



CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

January 2022

Baldwin Public Library

Library Board Updates

The Library Board has approved the initial schematic/conceptual design for the expansion and renovation of the front entry and circulation area. Director Craft presented the project to the City Commission at the Long Range Planning Meeting. The public is welcome to view renderings of the exterior and interior, view floor plans, and read meeting minutes online at <https://www.baldwinlib.org/renovation/>.

The Library Board had a Special Board meeting on January 12 to conduct Director Craft's first annual performance evaluation. The Library Board met on January 19 for a regular meeting and voted to approve updates to the Collection Development Policy, the Social Media Policy, and the Board Bylaws. The policies can be viewed at <https://www.baldwinlib.org/mission>.

Donations for Oakland County Children's Village

The Library is collecting donations of hooded sweatshirts and gym shoes to benefit teens at the Oakland County Children's Village. Donations of items or checks made out to "Oakland County Children's Village" can be dropped off in the library lobby through Friday, January 28.

The Birmingham Museum

As part of its commitment to greater public access through technology, the museum will continue its virtual offerings during the remainder of the winter season with free Zoom presentations and YouTube video recordings of its lecture series at the Baldwin Public Library. February 3rd's presentation will focus on Black families of Early Birmingham in recognition of Black History Month.

Birmingham Shopping District (BSD)

Birmingham Restaurant Week

Now is the time of year when the BSD encourages the community to support their downtown restaurants. Restaurant Week is scheduled for Monday, January 24th through Friday, February 4th, excluding weekends. More than seventeen restaurants will be

featured during this event, each promoting their own special menus. Details can be found at allinbirmingham.com.

Business Mix Analysis

The BSD is presently working on a business mix analysis to determine the diversity of economic sectors in the downtown. The results of this analysis will affect how the BSD targets business attraction efforts and develops its marketing materials to promote the downtown to the greater region.

Standing Column from BSD Executive Director

The BSD executive director has a new standing column in Downtown Newsmagazine, dedicated to discussing the structure and activities of the BSD, providing insight as to how BSD special assessments are used to improve and promote the district, and overall promotion of the BSD's special events and programs. The inaugural article will be in the February issue of Downtown Newsmagazine.

Building Department

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 329 online permit applications, bringing our 2021 total to 4,241 online permits.

Front Lobby Service Desk

The Building Department now has a service desk located in the front lobby of City Hall. The addition of this desk was in large part due to the feedback that the Building Department was receiving from contractors and property owners regarding the challenges incurred from COVID-19 restrictions. This new workstation provides us the ability to accommodate in-person service and also allows us to continue to offer services for Building, Planning and Engineering departments while the second floor of City Hall remains closed to the public. Support staff will rotate shifts that may vary and will be dependent on department workloads, scheduling and other staffing needs. So far, the response we have received from the public has been overwhelmingly positive and enthusiastic. Also, a big thank you to the Treasurer and Clerk's Departments for allowing us to use their printers!

Sidewalk Clearing

The City's Code Enforcement Officers have been proactive so far this year in identifying sidewalks that have not been cleared of snow and ice, ensuring that they are communicated and corrected in a timely manner, and issuing violations when necessary. Immediately after holiday break and following the recent snow events, 15 tickets were issued to builders and 35 residents were noticed.

In an effort to avoid these violations in the future, the Building Department will be reminding builders of winter site maintenance and safety in the seasonal Home Builder's Association newsletter.

City Clerk's Office

Welcome Stacy!

We would like to welcome Stacy Vail, new Clerical Assistant for the Clerk's office! Stacy is a long-time resident of Birmingham and has worked in elections. She brings a wealth of knowledge involving procedure creation and records retention. Her enthusiasm and drive make her a great fit for the clerk team!

Parade & Hometown Celebration

The Clerk's Office is gearing up to present the Celebrate Birmingham Hometown Parade on Sunday, May 15, 2022 at 1:00 pm. After approvals for the special event have been granted, we will be acquiring and organizing volunteers, getting donations and identifying groups to participate in the parade. Along with the parade, we will be organizing the Government Day Celebration as well.

Annual Licenses

Birmingham has many different annual licenses which are issued through the Clerk's office. Renewal notices and applications for fire prevention, pawn shops, child care, theatres, open parking systems, motor vehicle rentals, and hotels have been sent to businesses and are coming in. We are working with departments to ensure that any approvals needed are completed before these licenses are approved.

Election 2022

The Clerk's Department relies on many election workers to ensure a smooth election. We will be contacting past election workers in May and recruiting for new election workers in May and June for the August 2, 2022 Primary election. Election workers will have training in July, and at that time we will evaluate whether we need to recruit more workers for the November 8, 2022 General election.

Birmingham has two state elections in 2022: the August 2 primary and November 8 general election. Some important dates to remember:

August 2 Election

- End of May – Applications for absentee ballots mailed to voters on the permanent absent voter list
- Week of June 25 – Absentee ballots will start to be mailed to voters who request them
- July 18 – Last day to register to vote by mail or at mi.gov/vote

- July 19 – Aug.2 – Unregistered voters must schedule an appointment to register in person with the clerk’s office.
- July 29 by 5:00 pm – Last day to request an absentee ballot by mail or at mi.gov/vote
- Aug 1 at 4:00 pm – Deadline for obtaining an absentee ballot in person at the clerk’s office
- Aug. 2 – Election day. Polls are open 7:00 am – 8:00 pm, and all absentee ballots must be received by the clerk’s office by 8:00 p.m.

Nov. 8 Election

- Week of Aug. 23 – Applications for absentee ballots mailed to voters on the permanent absent voter list
- End of September – Absentee ballots will start to be mailed to requesting voters
- Oct. 24 – Last day to register to vote by mail or at mi.gov/vote
- Oct. 25 – Nov. 8 – Unregistered voters must schedule an appointment to register in person with the clerk’s office.
- Nov. 4 by 5:00 pm – Last day to request an absentee ballot by mail or at mi.gov/vote
- Nov. 7 at 4:00 pm – Deadline for obtaining an absentee ballot in person at the clerk’s office
- Nov. 8 – Election day. Polls are open 7:00 am – 8:00 pm, and all absentee ballots must be received by the clerk’s office by 8:00 p.m.

Cemetery

The Greenwood Cemetery Board has completed their initial review of the Regulations and Procedures for Greenwood Cemetery. This process started in April 2021 and involved the board reviewing each section of the document with the goal of clarifying and simplifying the language. The document will be reviewed by the City Attorney and will eventually come before the City Commission for approval.

Board Vacancies/New Appointments

Welcome new Triangle District member Timothy Baldwin! There are openings on many boards, including:

- MultiModal Board - 3 open terms
- Public Arts Board - 3 open terms, 1 open alternate term
- Cable Board - 1 open term
- Stormwater Utility Appeals Board - 1 open term, 2 alternate terms
- Triangle District - 2 open terms

Persons interested in applying for a board position can find board information on the [city's website](#).

City Manager's Office

Accounts Receivable Process

The City Manager's office initiated a comprehensive review of the City's accounts receivable process, which includes the system in place for identifying, calculating, billing and collecting funds owed to the City. Examples of accounts receivable include, but are not limited to, fees for the use of City property, permit fees, service fees for work done by the City, park rental fees, parking fees and the like.

As a result of the comprehensive review, the Manager's Office has identified two particular billing areas, outdoor dining and special assessments, that because of the overlap between multiple City departments, require an improved workflow and approval process to ensure accurate and efficient billing. Accordingly, an improved workflow and approval process has been created for both outdoor dining related billing and special assessments to ensure accurate and efficient billing. Summary findings are outlined below. For additional details, please refer to the complete [staff report here](#).

With regards to outdoor dining billing, the Business Licensing module of BS&A is currently being modified to include a cost calculator for the use of public property for outdoor dining, and to allow all related fees to be approved by multiple departments and billed out through the Business Licensing module at the time the Outdoor Dining License is issued. In addition, City staff in all departments involved in the review and approval of outdoor dining establishments have been trained together to understand the entire approval process, including the new steps required.

With regards to the special assessment process, a shared tracking spreadsheet has been created for use by the Engineering and Treasury Departments to document the roll number and amount of all special assessments when created, to determine the actual costs of the project once completed, and to document the billing and collection of special assessments.

The improved workflow and approval processes for both outdoor dining and special assessments have been created to ensure seamless communication between departments, accurate and efficient billing, and the addition of checks and balances throughout the entire billing process.

City Commission Code of Conduct

At a recent City Commission meeting, there was discussion about creating guidelines and/or rules to ensure respectful and civil communication and public engagement between elected officials and members of the public, and the City Commission expressed interest in considering adopting a code of conduct.

Accordingly, the City Manager's Office has conducted research to identify other communities that have established rules or protocols to guide the communication and

conduct of local government elected officials, appointed officials and members of the public. Many jurisdictions have created formal codes of conduct adopted by the governing body. Samples of ordinances and resolutions adopted in approximately 20 different jurisdictions across the U.S. and Canada were reviewed. Most contained very similar provisions designed to outline the following:

- The roles and responsibilities of elected officials, appointed officials, City staff and members of the public;
- The standards of conduct required of elected officials during public meetings of the body to which they were elected and other public meetings;
- The standards of conduct required of elected officials at ceremonial, public and private events;
- The standards of conduct required of elected officials in all communications with each other, with advisory board and commission members, City staff, the media and with the public;
- The standards of conduct required of other officials, City staff and the public while engaged in local government activities;
- Possible sanctions for violation of a code of conduct; and
- A process for reporting, investigating and enforcing the code of conduct.

The Code of Conduct for Elected Officials adopted in [Rifle, CO](#) provides a good example overall of the type of ordinance the Birmingham City Commission may wish to consider. Similar ordinances to Rifle, CO are also in place in communities such as Harrisburg, NC, Alexandria, MN, Sunnyvale, CA, and many other jurisdictions. While similar in content, the ordinances listed below have specific provisions that may be beneficial to consider in Birmingham:

- [Edina, MN](#) Edina City Council – Code of Conduct contains specific provisions outlining the roles and responsibilities between the governing body, advisory boards and commissions and staff similar to Birmingham’s current policies;
- [Evans, CO](#) Code of Conduct for Elected Officials contains specific provisions on conduct between elected officials that ensure issue-oriented discussion and not personal attacks;
- [Mountain View, CA](#) City Council Code of Conduct contains specific provisions regarding ex parte communications to avoid conflict with the Open Meetings Act;
- [Brea, CA](#) Code of Conduct for City Council contains clear direction for communications with both City staff and professional consultants; and
- [Berthoud, CO](#) Code of Conduct for Elected Officials, Boards and Commissions contains clear definitions for several terms to assist with enforcement and clarify the potential repercussions of violation.

For additional information, see the Michigan Municipal League’s [Ethics Handbook for Michigan Municipalities](#).

Communications

GovPilot Citizen Request Module

Communications and IT staff recently met with GovPilot to view the city's website citizen request form and the GovAlert app that was recently developed for Birmingham. Next steps include training for all backend users, followed by launching and promoting the service in the coming weeks. We look forward to offering this convenient service to the Birmingham community.

Congratulations to Jamil Kim, IT and Media Specialist

IT and Media Specialist Jamil Kim recently received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Information Assurance & Cyber Defense from Eastern Michigan University. He continues to be a great asset to the communications team. Congratulations, Jamil!

Engage Birmingham Public Arts Project

The Public Arts Board and Parks & Recreation Board recently determined they will recommend a public arts sculpture, *Astral Projection*, be installed at Crestview Park at the corner of Southfield and Southlawn. Their recommendation will go before the City Commission in February. The community is encouraged to share their opinion about *Astral Projection* and its intended location at engage.bhamgov.org.

Human Resources

Employment Update

On January 4th, a new Accounting Administrator was hired in our Finance Department. A new HR Generalist began on January 10th, and a new Construction Engineer began on January 17th. We have also filled two part-time vacancies. On Monday, January 10th, our IT department filled an IT Intern position, while PD welcomed a new part-time Dispatcher. Below is a short profile on these, and several other new hires:

Frankie Hernandez - Accounting Administrator - Mrs. Hernandez has a nine year background in Finance and Office Administration, and a Bachelor's Degree from Oakland University. Most recently, Mrs. Hernandez was a Financial Administrator for a local telecommunications provider.

Olivia Brown - HR Generalist - Ms. Brown has over five years of experience in Human Resources, with a Bachelor's Degree from Oakland University, and is a certified professional from the Society of Human Resources Management. Previously, Ms. Brown worked as a Senior HR Generalist for the City of Lake Worth Beach, Florida.

Leah Blizinski - City Planner - Mrs. Blizinski possesses a Master of Urban Planning degree from Wayne State University, and has worked most recently as a Planning Aide for the Huron-Clinton Metroparks, with a background in the administration of housing programs. Mrs. Blizinski is also a resident member of the City of Ferndale's Boards of Zoning Appeals and Tax Review, as well as the Ferndale Brownfield Redevelopment Authority.

Kris Cameron - Construction Engineer - Ms. Cameron recently graduated from Wayne State University with a Bachelor's degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering, but

also comes to the City with three years of experience at a local engineering firm. Working her way up from intern, Ms. Cameron has worked on projects for MDOT, as well as the cities of Novi and Detroit.

Staff & Vacancy Update

Department	FT & PT Staff Estimate	Current Vacancies	Percentage Staffed	Vacancies Filled Since 2020	Percent Department Has Been Backfilled Since 2020
Birmingham Shopping District	5	Seasonal Only	100%	3	60%
Clerk's Office	5	None	100%	5	100%
Building	17	Secretary A	94%	0	100%
Engineering	8	City Engineer	87.5%	4	50%
Finance / Treasury	14	Clerical Asst	93%	4	28.5%
Fire	35	None	100%	10	28.5%
Information Technology	4	None	100%	2	50%
Maintenance	2	None	100%	1	50%
Manager's Office / Communications / HR	6	None	100%	6	100%
Museum	3	None	100%	0	100%
Parking System	2	Parking Admin	50%	1	50%
Planning	7	None	100%	4	57%
Police	71	None	100%	9	12.50%
Public Services	56	Pending	TBD	8	14%

Sensitivity Training

The City has scheduled a course on Sensitivity Training, which will be provided to all staff. The two-hour Sensitivity Training will be hosted by the Assistant Police Chief of Farmington Hills. The City Commission is also invited and encouraged to attend this Zoom seminar, which will also include a Q&A session at the end.

City Staff Vaccination Update

Vaccination Card Tracking				
Department	# Received	Total Staff	Percentage	
City Staff	189	218	87%	
IT	4	4	100%	
BSD	4	5	80%	
Community Development	29	32	91%	
Fire Dept	33	36	92%	
Clerks	5	5	100%	
Finance/Treasurer	12	13	92%	
Building/Maintenance	2	2	100%	
Museum	3	3	100%	
Police Dept (w/o crossing guards)	47	58	81%	
CM/HR	6	6	100%	
DPS (w/o summer seasonals)	44	54	81%	

Department of Public Services

Illegal Tree Removal

This serves as an update concerning the removal of one tree and trimming of two trees at 512 George this past December. The fines and costs associated included three civil infraction tickets for \$3,000 and associated fees of \$5,415 as payment to the City, pursuant to the authority of Section 118-25 of the City Code of Ordinances. The owner has paid the maximum on these fines and costs to the City of Birmingham.

In addition to the above, the cost burden rests with the property owner, for the complete removal and stump grinding of the tree. As part of the site plan process, the owner will also be responsible for replacing tree(s) at the property, as deemed appropriate.

Ice Arena

LiveBarn was recently installed at the Birmingham Ice Arena (BIA). LiveBarn is a live system set up in hockey rinks for spectators to watch games without being in the Ice Arena. Subscribers can also view other LiveBarn arenas.

We conducted an analysis in 2019 to provide service enhancements and revenue opportunities at the BIA, which included review of adding Live On Demand Broadcasting at the BIA. This system is in over 1,000 rinks nationwide.

This company (LiveBarn) supplies the equipment and the installation. There is no cost to Birmingham. We have involved IT from the onset of this analysis.

There is a subscription for users and the City retains a portion of the paid subscriptions. We are adding this to the Arena as another ongoing revenue stream. Rink revenue is 30% of subscription sales.

It is a hardware installation. There is no charge for installation; we provide internet connection and the power for this. Promotion and marketing efforts are underway for this new system.

Project close out items continue at the Birmingham Ice Arena between the City of Birmingham and the C.E. Gleason, the Contractor. Planning is progressing for a ribbon-cutting Grand Opening celebration in March. More details will be released as soon as they become available.

Davey Resource Group Tree Inventory Update

Davey Resource Group is underway with updating the City's Tree Inventory Program. This includes GIS data collection of existing trees, new trees along the city's right-of-way and in parks and City properties. The project area includes the downtown, the cemetery and the northeast quadrant of the City, east of Woodward Avenue and north of Maple Road.

Adams Park – Astro Turf v Real Grass

The consultant, Michael J. Dul Associates, for the Adams Park development project is evaluating the pros and cons of synthetic turf for the open space area of the park, which

comprises approximately 20,400 square feet (120' x 170'). Overall cost, environmental impacts and ongoing maintenance issues are all part of the consideration and review of this product. We should have something to report in the next few weeks.

Engineering Department

Construction Update

While construction season has wound down, and most projects will pause during the winter months, some projects are still continuing as weather conditions allow.

Lead Water Service Replacement Program

The Lead Water Service Replacement program is continuing to work at homes that have been scheduled in January and February. With allocation of federal Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CLFRF) received by the City toward the lead water service replacement program, the program is being implemented at an accelerated pace. The City's engineering consultant, Hubbell, Roth & Clark has been sending out notices to select, targeted neighborhoods (mainly to improve the contractor's efficiency) providing information about the program. If any resident with a lead water service has not received a notice yet, but would like more information and possibly get scheduled for the work, please contact the Engineering Department.

Sewer Rehabilitation Program

The 2021-2022 Sewer Rehabilitation program has started, beginning with the sewer investigative work on South Old Woodward. When that is complete, the contractor will move on to other areas of the City to complete basic cleaning and inspection of sewer lines, plus specialized rehabilitation/repairs of minor issues that are found in the system. Rehabilitation/repair work in this contract include removal of roots, mineral deposits and protruding taps, and grouting leaking joints.

Consumers Energy Upgrade

Coming Soon: Consumers Energy has informed us that they plan to invest in upgrading their infrastructure in the City in 2022. They are planning to replace steel pipe gas mains with HDPE (plastic) mains where needed on streets in the west half of the City. The [attached map](#) shows their planned work areas. Note that the phases listed are not necessarily the exact order the work will be completed in. In order to coordinate with the City's planned projects, Consumers Energy intends to complete the work on S. Old Woodward by May. When we get more scheduling information from them, we will provide further updates.

Fire Department

Fight the Pandemic Together with Vaccination

With the sharp rise in COVID-19 cases, it is everyone's duty as a citizen to help fight this pandemic together. With the mutations of the virus it is important that everyone get vaccinated and boosted, when eligible, in order to help protect yourselves and those who cannot receive the vaccine. Hospital systems across the country are at a breaking point and the only way to beat this pandemic is through prevention methods such as

vaccines. COVID-19 treatments do work in some cases, but as mutations occur treatments can become less effective.

Monoclonal Antibody Infusions Suspended

For the past seven months, the Birmingham Fire Department has been administering monoclonal antibody infusions to residents with COVID-19 in their homes. Unfortunately, this program has been suspended due to the current medication being ineffective against the omicron variant. Currently, the only FDA emergency approved infusion medication (Sotrovimab) is in very short supply. Once the supply of Sotrovimab is increased and available to the fire department, at-home infusions will resume.

Educational Webinar for Unvaccinated Employees

On Friday, December 7, 2022, Chief Wells and Doctor Jessica Bennett, who is a local attending emergency room physician, held an interactive mandatory educational webinar with the City's unvaccinated employees. Dr. Bennett shared her experiences with treating COVID-19 patients for the last two years and the immense benefits being vaccinated has in defense against the virus. The session addressed common concerns of vaccinations along with myths. We are hoping this talk will help some employees to get vaccinated. We would like to thank Doctor Bennett for taking the time to help our City. She did an amazing job!

Chief Paul Wells Passes State Professional Emergency Manager (PEM) Exam

In December, Chief Wells passed the State of Michigan Professional Emergency Manager (PEM) exam. The State of Michigan Professional Emergency Manager designation requires annual continuing education and training which will help keep the City prepared for any large scale emergency response, if needed. Chief Wells and Assistant Chief Bartalino are now part of a small group of fire chiefs in the State who have obtained this certification.

Information Technology

Welcome, Isaac Bratcher

The IT department would like to welcome our new IT intern, Isaac Bratcher.

Isaac is a dual enrolled student working toward an IT degree. He also has interest in streaming and broadcasting, and is a good fit for the IT department.

Isaac is currently getting up to speed with our systems and processes and will be taking over the setup and monitoring of our commission and board meetings being broadcast on Zoom, cable TV and Vimeo.

Planning Department

Master Plan 2040

The Planning Board will be continuing its thorough review of the second draft through the next couple of months. The presentation slides used by the consultant for their presentations will be available on www.thebirminghamplan.com, along with all documents relating to the 2040 Master Plan. You can also watch a recording of each meeting 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 also submit comments directly to the Planning Division to be placed in the next available agenda of the Planning Board. As we near the end of the Planning Board review process, the City Commission will need to set a special meeting for a joint meeting to provide final direction to the consultant team.

Planning Board

To start the new year, the Planning Board will be digging deep into the comprehensive outdoor dining study that has been the subject of conversation for many months. The City Commission should expect to see proposed ordinance language in early 2022. In terms of site plan reviews, the Planning Board will be reviewing applications for the following developments in the near future:

- 100 Townsend – The Townsend Hotel has submitted an application for a new outdoor dining platform adjacent to the hotel and Rugby Grille on Townsend St. The Special Land Use Permit, Final Site Plan and Design Review application review is scheduled for the Planning Board meeting on January 26, 2022, and will be forwarded to the City Commission for final approval after receiving a recommendation from the Planning Board and the Advisory Parking Committee.
- 770 S. Adams – A new Community Impact Study and Preliminary Site Plan Review application has been submitted for a new 4 and 5 story mixed-use development in the Triangle District. The proposed building will have 138 residential units and a 5,000 sq. ft. retail space along Haynes. The application will be reviewed on January 26, 2022.
- 159 N. Eton – The existing bakery, Canelle Patisserie, has submitted a Final Site Plan and Design Review for minor site changes which include streetscape improvements and a new permanent outdoor dining facility. The review is scheduled for the Planning Board meeting on January 26, 2022.

Historic Preservation

The Historic District Commission is embarking on an intense plan of action for historic preservation. This includes a lot of work towards the adoption of historic design guidelines, a general preservation master plan, and a signage/wayfinding plan for the Bates St. Historic District. Additionally, the Historic District Study Committee has been given the green light by the City Commission to continue its important work of updating the 1992 Wallace Frost report titled "Wallace Frost: His Architecture in Birmingham, MI." as well as developing a proposal to reinvigorate the Heritage Home program.

Public Art

The Public Arts Board is now beginning its 2022 call for entries. The program affords an opportunity for 6 artists to receive a small grant to provide public art in the City of Birmingham. Along with the call for entries program, the Public Arts Board continues to field donation requests.

Multi-Modal Transportation Board

The Multi-Modal Transportation Board (MMTB) has taken on the valiant but challenging task that is improving the Woodward corridor. At present, the MMTB will be seeking a resolution from the City Commission to move forward with the Woodward Avenue Road Diet Checklist, and will be studying various other improvements for Woodward.

Food Trucks

On January 10, 2022, the City Commission requested an update to the food truck study that was discussed at the joint meeting of the Planning Board and the City Commission. At this point, there has been no formal direction from the City Commission directing the Planning Board to study food trucks and provide a recommendation to the City Commission. However, the Planning Division planned to bring food trucks to the Planning Board for a study session after the conclusion of the review of the second draft of the 2040 Plan, which should be finished in early February, 2022.

Leaf Blowers

The City Commission has broached the subject of leaf blowers and expressed interest in discussing regulations on such. The issues that are intended to be remedied are relating to noise and air pollution. Other issues that may stem from the conversation are further benefits to the environment and public health by encouraging leaving leaves in place overwinter and utilizing more physically demanding tools when possible. To begin the conversation, the Planning Division has done light research to better understand the issue and what may be experienced elsewhere in the country. Provided below are several links to various articles relating to leaf blowers and the issues they present:

- [Leaf blowers are not only annoying but also bad for you \(and the environment\)](#)
- [Those Loud and Polluting Leaf Blowers](#)
- [Get Off My Lawn](#)
- [California Set to Silence Leaf Blowers](#)
- [Why Cities are Taking Action to Limit Loud and Polluting Lawn Care](#)
- [Ann Arbor bans noisy lawn equipment downtown](#)

Police Department

Sgt. Simpson Speaks to Students about Oxford High School Shooting

Following the shooting at Oxford High School, students at Seaholm High School took advantage of the opportunity to speak to their school resource officer, Sgt. Mike Simpson. Sgt. Simpson, who is from Oxford, did an excellent job during a question and answer session, and students reported feeling more comfortable after speaking with him. [Follow this link](#) to read an article about Sgt. Simpson that was featured on the homepage of the Birmingham Eccentric newspaper on Sunday, January 2, 2022.

Mental Health Co-Response Program (CoRe) Update

The Police Department's new Mental Health Co-Response Program (CoRe) was initiated into service on October 1, 2021. Between that date and the end of the year, there were 25 cases actively worked by the department's social worker. The clinician,

Ms. Hillary Nussbaum, has also rode with officers on duty and responded to calls with officers that have a mental health component. The clinician has also assisted detectives conducting follow-up interviews and with investigations.

Some examples where the social worker assisted include:

1. Met with a local homeless person who was incarcerated and worked with the Court for the subject to receive needed treatments in conjunction with Easter Seals and Adult Protective Services.
2. Assisted a resident by working with that resident's power of attorney (who lives out of state) to ensure that the resident received needed in-patient treatment.
3. Assisted the police department by arranging for in-patient treatment for a local resident suffering from a mental health crisis.
4. Assisted a family with one of their teenage children who was struggling with ADHD, anxiety and the death of the family's dog to develop strategies to assist the teenager when negative behaviors are displayed.

These are just a few examples of the work our clinician has been conducting. Ms. Nussbaum is doing a fantastic job and has become an intricate member of the department. The bottom line is that the police department now has a mechanism in place to assist with people suffering from a mental health crisis and connect these people to vital and necessary services. The program is only in its infancy, but shows great promise.

Parking Systems Update

Construction:

Repairs to Chester Structure's expansion joints, drain pipes, and concrete repairs are ongoing and will continue as weather permits. Contractors estimate work will conclude middle to late January.

Repairs have started at Park Structure with Steel Moment Connection repairs, expansion joint repairs and drain bowl cleaning. Work will continue as weather permits.

Waitlist:

The current waitlist is at 658 people, and 233 people are unique which means they are requesting passes at more than one structure. SP+ is continuing to contact people on the waitlist to inquire if they are still interested in passes and issue passes.

Internet Upgrade:

The new internet fiber that was installed at each structure is now connected to each structure and all parking equipment. Staff is hopeful that updated internet connectivity will relieve some of the issues at the entry and exit kiosks.

Occupancy:

December	
Chester Garage	38%
Old Woodward	46%
Park Garage	57%
Peabody Garage	70%
Pierce Garage	65%

Future Agenda Items

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

Future Workshop Items

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