



CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

July 2022

Baldwin Public Library

Library Board Update

The Library Board met on July 18 for a regular meeting. The Library Board voted to approve employee raises and an updated pay and benefits schedule for FY2022-23. All staff will be receiving a 5% increase for the year. The Library does not offer separate COLA and merit-based increases. Baldwin will be updating its logo this year. At the meeting, the Library Board discussed the design direction for the new logo. The new Library logo will complement the new City logo.

Building Committee

The Building Committee met with Merritt Cieslak Design on July 14 to complete a 50% design development drawing review. The Library Board and City will be issuing an RFP for a Construction Manager for the Phase 3 project. The RFP will be presented to the City Commission at the August 15 meeting.

Access Services Department

We have combined two departments, Technical Services and Circulation Services, into one department called Access Services. This change will help to cross-train employees and will better utilize employee time throughout the year. Kristen Tait has been promoted to Head of Access Services. Brandon Bolek-Toubeaux has been promoted to Assistant Department Head. And Cameron Crawford has been promoted to Page Supervisor.

Behind the Scenes Tour

If you'd like to learn even more about the library, join Library Director Rebekah Craft for a Behind the Scenes Tour. You'll visit staff areas, learn how items are added to the collection, and hear about new programs and services. The next tour will meet in the Library's vestibule on Thursday, August 11 at 10:00 a.m.

Birmingham Shopping District (BSD)

Executive Director Recruitment Process

We received a total of 33 applications for the position, 15 of which met the qualifications requested. We are currently in the process of booking interviews with the top five candidates for the first week of August. As the BSD directed, the chairpersons of each of the BSD committees have been invited to attend the interviews. Interviews will be conducted by a panel of BSD members, Human Resources staff, and the City Manager's Office. Assistant City Manager Jana Ecker will continue to serve as Interim Executive Director of the Birmingham Shopping District until a permanent Executive Director is hired. During

summer vacation season, Assistant to the City Manager Melissa Fairbairn will act as Interim Executive Director if Ms. Ecker is out of the office.

Day on the Town

The annual Day on the Town event will be held this year on July 30, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. – 6 p.m. Join us for the biggest retail event of the year and browse unique and discounted high-end merchandise in stores and on the streets and sidewalks throughout downtown Birmingham.

Birmingham Farmers Market

The Birmingham Farmers Market kicked-off its 20th season on Sunday, May 1 in Public Parking Lot 6. The market will be open every Sunday from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. through the end of October.

On August 7, 2022, the Birmingham Farmers Market will officially celebrate their 20th anniversary starting with a ceremony at 10:00 a.m. with guest speakers and activities all day, in addition to the wonderful offerings of our local market vendors. The Farmers Market will host special activities for the kids, and food trucks will be on hand all day, along with live musical entertainment and a petting zoo.

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 June, we processed 538 online permit applications, totaling 2,409 applications so far in 2022.

Project Updates

- Restoration Hardware received their permit for the installation of the building foundations and construction has already begun.
- The building permit for the new All Seasons 2 building located at 219 Elm Street has been issued.
- A building permit application and construction plans have been submitted for the foundations at 770 S. Adams for the new Adams/Haynes multi-story mixed use development.

Project Submissions

The Building Department is seeing a steady increase in project submissions this calendar year. Impervious surface permits such as driveways, patios, walkways and other flatwork are up 60%, residential building permits have seen an increase of 5%, and commercial building permits are up 50%. Overall, building permits have seen a rise of 14% and trade permits 37% over this time last year.

City Clerk's Office

2022 August State Primary

Voter registration options

There's still time to register to vote in Birmingham in the August 2 primary election. Voters must register in person at the city clerk's office and be:

- A Michigan and Birmingham resident for at least 30 days before the election
- A U.S. citizen
- At least 18 years old on election day
- Not currently serving a jail or prison sentence

Please bring a non-expired government ID – a driver’s license, Michigan ID card, a passport or an official student ID. If your ID doesn’t include your current Birmingham address, please also bring an official document that lists your name and Birmingham address – a paystub, utility bill, bank statement, a lease or a government document. Learn more about these requirements [here](#).

After August 2, residents can again register to vote online at mi.gov/vote or www.expressSOS.com, by mail or at any Secretary of State Branch Office until the end of the day on October 24 (15 days before the November 8 general election). Voter registration applications are available online at bhamgov.org/voting or in the clerk’s office.

Clerk’s office open Saturday, July 30

The City Clerk’s Office is open Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., and the Saturday immediately preceding the August election (Saturday, July 30, 2022) 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. to register voters and issue absent voter ballots.

August 2022 absentee voting schedule:

Absentee ballots can be requested online at mi.gov/vote, or with a signed application returned to the clerk’s office via email to elections@bhamgov.org, in person, via a City Hall drop box, or by mail. Key dates include:

- July 29 at 5 p.m. - Deadline for voter requests to obtain absentee ballots by first-class mail. Ballot applications received after 5 p.m. must be picked up by the voter at the clerk’s office.
- August 1 at 4 p.m. - Last day to pick up an absentee ballot in person.
- August 2 at 8 p.m. – All absentee ballots must be received by the clerk’s office, regardless of postmarked date.

Sample ballots

A sample ballot can be viewed at www.mi.gov/vote. Voters must confine their votes to a single political party in this primary election; “ticket-splitting” or choosing candidates from both parties will result in a rejected primary ballot. Birmingham races on the August 2022 primary ballot include:

State of Michigan:

- Governor
- State Senator, District 8
- Representative in Congress, District 11
- Representative in State Legislature, Districts 5, 19, and 56

Oakland County:

- County Commissioner, Districts 1 and 19

City of Birmingham:

- Precinct Delegates to County Conventions of the Democratic and Republican Parties

Absentee Voter Data & Processes

August State Primary - Absentee Ballot Stats			
	Total AV Ballots Sent	Total AV Ballots Returned	% Returned

August 7, 2018 - Final	2063	1935	93.8%
August 4, 2020 - Final	7147	5383	75.32%
August 2, 2022 - *As of 7/15/22	4394	1002	22.8%

The 2018 passage of proposal 18-3 allowing no-reason absent voting combined with the 2020 pandemic fueled a significant increase in absentee voting activity. The chart above documents the growth, which corresponds to an increased burden on the clerk's office. Because of this we remind voters to be proactive about their absentee ballot:

- Make sure to carefully and correctly fill out your absentee ballot application and include contact information
- Take your time to read all the instructions and understand your ballot
- If you make a mistake, contact the clerk's office. We can spoil that ballot and issue a new ballot.
- Track your absentee ballot on mi.gov/vote to see:
 - Date your application was received
 - Date your ballot was sent
 - Date your ballot was received
- Turn your ballot in at your earliest convenience. From start to finish, it takes time to process an absentee ballot. Every ballot returned:
 - Is sorted by precinct and ballot number
 - Is checked:
 - We ensure the envelope is sealed and that the envelope/ballot does not appear to have been damaged in transit
 - If a ballot returned to us appears to be damaged or not properly sealed in the envelope, we contact the voter to correct the issue as soon as possible.
 - We verify signatures
 - If a voter forgets to sign or the signature does not match, we take the time to contact the voter to correct the error as soon as possible.
 - Is marked as received and filed
 - Ballots are filed and secured. On Election Day the envelopes are opened and the ballots are counted by the Absentee Ballot Counting Board.

Board and Commission Appointments

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

Board	Openings	Application Due by Noon	Interview/ Appointment at City Commission meeting 7:30 pm
Greenwood Cemetery Advisory Board	2 Regular Members	7/20/2022	7/25/2022
Advisory Parking Committee	3 Regular Members	8/24/2022	8/29/2022
Design Review Board	2 Regular, 2 Alternate Members	9/14/2022	9/19/2022
Historic District Commission	2 Regular, 2 Alternate Members	9/14/2022	9/19/2022
Birmingham Area Cable Board	1 Alternate Member	Until Filled	
Board of Building Trades Appeals	3 Regular Members	Until Filled	
Board of Zoning Appeals	1 Alternate Member	Until Filled	
Brownfield Redevelopment Authority	2 Regular Members	Until Filled	
Public Arts Board	1 Alternate Member	Until Filled	
Storm Water Utility Appeals Board	1 Regular, 2 Alternate Members	Until Filled	
Triangle District Corridor Improvement Authority	2 Regular Members	Until Filled	
Hearing Officer	1 Regular Member	Until Filled	

Cemetery

At the July 1, 2022 meeting of the Greenwood Cemetery Advisory Board, the board discussed items to be included into the 2021-2022 Annual Report.

Next Meeting: September 2, 2022

City Manager's Office

Communications

Around Town e-Newsletter

The communications team is working on the August edition of the Around Town e-Newsletter, which will include a video introducing our new City Engineer, a video about the fire engine donated by Bill Olsen earlier this year, election news, Parks and Recreation bond project updates, the Birmingham Cruise Event and more. [Follow this link](#) to view the July edition of the Around Town e-Newsletter.

Skyway Interactive Virtual Tour

The communications team is working on the Skyway Interactive virtual tour of Birmingham. The Skyway tour will use 360-degree images, drone footage, videos, and graphics to create a fully immersive experience. This interactive virtual tour will be embedded on the City's website and serve as a resource to attract those who are considering relocating to Birmingham, opening a business, visiting the city, or holding a special event in Birmingham. A link to the tour can also be shared via social media and emailed to potential visitors, residents, patrons, businesses, etc.

Engage Birmingham



Design Selected for Party Room Mural at the Ice Arena

The city received entries from many talented artists for the Ice Arena Party Room Mural Contest. The votes are in and the winning design (shown below) was submitted by 15-year-old Maddie Gold. Maddie is a member of the Figure Skating Club of Birmingham and has been skating at the Birmingham Ice Arena since she was three years old. Congratulations, Maddie!



AROUND TOWN

MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER • JULY 2022



Stay Connected

INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Join the Citywide Email List at www.bhamgov.org/citywideemail.

CUSTOM UPDATES FOR YOUR TOPICS OF INTEREST

Select topics of interest at bhamgov.org/enews.

EMERGENCY ALERTS & CRIMEDAR

For Nixle emergency alerts directly from Birmingham Police and Fire, register at www.nixle.com or text "48009" to "888777". View and track crime at Crimedar.com.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow us for the latest City news and events.



Please forward this e-newsletter to your family and friends!

IN THIS ISSUE

LATEST NEWS

FIREWORKS SAFETY

DAY ON THE TOWN

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



Human Resources

The Human Resources department has scheduled interviews for the BSD Director vacancy for the first week of August. Interviews for the Plumbing Inspector position did not yield a qualified candidate, so the external recruitment has been renewed. Destinee Watson has been hired as a part-time Dispatcher in the Police Department, and Valerie Pitts has been hired as a Clerical Assistant in the Treasury Department. Senior Clerk/Cashier interviews are anticipated to take place next week. On July 1st, longtime City IT Manager, Eric Brunk, was converted from a contractor to a direct employee of the City of Birmingham, returning the IT Department to an in-house department. A recent recruitment for Streets/Sewer/Water Operator returned no qualified candidates, and an external posting has been reopened. A vacancy has also opened back up for Streets/Sewer/Water Assistant Foreman, and recruitment efforts have begun to backfill a replacement.

Staff & Vacancy Update

Department	FT & PT Staff Count	Current Vacancies/Hiring	Department Vacancies Filled Since 2020	Notes
Birmingham Shopping District	5	BSD Director	7	Director interviews first week of August
Clerk's Office	5	-	6	
Building	17	Plumbing Inspector	1	Hiring transitional Plumbing Inspector.
Engineering	8	-	7	M. Coatta started 7/11
Finance / Treasury	14	Sr. Clerk Cashier	6	M. Webb promoted to Accounting Administrator on 6/27 V. Pitts hired 6/20/22
Fire	35	-	10	
Information Technology	4	-	3	Eric Brunk converted to direct employee 7/1/22
Maintenance	2	-	1	
Manager's Office / Communications / HR	6	-	6	
Museum	3	-	2	D. Casaceli & J. Koch promoted to elevated roles
Parking System	9		2	Hiring plan in FY 22-23
Planning	7	-	4	
Police	71		13	D. Watson hired on 6/20
Public Services	56	SSW Operator SSW Assistant Foreman	8	P&F Operator hires pending
Golf Seasonal	N/A	Golf Seasonal Labor	48	Hiring ongoing

Commission Items for Future Discussion

Meeting	Topic	Commissioner	Staff Follow Up	Dates Addressed	Status (resolved/ongoing)
6/13/22	479 South Old Woodward (Doraid) PAD	Boutros			Motion failed

6/13/22	Sustainability Board	Schafer (had handout)	Nick Dupuis	On 6/27/22 agenda - direction for staff to draft requirements to establish board, coming back at next available meeting	In progress
5/23/22	Commission Meeting Start Time	Baller	Mary Kucharek	On agenda for 6/27/22 - Mary to draft generic ordinance language and discuss in July. On agenda for 7/11/22 - Commission decided not to proceed	No changes for now
5/9/22	-PAD ordinance/cleanup	Baller, no vote			No vote
5/9/22	-Policy for granting public space ODD/Valet	Baller, no vote			No vote
5/9/22	-Pickleball	Baller, no voter	Lauren Wood	Agenda item 5/23/22	Installed on 6-3-22
4/25/22	Improvements in Information Provision and Methodology	M: Haig, S: Baller			
3/28/22	City Manager Selection Process	M: Host S: Boutros	Managers Office & HR	4/25/22 - direct to formal agenda item 5/9/22 - New Business Item 5/23/22 CM report	Process approved and timetable established.
4/11/22	BBCC - Mental Health Workshop - More time to talk	M: Baller S: Haig	Marianne Gamboa	4/25/22 - clarify commissioners intent 5/9/22 - added time on the agenda to discuss Tom directed staff to add mental health info in city publications	Resolved
1/24/22	Social Districts	M: Schafer S: Boutros	Nick Dupuis/Jana Ecker	2/14/22 - make formal item 3/9/22 - Workshop	No formal action taken by the Commission

				3/14/22 - Informally brought up by host 6/20/22 Commission Plan Board Discussed	
1/10/22	Food Trucks	M: Host S: Schafer	Nick Dupuis/Jana Ecker	1/24/22 - CC req. more info 3/9/22 - Workshop 3/14/22 - Informally brought up by host 6/20/22 Commission Plan Board Discussed 6/27/22 - City Manager Directed to encourage food trucks at all city sponsored events, BSD events, and request the BSD to organize a rotation of food truck events	6/27/22 In progress/ being monitored
1/10/22	Leaf Blowers	M:Baller S:Host	Nick Dupuis	1/24/22 - make formal item	In progress
1/10/22	Commissioner Conduct	No vote	Mary Kucharek	2/14/22 - Workshop 2/28/22 Directed CM to prepare Code of Conduct for future agenda 7/11/22 - Initial presentation to commission by CA	Will be revised and presented again at an upcoming CC meeting

Topics Failed

4/25/22	On Street Parking Study	M: Haig S: Host
4/11/22	Downtown Parking	M: Host S: Haig
3/28/22	Parking Matters	M: Host S: Haig

Topics With No Vote - Resolved

1/10/22	Unimproved Streets	Discussed during the Long Range Planning meeting.
2/28/22	Solidarity with Ukraine	City Manager arranged for exterior lighting at City Hall.

Baldwin House Update

The City Manager's Office has received numerous complaints recently from Baldwin House residents and their family members regarding senior residents being charged and overcharged for parking in the City's Chester Street parking structure. In 1990, the City and Baldwin House entered into an agreement that provided 69 parking spaces free of charge in the Chester structure for the exclusive use of Baldwin House tenants and their guests. Complaints were made that Baldwin House was not only charging residents directly for the use of these City provided parking spaces, but were charging residents almost double (\$90) the rate that members of the public pay (\$50) for monthly parking permits. In addition, complaints were also made indicating that Baldwin House was allowing employees and contract workers to use the parking spaces for free, which is not what the agreement provided for.

Accordingly, Assistant City Manager Ecker and I met with Tina Marzolf from Baldwin House and Jim Nichols, attorney for Baldwin House on July 14, 2022 to discuss the terms of the agreement dated March 26, 1990 in which the City agreed to provide 69 parking spaces free of charge for the exclusive use of Baldwin House tenants and their guests.

The Parking Agreement executed by Baldwin House and the City in 1990 has a 30 year term from the date a Certificate of Occupancy was issued in 1994 (term ends in 2024). The agreement only ends prior to the 30 year term if:

- i) Baldwin House ceases to be a “qualified low income housing project” as defined in section 42(g) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1988 or otherwise does not qualify under the existing state or federal low-income housing program; or
- ii) A certain number of units designated for the elderly within Baldwin House are not occupied or available for occupancy by persons over 55 years of age or older.

The Parking Agreement clearly states that “Commencing with the date that a certificate of occupancy is issued for the occupancy of the housing project known as Baldwin House, the City shall **provide without charge sixty-nine (69) parking spaces in the Chester Street Parking Structure for the exclusive use of Baldwin House tenants and their guests.**”

Further, the Parking Agreement states that the “City wishes to memorialize their agreement relative to the use of parking spaces in the Chester Street Parking Structure by residents of Baldwin House, as well as the **terms under which subsequent owners of the property may continue such use**”.

During the meeting on July 14, 2022, Ms. Marzolf and Mr. Nichols confirmed the following:

- Baldwin House is charging some senior residents \$90 per month for the City provided parking spaces in the City’s Chester Street parking structure (members of the public purchasing monthly parking permits for Chester from the City are only charged \$50);
- Both low income qualified residents and market rate residents are apparently being charged the same \$90 monthly parking fee for the City spaces;
- Baldwin House has been charging residents for years for these City parking spots;
- Baldwin House did not notify the City that they were charging their residents for the free parking provided by the City;
- Baldwin House did not turn over any of the money for the City parking spaces to the City;
- While charging senior residents for the City provided parking spaces in Chester, Baldwin House provides free parking to both their employees and independent health care providers in the parking spaces set aside by the City for the exclusive use of Baldwin House residents in the Chester parking structure.

At this same meeting, the City stated clearly that our position is that the 69 parking spaces included in the 1990 Parking Agreement were to be provided **free of charge**, for the **exclusive use of Baldwin House tenants and their guests only**, for the duration of the contract term. Mr. Nichols committed to stop charging monthly parking fees to the four low income qualified residents currently paying for the City parking spaces, but did not commit to cease charging all senior residents for the City parking, nor to stop providing free parking in the Chester structure to Baldwin House employees or independent health care providers. Ms. Marzolf and Mr. Nichols argued that they were charging the tenants the parking fee as a way to distribute the free spaces.

Accordingly, the City Attorney has been asked to review the terms of the 1990 Parking Agreement and determine if further legal action is required due to breach of contract by the Baldwin House. In addition, if the City Attorney determines a breach of contract has occurred, the City can seek a court order to force the Baldwin House to reimburse all parking fees charged to all Baldwin House residents from 1990 to date. The City Attorney has been asked to secure historic, numeric and legal answers as to this issue

and I have directed the City Attorney to pursue the necessary legal action to secure compliance with the intent, terms, and conditions of the various agreements related to Baldwin House.

Department of Public Services

Adams Park Development Project

This project is entering its sixth week of excellent progress on the development of Adams Park. This is a 1.46 acre neighborhood park along Adams Road. The project kicked off on June 13, 2022 with some major earth moving! In fact, grading has been taking place over the course of the project to date and will greatly improve the runoff issue. Concrete work is complete, including the central seating area. Hefty boulders are placed around the play area. Track and field items are shaping up, and the basketball court surface is in place too. A beautiful stately disease resistant Elm tree has been installed in the central seating area. For more information, and construction progress photos, visit <https://engage.bhamgov.org/adams-park>.

EV-Mobility and Economic Stimulus Program

We are looking to enter an EV-Mobility and Economic Stimulus Program with AAW Infrastructure Partners in fairly short order. At no cost to the City, this program aims to fund electric vehicles for City use, EV charging stations, and LED lighting. Participants in this program currently include cities of Dearborn, Ferndale, Royal Oak, Westland and Inkster, as well as Henry Ford Health Systems, Henry Ford College, Ford and many other small to midsize businesses. More details to follow at a future City Commission meeting.

Fire Department

Weather Stations

The City recently installed a second weather station on the roof of Birmingham Fire Station 2. The KestrelMet weather station monitors wind, temperature, and rain fall. This device has its own cellular capabilities and updates its app every 15 minutes with all data collected. The weather station will send an alert to the Fire Chief if rainfall reaches potential flooding levels or if wind speeds are significant. Residents can access both Fire Station weather stations on the free Ambient Weather app at <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/ambient-weather/id1426025887>.



COVID-19 Grant Funds

To date, the City has received over \$4 million dollars in COVID-19 related grant funds. In the past two months, the City has received over \$500,000 in FEMA Public Assistance (PA) reimbursement grants for COVID-19 employee expenses and \$1,123,858 from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. Additionally, there is \$350,000 in FEMA PA reimbursement grants pending. [Attached is a breakdown](#) of each grant and its status.

Babysitter First Aid and Home Safety Class

On June 29, Police Officer Gina Moody and Firefighter/Paramedic Jessica Rak held a first aid and home

safety class for babysitters. Nine children attended the class in ages ranging from 11 to 15 years old. The objective was to prepare the students for possible emergencies that could occur while babysitting, or while home alone. Firefighter/Paramedic Rak covered first aid which included treating wounds, creating a first aid kit, performing CPR, using an AED and choking emergencies. The students were educated about fire emergencies and the importance of working fire alarms. They were informed about having an escape plan if smoke or smell of smoke is present. Officer Moody covered stranger danger and online dangers from using social media.

All of the students seemed to respond positively to the training material presented. The Police and Fire Department plan on hosting more classes in the future. I would like to thank Officer Moody and Firefighter/Paramedic Rak for starting this new program!

Planning Department

Master Plan 2040

The 2040 Plan consultant team is diligently working on the third and final draft of the 2040 Plan. The third and final draft is expected in the fall. All of the documents related to the 2040 Plan remain available on www.thebirminghamplan.com. You can also watch a recording of past meetings on the City of Birmingham website. As a reminder, you can still submit comments directly to the consultant team through the aforementioned 2040 Plan website, and can also submit comments directly to the Planning Division to be placed in the next available agenda of the Planning Board.

Planning Board

Overall, the Planning Board is keeping very busy with a mixture of site plan reviews and study session items. This year, the Planning Board has already tackled 23 development reviews, which included three Community Impact Studies for buildings over 20,000 sq. ft. in size. In addition, the Planning Division has performed over 75 administrative reviews. A tentative Planning Board schedule is provided below:

1. 35106 Woodward – Whole Dental Wellness – Final Site Plan (FSP) & Design Review (DR) (7/27/22)
2. D4 Parking Waiver Ordinance Request (7/27/22)
3. 320 Martin St. – Birmingham Post Office – FSP & DR (7/27/22)
4. Food Trucks Study (8/10/22)
5. Outdoor Dining Study (8/10/22)
6. Window Standards Study (Public Hearing (PH) 8/10/22)
7. Side Yard A/C Units Study (PH 8/10/22)

The following items have recently been through Planning Board review, and are either in the City Commission review process, or are upcoming:

1. Watkins/Brown – REZONING (SET PH 7/25/22)
2. Watkins/Brown – LOT DIVISION (SET PH 7/25/22)
3. 220 Merrill – 220 Restaurant – Special Land Use Permit (SLUP) Review (7/25/22)
4. 1160 Grant St. – SLUP, FSP & DR (PH 7/25/22)
5. 36877 Woodward – Gasow – SLUP, FSP & DR (PH 7/25/22)
6. Barrier Free Ramps – (PH 7/25/22)
7. 770 S. Adams – LOT COMBO (PH 8/15/22)
8. 460 N. Old Woodward – Wilders – SLUP, FSP & DR (SET PH 8/15/22)

Historic Preservation

The Historic District Commission is embarking on the highly anticipated Historic Design Guidelines project with the selected consultant, Kraemer Design Group (KDG). So far, a project kickoff meeting has been completed, and the team was given a tour of Birmingham's Central Business, Shain Park, and Bates St. Historic Districts. To begin the project, KDG will perform some public engagement. The first engagement opportunity is planned during the Day on the Town event on July 30, 2022. Meanwhile, the Historic District Commission continues to build a strong media presence to educate Birmingham residents, highlight preservation efforts in the City, and encourage historic designation.

Public Art

The Public Arts Board recently reviewed a new sculpture donation titled "Khyber" by Tom Fitzgerald. The sculpture refers to the Khyber Pass, a historic Silk Road pass connecting central and southern Asia on the border of Pakistan and Afghanistan. The Public Arts Board recommended to accept the donation and have the sculpture located along Fairway Trail near the intersection of Fairway Drive. The proposed sculpture location will be reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Board in August before the final review goes to City Commission.

Multi-Modal Transportation Board

The Multi-Modal Transportation Board (MMTB) will be reviewing potential road designs for Brown Street between Old Woodward and Woodward as eastbound Brown Street has been approved to be reduced from two lanes down to one lane. The Multi-Modal Transportation Board has also begun making updates to the Multi-Modal Transportation Plan. The Plan is nearly 10 years old now and a number of items have been implemented. New trends in multi-modal transportation planning have also emerged in the past decade which the MMTB would like to incorporate into the plan.

Other Planning Projects

Aside from the busy slate of projects at our boards/commissions/committees, the Planning Division is also working steadily on several other projects including the following:

- Sustainability – The Planning Division has been doing work in this field for several years now, which includes research, training, and finding opportunities to improve the sustainability conditions in Birmingham. Most recently, the Planning Division has been tasked with the development and implementation of a sustainability board to oversee all of the different strategies that the City is currently engaged in, and will continue to be engaged in. The Planning Division hopes to be ready to present a proposal by late August or early September.
- Leaf Blowers – The Planning Division is also diligently working on reviewing and proposing changes to the noise ordinance (or other ordinances) in regards to leaf blowers, as directed by the City Commission and City Manager. The Planning Division is planning to bring research and any changes in late August.
- Bus Shelters – An ongoing project, high quality bus shelters have been a priority of Birmingham's for some time. There are several new shelters that are waiting to be installed, and a few new locations along S. Old Woodward that will be going in this fall. Staff has been working with SMART and Enseicom (bus shelter provider) to get these shelters in place and operating.

Police Department

Welcome, Destinee Watson

The police department would like to welcome our new part time dispatcher, Ms. Destinee Watson, to

the staff. Ms. Watson recently graduated from Wayne State University with a Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice.

Lt. Kearney "Acting Commander"

Lt. Ryan Kearney will assume the position of "Acting Commander" while Commander Scott Grewe is out of state at the FBI National Academy. Lt. Kearney will assist Chief Clemence in handling all of the responsibilities previously handled by Commander Grewe.

Commander Chris Koch Named CoRe Program Co-Coordinator

Commander Chris Koch of the Investigative Division was named the "Co-Coordinator" of the CoRe Program, our mental health co-responder program with Auburn Hills, Bloomfield Township and Rochester.

Potential CoRe Program Wayne State Analysis

The CoRe program has caught the attention of a number of different communities and academic professionals. The Wayne State University School of Social Work expressed interest in the program and has offered to conduct a data analysis of our program under a state grant they received to analyze the effectiveness/impact of social work/mental health programs. We are working with Wayne State University and the Oakland County Health Network (OCHN) to address legalities and the type of data to be analyzed.

Parking Systems Update

Equipment:

The City submitted an RFP to replace the existing parking equipment at all five garages. The scope of the RFP includes replacing all of the entry/exit kiosks (switching from credit card only to guests pulling a ticket and paying with a credit card on exit), replacing all gate arms, new back-end operating system, and new monthly parking software that will allow the City to manage monthly parking more efficiently and provide a new online platform for parkers to manage their own account. Six bids were received in response to the RFP deadline on June 30th. The bids are being reviewed and a recommendation and decision will be presented to the Commission for approval. The goal will be to replace the existing equipment before the end of the calendar year.

Construction:

Current repairs are nearing completion on the Peabody Parking Structure's lower level columns. Most of the shoring has been removed except in one area from which work should be completed in 2-3 weeks. Masonry work around the column is also near completion.

Construction on the North Old Woodward Parking Structure continues with underside concrete repairs. The traffic coating on the roof of the garage should be complete by the end of the month. Levels 4 and 5 will be reopened once this is complete.

Park Street Parking Structure repairs are almost complete. Painting of the newly replaced/repared drains is all that needs to be completed. The brick wall at the entrance of Park St. was struck by a vehicle causing damage to the brick. This repair should be completed by the end of the month.

Special Events:

Day on the Town - parking will be free to all patrons at all five garages and meters to help support this event on 7/30/22.

Occupancy:

JUNE	
Chester Garage (880)	32.67%
Old Woodward (745)	50.88%
Park Garage (811)	47.75%
Peabody Garage (437)	82.32%
Pierce Garage (706)	74.92%

Future Agenda Items

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

Future Workshop Items

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