

CITY COUNCIL EMAILS

13 OCT 2008

2-53-4

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Council E-mails

October 13, 2008

Brownfield meeting for 601 Forests (I think).
Gredler to Higgins: I say little when the public is
present - especially when 70% of them are from
Burns Park!

Gredler to Easthope about leaving in 5 mins. Get
these 10 mins early to get water, get miked up, etc.
(Presumably about an Easthope campaign event)

2-53-4

Elias, Abigail

From: Crawford, Tom
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 8:13 AM
To: Teall, Margie; Greden, Leigh
Subject: Fire Meeting Change

My apologies for the confusion on the Fire meeting last Friday. Margie suggested we re-schedule for this Fri. noon - 2, but it appears I'm going to be out and it's not the day for Shift 2 to work at Fire. Is there any chance you two would be available for 2 hrs sometime between 10 & 2 next Wed. (10/22)?

Elias, Abigail

From: McCormick, Sue
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 8:42 AM
To: Gray, Kerry; Higgins, Marcia; Teall, Margie
Cc: Wade, Molly; Hupy, Craig; Henderson, Karla
Subject: RE: Tree Planting

Hi Margie and Marcia,

FY 09 is the first year that we actually had a Tree Planting plan. Prior to that, we had nominal ability to plant trees - we were focused on removals and using any other resources we had for trimming, which is severely behind. Any planting we did was largely in support of the not for profit efforts that Kerry notes below and the private citizen plantings. FY09 is a banner year in that we are actually programmed for some replanting. This has only been possible because of the resources in the Parks (millage) and the priority given to replanting in key watersheds (funded by stormwater) We are not dedicating any significant general fund resources to replanting, reserving those dollars for support of the not for profit and private efforts, and for recovering from years of setting aside the basic trimming cycle. Again, sorry for the confusion.

Sue

From: Gray, Kerry
Sent: Friday, October 10, 2008 4:18 PM
To: Higgins, Marcia; Teall, Margie
Cc: McCormick, Sue; Wade, Molly; Hupy, Craig; Henderson, Karla
Subject: RE: Tree Planting

Attached is a list I have compiled of the trees that were planted in FY 08. This is based on records from Global ReLeaf of Michigan who headed the Tree Teams, the Dean Fund Committee and Rotary Club. I am very sorry for the confusion with your request and the delay in getting the information that you were seeking.

If you have specific questions regarding the locations of the trees, please contact Kay Sicheneder in Field Operations at 971.0370.

Kerry Gray
Urban Forestry & Natural Resources Planner
City of Ann Arbor- Systems Planning Unit
100 N. Fifth Avenue, PO Box 8647
Ann Arbor, MI 48107-8647
Phone: 734.994.6178/ Fax: 734.996.3064
Email: kgray@a2gov.org

From: Higgins, Marcia
Sent: Thursday, October 02, 2008 4:30 PM
To: Gray, Kerry; Teall, Margie
Cc: McCormick, Sue; Naud, Matthew; Fraser, Roger; Wade, Molly; Sicheneder, Kay
Subject: RE: Tree Planting

Could you forward to Margie and I the FY 08 Tree Planting Schedule?
Thanks,
Marcia

From: Gray, Kerry
Sent: Thu 10/2/2008 2:37 PM
To: Teall, Margie; Higgins, Marcia
Cc: McCormick, Sue; Naud, Matthew; Fraser, Roger; Wade, Molly; Sicheneder, Kay
Subject: RE: Tree Planting

I spoke with Mr. Parker and explained to him that unfortunately, at this time, the City is not accepting tree planting requests due to the large number of ash trees that have been lost due to the emerald ash borer (~8000 street trees). There are a lot of areas in the City that need to be replanted and currently locations for replanting are selected based on areas that have lost the most ash trees and where replanting efforts have not been taking place.

I explained to him that the City developed a tree planting plan for FY 09 (please see attached) and his neighborhood was identified as an area that needed replanting. I spoke with Kay Sicheneder the Forestry Field Operations Supervisor and asked her the status of fall planting locations and Field Operations will not be replanting in his neighborhood this fall but may plant there in spring or fall 2009. Field Operations makes the final determination on planting locations taking into consideration the size of the lawn extension, the presence of underground/overhead utilities and whether replanting has occurred there recently. I let him know that Field Operations could not guarantee that a tree would be planted in front of his home next spring or fall but that his site would be evaluated as a potential location if his street is selected for tree planting. If he did not want to wait, I provided him with the option of getting a forestry permit (free) to have a contractor plant a tree in his lawn extension. If he chose to do that he could receive a tax deduction on his federal income taxes.

He is obviously frustrated with the wait time but he was very kind in listening to my explanation of where the City's forestry program is right now. I emailed him my contact information and told him he can contact me anytime with questions.

Please let me know if you have any questions.
Kerry

Kerry Gray
Urban Forestry & Natural Resources Planner
City of Ann Arbor- Systems Planning Unit
100 N. Fifth Avenue, PO Box 8647
Ann Arbor, MI 48107-8647
Phone: 734.994.6178/ Fax: 734.996.3064
Email: kgray@a2gov.org

From: Teall, Margie
Sent: Thursday, October 02, 2008 12:02 PM
To: Arthur Parker; Higgins, Marcia
Cc: McCormick, Sue; Naud, Matthew; Fraser, Roger
Subject: RE: Tree Planting

Mr. Parker:

I will forward your questions on to our Public Services and Environmental Coordinator, and hopefully someone will be able to call you soon. I don't know who you have talked to at the City, but I'm sorry that you have had to hear any abrupt or rude responses.

Sue or Matt: Could someone please give Mr. Parker a call and let him know how what he can expect in terms of tree replacement on Barnard Rd? Thank you.

-Margie

From: Arthur Parker [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: Thursday, October 02, 2008 11:53 AM
To: Higgins, Marcia
Cc: Teall, Margie
Subject: Tree Planting

As constituent, I need your assistance in getting some answers, and hopefully some results from the City, regarding the replacement of four or five trees on Barnard Rd. The trees were lost many years ago to the Ashbore, as were many others in Ann Arbor. Attempts to get a criteria from the forestry dept. on the how the replanting is prioritized have meet with abrupt and often rude responses. Most of the residents of this one block street are elderly, and frankly don't have all that much time to wait for trees to be planted, let alone grow. We see newly planted trees along the fairways of City owned golf courses, and streets such as Maple Rd. that don't even abut residential property. It seems to us, that of the 500 trees to be planted by the city this fall, they could spare four or five for our street, which has waited patiently for five or more years. *Your assistance would be appreciated.*

1530 Barnard Rd.

Arthur Parker

Ph: [REDACTED]

Elias, Abigail

From: Fraser, Roger
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 9:00 AM
To: Dempkowski, Angela A
Cc: Hieftje, John
Subject: FW: Terri Blackmore - Introducing WATS' Transit Plan to Council

Please add this to the agenda for Nov. 10.

Thanks.

From: Hieftje, John
Sent: Friday, October 10, 2008 11:58 AM
To: Fraser, Roger
Subject: FW: Terri Blackmore - Introducing WATS' Transit Plan to Council

Roger:

Can we schedule Terry Blackmore with this important presentation for the Nov. Working session?

Thanks,

John

From: Cooper, Eli
Sent: Friday, October 10, 2008 11:26 AM
To: Hieftje, John
Cc: Irwinj@ewashtenaw.org; blackmoret@mlwats.org
Subject: Terri Blackmore - Introducing WATS' Transit Plan to Council

John,

A few weeks ago we met with Jeff Irwin and Terri regarding the WATS Countywide Transit Plan and movement to a millage in '09. Have you thought about a timeframe for Terri to make a presentation to Council? She, Jeff and I have met with several council members already, with more scheduled soon. Overall the meetings have been informative and the reactions generally positive.

Thanks
Eli

Elias, Abigail

From: Hieftje, John
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 9:25 AM
To: Cooper, Eli
Cc: 'irwinj@ewashtenaw.org'; 'blackmoret@miwats.org'
Subject: RE: Terri Blackmore - Introducing WATS' Transit Plan to Council

Good morning:

The presentation by Terri is on the agenda for the working session on Nov. 10. The meeting starts at 7:00. We won't know for a while where it will appear on the agenda.

Thanks,

John

From: Cooper, Eli
Sent: Friday, October 10, 2008 11:26 AM
To: Hieftje, John
Cc: irwinj@ewashtenaw.org; blackmoret@miwats.org
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Thanks
Eli

Elias, Abigail

From: Cooper, Eli
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 9:29 AM
To: Hieftje, John
Cc: blackmoret@miwats.org
Subject: RE: Terri Blackmore - Introducing WATS' Transit Plan to Council

John,

Thanks for the response. Unfortunately, I will be out of town that week and will not be here to participate. I'll view the replay on CTN.

Eli

From: Hieftje, John
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 9:25 AM
To: Cooper, Eli
Cc: 'irwinj@ewashtenaw.org'; 'blackmoret@miwats.org'
Subject: RE: Terri Blackmore - Introducing WATS' Transit Plan to Council

Good morning:

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Thanks,

John

From: Cooper, Eli
Sent: Friday, October 10, 2008 11:26 AM
To: Hieftje, John
Cc: irwinj@ewashtenaw.org; blackmoret@miwats.org
Subject: Terri Blackmore - Introducing WATS' Transit Plan to Council

John,

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Thanks
Eli

Elias, Abigail

From: Hieftje, John
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 9:56 AM
To: Fraser, Roger; Jones, Barnett; Postema, Stephen
Cc: Higgins, Marcia; Teall, Margie; Larcom, Kristen
Subject: FW: It Hardly Matters - 942 Woodlawn

Good morning:

Dr. Baitch and his neighbors have been on the front lines of the student party house issue for a long time.

We need a full court press on this house and we should look at any other rentals managed by this group.

Community Standards should start going by 2 or 3 times a week including Saturdays.
They should check in the evening for parking on the lawn.

Party patrol needs this house on their list for frequent checks.

We should look at how many calls we have had in the past so legal can begin building a case.

Has the University ever been able to help with this type of situation?

This would be a good time for any new ideas on how to turn this situation around.

Thanks,

John

From: Larry Baitch [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: Sunday, October 12, 2008 1:53 PM
To: lowerburnsparkneighborhoodassociation@googlegroups.com
Cc: El-Ayoubi, Adele; Hieftje, John; Teall, Margie; Higgins, Marcia
Subject: It Hardly Matters - 942 Woodlawn

Dear Members:

We have a severe problem with a residence- 942 Woodlawn. The students living there regularly party nonstop from Thursday afternoon through Saturday night, usually until the wee hours of the morning.

They park on their lawn.

They perpetually leave garbage on their lawn and store their trash improperly.

Worst of all, they have persecuted their neighbor, an elderly resident of Woodlawn for over forty years (at 944 Woodlawn), for calling the police, city standards and party patrols on them. They have informed other students on the block that "that bi-ck b-tch" was getting them in trouble. They have taunted her with racist cheering and objects have been thrown at her house.

Although there are four names listed on the mailbox:

Tyler Temby
Matthew Hurches
Pete Mareskas
Alec Nicolau

they appear to have many more people living there.. perhaps it is just people who pass out and stay there.

Last night the noise was so loud that it could be heard two blocks away.

This home (parcel number 09-09-33-213-013) is owned by an LLC corporation aptly called "**It Hardly Matters**", which owns six other "student ghetto" houses in the area. There is no management company listed on the house, so I assume that they are managing themselves.

Ladies and gentlemen of LBPNA- I write this because I am really tired of this. It is a worsening problem on our block, and I feel that the City and the University are leaving Ann Arbor neighborhoods to rot on the vine.

I have spoken to these students time and time again, and frankly we now have two or three other houses with the same behavior.

I feel that I am the tail walking the dog in my attempts to keep this neighborhood clean and pleasant. I, and other homeowners on the block feel like we have lost the battle. The City appears to be giving in to opposition for increases in central student housing. My neighborhood is done. Burns Park is DOOMED. This "City of Neighborhoods" will be overrun and changed because the University will NEVER build housing to take the pressure off our neighborhoods. The Old West Side is next.

Should I give up and move away (great timing in this economy)?

As an established Neighborhood Association, do we have any authority to initiate eviction proceedings?

If you have read through this, thanks for your patience.. I'm just tired and disgusted.

Dr. Larry Baitch
925 Woodlawn

Elias, Abigail

From: Hieftje, John
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 10:21 AM
To: Brix, Andrew
Subject: FW: City of Ann Arbor

Andrew:

Please make sure all invitees are aware that we cannot discuss matters directly related to the intervention in the Rate Case nor should we mention the case.

John

-----Original Message-----

From: Martinez, Monica (DLEG) [mailto:martinezm1@michigan.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 10:11 AM
To: profit.k@gcsionline.com
Cc: Vallance, Erika (DLEG); matousek.l@gcsionline.com; Hieftje, John
Subject: RE: City of Ann Arbor

Kirk,

Just to advise - there is a pending case in which the City of Ann Arbor has intervened. Our conversations cannot touch on any of those items, otherwise it would be ex parte communication. As I understand, the conversation is generally about renewables, and the implementation of the new RPS legislation. I look forward to the conversation.

Monica Martinez

-----Original Message-----

From: Kirk Profit [mailto:profit.k@gcsionline.com]
Sent: Friday, September 19, 2008 8:03 AM
To: Martinez, Monica (DLEG)
Cc: Vallance, Erika (DLEG); matousek.l@gcsionline.com; 'Hieftje, John'
Subject: RE: City of Ann Arbor

Monica --

Thank you as well for the help that you have provide on this issue !! We really appreciate the opportunity to have our concerns address through the PSC, especially after it became clear that it was not going to be possible to address them statutorily at this time. We will contact the Mayor and his staff to see if the 13th works, and I will adjust my schedule accordingly.

Thanks again -- your assistance with this issue in light of the challenging implications is REALLY appreciated !!!!!

Kirk

-----Original Message-----

From: Martinez, Monica (DLEG) [mailto:martinezm1@michigan.gov]
Sent: Thursday, September 18, 2008 10:10 PM
To: profit.k@gcsionline.com
Cc: Vallance, Erika (DLEG)

Subject: City of Ann Arbor

Kirk,

Thank you for the conversation on the energy legislation. I know the City of Ann Arbor has been making great strides to do more in terms of energy efficiency and renewable energy. I look forward to meeting with you and others to discuss the city's future plans and how we might be helpful at the commission. I have already begun discussions with DTE and will continue to do so following our discussion.

I will be in Ann Arbor on Monday, October 13th for a consumer forum in the evening, but could arrive with staff earlier to meet. Of course, I could accommodate other times (either here in Lansing or in Ann Arbor) that work for all. My assistant, Erika Vallance, is cc'd on this email and she can help find something that is workable within our schedules.

In the interim, let me know if I can do anything.

Best,
Monica Martinez
Commissioner, MPSC
517-241-6195
517-749-0871 cell
martinezm1@michigan.gov

Elias, Abigail

From: Schopieray, Christine
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 10:25 AM
To: Greden, Leigh
Subject: RE: Anna Erickson appt to HHSAB

It's a can do!

From: Greden, Leigh
Sent: Thursday, October 09, 2008 11:42 AM
To: Schopieray, Christine; Hieftje, John
Subject: Anna Erickson appt to HHSAB

Just following up-- I think I sent in some info to appt Anna Erickson to HHSAB. Does her app look OK? If so, can you add her for 1st read on 10/20?

Elias, Abigail

From: Lowenstein, Joan
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 10:52 AM
To: Hieftje, John; Rapundalo, Stephen
Subject: RE: Arbor Hills: Storm Water and Chapter 47 Amendments

These issues are raised every few years by Arbor Hills residents who either didn't read their sales documents or are new to the development and don't understand the private road issues. I'll let Stephen and Tony handle!

Joan

From: Hieftje, John
Sent: Fri 10/10/2008 4:55 PM
To: Rapundalo, Stephen; Lowenstein, Joan
Subject: FW: Arbor Hills: Storm Water and Chapter 47 Amendments

Is there anything here that needs to be discussed?

Thanks,

John

-----Original Message-----

From: Jane Klingsten [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: Friday, October 10, 2008 4:26 PM
To: Hieftje, John
Cc: board@arbor-hills.com
Subject: Re: Arbor Hills: Storm Water and Chapter 47 Amendments

Thank you for your personal reply. We hope that the issues will be resolved in a manner agreeable to both the Arbor Hills residents and the City administration.

Sincerely,

-Jane Klingsten
Board of Directors
Arbor Hills Condominium Association

On Oct 8, 2008, at 9:50 AM, Hieftje, John wrote

> Thank you very much for sending this document. I can see that a lot of
> work went into it. It will take some time to digest. I will be
> discussing it with 2nd Ward Council Representatives.

>
> John Hieftje

> -----Original Message-----

> **From:** Jane Klingsten [mailto: [REDACTED]]
> **Sent:** Saturday, October 04, 2008 2:02 PM
> **To:** Hieftje, John; Lowenstein, Joan; Rapundalo, Stephen
> **Cc:** board@arbor-hills.com; Ed Zelmanski; [REDACTED] Wendy J
> Carman
> 1

- > Subject: Arbor Hills: Storm Water and Chapter 47 Amendments
- >
- > Dear Mayor Hieftje, Dear Council Members Lowenstein and Rapundalo,
- >
- > I would like to bring to your attention that some changes recently
- > passed, as well as proposed, targeting commercial entities are
- > incidentally targeting condominiums as well. I understand that the
- > City's intent to more appropriately assess commercial businesses for
- > the services that the City provides. Unfortunately, as a side effect,
- > condominium associations, especially detached single family
- > condominiums are having to pay more for services they do not benefit
- > from or benefit very little from. Also, other proposed changes could
- > require very expensive changes and force large assessments during a
- > time of weak economic climate.
- >
- > Please consider revising the current storm water rate structure to
- > have a separate multi-family home or planned residential development
- > rate that applies to entities such as condominium associations.
- > Currently, condominium associations are charged at a commercial rate
- > because the residential rate only applies to single and two family
- > homes. Condominiums are not commercial businesses, they are
- > residential developments and should be treated as such.
- >
- > Please consider revising the storm water rate structure to include
- > provisioning so that residents are not dublicately charged in the case
- > that they live in a Planned Unit Development (PUD) like Arbor Hills
- > where they have already been assessed for the services by each single
- > family home. The recent storm water rate structure change, is causing
- > residents of Arbor Hills to be doubly or triply charged (depending on
- > your view) for the same storm water generated, although storm water
- > management in the Arbor Hills is privately maintained and must be
- > privately maintained by the state regulated Bylaws of the PUD. And on
- > top of the fact that the residents are being assessed by the City
- > individually by residence, the Association is also being separately
- > assessed by the City for charges for storm water management and at a
- > commercial rate.
- >
- > In effect, our co-owners are paying thrice for storm water management
- > within the community. Once for what they pay to the City on their unit
- > assessment as a single family home (as a detached condominium),
- > secondly, the amount assessed by the City to the Association and
- > passed on to its residents through Association dues, and thirdly,
- > through the portion of the Association dues that goes directly towards
- > actually managing the storm water system. Along with Arbor Hills storm
- > water system, Arbor Hills has extensive conservation wetlands for
- > which the mitigation of storm water is necessary. Per the Arbor Hills
- > Bylaws, our Association maintains all of the components including
- > storm water drains, streets, curbs, lines, detention ponds, and
- > retention structures, (and according to your Storm Water staff) with
- > the exception of one overflow connection that is solely maintained by
- > the Association, and with no actual known cost to the City to maintain
- > the connection per our communications. The overall benefit to the
- > residents from the City's storm water services is minimal, if not
- > none.
- >
- > The residents of Arbor Hills already have several services that do not
- > benefit the residents at all and we hope that storm water management
- > will not be added to the list. The Association's board members are
- > currently in communication regarding the storm water charges to review
- > the origination of the charges and intends to exercise the
- > Association's right to appeal under Chapter 33, Section 2:219 of the

> City Code.

>

> Another small example of a service that Arbor Hills residents already
> do not benefit from and could easily be partly modified to provide
> some benefit, is leaf collection. Leaf collection services are
> provided to all residents of the City. However, since our streets are
> private, there is no leaf collection for the streets in Arbor Hills.
> What doesn't make sense to me is that the City won't even agree to
> collect our leaves at the front of the neighborhood, on Green Road,
> which is a public City street. According to past Board members, we
> have asked for leaf collection before and have been turned down. We
> were told that leaf collection is funded with State tax dollars and
> private roads aren't eligible.

>

> Part of the proposed changes the Planning Commission is currently
> working on for amending Chapter 47, Section 4:30, calls for private
> roads in all residential areas to be improved to Public Services
> Standards Specifications and removes the clause limiting it to R1 and
> R2 residential areas. In essence, by removing the clause, since PUDs
> are residential zoning, all the private roads will no longer be exempt
> from meeting city street standards, regardless of if they were planned
> or developed that way. At the time Arbor Hills' was planned, the City
> agreed to the specifications of the private streets including reduced
> curb heights and narrow streets. If they now have to be revised to
> meet City street specifications at this point, it potentially would be
> a very expensive project and may be impossible in areas where
> expanding the road would encroach too closely on an existing home, not
> to mention the issue of adding sidewalks. Streets would have to be
> expanded, all of the curbs would have to be replaced, and additional
> street lighting would need to be added and sidewalks added in several
> areas of the neighborhood. (Ironically, the City has refused to take
> our private roads in Arbor Hills to be City streets, previously,
> because they did not meet the specifications of public streets.)

>

> And to threaten to discontinue solid waste services, one of the few
> services that Arbor Hills residents do benefit from, in the case of
> non-compliance, is ludicrous, especially since there is no
> provisioning for funds or time to correct the issues nor a grandfather
> clause exempting previously developed areas. As it stands, solid waste
> services have been provided to this neighborhood for years with the
> existing roads in place. To imply that there insufficient access for
> solid waste services via the existing private roads does not make
> sense. It will appear to the residents as one more excuse for the City
> not to provide services to the neighborhood because it is a planned
> development. Even on private roads with public right of way access,
> (to city parks inside Arbor Hills), the City does not provide salting
> or snow plowing, nor pay for street lighting, street maintenance, or
> any other infrastructure costs. At the very least, there should be a
> grace period defined for the correction of the issues before
> discontinuing solid waste services, and if the intent of these changes
> were only meant for new developments, it should clearly state so.

>

> All of these changes happening when the residents are suffering from a
> weak economic climate, does not make much sense. If the City needs to
> raise funds for storm water management, I would much rather see City
> taxes raised across the board, and have the burden spread and shared
> by all, instead of seeing the residents of this planned development
> have to pay more than their fair share for services they benefit very
> minimally from. Changes like these are poorly justified and poorly
> communicated to City residents. It is making living in a planned
> development much less attractive among other things.

>
> The Arbor Hills Condominium Association Board works hard to maintain a
> budget that does not increase too dramatically for our residents to be
> able to afford and at the same time, provide services such as street
> lighting, plowing, street maintenance, storm water system maintenance,
> along other aspects of the condominium association's common elements
> while remaining in compliance with the City ordinances that already
> apply. The Board would like to seek alternate solutions that would be
> more equitable for the residents of the neighborhood and other planned
> unit developments such as ours and assist in our ability to remain
> within compliance of the City Code.

>
> We welcome you to come and visit our neighborhood and invite you to
> meet with us to foster a better understanding of these issues.
> Alternately, please let me know if there are any City staff members
> that can meet with the Board or attend our annual meeting to do
> likewise. If there is anything else that we can do to facilitate more
> appealing solutions to these issues for our residents, please contact
> me by email at jr@coldstripe.com or by phone at 734-269-2348.

>
> Sincerely,

>
> -Jane Klingsten
> Arbor Hills Board of Directors, President
> Resident of Ann Arbor for 30 years

>
>
>
>

Elias, Abigail

From: Greden, Leigh
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 10:56 AM
To: Crawford, Tom; Teall, Margie
Subject: RE: Fire Meeting Change

I would prefer 12-2pm (over lunch) on 10/22.

From: Crawford, Tom
Sent: Mon 10/13/2008 8:13 AM
To: Teall, Margie; Greden, Leigh
Subject: Fire Meeting Change

My apologies for the confusion on the Fire meeting last Friday. Margie suggested we re-schedule for this Fri. noon - 2, but it appears I'm going to be out and it's not the day for Shift 2 to work at Fire. Is there any chance you two would be available for 2 hrs sometime between 10 & 2 next Wed. (10/22)?

Elias, Abigail

From: Naud, Matthew
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 11:06 AM
To: Catherine Riseng (E-mail) (E-mail); Cathy Gendron (E-mail); Saam, Cheryl; cherylmackrell@comcast.net; 'Christopher Graham' (E-mail); Hupy, Craig; Borneman, Dave; Dave Szczygiel; 'David Stead' (E-mail); Dirk Fischbach (E-mail); Dirk Fischbach alt (E-mail); Evan Pratt (E-mail); Tallant, Jason; Jeff Plakke (E-mail); 'Julia Wondolleck (E-mail)' (E-mail); Laura 'Rubin (E-mail); Marino, Adrienne; Naud, Matthew; Aldridge, Michelle; Wade, Molly; PAC_Distribution; Paul Ganz (E-mail); Scott Dierks (E-mail); Shirley White-Black (E-mail); Stephen Riley; Steve 'Yaffee (E-mail); Sue Gott - Mahoney; Sue Gott (E-mail); Tom Edsall (E-mail); yazbo822@att.net
Subject: Please respond to the meeting requests for November and December
Attachments: att9dab6.jpg

I would like to set these meetings this week

thanks, Matt

Click below (or copy and paste into your browser) to let us know when you can meet in November

<http://www.meetomatic.com/respond.php?id=GBAB2H>

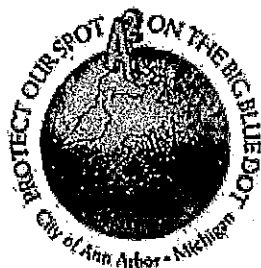
Click below (or copy and paste into your browser) to let us know when you can meet in December

<http://www.meetomatic.com/respond.php?id=C4DD4J>

Matthew Naud
Environmental Coordinator
Assistant Emergency Manager
mnaud@a2gov.org

www.a2gov.org/green

Please sign up for Environmental or other city updates at www.a2gov.org



Please visit the State of Our Environment Report at www.a2gov.org/soe

Elias, Abigail

From: Greden, Leigh
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 11:09 AM
To: Fraser, Roger; McCormick, Sue; Henderson, Karla
Subject: FW: sidewalk issue

I just spoke to Roger. FYI, here is another e-mail from the Edgewood resident. Her house at 3184 Edgewood truly has a sidewalk to nowhere with no sidewalk on either side, and no sidewalk on that side of the street for at least one block in either direction. I have not visited the second site listed in her email below (3201 Edgewood). I agree it's important to have a consistent policy to avoid ad-hoc decisions, and I look to staff to help develop one that fairly recognizes that sidewalks to nowhere should not be part of this program. Perhaps such sidewalks should be exempted from the program until such time that connecting sidewalks are built? Regardless, I do not believe the sidewalk at 3184 Edgewood should be included in the program. Please advise. Thanks.

-Leigh

From: lruby [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: Sun 10/12/2008 7:42 PM
To: Greden, Leigh; [REDACTED]
Subject: sidewalk issue

Hello Mr. Greden:

I was wondering if you have any information on my sidewalk issue. A neighbor of mine has the same issue and is also very concerned about what the outcome of this might be. His name is Jack Trumpy and he resides at 3201 Edgewood Drive. His phone number is [REDACTED] and I am ccing him on this message. His sidewalk connects to one neighbor and that is it. Obviously, the three of us all feel that we should not be held to the same standard as those neighborhoods that have continuous sidewalks.

The deadline for fixing the sidewalks is about six weeks away. As such, it would be helpful if we had an answer within the next week or two. If you are able to convince the city that we should be excused, that would be great. However, if you are not able to do this the easy way, I would like to know the appeal process. If necessary, I plan on appealing this through whatever means the system allows.

Thanks again for your time and consideration.

Lisa Ruby

Elias, Abigail

From: Help
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 11:32 AM
To: *All Employees
Subject: ITSU Update: Network Downtime Tuesday 10/14/2008

Importance: High

Information Technology will be performing maintenance Tuesday evening. Please be aware of the following planned work:

Business Objects will be unavailable beginning at 5pm. This downtime will be completed by 9pm.

E-mail (via Microsoft Outlook, Outlook Web Access, and ActiveSync on cell phones) will be briefly unavailable between 6pm and 9pm. E-mail messages being sent and received during this time will not be lost; they will be held in mail server queues and delivered once work is complete. If you get any errors trying to access e-mail during this time, please wait a few minutes and try again.

An additional e-mail will be sent out when work is complete. If you have any issues after this time, please contact us via Help Desk ticket at <http://helpdesk> ticket or by calling x45502 on the new phone system or (734) 994-2473 X45502. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

~ Information Technology.

Elias, Abigail

From: Teall, Margie
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 11:40 AM
To: Greden, Leigh; Crawford, Tom
Subject: RE: Fire Meeting Change

I already have a meeting scheduled from 11-1 on the 22nd. I could meet from 1-3 that day, or I could do a 12-2 on the 23rd?

From: Greden, Leigh
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 10:56 AM
To: Crawford, Tom; Teall, Margie
Subject: RE: Fire Meeting Change

I would prefer 12-2pm (over lunch) on 10/22.

From: Crawford, Tom
Sent: Mon 10/13/2008 8:13 AM
To: Teall, Margie; Greden, Leigh
Subject: Fire Meeting Change

My apologies for the confusion on the Fire meeting last Friday. Margie suggested we re-schedule for this Fri. noon - 2, but it appears I'm going to be out and it's not the day for Shift 2 to work at Fire. Is there any chance you two would be available for 2 hrs sometime between 10 & 2 next Wed. (10/22)?

Elias, Abigail

From: Higgins, Marcia
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 11:54 AM
To: Crawford, Tom; Richard King; Rapundalo, Stephen
Subject: RE: Meeting

5:30 on Tuesday will work for me, but nothing earlier and tonight I am booked the entire evening.

From: Crawford, Tom
Sent: Mon 10/13/2008 11:28 AM
To: Richard King; Crawford, Tom; Higgins, Marcia; Rapundalo, Stephen
Subject: RE: Meeting

I can be avail. From 4 - 6 today & 4:30 - 5 tomorrow.

-----Original Message-----

From: "Richard King" <rking@emich.edu>
To: "Tom Crawford" <tcrawford@ci.ann-arbor.mi.us>; "Higgins, Marcia" <MHiggins@a2gov.org>; "Rapundalo, Stephen" <srapundalo@a2gov.org>
Sent: 10/13/08 9:40 AM
Subject: Meeting

Hi,

I mentioned to both Tom and Marcia in chance meetings on Saturday that I would like to get us together to discuss the status of the LDFA given recent occurrences.

Can we meet tomorrow or Wednesday? I am out after that until next week.

I could meet after 4 pm on either day and start as late as 5:30 pm.

May I suggest 5:30 pm tomorrow at Zingerman's?

Richard

--

Richard King
Regional Director,
Michigan Small Business and
Technology Development Center
Eastern Michigan University
College of Business
Center for Entrepreneurship

734-487-0490

Elias, Abigail

From: Higgins, Marcia
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 11:56 AM
To: Miller, Jayne
Subject: Accepted: A2D2 Steering Committee Meeting

Elias, Abigail

From: Higgins, Marcia
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 11:57 AM
To: Crawford, Tom
Subject: RE: Meeting

Tom

How are you doing on the obtaining the material you need for tonight's brownfield meeting?

Thanks,

M-

From: Crawford, Tom
Sent: Mon 10/13/2008 11:28 AM
To: Richard King; Crawford, Tom; Higgins, Marcia; Rapundalo, Stephen
Subject: RE: Meeting

I can be avail. From 4 - 6 today & 4:30 - 5 tomorrow.

-----Original Message-----

From: "Richard King" <rking@emich.edu>
To: "Tom Crawford" <tcrawford@ci.ann-arbor.mi.us>; "Higgins, Marcia" <MHiggins@a2gov.org>; "Rapundalo, Stephen" <srapundalo@a2gov.org>
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I could meet after 4 pm on either day and start as late as 5:30 pm.

May I suggest 5:30 pm tomorrow at Zingerman's?

Richard

Richard King
Regional Director,
Michigan Small Business and
Technology Development Center
Eastern Michigan University
College of Business
Center for Entrepreneurship

734-487-0490

Elias, Abigail

From: Crawford, Tom
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 12:04 PM
To: Teall, Margie; Greden, Leigh
Subject: RE: Fire Meeting Change

The Fire group on shift 2 are in on the 22nd and could do 1-3. They're scheduled to be out the 23rd. Leigh - can you do 1-3 on 22nd?

From: Teall, Margie
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 11:40 AM
To: Greden, Leigh; Crawford, Tom
Subject: RE: Fire Meeting Change

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From: Greden, Leigh
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To: Crawford, Tom; Teall, Margie
Subject: RE: Fire Meeting Change

I would prefer 12-2pm (over lunch) on 10/22.

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To: Teall, Margie; Greden, Leigh
Subject: Fire Meeting Change

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Elias, Abigail

From: Henderson, Karla
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 12:17 PM
To: Hieftje, John; McCormick, Sue
Cc: Borneman, Dave; Fraser, Roger; Tallant, Jason; Frenzel, Jason; Treemore-Spears, Lara; Warba, Matt; Levinsohn, Kirsten
Subject: RE: Black Pond Woods

Dear Mayor Hieftje,

Staff members of NAP and Park Operations met first thing this morning to go over the conversations and understanding of what work was to be conducted at Black Pond Woods. It appears that a meeting occurred on site a couple of months ago in which NAP staff had instructed Park Operations staff not to bring any heavy equipment into the park for the boardwalk that is in need of repair. Park Operations staff were under the impression that heavy equipment could not be used on from that access point only. After reviewing the best method to make the repairs, Park Operations staff proceeded to try and make a path so that they could bring in the materials needed for the repairs. The staff were not aware that this was prohibited, were apologetic and felt horrible about the damage caused.

After our meeting, we concluded that this was definitely miscommunication among staff. We talked about how to initiate a process from this point forward that would mirror our site plan reviews. Therefore, before any work would be conducted in a natural area it would circulate among staff and require a sign off from NAP. We also discussed that this would provide an opportune time for NAP to conduct training sessions for our Forestry and Park Operations staff on the importance of the nature areas to the environment and community.

The extent of soil disturbance allowed us to rake out the piles, move logs, and spread leaves with hand tools in a little over one hour this morning (* 8 people). In all but a few areas trail and off trail disturbance is visible to a limited degree after our work. A detailed follow up plan (with recommendation for fixing the boardwalk) will follow in the coming hours and days, but here's a bullet point list of what we've done and will do to mitigate this issue in as timely a way as possible.

- Have Park Operations staff rake out soil piles, disperse log piles, and rake leaves (where possible) over disturbed soil; delineate trail boundaries with trail liners and remove broken or exposed trail liner stakes. All these actions attempt to visually recreate a pre-disturbance state. (Done 10/13/08)

- Have NAP collect and disperse native woodland plant seed in areas with soil disturbance to replace previous vegetation and minimize invasion on non-native plant species through competition.

- Have NAP/Park Operations staff plant native plant plugs in disturbed areas adjacent to trails to facilitate speedy revegetation and allow for proper follow-up (tending to planting).

- Have NAP/Park Operations staff repair and reconstruct trail liners on existing trail to limit off trail activity.

- Have NAP staff design and post signage around disturbed areas to explain mitigation efforts.

- Have NAP/Park Operation staff discuss boardwalk repair that reduces any future impact to site.

I am hopeful that this addresses your concerns. Please feel free to contact me if you need any additional information.

Karla

From: Hieftje, John
Sent: Saturday, October 11, 2008 3:36 PM
To: Henderson, Karla; McCormick, Sue

Cc: Borneman, Dave; Fraser, Roger
Subject: RE: Black Pond Woods

Thank you Karla.

From: Henderson, Karla
Sent: Saturday, October 11, 2008 3:03 PM
To: Hieftje, John; McCormick, Sue
Cc: Borneman, Dave; Fraser, Roger
Subject: RE: Black Pond Woods

Mayor Hieftje,

Dave Borneman called me last night to discuss the situation but we ended up playing phone tag. On Monday I will speak to the supervisor to get the details about what was happening at the park and what instructions were given to the employees. Once I touch base with Dave I will see if NAP was aware that this work was occurring and if they were not, why. As we know that any work in a natural area should have their NAP's review and consultation. Once we assess how much damage occurred we will certainly do everything necessary to see that the park is restored.

I will e-mail everyone on Monday once I am able to sort out the details.

Karla

From: Hieftje, John
Sent: Saturday, October 11, 2008 2:41 PM
To: McCormick, Sue; Henderson, Karla
Cc: Borneman, Dave; Fraser, Roger
Subject: Black Pond Woods

Hello:

Neighbors of Black Pond Woods tell me that a "city employee drove a Bobcat with the blade down through a portion of Black Pond Woods and created a new path." They don't understand how anyone who works in parks could be so callus.

One said "heads need to roll" over this.

I don't know if anyone needs to lose their head but if true this is unacceptable.

Please let me know what happened and what next steps are planned.

Thanks,

John

Elias, Abigail

From: Wondrash, Lisa
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 1:10 PM
To: Hieftje, John
Cc: Schopieray, Christine
Subject: 2010 Event: Your Review Requested

Hi John:

I'm working with Eli Cooper and Catherine Sanders on the 2010 media event scheduled for next Monday. I would like to include the enclosed news release in the media kit to pass out at the event. Please let me know if you approve of your quote and information presented in the release.

Thanks so much,

Lisa

Lisa Wondrash

Communications Unit Manager

City of Ann Arbor

2805 S. Industrial, Ste. 200

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Phone: (734) 996-3020

e-mail: lwondrash@a2gov.org



Think Green! Don't print this email unless you need to.



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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Eli Cooper

Transportation Program Manager

(734) 996-3026

E-mail: ecooper@a2gov.org

MAYOR JOHN HIEFTJE PROMOTES ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION AT SPECIAL EVENT

Attendees learn how Ann Arbor could receive \$50 million in federal funding.

ANN ARBOR, MI – October 20, 2008 – In 2006, Ann Arbor Mayor John Hieftje announced his vision for making Ann Arbor a model for mobility in the 21st Century. He outlined key elements of his transportation vision that included and supported alternative forms of transportation such as walking and bicycling, but also expanded on the City's bus, rail and train system to support a more regional mode of mobility and reduce Ann Arbor's over reliance on auto travel which contributes to air quality challenges.

Today, Mayor Hieftje is building upon his vision by supporting Ann Arbor's participation in a national campaign to promote active transportation, which if successful, could result in \$50 million in federal funding to expand active transportation options in Ann Arbor.

"There is no arguing the benefits of expanding Ann Arbor's active transportation network, including the enhancement of citizens' health and quality of life, reducing CO2 emissions as auto trips are replaced by walking and biking trips, economic development, and improved safety for pedestrians and cyclists," said Ann Arbor Mayor John Hieftje. "The 2010 Campaign could result in immediate improvements which, without such significant funding, could take over a generation to realize. The potential receipt of such funding is an exciting prospect for Ann Arbor, who already has a large population of dedicated walkers and cyclists. This funding could help to enhance their safety and encourage others citizens to bike or walk as well."

Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, and other nearby municipalities are joining with communities around the country in the Rails to Trails Conservancy's 2010 Campaign for Active Transportation. This campaign is a coordinated effort to "elevate trails, walking, and biking nationally by doubling the federal investment in active transportation. For Ann Arbor and the surrounding communities, the campaign could result in significant federal investment in the active transportation infrastructure, resulting in a complete network of bike-lanes and sidewalks, in improved connections across highway and interstate overpasses, and in continued investment in the Allen Creek Greenway.

On Monday, Oct. 20, 2008, Mayor Hieftje unveiled key elements of the "Ann Arbor Area Proposal Towards Community Active Transportation in 2010" at a special event at City Hall. He detailed the City's top three priorities for active transportation and how a \$50 million federal investment could help to connect the dots of 38 miles of new on-road bike lanes, 25 miles of new sidewalks, and 128 major pedestrian crossing options. In addition, the funding would allow for the construction of additional bridges and underpasses – 25 in all – to accommodate all forms of mobility, allowing pedestrians and cyclists in Ann Arbor to connect with communities across I-94, US-23, and M-14, and vice versa. Finally, the Allen Creek Greenway would receive significant investment, connecting the University of Michigan stadium area with the Border-to-Border trail and other destinations, like downtown Ann Arbor.

The 2010 Campaign is an effort to build on the successes of the Nonmotorized Transportation Pilot Program, which was part of the 2005 federal transportation bill SAFETEA-LU. The NTPP funded a four-year investment in walking and biking in four communities nationally (Columbia, Missouri, Marian County, California, Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Sheboygan County, Wisconsin). The 2010 Campaign seeks expanded support in the next federal surface transportation reauthorization bill, due for passage in 2009. If successful, Ann Arbor could potentially receive \$50 million in federal funding for active transportation improvements.

In June 2008, Ann Arbor and its partners completed a case document for the national campaign, outlining the immediate improvements that would result from such investment. To view the complete case document, visit www.a2gov.org. For more information about the Rails to Trails Conservancy 2010 Campaign, visit www.railstotrails.org.

###

Ann Arbor has 114,000 residents, spans 27.7 square miles, and was named the No. 1 Healthiest Hometown in the U.S. by AARP The Magazine in 2008. Other notable recognitions include: No. 27 of the top 100 U.S. cities to live in by CNN/Money Magazine in 2008, as well as the fourth smartest city in the U.S. by Forbes Magazine. The city's mission statement reads: The city of Ann Arbor is committed to providing excellent municipal services that enhance the quality of life for all through the intelligent use of resources while valuing an open environment that fosters, fair, sensitive and respectful treatment of all employees and the community we serve.

Elias, Abigail

From: Anglin, Mike
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 1:38 PM
To: 'Jim Kosteva'
Cc: Jim Ottaviani; Hieftje, John
Subject: RE: Early morning U-M drum practice: request for change

Jim,

Thank you I know it will sit well with the residents if the U makes this effort of cooperation.

Mike Anglin

-----Original Message-----

From: Jim Kosteva [mailto:jkosteva@umich.edu]
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 11:44 AM
To: Anglin, Mike
Cc: Jim Ottaviani; Hieftje, John
Subject: Re: Early morning U-M drum practice: request for change

Mr. Anglin, Mr Ottaviani

I appreciate the concern expressed in your remarks and the discomfort that might be associated with extensive drumming at such an early hour. I do want to point out however, that 7:00 am has been the traditional starting time for band warm and practice on game days in as much as it coincides with the City and University noise regulations.

Nonetheless, I will bring your concern to the attention of the band director together with a request that he consider whether there may alternatives for the drum section to consider vis a vis, starting time or location and direction of play.

jim

On Oct 12, 2008, at 5:38 PM, Anglin, Mike wrote:

> I too heard the noise..music? The band must have started between 6:30
> and 7 . I forwarded your message to Kim Kosteva at the U I do agree
> that the start time should be about..8


>
> Mike Anglin

> -----Original Message-----

> **From:** Jim Ottaviani [mailto: [REDACTED]]
> **Sent:** Saturday, October 11, 2008 8:10 AM
> **To:** Easthope, Christopher; Anglin, Mike
> **Cc:** Hieftje, John; Kat Hagedorn
> **Subject:** Early morning U-M drum practice: request for change

>
>
> Dear Council Members Easthope and Anglin:

>
> This morning we were woken by loud drumming at 7 a.m. We are used to

> stadium noise, but not this early, and request that this practice be
> stopped.
>
> I called the non-emergency line for the Ann Arbor Police, and the
> person I spoke with confirmed that the band had an exemption allowing
> them to start drumming this early on game days.
>
> While we realize that the band must practice and are used to hearing
> them do so for hours each week during the football season, we do not
> think they should do so before the sun is up, regardless of the game's
> start-time.
>
> So, we request that they no longer be allowed to begin their practice
> sessions before sunrise, or 8 a.m., whichever comes later.
>
> Thank you,
>
> Jim Ottaviani and Kat Hagedorn
> 816 Hutchins Ave.
> Ann Arbor, MI 48103
>
> 
>
>
>

Elias, Abigail

From: City Administrator's Office
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 2:12 PM
To: *All Employees
Subject: Saturday 10/18 City Hall Work Notice

Saturday Work Notice - Oct. 18, 2008

This Saturday October. 18th, Facilities will be working 6am to 12noon on floors 2 & 3 of City Hall. The work will include installing electrical cables for rerouting card access units at various doors.

Asbestos protective equipment (as a precaution) will be used due to above ceiling access.

Any questions, please contact D.L. Crum @ 323-4158

Elias, Abigail

From: Hieftje, John
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 2:17 PM
To: Henderson, Karla; McCormick, Sue
Cc: Borneman, Dave; Fraser, Roger; Tallant, Jason; Frenzel, Jason; Treemore-Spears, Lara; Warba, Matt; Levinsohn, Kirsten
Subject: RE: Black Pond Woods

Dear Karla:

Thank you very much the rapid response, steps to improve communication and initiate a policy that requires an approval from NAP before work is performed in a natural area.

John Hieftje

From: Henderson, Karla
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 12:17 PM
To: Hieftje, John; McCormick, Sue
Cc: Borneman, Dave; Fraser, Roger; Tallant, Jason; Frenzel, Jason; Treemore-Spears, Lara; Warba, Matt; Levinsohn, Kirsten
Subject: RE: Black Pond Woods

Dear Mayor Hieftje,

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I am hopeful that this addresses your concerns. Please feel free to contact me if you need any additional information.

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Cc: Borneman, Dave; Fraser, Roger
Subject: RE: Black Pond Woods

Thank you Karla.

From: Henderson, Karla
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To: Hieftje, John; McCormick, Sue
Cc: Borneman, Dave; Fraser, Roger
Subject: RE: Black Pond Woods

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Karla

From: Hieftje, John
Sent: Saturday, October 11, 2008 2:41 PM
To: McCormick, Sue; Henderson, Karla
Cc: Borneman, Dave; Fraser, Roger
Subject: Black Pond Woods

Hello:

Neighbors of Black Pond Woods tell me that a "city employee drove a Bobcat with the blade down through a portion of Black Pond Woods and created a new path." They don't understand how anyone who works in parks could be so callus. One said "heads need to roll" over this.

I don't know if anyone needs to lose their head but if true this is unacceptable.

Please let me know what happened and what next steps are planned.

Thanks,

John

Elias, Abigail

From: Higgins, Marcia
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 2:18 PM
To: Crawford, Tom; 'Richard King'
Cc: Rapundalo, Stephen
Subject: RE: Meeting

Hi Tom,
Let's meet in your office. Richard how do you like your coffee?
Thanks,
Marcia

From: Crawford, Tom
Sent: Mon 10/13/2008 1:29 PM
To: 'Richard King'
Cc: Rapundalo, Stephen; Higgins, Marcia
Subject: RE: Meeting

I'm fine with Zingerman's as well...up to Marcia & Stephen.

From: richardking77@gmail.com [mailto:richardking77@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** Richard King
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 12:53 PM
To: Crawford, Tom
Cc: Rapundalo, Stephen; Higgins, Marcia
Subject: Re: Meeting

Great.

My location preference would be Zingerman's (good coffee) but I will go with the majority.

Richard

On Mon, Oct 13, 2008 at 12:44 PM, Crawford, Tom <TCrawford@a2gov.org> wrote:

I've been able to re-schedule my 6 pm meeting tomorrow (Tues.) so it sounds like we're all available. We can meet in my office on 5th floor if you'd like.

Richard King
Regional Director,
Michigan Small Business and
Technology Development Center
Eastern Michigan University
College of Business
Center for Entrepreneurship

734-487-0490

Elias, Abigail

From: Higgins, Marcia
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 2:20 PM
To: McCormick, Sue; Gray, Kerry; Teall, Margie
Cc: Wade, Molly; Hupy, Craig; Henderson, Karla; Higgins, Marcia
Subject: RE: Tree Planting

Hi Sue,

The 08 Plan that Kerry sent was great. I was looking at where replantings have occurred opposed to who did them. Both years seem to be spread across the entire city.

One item below caught my attention. "and for recovering from years of setting aside the basic trimming cycle."
Could you provide a more in-depth explanation?

Thanks,
Marcia

From: McCormick, Sue
Sent: Mon 10/13/2008 8:42 AM
To: Gray, Kerry; Higgins, Marcia; Teall, Margie
Cc: Wade, Molly; Hupy, Craig; Henderson, Karla
Subject: RE: Tree Planting

Hi Margie and Marcia,

FY 09 is the first year that we actually had a Tree Planting plan. Prior to that, we had nominal ability to plant trees - we were focused on removals and using any other resources we had for trimming, which is severely behind. Any planting we did was largely in support of the not for profit efforts that Kerry notes below and the private citizen plantings. FY09 is a banner year in that we are actually programmed for some replanting. This has only been possible because of the resources in the Parks (millage) and the priority given to replanting in key watersheds (funded by stormwater) We are not dedicating any significant general fund resources to replanting, reserving those dollars for support of the not for profit and private efforts, and for recovering from years of setting aside the basic trimming cycle. Again, sorry for the confusion.

Sue

From: Gray, Kerry
Sent: Friday, October 10, 2008 4:18 PM
To: Higgins, Marcia; Teall, Margie
Cc: McCormick, Sue; Wade, Molly; Hupy, Craig; Henderson, Karla
Subject: RE: Tree Planting

Attached is a list I have compiled of the trees that were planted in FY 08. This is based on records from Global ReLeaf of Michigan who headed the Tree Teams, the Dean Fund Committee and Rotary Club. I am very sorry for the confusion with your request and the delay in getting the information that you were seeking.

If you have specific questions regarding the locations of the trees, please contact Kay Sicheneder in Field Operations at 971.0370.

Kerry Gray
Urban Forestry & Natural Resources Planner
City of Ann Arbor-Systems Planning Unit

100 N. Fifth Avenue, PO Box 8647
Ann Arbor, MI 48107-8647
Phone: 734.994.6178/ Fax: 734.996.3064
Email: kgray@a2gov.org

From: Higgins, Marcia
Sent: Thursday, October 02, 2008 4:30 PM
To: Gray, Kerry; Teall, Margie
Cc: McCormick, Sue; Naud, Matthew; Fraser, Roger; Wade, Molly; Sicheneder, Kay
Subject: RE: Tree Planting

Could you forward to Margie and I the FY 08 Tree Planting Schedule?
Thanks,
Marcia

From: Gray, Kerry
Sent: Thu 10/2/2008 2:37 PM
To: Teall, Margie; Higgins, Marcia
Cc: McCormick, Sue; Naud, Matthew; Fraser, Roger; Wade, Molly; Sicheneder, Kay
Subject: RE: Tree Planting

I spoke with Mr. Parker and explained to him that unfortunately, at this time, the City is not accepting tree planting requests due to the large number of ash trees that have been lost due to the emerald ash borer (~8000 street trees). There are a lot of areas in the City that need to be replanted and currently locations for replanting are selected based on areas that have lost the most ash trees and where replanting efforts have not been taking place.

I explained to him that the City developed a tree planting plan for FY 09 (please see attached) and his neighborhood was identified as an area that needed replanting. I spoke with Kay Sicheneder the Forestry Field Operations Supervisor and asked her the status of fall planting locations and Field Operations will not be replanting in his neighborhood this fall but may plant there in spring or fall 2009. Field Operations makes the final determination on planting locations taking into consideration the size of the lawn extension, the presence of underground/overhead utilities and whether replanting has occurred there recently. I let him know that Field Operations could not guarantee that a tree would be planted in front of his home next spring or fall but that his site would be evaluated as a potential location if his street is selected for tree planting. If he did not want to wait, I provided him with the option of getting a forestry permit (free) to have a contractor plant a tree in his lawn extension. If he chose to do that he could receive a tax deduction on his federal income taxes.

He is obviously frustrated with the wait time but he was very kind in listening to my explanation of where the City's forestry program is right now. I emailed him my contact information and told him he can contact me anytime with questions.

Please let me know if you have any questions.
Kerry

Kerry Gray
Urban Forestry & Natural Resources Planner
City of Ann Arbor- Systems Planning Unit
100 N. Fifth Avenue, PO Box 8647
Ann Arbor, MI 48107-8647
Phone: 734.994.6178/ Fax: 734.996.3064

Email: kgray@a2gov.org

From: Teall, Margie
Sent: Thursday, October 02, 2008 12:02 PM
To: Arthur Parker; Higgins, Marcia
Cc: McCormick, Sue; Naud, Matthew; Fraser, Roger
Subject: RE: Tree Planting

Mr. Parker:

I will forward your questions on to our Public Services and Environmental Coordinator, and hopefully someone will be able to call you soon. I don't know who you have talked to at the City, but I'm sorry that you have had to hear any abrupt or rude responses.

Sue or Matt: Could someone please give Mr. Parker a call and let him know how what he can expect in terms of tree replacement on Barnard Rd? Thank you.

-Margie

From: Arthur Parker [mailto:████████████████████]
Sent: Thursday, October 02, 2008 11:53 AM
To: Higgins, Marcia
Cc: Teall, Margie
Subject: Tree Planting

As constituent, I need your assistance in getting some answers, and hopefully some results from the City, regarding the replacement of four or five trees on Barnard Rd. The trees were lost many years ago to the Ashbore, as were many others in Ann Arbor. Attempts to get a criteria from the forestry dept. on the how the replanting is prioritized have meet with abrupt and often rude responses. Most of the residents of this one block street are elderly, and frankly don't have all that much time to wait for trees to be planted, let alone grow. We see newly planted trees along the fairways of City owned golf courses, and streets such as Maple Rd. that don't even abut residential property. It seems to us, that of the 500 trees to be planted by the city this fall, they could spare four or five for our street, which has waited patiently for five or more years. Your assistance would be appreciated.

Arthur Parker
1530 Barnard Rd. Ph ██████████

Elias, Abigail

From: McCormick, Sue
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 2:47 PM
To: Higgins, Marcia; Gray, Kerry; Teall, Margie
Cc: Wade, Molly; Hupy, Craig; Henderson, Karla
Subject: RE: Tree Planting

Sure, with our need to maximize our efforts to provide for EAB removals, we have only been doing critical trimming for about 4 years now. Prior to that we had a tree trimming cycle that had been revised due to General Fund limitations, but was intended to trim on a 7 year cycle. With critical trimming, we address hazards such as large dead or broken branches in ROW, sight distance trimming and other basic public safety issues. The impacts are that not trimming on cycle will long term affect the health and longevity of the urban forest, as well as result in more storm damage, etc. Hope this is helpful.

From: Higgins, Marcia
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 2:20 PM
To: McCormick, Sue; Gray, Kerry; Teall, Margie
Cc: Wade, Molly; Hupy, Craig; Henderson, Karla; Higgins, Marcia
Subject: RE: Tree Planting

Hi Sue,
The 08 Plan that Kerry sent was great. I was looking at where replantings have occurred opposed to who did them. Both years seem to be spread across the entire city.

One item below caught my attention. "and for recovering from years of setting aside the basic trimming cycle."
Could you provide a more in-depth explanation?
Thanks,
Marcia

From: McCormick, Sue
Sent: Mon 10/13/2008 8:42 AM
To: Gray, Kerry; Higgins, Marcia; Teall, Margie
Cc: Wade, Molly; Hupy, Craig; Henderson, Karla
Subject: RE: Tree Planting

Hi Margie and Marcia,

FY 09 is the first year that we actually had a Tree Planting plan. Prior to that, we had nominal ability to plant trees - we were focused on removals and using any other resources we had for trimming, which is severely behind. Any planting we did was largely in support of the not for profit efforts that Kerry notes below and the private citizen plantings. FY09 is a banner year in that we are actually programmed for some replanting. This has only been possible because of the resources in the Parks (millage) and the priority given to replanting in key watersheds (funded by stormwater) We are not dedicating any significant general fund resources to replanting, reserving those dollars for support of the not for profit and private efforts, and for recovering from years of setting aside the basic trimming cycle. Again, sorry for the confusion.

Sue

From: Gray, Kerry
Sent: Friday, October 10, 2008 4:18 PM
To: Higgins, Marcia; Teall, Margie

Cc: McCormick, Sue; Wade, Molly; Hupy, Craig; Henderson, Karla
Subject: RE: Tree Planting

Attached is a list I have compiled of the trees that were planted in FY 08. This is based on records from Global ReLeaf of Michigan who headed the Tree Teams, the Dean Fund Committee and Rotary Club. I am very sorry for the confusion with your request and the delay in getting the information that you were seeking.

If you have specific questions regarding the locations of the trees, please contact Kay Sicheneder in Field Operations at 971.0370.

Kerry Gray
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Parker

Your assistance would be appreciated.

Arthur

Ph [REDACTED]

1530 Barnard Rd.

Elias, Abigail

From: McCormick, Sue*
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 3:07 PM
To: Hieftje, John
Cc: Pirooz, Homayoon; Bergren, Mike
Subject: FW: Pedestrian Right of Way

Hi John,

Sorry I didn't see this sooner. Perhaps Mike or HP has the most recent data for 7th...

Sue

From: Hieftje, John
Sent: Tuesday, October 07, 2008 4:48 PM
To: McCormick, Sue
Subject: FW: Pedestrian Right of Way

Hi Sue:

Please find out if we know anything (last count, etc.) regarding the traffic count on 7th Street. I suspect it probably has too many cars to qualify for the standard version of traffic calming. We might also like to think about other options if there are any.

Thanks,

John

From: Hieftje, John
Sent: Tuesday, October 07, 2008 4:44 PM
To: [REDACTED]; Anglin, Mike
Cc: Kelly Grocoff; Kevin Leaser; Robert Beane; Cassandra Hartley; Ali Waggener Boyd; Brewster Boyd; Jacinta Beehner; Thore Bergman
Subject: RE: Pedestrian Right of Way

Hi Matt:

I will have the recent cross walk ordinance change sent to you.

There is a packet available for pick up at the clerk's office that contains instructions on the traffic calming process and how streets are judged to qualify. There are a minimum and maximum numbers of cars that figure into the qualifications.

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I don't know the original plan for 7th but I would guess it evolved into what it is long ago. My earliest memories of 7th come from when I used to live on Princeton as a kid in the late 1950's and early 60's. It was already a major connector.

The City's traffic calming program is based on national models, what has worked and has not worked in other places but we made it a little easier to qualify than some other programs.

If you give me the cross streets on 7th that you are concerned with, I can ask for increased speed limit enforcement. It usually helps in the short term.

Thanks for writing.

John Hieftje

From: Matt Grocoff [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: Tuesday, October 07, 2008 4:17 PM
To: Anglin, Mike; Hieftje, John
Cc: Kelly Grocoff; Kevin Leeser; Robert Beane; Cassandra Hartley; Ali Waggener Boyd; Brewster Boyd; Jacinta Beehner; Thore Bergman
Subject: Pedestrian Right of Way

John and Mike: I have a huge favor to ask. Can you please send me the ordinance - recently passed - giving pedestrians the right of way in a cross walk?

Also, please let me know who we would need to contact to start the process of getting calming devices on 7th St. 7th has been allowed to become a through-way when it is in fact a 100% residential street with over 60 access points per mile.

Our neighbors have watched way too many pedestrians (children from Slauson included) in near-miss accidents with speeding cars and trucks (including Ann Arbor City vehicles).

Thanks for your help.

Matt

--
Matthew Grocoff, Esq.
www.Greenovation.TV (Coming Soon!)
<http://greenovationtv.blogspot.com/>
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Elias, Abigail

From: Schopieray, Christine
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 3:15 PM
To: McCormick, Sue
Cc: Hieftje, John
Subject: Citizen complaint

Good afternoon Sue,

I hope you are enjoying the lovely fall weather. We recently received a letter from Jane Burton of 2303 Walter. She seems to have had a bad experience with the Forestry department and the problem seems to be ongoing. We are hoping to resolve her issues on a timely basis. I have sent a copy of her letter to your office per inter-office mail. Please look into this and get back to us at your earliest convenience. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Christine

Christine Schopieray
Assistant to the Mayor
City of Ann Arbor
734-994-2766

Elias, Abigail

From: Bergren, Mike
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 3:18 PM
To: McCormick, Sue; Hieftje, John
Cc: Pirooz, Homayoon
Subject: RE: Pedestrian Right of Way

Our last traffic counts are 5 years old. They were at that time showing 10,00+ vehicles.

From: McCormick, Sue
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 3:07 PM
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Thanks for writing.

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Thanks for your help.

Matt

--
Matthew Grocoff, Esq.
www.Greenovation.TV (Coming Soon!)
<http://greenovationtv.blogspot.com/>
[REDACTED]

Elias, Abigail

From: McCormick, Sue
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 3:23 PM
To: Schopieray, Christine
Cc: Hieftje, John; Harrison, Venita
Subject: RE: Citizen complaint

We'll watch for it.. Thanks,

Sue

From: Schopieray, Christine
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 3:15 PM
To: McCormick, Sue
Cc: Hieftje, John
Subject: Citizen complaint

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Christine

Christine Schopieray
Assistant to the Mayor
City of Ann Arbor
734-994-2766

Elias, Abigail

From: Pirooz, Homayoon
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 3:26 PM
To: Hieftje, John; McCormick, Sue
Cc: Bergren, Mike
Subject: RE: Pedestrian Right of Way

By the city council resolution and the State requirements, our standard traffic calming solutions may not be applied to the major streets, which 7th street is one! In the next 30 minutes I will send you another e-mail w/ more information about things we can do to improve the intersection, once and for all.

From: Bergren, Mike
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 3:18 PM
To: McCormick, Sue; Hieftje, John
Cc: Pirooz, Homayoon
Subject: RE: Pedestrian Right of Way

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████████████████████

Elias, Abigail

From: Pirooz, Homayoon
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 3:34 PM
To: Hieftje, John; McCormick, Sue; Fraser, Roger
Cc: Rolla, Elizabeth; Hutchinson, Nicholas; Cawley, Patrick; Bergren, Mike; Kluczynski, Brad
Subject: FW: Pedestrian Right of Way

Good afternoon,

We visited the intersection of Washington St and 7th Street this morning. The block of 7th street, between Huron St and Washington St has a relatively significant "hump" which contributes to the problem(s) described in the e-mails below. It is too late for this year to begin new construction on the roads; however we can offer the following short and long term plans for your consideration:

1. Short term: Our Field Operations has already converted the traffic light at the intersection to an LED light so the vehicular traffic can notice the intersection sooner and slow down and watch for pedestrian. In addition and in the next few weeks, they will mark the crosswalk south of the intersection w/ continental/zebra type pedestrian pavement markings for also a better visibility. Field Ops will add more signs on 7th St, near the intersection to get the attention of the drivers and to watch for pedestrians. Last they will clear the vegetation/brush that is on the west side of 7th St-north of Washington St intersection, to improve the visibility all around.
2. Long term plan: This winter we will design a "pedestrian refuge island" for the south leg of the intersection on 7th street. The plan is to build the refuge island next summer in 2009. This improvement by itself must solve the problem for the most part.
3. This winter we will also determine whether or not we can remove the "hump" by rebuilding the first block of 7th street, north of its intersection with Washington St. If this idea turns out to be a feasible option, we will add the construction work to one of our next summer road reconstruction/resurfacing projects.

Thank you.

From: Hieftje, John
Sent: Thursday, October 09, 2008 5:10 PM
To: McCormick, Sue
Cc: Fraser, Roger
Subject: FW: Pedestrian Right of Way

Hi Sue:

I hope the traffic folks can pay some attention to this. I sent an email along a couple of days ago and this is a follow up. The intersection of Washington and 7th needs some work. Its a little scary. Please let me know what can be done.

Thanks,

John

From: Hieftje, John
Sent: Thursday, October 09, 2008 5:07 PM
To: 'Robert Beane'
Subject: RE: Pedestrian Right of Way

Hello:

Thank you very much for your kind words. I will be getting a report next week detailing the number of tickets written this week. The best course is usually to hit an area with increased enforcement, let off for a bit and then go back at it again. In this way the drivers perceive that the police will have a continuing presence so they better watch their speed.

I have already asked for traffic data on 7th and was planning on using that as a place to start. Once that is in next steps can be decided on. I was over there yesterday to take a look and noticed that drivers were humming along and the sight lines are not so good. We need to have city engineers take a close look at the intersection and determine the best way to make it safe. A full blown plan for 7th will take awhile to develop but as you suggest, some quick action would have an impact.

Thank you again for writing.

John Hieftje

From: Robert Beane [mailto:████████████████████]
Sent: Thursday, October 09, 2008 12:12 PM
To: Hieftje, John
Subject: Re: Pedestrian Right of Way

Hi John,

I'm a neighbor of Matt & Kelly Grocoff on 7th St and wanted to thank you for your quick response to his email. On my way to work this morning I passed an officer clocking drivers and was proud to see such quick action from a simple email to the mayor. Its another part of what makes Ann Arbor such a great place to live.

We're fully aware of the fact that 7th will always be a high-traffic street, but my concern is the speed of drivers and the cross-walk at Washington. We're always very careful to wait for an opening in the traffic before crossing, but when a car speeds south from the Huron intersection we can't see it, and it can't see us until its nearly too late. Unfortunately a majority of the time this happens the driver of the car chooses to just swerve out of the way into the oncoming lane, just a couple feet away from us, rather than stop or even slow down. Having a 2-year old son and another on the way, this is a major concern for us. We live on the OWS for its proximity to town and take advantage of it on a near daily basis, meaning a near daily crossing at that cross-walk. As careful as we may try to be during every crossing, it feels like its just a matter of time before one of these close encounters becomes too close.

In my humble opinion, it seems like a quick simple action of more signs at the top of the hills near Huron and Liberty would make a big impact. A reminder of the speed limit, and at minimum a "STOP FOR PEDESTRIANS" sign or something of the sort... especially near the Huron intersection.

Anyhow, I'm rambling, but the main purpose of this email was to express my appreciation for your quick actions with the patrolling officers.

Thanks again,
Rob

On Tue, Oct 7, 2008 at 10:42 PM, Hieftje, John <JHieftje@a2gov.org> wrote:

Hi Matt:

I have already asked staff the pertinent questions and requested further enforcement.

I have been an advocate for lower speeds for years but it has been an uphill battle. The position of the State Police is that our limits are too low and based on their data a group of citizens who want to enforce the 80% standard all over town are threatening to sue the city. I will continue to swim upstream on this issue.

In regard to the minimum and maximum speeds allowed in the Traffic Calming Program; I was only attempting to relate the parameters as a place to start because you specifically asked about it. The program does have minimum and maximum limits but that does not mean there may not be a way to attack the problem on 7th outside of the traffic calming program. Still, we should look at the traffic counts and calming program as a place to start.

You have correctly identified two of the main problems we are trying to solve with the non-motorized effort. Commuters are a problem because they are much harder to reach than residents. The driving culture of Michigan is another. Seventy thousand people drive into Ann Arbor each day to work and they bring that culture with them. These drivers are negatively conditioned because in nearly every city in Michigan the pedestrian and cyclist are second class citizens. The city has been working with cycling and pedestrian advocates/activists to come up with a plan to solve these problems. If you have the time, I invite you to join the Alt Transportation Group.

Thank you for bringing the traffic problems on 7th to my attention.

John

From: Matt Grocoff [mailto:]
Sent: Tuesday, October 07, 2008 6:06 PM

To: Hieftje, John

Cc: Anglin, Mike; Kelly Grocoff; Kevin Leeser; Robert Beane; Cassandra Hartley; Jacinta Beehner; Rita Mitchell; Ed Steinman; Thore Bergman; Brewster Boyd; Matt Grocoff

Subject: Re: Pedestrian Right of Way

John: Thanks so much for your quick reply and mutual concern. We're looking forward to working with you to make 7th Street and all Ann Arbor streets safe for non-motorized transportation.

I'm not sure there are any safe crosswalks on 7th. But, the worst is perhaps 7th at Washington. We have never seen any traffic enforcement. However, we regularly see auto accidents at that intersection (and hear squealing tires and near misses on an almost daily basis) . It is only a matter of time before one of these accidents involves a pedestrian or a cyclist.

Increased traffic enforcement would be a good start. Drivers also need to be educated about the pedestrian right of ways. Cities like Portland, Santa Monica, Sarasota, Orlando, all have a culture of pedestrian right-of-way. We share the experience with others who have newly arrived from the west coast who have nearly been rear-ended when we stop for pedestrians.

Children from Slauson often attempt to cross down by Waterworks Park - where there is no cross walk (but should be). Kelly and I watched from our porch as one girl tripped in front of an oncoming - speeding - car. Our hearts sank - the car screeched and stopped with a few feet to spare . . . this time. The road dips and traffic routinely travels well above the speed limit as the cars come down the hill from Huron and Liberty. There is no stop sign or stop signal at Washington and 7th. Vehicles should - but rarely ever do - stop for pedestrians. Not the other way around.

The other day I watched a pregnant woman and her toddler in a stroller unable to cross the street and having to run back to the curb as traffic sped through the cross walk. It's astonishing. I travel around the country where cars stop dead in their tracks to allow pedestrians on the sidewalk to enter a cross walk. Here, I fear the day when a car stops a pedestrian dead.

The driving culture in Ann Arbor must be changed if we are going to have a truly walkable, bikeable and sustainable community. It should be part of Step 1 in the sustainability process: restore priority to pedestrians, bikes and public transportation.

The history of how 7th became a through-fare is irrelevant to the 80 year old woman or any pedestrian who fears for their life as they cross any part of 7th. The facts are these: 7th street is 1.5 miles long between Miller and Stadium; it is a 100% residential street; there are zero businesses in the . If there are issues with the law . . . then the law will need to be changed. But, leaving it as is would not be acceptable for the residents of the OWS and would not be in-sync with our sustainability goals.


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One more note to this already rambling email . . . what public policy is served by allowing drivers to continue traveling at unsafe speeds (even 30 mph) in order to save mere few seconds during their 1.5 mile trip down 7th?

Thanks again for all your help!

Kelly and Matt


<http://safetyonseventh.blogspot.com/>

On Tue, Oct 7, 2008 at 4:43 PM, Hieftje, John <JHieftje@a2gov.org> wrote:

Hi Matt:

I will have the recent cross walk ordinance change sent to you.

There is a packet available for pick up at the clerk's office that contains instructions on the traffic calming process and how streets are judged to qualify. There are a minimum and maximum numbers of cars that figure into the qualifications.

I don't know the traffic count on 7th but my guess is that it may have too many cars to qualify for calming. Our engineers may have a recent count but if not, it could be redone. I will find out what they know.

I don't know the original plan for 7th but I would guess it evolved into what it is long ago. My earliest memories of 7th come from when I used to live on Princeton as a kid in the late 1950's and early 60's. It was already a major connector.

The City's traffic calming program is based on national models, what has worked and has not worked in other places but we made it a little easier to qualify than some other programs.

If you give me the cross streets on 7th that you are concerned with, I can ask for increased speed limit enforcement. It usually helps in the short term.

Thanks for writing.

John Hieftje

From: Matt Grocoff [mailto:████████████████████]
Sent: Tuesday, October 07, 2008 4:17 PM
To: Anglin, Mike; Hieftje, John
Cc: Kelly Grocoff; Kevin Leaser; Robert Beane; Cassandra Hartley; Ali Waggener Boyd; Brewster Boyd; Jacinta Beehner; Thore Bergman
Subject: Pedestrian Right of Way

John and Mike: I have a huge favor to ask. Can you please send me the ordinance - recently passed - giving pedestrians the right of way in a cross walk?

Also, please let me know who we would need to contact to start the process of getting calming devices on 7th St. 7th has been allowed to become a through-way when it is in fact a 100% residential street with over 60 access points per mile.

Our neighbors have watched way too many pedestrians (children from Slauson included) in near-miss accidents with speeding cars and trucks (including Ann Arbor City vehicles).

Thanks for your help.

Matt

--
Matthew Grocoff, Esq.
www.Greenovation.TV (Coming Soon!)
<http://greenovationtv.blogspot.com/>
████████████████████
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████████████████████

Elias, Abigail

From: Pirooz, Homayoon
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 3:41 PM
To: Bergren, Mike
Cc: McCormick, Sue; Cawley, Patrick; Hieftje, John; Fraser, Roger
Subject: FW: Pedestrian Right of Way

Thank you!

From: Bergren, Mike
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 2:33 PM
To: Cawley, Patrick
Cc: Pirooz, Homayoon; McCormick, Sue
Subject: RE: 7th and Washington

The markings are scheduled for Thursday 10/16, the signage is scheduled for Tuesday 10/14.

From: Cawley, Patrick
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 1:55 PM
To: Bergren, Mike
Cc: Pirooz, Homayoon
Subject: 7th and Washington

Mike

Just a follow up on our meeting this afternoon. If field services can put in the markings (continental or ladder) and pedestrian warning signs for the interim. we will explore the long term improvements such as the refuge island.

Thanks

Patrick Cawley, PE, PTOE
City of Ann Arbor
Project Management
734-994-6095

Elias, Abigail

From: Greden, Leigh
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 3:46 PM
To: Crawford, Tom; Teall, Margie
Subject: RE: Fire Meeting Change

Yup, I can do 1-3pm.

From: Crawford, Tom
Sent: Mon 10/13/2008 12:03 PM
To: Teall, Margie; Greden, Leigh
Subject: RE: Fire Meeting Change

The Fire group on shift 2 are in on the 22nd and could do 1-3. They're scheduled to be out the 23rd. Leigh - can you do 1-3 on 22nd?

From: Teall, Margie
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 11:40 AM
To: Greden, Leigh; Crawford, Tom
Subject: RE: Fire Meeting Change

I already have a meeting scheduled from 11-1 on the 22nd. I could meet from 1-3 that day, or I could do a 12-2 on the 23rd?

From: Greden, Leigh
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 10:56 AM
To: Crawford, Tom; Teall, Margie
Subject: RE: Fire Meeting Change

I would prefer 12-2pm (over lunch) on 10/22.

From: Crawford, Tom
Sent: Mon 10/13/2008 8:13 AM
To: Teall, Margie; Greden, Leigh
Subject: Fire Meeting Change

My apologies for the confusion on the Fire meeting last Friday. Margie suggested we re-schedule for this Fri. noon - 2, but it appears I'm going to be out and it's not the day for Shift 2 to work at Fire. Is there any chance you two would be available for 2 hrs sometime between 10 & 2 next Wed. (10/22)?

Elias, Abigail

Subject: Fire Team Meeting
Location: Fire Station #1

Start: Wed 10/22/2008 1:00 PM
End: Wed 10/22/2008 3:00 PM
Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: Crawford, Tom
Required Attendees: Crawford, Tom; Greden, Leigh; Teall, Margie; Julian, Stephanie (Sharpe); Cretsinger, Melissa

Elias, Abigail

Subject: Updated: Fire Charter Meeting
Location: Fire Station Training Room

Start: Wed 10/22/2008 1:00 PM
End: Wed 10/22/2008 3:00 PM
Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: Hopkins, Samuel
Required Attendees: Hopkins, Samuel; Dziubinski, Edwin; Hollingsworth, Greg; Vogel, Robert; Perry, Allan; Hughes, Matthew; Ferris, Craig; Greden, Leigh; Teall, Margie; Julian, Stephanie (Sharpe); Crawford, Tom
Optional Attendees: Singleton, Sarah

Rescheduled.

Elias, Abigail

From: Hieftje, John
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 4:19 PM
To: Pirooz, Homayoon; McCormick, Sue; Fraser, Roger
Cc: Rolla, Elizabeth; Hutchinson, Nicholas; Cawley, Patrick; Bergren, Mike; Kluczynski, Brad
Subject: RE: Pedestrian Right of Way

Thank you to all. Please continue to keep me informed as this moves along.

I greatly appreciate the swift response.

John Hieftje

From: Pirooz, Homayoon
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 3:34 PM
To: Hieftje, John; McCormick, Sue; Fraser, Roger
Cc: Rolla, Elizabeth; Hutchinson, Nicholas; Cawley, Patrick; Bergren, Mike; Kluczynski, Brad
Subject: FW: Pedestrian Right of Way

Good afternoon,

We visited the intersection of Washington St and 7th Street this morning. The block of 7th street, between Huron St and Washington St has a relatively significant "hump" which contributes to the problem(s) described in the e-mails below. It is too late for this year to begin new construction on the roads; however we can offer the following short and long term plans for your consideration:

1. Short term: Our Field Operations has already converted the traffic light at the intersection to an LED light so the vehicular traffic can notice the intersection sooner and slow down and watch for pedestrian. In addition and in the next few weeks, they will mark the crosswalk south of the intersection w/ continental/zebra type pedestrian pavement markings for also a better visibility. Field Ops will add more signs on 7th St, near the intersection to get the attention of the drivers and to watch for pedestrians. Last they will clear the vegetation/brush that is on the west side of 7th St-north of Washington St intersection, to improve the visibility all around.
2. Long term plan: This winter we will design a "pedestrian refuge island" for the south leg of the intersection on 7th street. The plan is to build the refuge island next summer in 2009. This improvement by itself must solve the problem for the most part.
3. This winter we will also determine whether or not we can remove the "hump" by rebuilding the first block of 7th street, north of its intersection with Washington St. If this idea turns out to be a feasible option, we will add the construction work to one of our next summer road reconstruction/resurfacing projects.

Thank you.

From: Hieftje, John
Sent: Thursday, October 09, 2008 5:10 PM
To: McCormick, Sue
Cc: Fraser, Roger
Subject: FW: Pedestrian Right of Way

Hi Sue:

I hope the traffic folks can pay some attention to this. I sent an email along a couple of days ago and this is a follow up. The intersection of Washington and 7th needs some work. Its a little scary. Please let me know what can be done.

Thanks,

John

From: Hieftje, John
Sent: Thursday, October 09, 2008 5:07 PM
To: 'Robert Beane'
Subject: RE: Pedestrian Right of Way

Hello:

Thank you very much for your kind words. I will be getting a report next week detailing the number of tickets written this week. The best course is usually to hit an area with increased enforcement, let off for a bit and then go back at it again. In this way the drivers perceive that the police will have a continuing presence so they better watch their speed.

I have already asked for traffic data on 7th and was planning on using that as a place to start. Once that is in next steps can be decided on. I was over there yesterday to take a look and noticed that drivers were humming along and the sight lines are not so good. We need to have city engineers take a close look at the intersection and determine the best way to make it safe. A full blown plan for 7th will take awhile to develop but as you suggest, some quick action would have an impact.

Thank you again for writing.

John Hieftje

From: Robert Beane [mailto:████████████████████]
Sent: Thursday, October 09, 2008 12:12 PM
To: Hieftje, John
Subject: Re: Pedestrian Right of Way

Hi John,

I'm a neighbor of Matt & Kelly Grocoff on 7th St and wanted to thank you for your quick response to his email. On my way to work this morning I passed an officer clocking drivers and was proud to see such quick action from a simple email to the mayor. Its another part of what makes Ann Arbor such a great place to live.

We're fully aware of the fact that 7th will always be a high-traffic street, but my concern is the speed of drivers and the cross-walk at Washington. We're always very careful to wait for an opening in the traffic before crossing, but when a car speeds south from the Huron intersection we can't see it, and it can't see us until its nearly too late. Unfortunately a majority of the time

this happens the driver of the car chooses to just swerve out of the way into the oncoming lane, just a couple feet away from us, rather than stop or even slow down. Having a 2-year old son and another on the way, this is a major concern for us. We live on the OWS for its proximity to town and take advantage of it on a near daily basis, meaning a near daily crossing at that cross-walk. As careful as we may try to be during every crossing, it feels like its just a matter of time before one of these close encounters becomes too close.

In my humble opinion, it seems like a quick simple action of more signs at the top of the hills near Huron and Liberty would make a big impact. A reminder of the speed limit, and at minimum a "STOP FOR PEDESTRIANS" sign or something of the sort... especially near the Huron intersection.

Anyhow, I'm rambling, but the main purpose of this email was to express my appreciation for your quick actions with the patrolling officers.

Thanks again,
Rob

On Tue, Oct 7, 2008 at 10:42 PM, Hieftje, John <JHieftje@a2gov.org> wrote:

Hi Matt:

I have already asked staff the pertinent questions and requested further enforcement.

I have been an advocate for lower speeds for years but it has been an uphill battle. The position of the State Police is that our limits are too low and based on their data a group of citizens who want to enforce the 80% standard all over town are threatening to sue the city. I will continue to swim upstream on this issue.

In regard to the minimum and maximum speeds allowed in the Traffic Calming Program; I was only attempting to relate the parameters as a place to start because you specifically asked about it. The program does have minimum and maximum limits but that does not mean there may not be a way to attack the problem on 7th outside of the traffic calming program. Still, we should look at the traffic counts and calming program as a place to start.

You have correctly identified two of the main problems we are trying to solve with the non-motorized effort. Commuters are a problem because they are much harder to reach than residents. The driving culture of Michigan is another. Seventy thousand people drive into Ann Arbor each day to work and they bring that culture with them. These drivers are negatively conditioned because in nearly every city in Michigan the pedestrian and cyclist are second class citizens. The city has been working with cycling and pedestrian advocates/activists to come up with a plan to solve these problems. If you have the time, I invite you to join the Alt Transportation Group.

Thank you for bringing the traffic problems on 7th to my attention.

John

From: Matt Grocoff [mailto:████████████████████]
Sent: Tuesday, October 07, 2008 6:06 PM
To: Hieftje, John
Cc: Anglin, Mike; Kelly Grocoff; Kevin Leeser; Robert Beane; Cassandra Hartley; Jacinta Beehner; Rita Mitchell; Ed Steinman; Thore Bergman; Brewster Boyd; Matt Grocoff
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sidewalk to enter a cross walk. Here, I fear the day when a car stops a pedestrian dead.

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John Hieftje

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To: Anglin, Mike; Hieftje, John
Cc: Kelly Grocoff; Kevin Leaser; Robert Beane; Cassandra Hartley; Ali Waggener Boyd; Brewster Boyd; Jacinta Beehner; Thore Bergman
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Thanks for your help.

Matt

--

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www.Greenovation.TV (Coming Soon!)

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

--

Matthew Grocoff, Esq.

www.Greenovation.TV (Coming Soon!)

<http://greenovationtv.blogspot.com/>

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Elias, Abigail

From: Higgins, Marcia
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 4:38 PM
To: McCormick, Sue
Cc: Higgins, Marcia
Subject: RE: Tree Planting

It is very helpful. As we move into the 2 year budget planning process, would you please include the trimming cycle and the long term effects. I believe this merits real dialog.

Thanks for a great explanation.

marcia

From: McCormick, Sue
Sent: Mon 10/13/2008 2:47 PM
To: Higgins, Marcia; Gray, Kerry; Teall, Margie
Cc: Wade, Molly; Hupy, Craig; Henderson, Karla
Subject: RE: Tree Planting

Sure, with our need to maximize our efforts to provide for EAB removals, we have only been doing critical trimming for about 4 years now. Prior to that we had a tree trimming cycle that had been revised due to General Fund limitations, but was intended to trim on a 7 year cycle. With critical trimming, we address hazards such as large dead or broken branches in ROW, sight distance trimming and other basic public safety issues. The impacts are that not trimming on cycle will long term affect the health and longevity of the urban forest, as well as result in more storm damage, etc. Hope this is helpful.

From: Higgins, Marcia
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 2:20 PM
To: McCormick, Sue; Gray, Kerry; Teall, Margie
Cc: Wade, Molly; Hupy, Craig; Henderson, Karla; Higgins, Marcia
Subject: RE: Tree Planting

Hi Sue,

The 08 Plan that Kerry sent was great. I was looking at where replantings have occurred opposed to who did them. Both years seem to be spread across the entire city.

One item below caught my attention. "and for recovering from years of setting aside the basic trimming cycle."

Could you provide a more in-depth explanation?

Thanks,

Marcia

From: McCormick, Sue
Sent: Mon 10/13/2008 8:42 AM
To: Gray, Kerry; Higgins, Marcia; Teall, Margie
Cc: Wade, Molly; Hupy, Craig; Henderson, Karla
Subject: RE: Tree Planting

Hi Margie and Marcia,

FY 09 is the first year that we actually had a Tree Planting plan. Prior to that, we had nominal ability to plant trees - we were focused on removals and using any other resources we had for trimming, which is severely behind. Any planting we did was largely in support of the not for profit efforts that Kerry notes below and the private citizen plantings. FY09 is a banner year in that we are actually programmed for some replanting. This has only been

possible because of the resources in the Parks (millage) and the priority given to replanting in key watersheds (funded by stormwater) We are not dedicating any significant general fund resources to replanting, reserving those dollars for support of the not for profit and private efforts, and for recovering from years of setting aside the basic trimming cycle. Again, sorry for the confusion.

Sue

From: Gray, Kerry
Sent: Friday, October 10, 2008 4:18 PM
To: Higgins, Marcia; Teall, Margie
Cc: McCormick, Sue; Wade, Molly; Hupy, Craig; Henderson, Karla
Subject: RE: Tree Planting

Attached is a list I have compiled of the trees that were planted in FY 08. This is based on records from Global ReLeaf of Michigan who headed the Tree Teams, the Dean Fund Committee and Rotary Club. I am very sorry for the confusion with your request and the delay in getting the information that you were seeking.

If you have specific questions regarding the locations of the trees, please contact Kay Sicheneder in Field Operations at 971.0370.

Kerry Gray
Urban Forestry & Natural Resources Planner
City of Ann Arbor- Systems Planning Unit
100 N. Fifth Avenue, PO Box 8647
Ann Arbor, MI 48107-8647
Phone: 734.994.6178/ Fax: 734.996.3064
Email: kgray@a2gov.org

From: Higgins, Marcia
Sent: Thursday, October 02, 2008 4:30 PM
To: Gray, Kerry; Teall, Margie
Cc: McCormick, Sue; Naud, Matthew; Fraser, Roger; Wade, Molly; Sicheneder, Kay
Subject: RE: Tree Planting

Could you forward to Margie and I the FY 08 Tree Planting Schedule?
Thanks,
Marcia

From: Gray, Kerry
Sent: Thu 10/2/2008 2:37 PM
To: Teall, Margie; Higgins, Marcia
Cc: McCormick, Sue; Naud, Matthew; Fraser, Roger; Wade, Molly; Sicheneder, Kay
Subject: RE: Tree Planting

I spoke with Mr. Parker and explained to him that unfortunately, at this time, the City is not accepting tree planting requests due to the large number of ash trees that have been lost due to the emerald ash borer (~8000 street trees). There are a lot of areas in the City that need to be replanted and currently locations for replanting are selected based on areas that have lost the most ash trees and where replanting efforts have not been taking place.

I explained to him that the City developed a tree planting plan for FY 09 (please see attached) and his neighborhood was identified as an area that needed replanting. I spoke with Kay Sicheneder the Forestry Field Operations Supervisor and asked her the status of fall planting locations and Field Operations will not be replanting in his neighborhood this fall but may plant there in spring or fall 2009. Field Operations makes the final determination on planting locations taking into consideration the size of the lawn extension, the presence of underground/overhead utilities and whether replanting has occurred there recently. I let him know that Field Operations could not guarantee that a tree would be planted in front of his home next spring or fall but that his site would be evaluated as a potential location if his street is selected for tree planting. If he did not want to wait, I provided him with the option of getting a forestry permit (free) to have a contractor plant a tree in his lawn extension. If he chose to do that he could receive a tax deduction on his federal income taxes.

He is obviously frustrated with the wait time but he was very kind in listening to my explanation of where the City's forestry program is right now. I emailed him my contact information and told him he can contact me anytime with questions.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kerry

Kerry Gray
Urban Forestry & Natural Resources Planner
City of Ann Arbor- Systems Planning Unit
100 N. Fifth Avenue, PO Box 8647
Ann Arbor, MI 48107-8647
Phone: 734.994.6178/ Fax: 734.996.3064
Email: kgray@a2gov.org

From: Teall, Margie
Sent: Thursday, October 02, 2008 12:02 PM
To: Arthur Parker; Higgins, Marcia
Cc: McCormick, Sue; Naud, Matthew; Fraser, Roger
Subject: RE: Tree Planting

Mr. Parker:

I will forward your questions on to our Public Services and Environmental Coordinator, and hopefully someone will be able to call you soon. I don't know who you have talked to at the City, but I'm sorry that you have had to hear any abrupt or rude responses.

Sue or Matt: Could someone please give Mr. Parker a call and let him know how what he can expect in terms of tree replacement on Barnard Rd? Thank you.

-Margie

From: Arthur Parker [mailto:████████████████████]
Sent: Thursday, October 02, 2008 11:53 AM
To: Higgins, Marcia
Cc: Teall, Margie
Subject: Tree Planting

As constituent, I need your assistance in getting some answers, and hopefully some results from the City, regarding the replacement of four or five trees on Barnard Rd. The trees were lost many years ago to the Ashbore, as were many others in Ann Arbor. Attempts to get a criteria from the forestry dept. on the how the replanting is prioritized have met with abrupt and often rude responses. Most of the residents of this one block street are elderly, and frankly don't have all that much time to wait for trees to be planted, let alone grow. We see newly planted trees along the fairways of City owned golf courses, and streets such as Maple Rd. that don't even abut residential property. It seems to us, that of the 500 trees to be planted by the city this fall, they could spare four or five for our street, which has waited patiently for five or more years.

Parker

Your assistance would be appreciated.

Arthur

1530 Barnard Rd.

Ph [REDACTED]

Elias, Abigail

From: Hieftje, John
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 4:41 PM
To: McCormick, Sue; Fraser, Roger
Subject: FW: Pedestrian Right of Way

Do you see a reason why we would not proceed with these changes? I would like to notify the neighborhood ASAP but I do not want to raise any false hopes.

Thanks,

John

From: Pirooz, Homayoon
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 3:34 PM
To: Hieftje, John; McCormick, Sue; Fraser, Roger
Cc: Rolla, Elizabeth; Hutchinson, Nicholas; Cawley, Patrick; Bergren, Mike; Kluczynski, Brad
Subject: FW: Pedestrian Right of Way

Good afternoon,

We visited the intersection of Washington St and 7th Street this morning. The block of 7th street, between Huron St and Washington St has a relatively significant "hump" which contributes to the problem(s) described in the e-mails below. It is too late for this year to begin new construction on the roads; however we can offer the following short and long term plans for your consideration:

1. Short term: Our Field Operations has already converted the traffic light at the intersection to an LED light so the vehicular traffic can notice the intersection sooner and slow down and watch for pedestrian. In addition and in the next few weeks, they will mark the crosswalk south of the intersection w/ continental/zebra type pedestrian pavement markings for also a better visibility. Field Ops will add more signs on 7th St, near the intersection to get the attention of the drivers and to watch for pedestrians. Last they will clear the vegetation/brush that is on the west side of 7th St-north of Washington St intersection, to improve the visibility all around.
2. Long term plan: This winter we will design a "pedestrian refuge island" for the south leg of the intersection on 7th street. The plan is to build the refuge island next summer in 2009. This improvement by itself must solve the problem for the most part.
3. This winter we will also determine whether or not we can remove the "hump" by rebuilding the first block of 7th street, north of its intersection with Washington St. If this idea turns out to be a feasible option, we will add the construction work to one of our next summer road reconstruction/resurfacing projects.

Thank you.

From: Hieftje, John
Sent: Thursday, October 09, 2008 5:10 PM
To: McCormick, Sue
Cc: Fraser, Roger
Subject: FW: Pedestrian Right of Way

Hi Sue:

I hope the traffic folks can pay some attention to this. I sent an email along a couple of days ago and this is a follow up. The intersection of Washington and 7th needs some work. Its a little scary. Please let me know what can be done.

Thanks,

John

From: Hieftje, John
Sent: Thursday, October 09, 2008 5:07 PM
To: 'Robert Beane'
Subject: RE: Pedestrian Right of Way

Hello:

Thank you very much for your kind words. I will be getting a report next week detailing the number of tickets written this week. The best course is usually to hit an area with increased enforcement, let off for a bit and then go back at it again. In this way the drivers perceive that the police will have a continuing presence so they better watch their speed.

I have already asked for traffic data on 7th and was planning on using that as a place to start. Once that is in next steps can be decided on. I was over there yesterday to take a look and noticed that drivers were humming along and the sight lines are not so good. We need to have city engineers take a close look at the intersection and determine the best way to make it safe. A full blown plan for 7th will take awhile to develop but as you suggest, some quick action would have an impact.

Thank you again for writing.

John Hieftje

From: Robert Beane [mailto:████████████████████]
Sent: Thursday, October 09, 2008 12:12 PM
To: Hieftje, John
Subject: Re: Pedestrian Right of Way

Hi John,

I'm a neighbor of Matt & Kelly Grocoff on 7th St and wanted to thank you for your quick response to his email. On my way to work this morning I passed an officer clocking drivers and was proud to see such quick action from a simple email to the mayor. Its another part of what makes Ann Arbor such a great place to live.

We're fully aware of the fact that 7th will always be a high-traffic street, but my concern is the speed of drivers and the cross-walk at Washington. We're always very careful to wait for an opening in the traffic before crossing, but when a car speeds south from the Huron intersection we can't see it, and it can't see us until its nearly too late. Unfortunately a majority of the time this happens the driver of the car chooses to just swerve out of the way into the oncoming lane, just a couple feet away from us, rather than stop or even slow down. Having a 2-year old son and another on the way, this is a major concern for us. We live on the OWS for its proximity to town and take advantage of it on a near daily basis, meaning a near daily crossing at that cross-walk. As careful as we may try to be during every crossing, it feels like its

just a matter of time before one of these close encounters becomes too close.

In my humble opinion, it seems like a quick simple action of more signs at the top of the hills near Huron and Liberty would make a big impact. A reminder of the speed limit, and at minimum a "STOP FOR PEDESTRIANS" sign or something of the sort... especially near the Huron intersection.

Anyhow, I'm rambling, but the main purpose of this email was to express my appreciation for your quick actions with the patrolling officers.

Thanks again,
Rob

On Tue, Oct 7, 2008 at 10:42 PM, Hieftje, John <JHieftje@a2gov.org> wrote:

Hi Matt:

I have already asked staff the pertinent questions and requested further enforcement.

I have been an advocate for lower speeds for years but it has been an uphill battle. The position of the State Police is that our limits are too low and based on their data a group of citizens who want to enforce the 80% standard all over town are threatening to sue the city. I will continue to swim upstream on this issue.

In regard to the minimum and maximum speeds allowed in the Traffic Calming Program; I was only attempting to relate the parameters as a place to start because you specifically asked about it. The program does have minimum and maximum limits but that does not mean there may not be a way to attack the problem on 7th outside of the traffic calming program. Still, we should look at the traffic counts and calming program as a place to start.

You have correctly identified two of the main problems we are trying to solve with the non-motorized effort. Commuters are a problem because they are much harder to reach than residents. The driving culture of Michigan is another. Seventy thousand people drive into Ann Arbor each day to work and they bring that culture with them. These drivers are negatively conditioned because in nearly every city in Michigan the pedestrian and cyclist are second class citizens. The city has been working with cycling and pedestrian advocates/activists to come up with a plan to solve these problems. If you have the time, I invite you to join the Alt Transportation Group.

Thank you for bringing the traffic problems on 7th to my attention.

John

From: Matt Grocoff [mailto:████████████████████]
Sent: Tuesday, October 07, 2008 6:06 PM
To: Hieftje, John
Cc: Anglin, Mike; Kelly Grocoff; Kevin Leeser; Robert Beane; Cassandra Hartley; Jacinta Beehner; Rita Mitchell; Ed Steinman; Thore Bergman; Brewster Boyd; Matt Grocoff
Subject: Re: Pedestrian Right of Way

John: Thanks so much for your quick reply and mutual concern. We're looking forward to working with you to make 7th Street and all Ann Arbor streets safe for non-motorized transportation.

I'm not sure there are any safe crosswalks on 7th. But, the worst is perhaps 7th at Washington. We have never seen any traffic enforcement. However, we regularly see auto accidents at that intersection (and hear squealing tires and near misses on an almost daily basis) . It is only a matter of time before one of these accidents involves a pedestrian or a cyclist.

Increased traffic enforcement would be a good start. Drivers also need to be educated about the pedestrian right of ways. Cities like Portland, Santa Monica, Sarasota, Orlando, all have a culture of pedestrian right-of-way. We share the experience with others who have newly arrived from the west coast who have nearly been rear-ended when we stop for pedestrians.

Children from Slauson often attempt to cross down by Waterworks Park - where there is no cross walk (but should be). Kelly and I watched from our porch as one girl tripped in front of an oncoming - speeding - car. Our hearts sank - the car screeched and stopped with a few feet to spare . . . this time. The road dips and traffic routinely travels well above the speed limit as the cars come down the hill from Huron and Liberty. There is no stop sign or stop signal at Washington and 7th. Vehicles should - but rarely ever do - stop for pedestrians. Not the other way around.

The other day I watched a pregnant woman and her toddler in a stroller unable to cross the street and having to run back to the curb as traffic sped through the cross walk. It's astonishing. I travel around the country where cars stop dead in their tracks to allow pedestrians on the sidewalk to enter a cross walk. Here, I fear the day when a car stops a pedestrian dead.

The driving culture in Ann Arbor must be changed if we are going to have a truly walkable, bikeable and sustainable community. It should be part of Step 1 in the sustainability process: restore priority to pedestrians, bikes and public transportation.

The history of how 7th became a through-fare is irrelevant to the 80 year old woman or any pedestrian who fears for their life as they cross any part of 7th. The facts are these: 7th street is 1.5 miles long between Miller and Stadium; it is a 100% residential street; there are zero businesses in the . If there are issues with the law . . . then the law will need to be changed. But, leaving it as is would not be

acceptable for the residents of the OWS and would not be in-sync with our sustainability goals.

It also makes no sense that there are "too many cars" for calming. "Too many cars" is exactly the reason for calming.

I was recently working in Portland, OR for over a week. There are streets with far greater traffic than 7th which have very effective calming. First, **cars stop for pedestrians - always - no exceptions**. Second, **every intersection has a mini-traffic circle which reduces speed to 15 mph**. Third, **the speed limit is 25 mph and is strictly enforced**. Not surprisingly, driving is down, walking and biking are rising rapidly. Everyone is happier with the changes.

One more note to this already rambling email . . . what public policy is served by allowing drivers to continue traveling at unsafe speeds (even 30 mph) in order to save mere few seconds during their 1.5 mile trip down 7th?

Thanks again for all your help!

Kelly and Matt

[REDACTED]

<http://safetyonseventh.blogspot.com/>

On Tue, Oct 7, 2008 at 4:43 PM, Hieftje, John <JHieftje@a2gov.org> wrote:

Hi Matt:

I will have the recent cross walk ordinance change sent to you.

There is a packet available for pick up at the clerk's office that contains instructions on the traffic calming process and how streets are judged to qualify. There are a minimum and maximum numbers of cars that figure into the qualifications.

I don't know the traffic count on 7th but my guess is that it may have too many cars to qualify for calming. Our engineers may have a recent count but if not, it could be redone. I will find out what they know.

I don't know the original plan for 7th but I would guess it evolved into what it is long ago. My earliest memories of 7th come from when I used to live on Princeton as a kid in the late 1950's and early 60's. It was already a major connector.

The City's traffic calming program is based on national models, what has worked and has not worked in other places but we made it a little easier to qualify than some other programs.

If you give me the cross streets on 7th that you are concerned with, I can ask for increased speed limit enforcement. It usually helps in the short term.

Thanks for writing.

John Hieftje

From: Matt Grocoff [mailto:m.grocoff@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 07, 2008 4:17 PM
To: Anglin, Mike; Hieftje, John
Cc: Kelly Grocoff; Kevin Leeser; Robert Beane; Cassandra Hartley; Ali Waggener Boyd; Brewster Boyd; Jacinta Beehner; Thore Bergman
Subject: Pedestrian Right of Way

John and Mike: I have a huge favor to ask. Can you please send me the ordinance - recently passed - giving pedestrians the right of way in a cross walk?

Also, please let me know who we would need to contact to start the process of getting calming devices on 7th St. 7th has been allowed to become a through-way when it is in fact a 100% residential street with over 60 access points per mile.

Our neighbors have watched way too many pedestrians (children from Slauson included) in near-miss accidents with speeding cars and trucks (including Ann Arbor City vehicles).

Thanks for your help.

Matt

--
Matthew Grocoff, Esq.
www.Greenovation.TV (Coming Soon!)
<http://greenovationtv.blogspot.com/>
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

--
Matthew Grocoff, Esq.
www.Greenovation.TV (Coming Soon!)
<http://greenovationtv.blogspot.com/>

(b) (7) (C) [REDACTED]
(b) (7) (D) [REDACTED]

Elias, Abigail

Subject: Fire Team Meeting
Location: Fire Station #1

Start: Wed 10/22/2008 1:00 PM
End: Wed 10/22/2008 3:00 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Accepted

Organizer: Crawford, Tom
Required Attendees: Crawford, Tom; Greden, Leigh; Teall, Margie; Julian, Stephanie (Sharpe); Cretsinger, Melissa

Elias, Abigail

From: Ron Suarez [drronsuarez@gmail.com] on behalf of Councilmember Ron Suarez [ron.suarez@loudfeed.com]
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 5:24 PM
To: Greden, Leigh
Cc: Fales, Mary Joan; Rapundalo, Stephen; Beaudry, Jacqueline; Anglin, Mike; Suarez, Ron
Subject: Re: Liquor Committee Meeting

I'm keeping Friday, October 17th at 3:30 pm available for the Liquor Committee meeting.

- Ron Suarez

Greden, Leigh wrote:
I am also available.

From: Fales, Mary Joan
Sent: Fri 10/10/2008 2:18 PM
To: Rapundalo, Stephen; Beaudry, Jacqueline; Anglin, Mike; Greden, Leigh; Suarez, Ron
Subject: RE: Liquor Committee Meeting

I am available on 10/17 at that time if needed.

Mary Joan Fales
Senior Assistant City Attorney
City of Ann Arbor
100 N. Fifth Ave., POB 8647
Ann Arbor, MI 48107-8647
office: (734) 994-2670
business cell: (734) 972-5071
fax: (734) 994-4954
email: mfales@a2gov.org

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From: Stephen Rapundalo [<mailto:srapundalo@a2gov.org>]
Sent: Friday, October 10, 2008 1:14 PM
To: Beaudry, Jacqueline; Rapundalo, Stephen; Anglin, Mike; Greden, Leigh; Suarez, Ron; Fales, Mary Joan
Subject: Re: Liquor Committee Meeting

Works for me

Stephen

Stephen Rapundalo, Ph.D.
Councilmember - Ward 2

City of Ann Arbor
(734) 476-0648 - mobile
srapundalo@a2gov.org

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: "Beaudry, Jacqueline" <JBeaudry@a2gov.org>
Date: Fri, 10 Oct 2008 13:15:16 -0400
To: Rapundalo, Stephen<SRapundalo@a2gov.org>; Anglin, Mike<MAnglin@a2gov.org>; Greden, Leigh<LGreden@a2gov.org>; Suarez, Ron<RSuarez@a2gov.org>; Fales, Mary Joan<MFales@a2gov.org>
Subject: Liquor Committee Meeting

Hi:
Several emails have gone around about a Special Meeting date for the Liquor Committee.
How about next Friday, October 17? We could do our usual time at 3:30 if that would work.

FYI – John Carlton, the owner of Habana, is requesting to attend the next meeting.

Let me know if this works for everyone.

Thanks.

Jacqueline Beaudry
City Clerk
City of Ann Arbor
734-994-2725 (p)
734-994-8296 (f)

Elias, Abigail

From: Ron Suarez [drronsuarez@gmail.com] on behalf of Councilmember Ron Suarez [ron.suarez@loudfeed.com]
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 6:28 PM
To: Hieftje, John; Anglin, Mike; Briere, Sabra; Kunselman, Stephen
Subject: Last minute change

Sorry I will not be able to make it to the work session this evening. A conflict came up in the last minuet.

- Ron

Elias, Abigail

From: Hieftje, John
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 6:30 PM
To: Suarez, Ron
Subject: RE: Last minute change

Thanks Ron.

-----Original Message-----

From: Ron Suarez [mailto:drroonsuarez@gmail.com] On Behalf Of Councilmember Ron Suarez
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 6:28 PM
To: Hieftje, John; Anglin, Mike; Briere, Sabra; Kunselman, Stephen
Subject: Last minute change

Sorry I will not be able to make it to the work session this evening. A conflict came up in the last minuet.

- Ron

Elias, Abigail

Subject: Meet w/Stephen Rapundalo ref. Liquor Commission Meeting (on Friday)
Location: Chief's Office

Start: Tue 10/14/2008 11:30 AM
End: Tue 10/14/2008 12:30 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Accepted

Organizer: Jones, Barnett
Required Attendees: Connelly, Jeff; Rapundalo, Stephen

Elias, Abigail

From: Greden, Leigh
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 7:22 PM
To: Easthope, Christopher
Subject:

He's still upstairs. He moves slowly. Every McGillicutty possible attended Brownfield: Karen, Floyd, Stew, HD.

Elias, Abigail

Subject: Fire Team Meeting

Location: Fire Station #1

Start: Wed 10/22/2008 1:00 PM

End: Wed 10/22/2008 3:00 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Accepted

Organizer: Crawford, Tom

Required Attendees: Crawford, Tom; Greden, Leigh; Teall, Margie; Julian, Stephanie (Sharpe); Cretsinger, Melissa

Elias, Abigail

From: Greden, Leigh
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 7:22 PM
To: Crawford, Tom
Subject: Accepted: Fire Team Meeting

Elias, Abigail

From: Greden, Leigh
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 7:22 PM
To: Hopkins, Samuel
Subject: Accepted: Updated: Fire Charter Meeting

Elias, Abigail

From: Easthope, Christopher
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 7:23 PM
To: *City Council Members (All); Fraser, Roger; Miller, Jayne
Subject: FW:New Program Hope for Homeowners
Attachments: FW: New Program Hope for Homeowners

FYI...housing resource

Elias, Abigail

From: Higgins, Marcia
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 7:23 PM
To: Greden, Leigh
Subject: were you okay with the brownfield meeting? It was the quietest I've ever seen.

Elias, Abigail

From: Fraser, Roger
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 7:35 PM
To: Hieftje, John; Postema, Stephen
Cc: jkosteva@umich.edu
Subject: RE: Early morning U-M drum practice: request for change

Please remember the University position on noise. The "U" has its own noise ordinance, the provisions of which can be waived by the "U" administration. If the band is on University property, then our noise ordinance does not apply, according to the "U". However, in previous years, Jim Kosteva has been effective in mitigating these circumstances, a little

-----Original Message-----

From: Hieftje, John
Sent: Saturday, October 11, 2008 8:40 AM
To: Postema, Stephen; Fraser, Roger
Subject: FW: Early morning U-M drum practice: request for change

Happy Game Day!

Does the band really have an exemption other than being on UM property? Is it something we gave them?

If not, do we have any way to limit their noise making to certain hours?

Thanks,

John

-----Original Message-----

From: Jim Ottaviani [mailto:]
Sent: Saturday, October 11, 2008 8:10 AM
To: Easthope, Christopher; Anglin, Mike
Cc: Hieftje, John; Kat Hagedorn
Subject: Early morning U-M drum practice: request for change

Dear Council Members Easthope and Anglin:

This morning we were woken by loud drumming at 7 a.m. We are used to stadium noise, but not this early, and request that this practice be stopped.


I called the non-emergency line for the Ann Arbor Police, and the person I spoke with confirmed that the band had an exemption allowing them to start drumming this early on game days.

While we realize that the band must practice and are used to hearing them do so for hours each week during the football season, we do not think they should do so before the sun is up, regardless of the game's start-time.

So, we request that they no longer be allowed to begin their practice sessions before sunrise, or 8 a.m., whichever comes later.

Thank you,

Jim Ottaviani and Kat Hagedorn
816 Hutchins Ave.
Ann Arbor, MI 48103



Elias, Abigail

From: Higgins, Marcia
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 7:46 PM
To: Greden, Leigh
Subject: RE: were you okay with the brownfield meeting? It was the quietest I've ever seen.

did everything you want get covered.

From: Greden, Leigh
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 7:24 PM
To: Higgins, Marcia
Subject: RE: were you okay with the brownfield meeting? It was the quietest I've ever seen.

I say little when the public is present-- especially when 70% of them are from Burns Park! I expect my neighbors to complain, but I believe it's a very defensible Brownfield credit: no interest, doesn't cover green elements, there's pollution, etc.

From: Higgins, Marcia
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 7:23 PM
To: Greden, Leigh
Subject: were you okay with the brownfield meeting? It was the quietest I've ever seen.

Elias, Abigail

From: Greden, Leigh
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 7:47 PM
To: Teall, Margie
Subject: RE:

I think you should go and see what she says. Here are their likely arguments and the responses:

Their argument: The pollution might not have been caused by a dry cleaner. Response: Even if that's true, so what. It's undisputed that there's pollution on-site. The source of the pollution is irrelevant.

Their argument: This is a tax giveaway. Response: The taxes currently rec'd by the City won't change at all. Then, when the Brownfield credit expires, the taxes paid to the City will dramatically increase.

Their argument: The Brownfield Credit should only go for soil remediation, which is a minority of the total requested costs. Response: The other requested activities are all lawful and will benefit the neighborhood. And, the developer is NOT requesting credits for other eligible activities, including their LEED stuff (green roof, etc.) or interest.

Their argument: We should stand up to the developer and vote down Brownfield, make him bring back the 25 floors, and then vote it down. Response: We'll lose in Court. When we do, it will be big: probably \$5-10 million. Ask Gwen: which six parks will you close to pay for that? Change is like aging: it's inevitable. Fight it all you want, but it will happen. And this 14-floor project is much better than the 25-floor project.

From: Teall, Margie
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 7:36 PM
To: Greden, Leigh
Subject:

How did Brownfields go? Should I go to lunch tomorrow at Gwen's or should I stay away??

Elias, Abigail

From: Greden, Leigh
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 8:27 PM
To: Easthope, Christopher
Subject:

You should leave in about 5 min. Wanna make sure you get there 10 minutes early to get water, get miked up, etc.

Elias, Abigail

From: Higgins, Marcia
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 8:28 PM
To: Greden, Leigh
Subject: you look bored to death!

Elias, Abigail

From: Higgins, Marcia
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 8:29 PM
To: Greden, Leigh
Subject: RE: you look bored to death!

it is changing.

From: Greden, Leigh
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 8:29 PM
To: Higgins, Marcia
Subject: RE: you look bored to death!

I have a headache. I think the barometric pressure is changing-- that's about the only time I get headaches.

From: Higgins, Marcia
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 8:28 PM
To: Greden, Leigh
Subject: you look bored to death!

Elias, Abigail

From: Greden, Leigh
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 8:32 PM
To: 'Sandi Smith'; 'lderezinski@comcast.net'; 'Christopher TAYLORC'; 'carsten@westpole.com'
Subject: MI Municipal League - The Public Officials Guide to Duties of Office

All: You might find useful this document from the Michigan Municipal League.

<http://www.mml.org/foundation/elg/index.html>

Elias, Abigail

From: Greden, Leigh
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 8:32 PM
To: Fraser, Roger
Subject: FW: MI Municipal League - The Public Officials Guide to Duties of Office

Thanks for sending this. I forwarded to the new Members.

-----Original Message-----

From: Greden, Leigh R. [mailto:greden@MillerCanfield.com]
Sent: Friday, October 10, 2008 4:48 PM
To: Greden, Leigh
Subject: FW: MI Municipal League - The Public Officials Guide to Duties of Office

-----Original Message-----

From: Fraser, Roger [mailto:RFraser@a2gov.org]
Sent: Friday, October 03, 2008 4:55 PM
To: Greden, Leigh R.
Cc: Postema, Stephen; Burke, Brigitte
Subject: FW: MI Municipal League - The Public Officials Guide to Duties of Office

You may want to share this site with your new colleagues.

-----Original Message-----

From: Burke, Brigitte
Sent: Wednesday, October 01, 2008 8:35 AM
To: Fraser, Roger
Subject: MI Municipal League - The Public Officials Guide to Duties of Office

Hello Roger,

The MML has an online resource which may be of interest to our City Council.

Regards,

Brigitte

<http://www.mml.org/foundation/elg/index.html>

NOTICE TO PERSONS SUBJECT TO UNITED STATES TAXATION (MCPS)

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Elias, Abigail

From: Anglin, Mike
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2008 8:33 PM
To: Rapundalo, Stephen; Beaudry, Jacqueline; Greden, Leigh; Suarez, Ron; Fales, Mary Joan
Subject: RE: Liquor Committee Meeting

Yes I can make this meeting.

Mike Anglin

From: Stephen Rapundalo [mailto:strapundalo@a2gov.org]
Sent: Friday, October 10, 2008 1:14 PM
To: Beaudry, Jacqueline; Rapundalo, Stephen; Anglin, Mike; Greden, Leigh; Suarez, Ron; Fales, Mary Joan
Subject: Re: Liquor Committee Meeting

Works for me

Stephen

Stephen Rapundalo, Ph.D.
Councilmember - Ward 2
City of Ann Arbor
(734) 476-0648 - mobile
strapundalo@a2gov.org

Sent from my Verizon Wireless BlackBerry

From: "Beaudry, Jacqueline" <JBeaudry@a2gov.org>
Date: Fri, 10 Oct 2008 13:15:16 -0400
To: Rapundalo, Stephen<SRapundalo@a2gov.org>; Anglin, Mike<MAnglin@a2gov.org>; Greden, Leigh<LGreden@a2gov.org>; Suarez, Ron<RSuarez@a2gov.org>; Fales, Mary Joan<MFales@a2gov.org>
Subject: Liquor Committee Meeting

Hi:

Several emails have gone around about a Special Meeting date for the Liquor Committee. How about next Friday, October 17? We could do our usual time at 3:30 if that would work.

FYI – John Carlton, the owner of Habana, is requesting to attend the next meeting.

Let me know if this works for everyone.

Thanks.

Jacqueline Beaudry
City Clerk
City of Ann Arbor
734-994-2725 (p)

