



City of Brighton
www.brightoncity.org

WELCOME NATE GEINZER / CITY MANAGER

With new leadership and new staff, different interests and backgrounds, we have been and will continue to experiment with new engagement opportunities. Besides reviving the City's email and print newsletters, in the last nine months we have worked with Brighton Area Schools students on addressing downtown challenges, held our first "Chalk and Chow," and held a series of community conversations.

With the aforementioned efforts, we seek to evaluate and elevate the sense of Community within the City. Traditionally, cities have been transfixed on providing efficient and effective services to promote the health and welfare of its residents. But, service delivery is also heavily depending on the relationship the City has with its residents and businesses. My staff and I feel that by working to engage with community stakeholders of all types we can help build a stronger sense of community. Why? To better serve, protect, and communicate with all those who call the City of Brighton home.

I hope you enjoy the Brighton Bulletin. We will continue to work to provide timely and beneficial content. As with all new things, this newsletter will evolve over time. We welcome your feedback. *Have a safe and happy fall/winter season!*

ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY

The City of Brighton has made proactive communication and community engagement priority. Recently, city officials and staff have collaborated with Brighton's youth to improve and energize the community. Over the summer, we engaged the Brighton Area Schools Explorers Camp in activities and meetings. The explorers completed a scavenger hunt throughout the downtown, and identified three main issues to tackle: bringing recycling downtown, providing bike racks, and dealing with the duck population. The students went above and beyond expectations, coming up with creative ideas to educating the public on the dangers of feeding waterfowl and setting up a donation campaign to fund recycling bins and bike racks.

Brighton could not ask for more engaged and community-minded business owners in our Downtown. A dozen businesses participated in the Explorers Camp campaign by allowing the students to collect donations in their stores. The donation drive was wildly successful, raising \$800 to put the students' ideas into action. The City is currently working with a class

at Maltby Intermediate School to finalize and prioritize how the funds will be spent. This experience has shown us how passionate and bright our youth are, as well as how beneficial it is to get fresh perspectives on common problems.

The City also asked residents to imagine improvements to the Mill Pond and Imagination Station. We held the Chalk and Chow event, where families could tell the City what was missing from the park or what needs to be addressed. Nearly a hundred Mill Pond visitors participated in the community brainstorm.

We continue to vet and develop other collaboration opportunities with groups around the community. The City has been working with FlexTech High School on a proposal to create a neighborhood garden, which would allow students to interact with and give back to Brighton residents. The City hosted a series of community conversations in Kissane Park and City Hall to hear concerns and partner with the neighbors to shape the proposal. We are enthusiastic about increasing youth participation in civic processes, and providing opportunities for residents and business to interact in new and different ways.

Be ready for the City to continue asking for your perspective. Working to create a culture of collaboration allows for more community contributions towards a more vibrant Brighton.



BUILDING NEW CONNECTIONS

BRANDON SKOPEK / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT / 810.225.8019

With many new developments slated for construction in uptown Brighton, the intersection of Challis Road and Karl Greimel is pivotal and will soon be a significant gateway into the City. Many exciting improvements are coming.

The University of Michigan Health Center South has begun construction on the 300,000-square-foot medical facility, slated for completion in spring of 2018. This development on the southwest corner of Challis Road and Karl Greimel Drive is expected to create over 300 full-time jobs and will offer upwards of 40 different medical services serving over 250,000 patients a year. Candlewood Suites recently received site plan approval to construct a three-story, 90 room hotel located on Library Drive between Challis Road and Charles H. Orndorf Drive and is expected to begin construction by early spring of 2017. Construction is currently under way on the four-story Holiday Inn Express located at the southwest corner of Murphy Drive and Nemco Way.

With the construction of these major developments an increase in traffic flow is certainly a concern among many; however, plans are in place to ensure that increased traffic flow will be accommodated. Beginning spring of 2017, Grand River Avenue will be receiving an upgrade. A complete mill and overlay between I-96 and Ore Creek will take place and traffic mitigation will also be implemented. An extension of the I-96 west bound ramp is currently under review and concrete medians at the intersection of Cross Street and Grand River are to be removed. These mitigation efforts will assist in accommodating increased traffic and will help reduce backups along Grand River. The Livingston

County Road Commission is working diligently on a plan to reconstruct Challis Road between Brighton Interior Drive and Karl Greimel Drive beginning fall of 2017. Under their plan, Challis Road would be widened and straightened.

Thinking beyond cars, pedestrian amenities will be added at the Challis and Karl Greimel intersection. The University of Michigan Health Center South is proposing an eight-foot shared pathway along the development to ensure that residents and visitors will be able to safely walk and ride bicycles along Challis and Karl Greimel. At the October Board of Directors meeting for the City of Brighton Downtown Development Authority, Board members agreed that a distinct entranceway to the City should be created and approved funding for engineering and design work to be completed at the intersection. In addition to design enhancements, attention will be focused on providing safe crosswalks and pathways for pedestrians at Murphy Drive and Challis Road.

This is truly an exciting time for the City of Brighton. Investment is happening and new developments are sprouting up throughout the City. All these new developments and enhancements will lead to long-term prosperity, connectivity, and an outstanding quality of life for many Brighton residents and visitors.



WINTER REMINDERS

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS / 420 S. THIRD STREET / 810.225.8001

Q. What streets are cleared first?

A. All primary snow routes are cleared first, which takes approximately three hours. Secondary streets will be cleared immediately after the primary snow routes are cleared.

Q. When I finish shoveling my driveway, the City comes along with the snow plows and covers up the end of my driveway again. Why?

A. While we realize this can cause inconveniences to residents who have cleaned their driveway, it is impossible to lift the snow blade at every driveway.

Q. Why and when does the City call an emergency on snow removal?

A. The City Manager, or his or her designee, is responsible for declaring an emergency during snow removal operations. An emergency is usually declared when the snowfall is of such a magnitude that it causes traffic congestion on primary snow routes and required plowing. The primary purpose of the snow emergency is to clear all primary snow routes of parked cars until such time as the snow can be removed from the primary snow routes .

Q. Which streets are Emergency Snow Routes?

A. Grand River, Challis Road, Main Street, South Third Street, Brighton Lake Road, Rickett Road, South Church Street, Spencer Road, Liberty Street and Flint Road.

Below are some things that residents can do to help with snow removal operations, particularly during periods of heavy snowfall, freezing rain, and in a snow emergency:

- During periods of particularly heavy snowfall, residents are encouraged to remain inside and not attempt to drive on the streets until they have been cleared.
- During any snow removal operations, it is helpful if you do not park your car in the street.
- When clearing your driveway or sidewalk, please do not shovel the snow into the street that has previously been plowed and salted.
- If it is necessary for you to drive, please drive carefully and slowly.
- When following behind a snow plow truck, please stay a safe distance behind.
- When a snow emergency is declared, residents living along the Snow Emergency Route should remove their parked vehicles from the street until the Snow Emergency has been lifted.
- Remember, residents are required to remove the snow from the sidewalk adjacent to their home within 12 hours of the end of a snowfall event.

TAX CALENDAR

Winter 2016 taxes will be mailed out on December 1, 2016. Taxes will be due on February 28, 2017.

Summer 2017 taxes will be mailed out on July 1, 2017. Taxes will be due on August 15, 2017.

PUBLIC MEETING SCHEDULE

FOR AGENDAS & MINUTES SEE BRIGHTONCITY.ORG

City Council

1st & 3rd Thursdays / 7:30 pm / City Hall

Downtown Development Authority

3rd Tuesdays / 7:15 am / City Hall

Principal Shopping District

1st Tuesdays / 7:30 am / City Hall

Brighton Arts & Culture Commission

2nd Mondays / 6:00 pm / City Hall

Planning Commission

3rd Mondays / 7:30 pm / City Hall

Zoning Board of Appeals

2nd Tuesdays (as needed) / 7:30 pm / City Hall

2016 LEAF COLLECTION INFORMATION

The City of Brighton's Leaf Collection Program began the week of October 10, 2016. Waste Management is picking up yard waste and leaves in the brown yard waste bags every week on normal trash pickup days from October 11th through December 7, 2016.

Residents will note that this is a shift from previous years. The collection will begin and end two weeks later than before. This will allow residents more time to have leaves picked up that fall later in the season.

You can also visit the City's website at www.brightoncity.org or contact the DPW office by phone at **810.225.8001** for more information.

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