



## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

November 2022

### **Baldwin Public Library**

#### **Library Board**

The Library Board met on November 14 and 21 for two special meetings and one regular meeting. The Board interviewed three companies who submitted bids for construction management services for the Phase 3 expansion and renovation of the front entrance and circulation area. Their final recommendation will be forwarded to the City Commission for approval at the December 5 Commission meeting. The Board also finalized plans for the cafe and collaboration space in the newly expanded entrance. The cafe space will include a small vending cafe with a sink but will not include a single occupant restroom.

#### **"Our Natural World" Art Exhibit**

The library will be unveiling a new collaborative art project featuring paintings by K-12 students in Bloomfield Hills and Birmingham Public Schools. The theme of the exhibit is "Our Natural World." The paintings will be hung lining the exterior facing windows of the Youth Room and will be visible from Shain Park, Merrill Street, and Martin Street. This project has been planned and coordinated by residents David Bloom, Barbara Heller, and Laura Host. A reception will be held on Saturday, December 3 at 10:30 a.m. on the Winter Markt main stage. Refreshments will be available inside the Youth Room following the unveiling.

#### **Musical Performance**

On Saturday, December 3 at 11:00 a.m., Baldwin will host a live musical duo performance featuring violinist Andrew Wu. Come listen to a magical duo concert showcasing the development of the viola as a solo instrument and featuring music by composers Haydn, Mozart, Fuchs, and Glière.

#### **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 Tuesday, December 13 at 4:00 p.m.

### **The Birmingham Museum**

#### **George and Eliza Taylor Grave Marker**

The long awaited grave marker installation for George and Eliza Taylor at Greenwood Cemetery is in motion and planned for spring of 2023. The Taylors died in 1901 and 1902, but did not receive a marker. When museum volunteers and staff recently discovered that they were the first African

Americans to own property in Birmingham, and had been formerly enslaved, funds were quickly raised to place a marker for them. Since then, further research has disclosed that George had fled Kentucky to come to Birmingham via the Underground Railroad in 1850, and this finding has led to the listing of the Taylor burial site at Greenwood on the National Park Service's UGRR Network to Freedom. The marker will help visitors locate the Taylors' final resting place and will have the inscription, "Born into slavery/Died free in Birmingham."

### **Exploring Podcasts**

The museum will also be exploring the possibility of doing a regular podcast featuring Birmingham history themes in an ongoing episodic/serial format. This would allow the museum to expand its outreach efforts by building on its social media success through this increasingly popular means of presenting educational and entertaining content. The costs to implement the project are minimal as existing equipment and resources are available to meet most of the project needs. Museum staff have consulted with the IT and Communications Departments as well as the City Attorney to develop the most appropriate approach. We anticipate launching the podcast early in 2023.

## **Birmingham Shopping District (BSD)**

### **Farmers Market**

On Sunday, October 30, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., the Birmingham Farmers Market wrapped up its 20th season in Public Parking Lot 6. The End of the Season Celebration included live music, pumpkin decorating, hay bale climbing, and trick-or-treating.

The Birmingham Farmers Market would like to thank our vendors, sponsors and patrons for a wonderful 20th anniversary season! The market featured over 110 vendors (including 36 new) and sponsors providing local produce, plants, fresh foods and other goods and services, throughout the season.

### **Small Business Saturday**

On Saturday, November 26, 2022 the BSD kicked off the holiday shopping season with special promotions, hot chocolate, roasted chestnuts and special giveaways all day. Shoppers and families once again participated in the annual Santa Walk, enjoyed horse-drawn carriage rides and free parking in the structures all day.

### **Winter Markt & Other Holiday Festivities**

The Birmingham Winter Markt will be held in Shain Park again this year, and will be open December 2 – 4, 2022. The Winter Markt will kick off with the Holiday Tree Lighting at 6:00 p.m. on December 2. Visits with Santa will be available each day during the Winter Markt, as will horse drawn carriage rides. Over 60 vendors will be selling holiday decorations, gifts and a variety of local artisan products.

### **Website Recognition**

2022 Web Award from the Web Marketing Association for Outstanding Website noting the high-quality photos and easy navigation.

## **Dashboard Metrics**

Retail Occupancy Rate - 96%  
12 New Business Openings in 2022 (6 more in process)  
59 FYE2022 Hosted Event Days  
13 million in PR media impressions FYE2022  
120,392 Website "hits" or "unique viewers" annually  
214 Flower planters/baskets maintained

## **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.

## **City Clerk's Office**

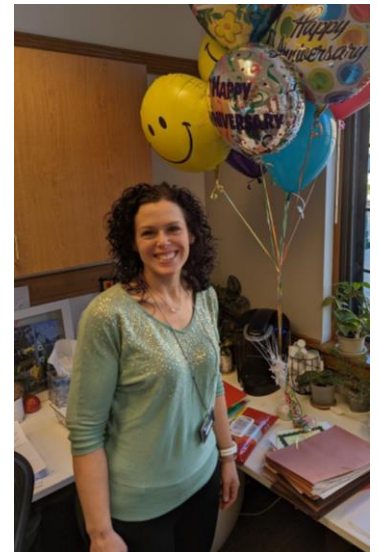
### [November 8, 2022 State General Election](#)

The Clerk's Office would like to thank all of the election inspectors and city staff that helped conduct a safe and successful November 8th State General Election. We appreciate all of the 12,680 voters who participated by absentee or in-person voting. More than 66% of Birmingham's registered voters participated, exceeding the Oakland County turnout average of 60.75%. Unofficial results are available at [oakgov.com/elections](http://oakgov.com/elections) under the November election tab. Official results will be available after Oakland County Board of Canvassers completes its canvass of the election.

### [Recognition of Staff](#)

The Clerk's Office celebrated the one year work anniversary of Deputy City Clerk, Christina Woods. Christina has been an incredible addition to the City Clerk's office. We are very proud of everything that she has learned and accomplished in this past year. We wish her many more years of happiness, teamwork, and service in the city.

The Clerk's Office thanks recent intern Brendan Folk for his assistance and dedication during his time in the office, assisting with and preparing for the November election. He helped with everything from filing election paperwork to issuing absentee ballots. His help was greatly appreciated in the office! Brendan continues on to pursue his design career and we wish him the best of luck in all he does.



### [Cemetery Board](#)

The Greenwood Cemetery Advisory Board met on November 4 and discussed the completion of the rules and regulations and the marker policy for persons of historical significance. The next meeting is Friday, December 2 at 8:30 am in City Hall and will include discussions of strategic planning and the board's future goals.

## Board Appointments

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

<b>Board</b>	<b>Openings</b>	<b>Application Due by Noon</b>	<b>Interview/ Appointment at City Commission meeting 7:30 pm</b>
Advisory Parking Committee	1 Resident shopper term ending 9/1/2025	Until Filled	
Architectural Review Committee	None		
Birmingham Shopping District	2 Regular Members terms ending 11/16/2026	Until Filled	
Birmingham Area Cable Board	1 Regular member term ending 3/30/2024 1 Alternate Member term ending 3/30/2025	Until Filled	
Board of Building Trades Appeals	1 Regular member term ending 5/23/25 1 Regular member term Ending 5/23/24	Until Filled	
Board of Review	2 Regular Members term ending 12/31/2025 1 Alternate Member term ending 12/31/2025 1 Alternate Member term ending 12/31/2023	11/23/22	11/28/22
Board of Zoning Appeals	1 alternate member term ending 2/18/2023	11/30/22	12/5/22
Brownfield Redevelopment Authority	1 regular member Term ending 5/23/2024	Until filled	
City Commission	None		
Design Review Board	None		
Ethics Board	None		

Greenwood Cemetery Advisory Board	None		
Hearing Officer	1 alternate member term ending 6/30/2024	Until Filled	
Historic District Commission	1 alternate member term ending 9/25/25	Until Filled	
Historic District Study Committee	None		
Housing Board of Appeals	None		
Library Board	None		
Martha Baldwin Park Board	None		
Multi Modal Transportation Board	None		
Museum Board	1 alternate member term ending 7/5/2023	11/30/22	12/5/22
Parks & Rec Board	None		
Planning Board	None		
Public Arts Board	1 alternate member 1/28/2025	Until Filled	

## **City Manager's Office**

### **Around Town e-Newsletter**

The communications team is working on the December edition of the Around Town e-Newsletter, which will include information about holiday events, upgraded parking structure equipment, ice skating opportunities, Toys for Tots toy drive and more. Follow [this link to view the November edition](#) of the Around Town e-Newsletter.



## Welcome Packets and Video

The communications team is now mailing welcome packets to all new residents. The packet includes: a welcome letter, city calendar, The Birmingham Beat newsletter, recycling pamphlet, stay in touch postcard, golf pamphlet, yard waste sticker, Baldwin Public Library brochure, and more. The welcome letter includes a QR code to the [new resident welcome video](#) produced by the communications team.



## South Old Woodward Project Communications

Thank you to IT & Media Specialist Jamil Kim for his work on the [South Old Woodward Reconstruction Phase 3 project wrap-up video](#). Thank you to PR Specialist Erika Bassett, who worked with engineering to provide project updates to residents and businesses. Throughout the project, the communications and engineering teams sent a total of 70,590 text message updates and 65 eblasts, in addition to print articles and social media messaging.



## Human Resources

The Human Resources department is currently reviewing applicants for the vacancy of Director of Public Services, and will be scheduling interviews in December. We are also collecting applications for Police Officers, and have completed our internal recruitment posting for Police Chief. Further updates on both should soon be provided. Brittany McIntosh has been hired as a new part-time Police Dispatcher. Firefighter Ian McLaughlin has resigned from the Fire Department, which is now seeking qualified candidates to backfill. Brigette Moran has committed to a retirement in February, after 21 years of service to the City. Heather Tolliver has been promoted into Brigette's role, and has been training under her to plan for the transition. Backfilling another department vacancy, Community Development has hired a new Secretary A by the name of Kourtney Blanchard, who started on November 21st. Applications for the Plumbing Inspector position continue to be collected. The City Manager recruitment posting has been open since October 25th, and will close on December 2nd.

Department	FT & PT Staff Count	Current Vacancies/Hiring	Department Vacancies Filled Since 2020	Notes
Birmingham Shopping District	5	Events & Office Assistant	8	Recruitment for Events Asst in one month
Clerk's Office	5	-	6	Clerk's Intern candidate contacted
Building	17	Plumbing Inspector Secretary A Community Dev Coord	3	H. Tolliver Promoted 10/28 K. Blanchard hired 11/21
Engineering	8	-	7	
Finance / Treasury	14		8	
Fire	35	-	11	I. McLaughlin Resignation 11/9
Information Technology	4	-	3	
Maintenance	2	-	1	
Manager's Office / Communications / HR	6	-	6	
Museum	3	-	2	
Parking System	9		2	
Planning	7	-	4	New Admin Role Upcoming
Police	71		13	Recruitment for PT & FT Dispatcher ongoing
Public Services	56	DPS Director	12	P&F Operators Tentative Hire Dates: J. Parks 11/28 W. Richardson 12/5
Ice Arena & Golf Courses	N/A	Seasonal Labor	48	

## BIRMINGHAM CITY COMMISSION - UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

### Topics brought up by the Commission

Meeting	Topic	Commissioner	Staff Follow Up	Dates Addressed	Status (resolved/ongoing)
<b>In Progress</b>					
9/12/22	Banner	M: Baller S: Host	TBD	11/14 CC discussion scheduled	
8/15/22	Birmingham Country Club	M: Host S: Haig	Fairbairn, Dupuis, Clerk's Office	8/29 - CC Discussion *Draft a letter	Resolved, letter sent
8/15/22	Speed Bumps	M: Haig S: Host	Clemence/Brooks	8/29 - Staff report *Further study by MMTB	In progress, sent to MMTB
6/13/22	Sustainability Board	M: Schafer S: Host	Nick Dupuis	6/27/22 - direction for staff to draft requirements to establish board, coming back at next available meeting 10/3/22 Workshop - staff given direction to return with recommendation	In progress



4/25/22	Improvements in Information Provision and Methodology	M: Haig S: Baller	TBD	TBD	
3/28/22	City Manager Selection Process	M: Host S: Boutros	Managers Office & HR	4/25/22 - direct to formal agenda item 5/9/22 - New Business Item 5/23/22 CM report 10/3/22 - motion for CM to conduct formal recruitment	CM Recruitment Portfolio posted 10/25/22
1/10/22	Food Trucks	M: Host S: Schafer	Nick Dupuis/Jana Ecker	1/24/22 - CC req. more info 3/9/22 - Workshop 3/14/22 - Informally brought up by Host 6/20/22 Commission and Planning Board Discussed 6/27/22 - City Manager Directed to encourage food trucks at all city sponsored events, BSD events, and direct the BSD to organize a rotation of food truck events	6/27/22 In progress/ being monitored
1/10/22	Leaf Blowers	M: Baller S: Host	Nick Dupuis	1/24/22 - make formal item 10/3/22 Workshop - staff given direction to return with recommendation	In progress
1/10/22	Commissioner Conduct	No vote	Mary Kucharek	2/14/22 - Workshop 2/28/22 Directed CM to prepare Code of Conduct for future agenda 7/11/22 - Initial presentation to Commission by CA	Will be revised and presented again at an upcoming CC meeting
<b>Resolved</b>					
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



5/9/22	Pickleball	Baller, no vote	Lauren Wood	Agenda item 5/23/22	Installed on 6-3-22
1/24/22	Social Districts	M: Schafer S: Boutros	Nick Dupuis/Jana Ecker	2/14/22 - make formal item 3/9/22 - Workshop 3/14/22 - Informally brought up by Host 6/20/22 Commission and Planning Board Discussed	No formal action taken by the Commission
5/23/22	Commission Meeting Start Time	Baller	Mary Kucharek	On agenda for 6/27/22 - Mary to draft generic ordinance language and discuss in July On agenda for 7/11/22 - Commission decided not to proceed	No changes for now

#### Topics Failed

4/25/22	On Street Parking Study	M:Haig S: Host
4/11/22	Downtown Parking	M: Host S: Haig
3/28/22	Parking Matters	M: Host S: Haig
6/13/22	479 SOW (Doraid) PAD	M: Boutros

#### Topics With No Vote - Resolved

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

#### Topics With No Vote - Unresolved

5/9/22	-PAD ordinance/cleanup	Baller, no vote	No vote
5/9/22	-Policy for granting public space ODD/Valet	Baller, no vote	No vote

### Setting the Record Straight

#### **2040 Master Plan does not Rezone Property**

The City has observed a renewed vigor regarding the [Birmingham Plan 2040](#) ("2040 Plan") and its Neighborhood Seams concept across social media that has involved residents and a current City Commissioner. Within the posts and ensuing conversations, there has been a continued assertion or idea that the 2040 Plan will be rezoning single-family homes to build multifamily, and that somehow the City of Birmingham is ignoring its residents in favor of developers and profit.

This was the subject of two recent videos that Commissioner Host posted on social media, [one on Oakland Ave.](#) in which he stated "these five homes as well as the two lots over near Woodward are going to be *rezoned* to multiple", and the other in the [Poppleton Neighborhood](#) in which he states "in the proposed 2040 Plan they are going to *rezone* these two houses on Poppleton and turn them into

multiples” and that “you have time to tell the master planners and Planning Board what you think about this *rezoning* proposal.” It is important that we as City staff, Boards and Commissioners are factually accurate when discussing the Master Plan and how it applies to land use.

The City has reiterated that comprehensive master plans do **not** rezone property once adopted.

Excerpt from press release distributed [February 11, 2021](#):

“It is important to clarify that a master plan does not rezone property. It is a framework setting the course for what the City may or may not do in the future,” said Birmingham Planning Director Jana Ecker. “The community is encouraged to review the Frequently Asked Questions document and continue to share their thoughts and ideas on the project website.”

Excerpt from FAQ distributed [February 10, 2021](#) and [October 13, 2021](#):

### **Is the Master Plan rezoning the City?**

No. The Master Plan will include a Future Land Use map, but not a new zoning map. The Master Plan recommends that the City study and revise its current zoning code, but does not establish any updated zoning. The Master Plan recommends that zoning be updated for two primary purposes: 1) to simplify but not substantively change zoning in the Downtown and Triangle District, and 2) to better align neighborhood zoning with existing character to avoid new houses that are out of character. Other zoning changes are recommended for further study by the City.

The words “rezone” or “rezoning” do not exist within the 2040 Plan document, nor the [Michigan Planning Enabling Act](#) that regulates comprehensive master planning in Michigan. A comprehensive master plan is a document designed to guide the future actions of a community. It presents a vision for the future, with long-range goals and objectives for all activities that affect the local government. One might say however, and correctly so, that a comprehensive master plan *informs* future zoning. In the spirit of guiding future actions and informing zoning, a Future Land Use Map is created, which is contained across pages 8 and 9 of the [current draft of the 2040 Plan](#). A Future Land Use Plan is legally required to be included in the 2040 Plan by the Michigan Planning Enabling Act.

In the 2040 Plan’s Future Land Use Map, several areas are identified as “district seams.” Seams are placed in areas where districts abut each other or natural or man-made barriers, and roadways that are more significant than a neighborhood street. These seams are broken down into three categories (download the [city’s zoning map](#) for reference):

- [Access Seams](#) – Focus is connectivity and multimodal improvements, located in R1A, R1, R2, and R3, and R4 zoning districts where abutted by R3 or more intense properties on all boundaries.
- [Activity Seams](#) – Found along regionally significant streets and places where multi-family housing, attached single-family housing, and commercial uses have previously been built, located in TZ-1, R3, R4, R5, R6, and R8 zoning districts
- [Buffer Seams](#) – Found along regionally significant streets and places where multi-family housing, attached single-family housing, and commercial uses have previously been built, located in TZ-1, TZ-3, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8, and MX zoning districts.

The current composition of seams and the number of areas proposed for seams has changed dramatically since their inception in the first draft of the 2040 Plan. These changes are *directly and unequivocally* due

to the feedback that Birmingham residents provided to the City. The Planning Board, City Commission, consultant team, and City Staff have worked tirelessly over 4+ years to work the input of residents into the 2040 Plan, and to state otherwise would be inappropriate and unfair to those who have spent so much time working on the Master Plan, especially our Planning Board and City Staff.

As demonstrated [in the attached map](#), the seam concept in the Future Land Use Map affects a roughly 106 residentially zoned parcels in the City, 28 of which are already developed as multi-family or commercial (26%). Overall, roughly 78 single-family properties are being considered for exploration in locating multi-family units such as townhomes, cottage courts, and small multi-family buildings.

Finally, it is immensely important not to lose sight of why the seams concept and the accompanying hyper-specific multi-family housing types were planned in the first place. Again, we turn to the Michigan Planning Enabling Act for an initial simple justification:

**125.3807 Master plan; adoption, amendment, and implementation by local government; purpose.**

- 1) A local unit of government may adopt, amend, and implement a master plan as provided in this act.
- 2) The general purpose of a master plan is to guide and accomplish, in the planning jurisdiction and its environs, development that satisfies all of the following criteria:
  - a) Is coordinated, adjusted, harmonious, efficient, and economical.
  - b) *Considers the character of the planning jurisdiction and its suitability for particular uses, judged in terms of such factors as trends in land and population development.*
  - c) Will, in accordance with present and future needs, best promote public health, safety, morals, order, convenience, prosperity, and general welfare.
  - d) .....

As evident in subsection “c” of the above, trends in population development are a required criteria. Population trends are more than just a grand total. Population trends include:

- What kind of people live in the area;
- What types of lives they lead, and would like to lead;
- How long they will live;
- How long they will reside in the particular area;
- Who will replace them when they move out or die;
- How many children they will have (and would like to have under different conditions);
- Whether these children will live in the area; and
- Many other factors.

The 2040 Plan was developed based on a [background analysis](#) of data on population trends and forecasts from the U.S. Census Bureau and SEMCOG. The data informed the consultant team that Birmingham can expect a population increase, and that both new residents and existing residents alike will continue to require diverse housing types based on factors such as family size, health, age, and income. This has major implications for equity, aging in place, and sustainability, all of which are major pillars of planning in general, but also the City’s recently adopted Strategic Goals. As the 2040 Plan states, accommodating some of these different housing types must happen in areas other than the mixed use Downtown, Triangle District (or Haynes Square), or the Rail District. In stating such, the 2040 Plan also makes sure to emphasize that multi-family development in seam areas, should it ever be permitted, must complement the character, scale and massing of the surrounding neighborhood. The suggested action in the 2040 Plan is to “encourage infill development of small homes, townhomes, duplexes, and small multi-family buildings.”

## **48<sup>th</sup> District Court**

On November 14, 2022, a City Commission Workshop was conducted on the topic of the 48<sup>th</sup> District Court, and the current funding agreement in place. During the discussion, City staff advised that Birmingham had previously requested clarification on the financial information provided by the court, but had not received a response, and that the group of 7 communities has been attempting to have Judge Barron come to a meeting of the 48<sup>th</sup> District Court communities and discuss the court's proposed budget for 2023. After attempting to arrange such a meeting for the past several months, a date was finally scheduled with Judge Barron for November 30, 2022. However, Judge Barron spoke at the workshop as a Birmingham resident, and stated that he has received no such meeting requests, and has an open door policy. He specifically stated he would meet tomorrow if a community so requested.

After the November 14, 2022 City Commission meeting, City staff reached out to Judge Barron to set up a meeting to review the court's financial information, and to obtain responses to previous clarification requests, as well as a detailed breakdown on the revenues and expenses allocated to each of the 7 communities of the 48<sup>th</sup> District Court. Judge Barron returned the phone call and indicated his availability in December. City staff reminded Judge Barron of his open door policy to meet with communities, and requested a meeting for the next day. After much discussion, Judge Barron agreed to speak with Mr. Dunn and Ms. Sriram, and later that day called to verify that a meeting had been set for Monday, November 21, 2022 at noon with Mr. Dunn, Ms. Sriram and himself to address our request for clarification on the breakdown and allocation of revenues and expenses of the court. Judge Barron requested City staff submit specific questions on the financial details in advance of the meeting. The list of questions submitted in writing to the court is as follows:

### **General Information:**

- Case load percentages for all jurisdictions of the 48<sup>th</sup> District Court
- Amount received from the state for judge's salaries
- Total amount of judge's salaries

### **Revenues for All Individual Jurisdictions:**

- Total amount of revenue allocated to each community (Actual court revenue generated by each jurisdiction, not what was allocated to each, but what was originally generated that was then subsequently re-distributed to other jurisdictions)
- Basically we want to see how the court revenue starts and how it is allocated to come up with the numbers found on pages 32-33 of the audit report. If this is something that the auditors do, then we request permission from the court to obtain these calculations from the auditors
- Breakdown of all types of revenues included in total
- List of all types and amount of revenue NOT included / allocated to each community (ie. revenue that goes straight to court, county, state etc.)
- 1/3 or 2/3 amount that goes to each community (depending on status)

### **Revenues from Political Subdivisions:**

- Amount of revenue from each political subdivision allocated to the funding units
- Details on how these revenues are allocated between the funding units

### **Expenditures Allocated to Political Subdivisions:**

- Court recording/reporting services only?
- How is amount calculated (ie. Percentage of caseload etc.)?
- Do court recording/reporting expenditures paid by political subdivisions directly reduce the total court expenditures paid by funding units?

### Expenditures Allocated to Funding Units:

- Are court recording/reporting expenditures also included in total court expenditures split between funding units?
- How is allocation of expenditures split between funding units (ie. 1/3 allocated to each, or percentage of total caseload for funding units only, excluding caseload of political subdivisions etc.)

### Total Impact Statements for All Individual Jurisdictions:

- Total amount of revenue allocated (showing split of individual revenue and if applicable, portion of revenue allocated from political subdivisions)
- Total amount of expenditures allocated (showing details of which expenses are included and how amount is calculated)
- Relationship of net financial impact for each jurisdiction to percentage of total court caseload

On November 18, 2022, City staff forwarded the financial questions as requested. On November 21, 2022, City staff arrived at the 48<sup>th</sup> District Court. Mr. Dunn appeared and advised that the meeting had been cancelled and that he had just called the City offices to cancel. City staff was told that Judge Barron was unavailable and that Ms. Sriram was working on providing the answers to the City's questions. City staff advised that Judge Barron had confirmed the meeting and the availability of court staff the prior week, and proceeded to discuss finances. Mr. Dunn was unable to provide any responses to the questions. After approximately 20-25 minutes, Judge Barron came into the room. Discussion ensued, but no financial details were clarified. City staff was advised that Ms. Sriram would provide answers to our written requests at a later date. City staff set another meeting with Judge Barron, Mr. Dunn and Ms. Sriram for November 29, 2022, to once again attempt to gain clarification on the breakdown and allocation of revenues and expenses of the court.

At the November 14, 2022 City Commission workshop, commissioners requested a breakdown of court usage based on the percentage of caseloads for each of the 7 communities. The breakdown is as follows (using 2018, 2019 and 2021 for a 3 year average, excluding 2020):

Jurisdiction	Average % of Case Load (last 3 years, excluding 2020)
Birmingham	24%
Bloomfield Hills	10%
Bloomfield Township	34%
Keego Harbor	3.5%
Orchard Lake	6%
Sylvan Lake	2%
W. Bloomfield	20.5%

## **Department of Public Services**

### **Trail Improvements**

Trail Improvements is a priority project for the Parks and Recreation Bond. The city hired a consultant, MCSA Group, Inc., to prepare preliminary concept plan drawings. The Trail Improvements Concept Plan includes a Booth Park corner feature, with additional seating and a restroom facility, new trail entry identifier plazas, accessible connections and viewing areas, and connectivity improvements including confidence markers, wayfinding and signage from Booth Park to Linden Park. The concept plan is currently available for review and feedback on Engage Birmingham through November 30, 2022, and by city department liaisons to various boards. The Parks and Recreation Board has reviewed the concept plan and provided feedback, and will continue discussions on upcoming agendas. Additionally, the plan is scheduled for review by the Multi-Modal Transportation Board, the Martha Baldwin Park Board, and Museum Board. The department plans to explore grant opportunities such as MI Spark and Oakland County Parks and Recreation Trailways among others to help leverage funding to accomplish this project.

### **Tree Inventory Update**

Davey Resource Group (DRG) is currently working in the Northwest section of the city, updating the City's Tree Inventory. This is year 2 of a 4 year contract to accomplish this task of updating all trees in the City. DRG's certified arborists and urban forest experts perform data collection of city trees, stored in our TreeKeeper software program. This process includes updating existing city trees and capturing new trees not currently in the system. They confirm the tree's species and location, measure and update the tree diameter, rate its health, assess risk and suggest maintenance.

### **Fall Planting Project**

This year's upcoming fall planting project consists of 144 trees along city streets and parks and will be performed by KLM Landscape. The project completion date is December 15, 2022.

### **Curbed Street Leaf Collection**

The collection of leaves on curbed streets is scheduled to end on December 2 for both zones 1 & 2. However, it will likely be extended due to delays caused by equipment failures.

### **Yard Waste Collection Ends**

The last week for yard waste collection on the scheduled trash day is the week of December 16.

## **Engineering Department**

### **S. Old Woodward Reconstruction Phase 3**

The roadway is open to traffic and the Contractor is finishing up punch list items. Work with DTE is continuing for the permanent installation of electrical street and pedestrian lighting. Thank you to the business community, residents, and all who traveled through the construction zone for your support and patience during this project.

### **Water Service Verification Program**

Verification of existing water service material as part of the Lead and Copper Rule work is continuing through the beginning of December. As a reminder, the "In-Home/Business" water service line material needs to be determined as part of this program. Property owners can schedule an inspection by an authorized City Representative at 248-303-2292 or determine the in-home/business material themselves with the steps provided in the property owner letter.

### **Water Lead Service Replacement Program**

The contractor will be replacing lead water services the week of November 28th. HRC is working on coordination between the residents and the city contractor.

### **2022 Sidewalk Repair Program**

Work is nearing completion on the 2022 Sidewalk Repair Program. Due to the recent cement shortage and weather, Ann Street Sidewalk and miscellaneous repairs throughout the City will occur in Spring 2023.

## **Finance Department**

### **Awards**

The City received the following awards from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA): the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its 2022-2023 Budget Book and the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its 2020-2021 fiscal year Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR).

## **Fire Department**

### **Welcome, Firefighter/Paramedic Steve McInerney**

The Birmingham Fire Department would like to acknowledge the hiring of our newest firefighter/paramedic Steve McInerney. Steve is originally from Michigan, but has spent the last fourteen years in South Carolina where he worked for the Myrtle Beach fire department and rose to the rank of Lieutenant. Steve and his family made the decision to return to Michigan and he was very eager to join the team at the Birmingham Fire Department. Steve brings a positive energy to the department along with a wealth of knowledge he has compiled over the years of his firefighting career. The Birmingham Fire Department welcomes him and wishes him a long healthy career here.

## **Planning Department**

### **Master Plan 2040**

The City of Birmingham has received the third and final draft of the Birmingham Plan 2040, which is available to read and download on [www.thebirminghamplan.com](http://www.thebirminghamplan.com). The schedule of review will consist of reviews at the Planning Board, the required 63-day public noticing period, and review by the City Commission. The remaining schedule of review should closely resemble the following:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting Type</b>	<b>Action Needed</b>
<i>Required 63-Day Public Notice Period</i>		
January 11, 2023	Planning Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review final draft and present / discuss comments received during the distribution period.</li><li>• Set public hearing date.</li></ul>
February 2023 (Exact Date TBD)	Planning Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Present the final Plan and hold a public hearing. Further discuss comments received during the distribution period as needed.</li><li>• Adopt plan; recommend to the City Commission for adoption.</li></ul>
March 2023 (Exact Date TBD)	City Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Present the final Plan and hold a public hearing.</li></ul>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If prepared to do so, the City Commission may adopt the Plan by resolution.</li> </ul>
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All of the documents related to the 2040 Plan remain available on [www.thebirminghamplan.com](http://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 submit comments directly to the Planning Division to be placed in the next available Planning Board agenda.

## **Planning Board**

The Planning Board has reviewed 32 development applications this year so far. The Planning Board will finish the busy year with some final development applications, a public hearing for outdoor dining, and will be planning for a busy 2023. A tentative Planning Board schedule is provided below:

1. 2040 Master Plan – Draft #3 Review (Ongoing)
2. Outdoor Dining Ordinance – Public Hearing (12/14/22)
3. 300 S. Old Woodward – RH - Revised Special Land Use Permit, Final Site Plan & Design Review (12/14/22)

## **Historic Preservation**

The Historic District Study Committee (HDSC) will begin to steward the historic designation request for 1283 Buckingham through the formal designation process. City Staff will take time to instruct the HDSC on the process, and will create a detailed report for the City Commission. Meanwhile, the City continues to field many questions regarding historic designation, and hopes to receive several more requests in the coming months. At the Historic District Commission, the Historic Design Guidelines project is coming along well, which has been aided by survey responses at [engage.bhamgov.org](http://engage.bhamgov.org). There is still time to take the survey and provide the consultant team with your valued feedback!

## **Sustainability**

The City's informal [and growing] "sustainability team" recently met with key members of Royal Oak's sustainability staff thanks to a chance encounter with Commissioner Katie Schafer. The meeting was held at Royal Oak's new Centennial Commons Park. Several topics were discussed, including experiences, expertise, and a desire to work together on sustainability. The City plans to work with Royal Oak and many other catalyst communities to further the sustainability goals of Birmingham as well as the greater region.

The Planning Division would also like to highlight the S. Old Woodward reconstruction and the rain gardens/bioswales that were installed to help mitigate the effects of storm water runoff in the area. The southernmost large garden will be an excellent focal point at the gateway to Downtown Birmingham, and will stand as a strong statement to our future commitments to sustainability and climate change mitigation. We encourage everyone to go take a look at and experience these installations, even in the rain!



## **Police Department**

### **Welcome, Brittany McIntosh**

The Police Department welcomed a new part-time dispatcher to the team, Ms. Brittany McIntosh. Ms. McIntosh is married with children and lives in Roseville, MI. Ms. McIntosh formerly worked in the medical field before transitioning to becoming a police dispatcher. Ms. McIntosh worked for the Detroit Police Department for approximately six months before joining our City.

### **Suspect Arrested following Shooting**

On Sunday, October 30, 2022, at approximately 3:00 a.m., a shooting occurred on S. Old Woodward near Brown Street. No one was injured in the shooting. All parties involved fled the scene prior to officers arriving. The case was turned over to the investigative division for follow-up. Detectives were able to work the case and develop a suspect. Working in cooperation with the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the police department arrested Dario Devonne Stovall (27 years of age) of Shelby Twp., MI for assault with a dangerous weapon. Mr. Stovall was charged by the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office and was arraigned on the charge.

## **Parking Systems Update**

### **Equipment:**

City Staff received approval to install new parking equipment at all five City garages at the Commission meeting on October 24<sup>th</sup>. TIBA Solutions was selected as the new parking solution and installation is expected to begin in mid-December.

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

**Construction:**

Construction on the North Old Woodward Parking Structure was completed in late October.

WJE engineering submitted a proposal for Repair Design & Construction Document Development Services for all five of the City's parking garages. The proposal was approved by the Commissioners at the November 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. The proposal is part of a larger five-year repair project that not only continues the ongoing concrete restoration and repair, but includes MEP (mechanical, electrical, and plumbing) of the garages. This will include ceiling surface treatment, LED lights, etc. Construction bidding will take place around April 2023.

**Occupancy:**

OCTOBER AVG CAPACITY	
Chester Garage (880)	39.26%
Old Woodward (745)	52.45%
Park Garage (811)	60.35%
Peabody Garage (437)	81.91%
Pierce Garage (706)	75.68%

**Future Agenda Items**

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

**Future Workshop Items**

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