



## City Manager Report

July 21, 2026

### Kickoff Priorities for Fiscal Year 2026/2027

- Our new fiscal year started July 1. City Council's priorities for the new year have also kicked off. They can be viewed here: <https://tinyurl.com/24c94xy3>
- The priorities were developed after a review of master plan survey results, full day strategic planning meeting, and workshop meeting.

### Elizabeth Street

- At the last Council workshop, our engineers presented their findings and options for improvements on Elizabeth Street, from Allegan to Francis.
- Based on Council's feedback, a design engineering proposal has been prepared for the following work:
  - Replace existing water main between Hoffman Street and Main Street with new 8-inch water main, valves and hydrants. Replace existing water services with a new curb stop at or near the right of way line along the water main replacement limits.
  - Replace water services along the entire corridor of Elizabeth Street, to be verified and replaced (in-part or in full) based on Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) Lead and Copper Rules.
  - Repair sanitary manholes and sanitary mains, where required. The sanitary sewer within the existing alley between Allegan Street and Mason Street will be abandoned.
  - Replace the sanitary sewer from Mason Street south to the existing alley between Allegan Street and Mason Street.
  - Reconstruct Elizabeth Street within the limits of water main replacement and the sanitary sewer replacement, preserving existing curb and gutter, where practical.
  - Remove all existing asphalt between Francis Street and Allegan Street and resurface the road.
  - Remove all existing asphalt on Hoffman Street between Elizabeth Street and the High School parking lot and resurface the road.
  - Spot remove and replace failing curb and gutter, as necessary for utility improvements, along the corridor.
  - Upgrade the existing sidewalk curb ramps to be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

- Install a 5-foot concrete sidewalk on the west side of Elizabeth Street between Allegan Street and Bayview Condos, including retaining walls and fencing, where required.
- Install a 5-foot concrete sidewalk on the east side of Elizabeth Street in front of Saugatuck School property from the existing sidewalk to either the mid-block crosswalk or to Francis Street (specific limits to be confirmed during design).
- Upgrade crosswalks with appropriate safety measures along the corridor.
- Council will be reviewing again at the workshop on July 22.

### **Parking Improvements Task Force**

- The Task Force has two meetings left. The next meeting is scheduled for July 29. Topics will include:
  - Parking Occupancy Field Work and Mapping – results from the week of July 13 data collection
  - July 22 Music in the Park Debrief
  - Elizabeth and Water Street Analyses for Opportunities for Parking-Space Gains
  - City Policy Regarding Restaurant Use of On-Street Parking
  - Walker Report Executive Summary Draft
  - Process for Communicating Study Results to Council
  - Remaining Task Force meeting dates – Tuesday, August 25
- All of the consultant reports can be found on the City website: <https://www.saugatuckcity.com/parking-improvements-task-force.html>

### **Logo and Branding Committee**

- The logo and branding committee met again recently to review a second round of design iterations. Another review meeting is scheduled for this week.
- We hope to present a recommendation to Council in August.

### **Maple Street Construction Update**

- Water main installation has been completed. Water service installation will occur in the upcoming weeks for the remaining residents on Maple Street. Water main tie-ins will be occurring at State Street and Blue Star Highway in the upcoming weeks. The underground storm water storage was installed last week at Maple Street and Mason Street. Grading for the sidewalk on the west side of Maple Street has begun and will continue this week. We could see some concrete sidewalk placed by Blue Star Highway as early as next week. Furthermore, stormwater improvements will be installed this week and in the coming weeks.
- If you have questions, please contact the following:
  - Public Works - Michelle Gibson, Project Coordinator - (269) 224-9504
  - Fleis & VandenBrink Engineering
    - Jon Moxey, P.E., Project Manager – (616) 588-1925

- Peter Tierney, P.E., Project Manager – (616) 914-8621

### Other Updates

- **Mt. Baldhead Upper Platform** – Design engineering continues. Construction is still planned for fall or spring.
- **Park Street Planning** – A kickoff meeting will be scheduled soon to review data and begin gathering public feedback on options.
- **Village Square Courts** – Survey and boring work complete. Design continues. Construction is planned for fall or spring.
- **Wicks Park and Village Square Park Restroom Renovations** – Engineering developed a proposal for interior and exterior improvements. Council expressed interest in demolition and replacement of the Wicks restroom due to drainage and flooding problems. This is being explored further, including replicating the mural on the exterior of a new restroom. Replicating the mural is a clear priority.
- **Blue Star Trail** – Archeological survey work is planned for August.
- **Outdoor AEDs** - Saugatuck-Douglas HEARTSafe has raised funds to deploy several outdoor AEDs. They are working with Public Works on locations and logistics.

### Capital Improvement Plan

- We are often asked when certain roads will be repaved or when other public infrastructure and amenities will be improved.
- Each year, City staff works with our engineers to update the City's five-year Capital Improvement Plan, which is then reviewed and approved by the City Council. The plan establishes project priorities and a projected implementation timeline.
- The Capital Improvement Plan includes projects related to roads, water, sewer, parks, and other public infrastructure. It is updated annually, and priorities may change based on infrastructure conditions, community needs, available funding, and grant opportunities.
- The latest plan can be viewed here: <https://tinyurl.com/mry6du3f>

### Early Voting

- Early voting for the August election is scheduled from July 25 – August 2. Early voting will be open from 8a-4p each day at the City of the Village of Douglas (415 Wiley Rd).

### Upcoming Meetings

Full meeting packets are posted on the City website and Facebook prior to each meeting. When available, they can be viewed by selecting the board/commission:

- July 22 at 4p – City Council Workshop Meeting
- July 27 at 6:30p – City Council Regular Meeting
- July 28 at 10a – Parks and Public Works Committee
- July 29 at 3p – Parking Improvements Task Force
- August 6 at 6p – Historic District Commission