise, and enthusiasm are a valuable addition to our team. We welcome them to our team!

Department	Name	Position	Type
DPS	Nicholas Zebrowski	Golf Course	Seasonal
DPS	Wally Ulmer	Golf Jr Ranger	Seasonal
BSD	Isreal Collins	Events Assistant	Seasonal
BSD	Sydney Stevens	Events Assistant	Seasonal
DPS	Andrea Swanson	Office Coordinator	Full Time (AFSCME)
DPS	Nicholas Grieve	Parks Laborer	Seasonal
DPS	Diane Guenther	Golf Course	Seasonal

May 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	Mazumder	Abdullaah	IT Department	IT Assistant
1	Hadley	Kostello	DPS	Dps Seasonal
1	Michael	Davies	DPS	DPS Seasonal
1	Lauren	Stehney	DPS	Golf Seasonal
1	Yamari	Cathey	DPS	Golf Seasonal
1	Samantha	Hollo	Library	Library Page
2	Kelly	Dolland	Clerk's Office	Clerical

2	Will	Isaacson	Police	Police Officer
2	Joseph	Roberts	Police	Police Officer
2	Sandra	Klotz	DPS	DPS Seasonal
3	Anthony	Paredes	Police	Police Officer
3	Trevor	Hulbert	Fire	Fire / EMT
3	Andrew	Simpson	DPS	DPS Seasonal
3	Grace	Noble	Library	Library Assistant
3	Emily	Malek	Library	Library Substitute
4	David	Corey	DPS	Golf Seasonal
5	Ryan	Neuville	Fire	Fire / EMT
5	Hannah	Stoloff	Library	Library Substitute
5	Joan	Jennings	Library	Library Assistant
5	Melissa	Behrens	Library	Library Substitute
6	Robbie	Terman	Library	Library Substitute
6	James	Adams	Library	IT Assistant
7	Ross	Leibold	DPS	P&F Operator
7	H	Jennings	Library	Library Department Head
7	Nadia	Bertala	Library	Library Page
8	Gwynn	Duffey	Finance	Payroll Coordinator
8	Jason	Granroth	Fire	Fire / EMT
10	Jamie	Debano	Police	Police Dispatch
11	Kenneth	Hitchcock	Police	Clerk/Typist B

11	Brian	Freels	Fire	Fire Lt/EMT
12	Douglas	Manigold	Building	Zoning Officer
21	Thomas	Hughes	Fire	Battalion Chief
23	Edward	Rosett	Building	Electrical Inspector
24	Gregory	Wald	Police	Police Captain
25	Bruce	Johnson	Building	Building Official

Hiring Status

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	Status
Building	Electrical Inspector	Full Time (AFSCME)	Reviewing Applicants
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
BSD	Public Relations and Marketing Specialist	Part Time	Posting closing 5/31/2024
Parking	Facility Maintenance	Full Time	Until Filled
Community Development	Support Staff A	Full Time (AFSCME)	Reviewing Applicants

Planning Department

Planning Board

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

1. 219 Elm Street – All Seasons 2 – Special Land Use Permit Amendment, Final Site Plan & Design Review request to transition a residential unit to a commercial unit (May 22, 2024)

2. 245 Townsend – Parkview Townhomes – Preliminary Site Plan request for four new attached single-family townhomes (May 22, 2024)
3. The Birmingham Plan 2040 – Prioritization of Key Actions (May 22, 2024)
4. Triangle District Mixed-Use Standards – Study Session (May 22, 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.

Ad Hoc Environmental Sustainability Committee (ESC)

The ESC has been very busy this spring/summer having kicked off Phase 2 of public engagement while continuing the drafting of the City's first sustainability and climate action plan (SCAP). At this stage, the ESC has drafted a set of preliminary goals for the City to aspire to and is seeking feedback on those goals through a survey on Birmingham Engage ([SUSTAINABILITY GOALS](#)). In addition, the ESC is encouraging people to keep current with, and provide feedback on the overall draft SCAP on the [ESC AGENDA](#) page of our website. Should you have any questions about the progress of the project, how to engage, or wish to provide general feedback, please do not hesitate to contact Planning Director Nick Dupuis (ndupuis@bhamgov.org) or City Planner Leah Blizinski (lblizinski@bhamgov.org). Below is a list of the deliverables and activities we are currently engaged in with details on progress and next steps for each

- Remaining Public Engagement Phase 2 (Ongoing)
 - Birmingham Shopping District Board – June 6, 2024
 - Presentation @ NEXT – July 30, 2024
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory (100%)
 - Publish on City Website – June 2024
- Sustainability and Climate Action Plan (40%)
 - Build out background section of Action Plan – May 2024
 - Greenhouse Gas Emissions Forecasting – May 2024
 - Greenhouse Gas Planning Scenarios – June 2024



Historic District Commission & Design Review Board

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

- 139 W. Maple – Field Building – Design Review request for new 4-story addition to rear of historic building (June 5, 2024)
- Religious Institution Signage – Sign Ordinance Amendment (June 5, 2024)
- Historic Preservation Master Plan (June 5, 2024)

Multi-Modal Transportation Board (MMTB)

The Multi-Modal Transportation Board has been conducting study sessions on the purpose of the MMTB and reviewing Robert's Rules of Order. Staff and consultants have been doing training sessions due to a number of new board members. Board members have also been discussing ways to manage contentious meetings and how to professionally manage large crowds.

The MMTB had their annual field trip on Thursday, May 16, 2024. The board visited Ferndale once again to check out the newly implemented road diet. Participants took SMART's Fast Bus down to 9 Mile where they walked and rode MoGo bikes around Ferndale's multi-modal infrastructure.

Wayfinding & Branding Committee

A Request for Proposals for Wayfinding & Signage Phase 1 Fabrication and Installation is posted on the Michigan Inter-governmental Trade Network (MITN). Signage in Phase 1 includes ground mounted identification signs (gateway signs on Woodward) and pedestrian kiosks. The Wayfinding and Branding Committee will review bids and select a contractor for this work at their June 10, 2024 meeting.

Police Department

Woodward Noise Bill

After just over a year of communicating with our State elected officials and requesting a change in State law, the Police Department is pleased to share this [release from Representative Natalie Price](#). Her proposal (House Bill 5696) addresses the issues with the existing State law and provides law enforcement a better opportunity to address these nuisance vehicles. The bill was introduced to crack down on vehicles intentionally modified to create excessive noise while being used. The bill ensures police officers have the authority to stop vehicles for excessive noise and increases penalties for related infractions. On Tuesday, May 21, Chief Scott Grewe will be in Lansing at the request of Rep. Natalie Price to testify in the hearing of the new proposed House Bill on vehicle noise.

Woodward Service Drive Parking Restrictions

Over the last few weekends, the Police Department started enforcing the newly implemented 15-minute parking zones in the Woodward service drives. The efforts have shown improvement in reducing the crowds, racing and noise. Fewer cruisers are loitering for extended periods and fewer return after being made aware of the restrictions or ticketed. The Police Department will continue to enforce these restricted parking zones along with moving traffic violations as one of many initiatives to reduce dangerous driving and improve our citizens' quality of life.

Letter of Commendation for Dispatcher Joseph Misiak

On May 7, 2024 at approximately 8 a.m., a distressed mother called 911. The mother who was highly upset indicated her 18-month old baby had stopped breathing. The mother advised she and her husband were currently driving to Beaumont hospital. Dispatcher Misiak was able to calm the mother and obtain their current location. The dispatcher remained calm under a tense situation and made the quick decision to provide them directions to Fire Station 1 to receive immediate medical attention while contacting the fire station to dispatch them to their parking lot. Once there, the baby was stabilized by the Fire Department and ultimately transported to Beaumont Hospital.

Dispatcher Misiak demonstrated an outstanding level of service that reflects the highest level of emergency response that may have saved this baby's life.

Scam Alert

Birmingham dispatchers have recently received several phone calls from citizens who had been contacted by alleged Birmingham police officers who claim the citizen is a suspect in a crime. The citizens state they received phone calls or emails that appear to be coming from our agency, and are advised to turn themselves in immediately or pay a bond via gift card.

Our department will never contact anyone to request a bond payment via gift card or request credit card information through email or phone call. Please do NOT directly pay anyone claiming to be from our agency. If you are unsure of the allegations made against you, please call us directly to confirm at (248) 644-3405.

Parking Systems Update

Repairs

In April, staff submitted a Request for Proposals for 2024 Chester St. Parking Structure Repairs. The primary project objectives are to address structural, waterproofing, and facade repairs at the parking structure; repair or improve the mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems; install LED lights, and paint portions of the garage for improved aesthetics. The project will go before the City Commission in early June and begin shortly thereafter. It will take twelve to fifteen months to complete.

The City planned and budgeted for comprehensive long-term repairs at all five City garages. The North Old Woodward Garage was the first garage to be addressed in 2022-2023. The Chester St. Garage is the second garage to be addressed and is starting in June of 2024. Following the Chester St. Garage will be Peabody, Pierce, and finally the Park St. Garage. Repairs to all five garages are anticipated to continue through 2026.

Operations

As part of the transition from SP+, the help buttons in the kiosks have been going to a 3rd party call center of Parker Technology. This call center is different from the one SP+ used until January 2024. Beginning May 1, 2024, all calls for help have been directed to the local parking office in the Chester St. Garage during business hours (8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday through Friday). During off-hours and weekends, calls continue to go to Parker Technology. Answering calls locally will help improve the guest experience and expedite responses. Staff members are very happy with the new call center and hopes guests are too.

Parking Reports

Download the [April 2024 Parking Report](#) to view the following data: total citations issued, average weekly maximum capacity, meter revenue by amount and percentage, monthly passes compared to garage capacity and monthly permits sold.

Future Agenda Items

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