



City Manager Report

June 24, 2026

Elizabeth Street

- Our engineers have gathered various options and cost estimates for Elizabeth Street. The improvements currently being evaluated include:
 - Road resurfacing or reconstruction
 - Water main replacement (including replacement of services, some to inside the home/building)
 - Sanitary sewer improvements
 - Drainage and stormwater management improvements
 - Non-motorized improvements (sidewalk improvements and/or extension)
- We are planning on options being presented to City Council at the July 8 workshop.

Park Street Planning

- Topographic survey is complete and our engineers are gathering options for non-motorized enhancements and other infrastructure needs. A kickoff meeting will be scheduled soon to review data and begin gathering public feedback on options.

Parking Improvements Task Force

- The next meeting is scheduled for June 30. Reports in the packet include:
 - Parking Yield Analysis: Converting Butler Street to One-Way Traffic from Lucy Street to Culver Street
 - Employee Parking Data
 - Loading Zone and ADA Parking
 - Proposed Final Deliverable Framework
- 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 has reviewed five design iterations based on the survey feedback and inspiration words we gathered so far.
- Concept A is furthering developing some of the design iterations.
- The committee will be reviewing round 2 in early July and hopes to present Council with three options and a recommendation in the second half of July.

Maple Street Construction Update

- Water main is approximately half done. The water main tie-in at Allegan Street was completed earlier this week. Water main installation north of Allegan Street is continuing this week.
- Water service installation for homes south of Allegan Street will be completed this week. Residents who have not yet scheduled their water service replacement are encouraged to do so as soon as possible. Temporary water interruptions may occur during these replacements.
- Started some grading work for sidewalk.
- We are seeing some through traffic on site. This slows down the process and creates unsafe conditions for both workers and the public. Please do not drive through active work zones or around construction equipment. If crews are actively working in a section of the roadway, please use the designated route and avoid entering the work area. Local traffic will continue to have access to homes and businesses along Maple Street.
- 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.
- Village Square Courts – Survey and boring work are complete. Design continues. Construction is planned for fall or spring.
- Wicks Park and Village Square Park Restroom Interior Renovations – Engineering met with staff in April to review scope/needs. They are developing a proposal for design.
- Blue Star Trail – Archeological survey work is pending approval of detailed work plan by MDOT and tribal nations.
- Outdoor AEDs - Saugatuck-Douglas HEARTSafe has raised funds to deploy 10 outdoor AEDs. They are working with Public Works on locations and logistics.
- Wicks Park Boat Slips – We still have a couple available. First come first serve.
- Chain Ferry Landings – The new ramps and arbors were installed prior to the start of the season.

Recycling Estimates

- Allegan County is currently working on a Materials Management Plan. As part of their data gathering efforts, they asked how much recycling volume each community has. Republic provided me with the following estimates:
 - 38.43 Tons (1x/month service)
 - 82.29 tons (Every other week service)

- These are amazing results from our work to increase the frequency of recycling pickup.

4th of July Weekend

- The [Saugatuck/Douglas](#) CVB has planned a fun-filled Fourth of July weekend packed with live music, fireworks, a hometown parade, and family-friendly activities!



4th of July Weekend

Brought to you by
Saugatuck Douglas
Area Convention and Visitors Bureau



Friday, July 3rd at 7-9pm
Jake Stevens Band at Wicks Park Gazebo
 Sponsored by: Three Arbors

Friday, July 3rd at Dusk
Fireworks over Lake Kalamazoo
 Sponsored by: City of Saugatuck, City of the Village of Douglas
 and Saugatuck Township

Saturday, July 4th at 11am
**Parade in Downtown Saugatuck
 & Park Party in Wicks Park**
 Line up at Saugatuck High School starting at 10am
 Park Party will feature yard games, face painting, balloon twisting,
 a live DJ, award for most spirited outfit, and a pie eating contest.
 Sponsored by: The Butler Pantry and JPD Construction

Visit Saugatuck.com for more information

New Free Shuttle Service Between Saugatuck and Douglas

- Some great news from Interurban and CVB:
 - We're excited to share a new transportation option for visitors this summer.
 - Beginning this Friday, the Interurban will launch a new continuous shuttle service between downtown Saugatuck and downtown Douglas, making it easier than ever for guests to explore both communities without having to move their vehicles or search for parking.
 - This new free shuttle service is sponsored by the CVB as part of our ongoing efforts to improve the visitor experience and encourage guests to explore all that our area has to offer.
 - A route map is included above for your reference.
 - The shuttle will operate through August 30 on the following schedule:
 - Fridays & Saturdays: 1:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
 - Sundays: 1:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
 - We encourage you to share this information with your staff and guests, especially during busy weekends and special events.
 - Please note that this new shuttle service is in addition to Interurban's regular on-demand transportation services. This [PDF](#) provides an overview of all

services offered by the Interurban Transit Authority and can be printed and shared with guests.

- Thank you for helping us spread the word.

Free Continuous Loop Service (June 19 – August 30)

Shuttle Loops Run Every 15 Minutes on the Following Days:

Wed
6PM – 9PM
(Loop 1 Only)

Fri – Sat
1PM – 9PM

Sun
1PM – 7PM

**Loop 1:
Downtown Saugatuck**

- P** Saugatuck High School (Free Parking)
401 Elizabeth St.
- 1** Chain Ferry Landing
528 Water St.

**Loop 2:
Saugatuck & Douglas**

- 1** Saugatuck High School
401 Elizabeth St.
- 2** Saugatuck Drug Store
Corner of Mason and Butler St.
- 3** Douglas Elementary School
261 W. Randolph St.
- 4** Beery Field
Center St.

Chain Ferry

- Sharing a great article highlighting the Chain Ferry and the unique experience it provides: <https://enjoyer.com/saugatuck-chain-ferry-best-summer-job-michigan/>

Oval Beach News Coverage

- On a national level, Oval Beach just landed at #2 as the best lake beach!
<https://10best.usatoday.com/awards/best-lake-beach/>
- For the third year in a row, Oval Beach made USA Today's top 10 best beaches in Michigan. We came in at #6, which is higher than 2025 (#8) and 2024 (#7). See the full list here: <https://tinyurl.com/2s4j3s6y>
- Some great local news coverage as well -
<https://www.fox17online.com/weather/weather-articles/saugatucks-oval-beach-draws-visitors-from-across-the-country-to-lake-michigan>

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:

- June 30 at 3p – Parking Improvements Task Force
- July 2 at 6p – Historic District Commission
- July 8 at 4p – City Council Workshop Meeting
- July 13 at 6:30p – City Council Regular Meeting
- July 16 at 6:30p – Planning Commission