



Good Afternoon Everyone,

This is the City Manager's week in review for the week of June 29, 2020:

City Offices Closed – In observance of the Independence Day holiday, City offices are closed on July 3, 2020.

Crisis Response Planning – A team of City Council and City staff have been meeting to develop a crisis response plan. The team met on Tuesday to continue the discussion about what a crisis plan for the City looks like. A resolution will be presented to City Council on July 6th.

Old Library – I took a tour of the Old Library with an individual interested in occupying the building once the library vacates. I directed the individual to submit a written proposal to City Council describing their interest in the space and their proposed terms.

Blue Star Highway – Safety improvements continue to be installed on Blue Star Highway Trail to elevate the visibility of the lane change at the Blue Star Bridge. Recently DPW installed 18" bollards and this week they installed reflective chevrons at each road end. We received one complaint about the lack of visibility of the chevrons from a biker's perspective which DPW will be addressing with additional reflective tape on the back of the sign. The chevrons are mounted on break away posts and are spring loaded so they will break / bend if a vehicle enters the pathway. I took the opportunity to walk portions of the trail with the DPW Director and we observed that the heavy traffic was moving well, and that the sheriff's department had to navigate the traffic with lights flashing. I observed some traffic confusion at the Main and Blue Star intersection regarding the pedestrian crossing. We may have to review the need for flashing hawk signals if the pedestrian traffic warrants the need.

Beach to Bayou Pavers – The Deputy City Clerk and DPW have been working on wrapping up the installation of the engraved pavers bought to support the Beach to Bayou trail project. There are two locations with commemorative pavers—Center and Washington Streets and Center and Main Streets.

History – The History Center installed historical signs in the window of the old Kismet Bakery at the intersection of Center and Main Streets. Check out the installation. It is well done.

Yield to Peds – DPW installed "yield to pedestrians per local law" signage at several locations around the City. With the installation of the signage, the police department can better enforce yields. My observation was that the signage slowed traffic down considerably.

Facilities – I had an engineer and electrician at City Hall to evaluate the cost of renovating the upstairs of City Hall. I'll be able to provide more information once the report is provided to me.

Blue Star Bridge Inspection – I received the final report from the 2018 Blue Star Bridge Inspection today. Overall, the bridge is sound, but needs a few routine maintenance items. In 3-5 years, the Cities of Douglas and Saugatuck will have to have a more intense maintenance program to fix some paint issues, concrete spalling, joint repairs, and cracks.

COVID-19 – In the latest update from the Governor, Executive Order 2020-143 closes indoor service at bars. "To protect our state from a new wave of infections and to increase the likelihood that we can reopen schools in the fall, this order closes bars and nightclubs for indoor service in those regions that are in Phase 4 of the Michigan Safe Start Plan. Restaurants can remain open for indoor service, but alcohol can be served only to patrons who are seated at socially distanced tables.

Common areas where people stand and congregate within restaurants must be closed. Restaurants and bars may remain open for outdoor seating, but only for seated customers at socially distanced tables.”

I have attached a press release from the Allegan County Health Department regarding safe practices over the holiday weekend.

That is all I have for now. Have a great 4th of July weekend.

Rich LaBombard
City Manager

ALLEGAN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: JULY 1, 2020

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Allegan County Health Department Urges COVID-19 Safety as Independence Day Celebrations Near

(Allegan, MI)— The Allegan County Health Department (ACHD) encourages residents to protect loved ones and themselves during the upcoming July 4 weekend and other planned summer celebrations. Residents should continue practicing safe steps to reduce the chances of getting or spreading COVID-19. As the reopening of restaurants, bars, group gatherings, and other activities continue, the risk of COVID-19 spread increases.

According to [Executive Order 2020-110](#) for Region 3 in Michigan, rules on gatherings and events does allow for larger social gatherings of people not part of the same household (10) indoors and (100) outdoors but they must be able to maintain six feet distance from one another. In addition, outdoor parks and recreational facilities may be open, provided the reasonable modifications are made to allow employees and patrons not part of the same household to maintain six feet of distance from one another, and close areas in which social distancing cannot be maintained. Region 3 includes Allegan County.

“Areas in Michigan have seen a surge in COVID-19 cases; yet if our community commits to wearing face coverings in public spaces, excellent hand hygiene, and social distancing, we can continue to slow the spread of the virus in our community,” states ACHD Health Officer, Angelique Joynes, MPH, RN. “Research has shown that the more community members practice these actions, the transmission of this virus decreases.”

ACHD urges residents to continue practicing COVID-19 precautions to keep you and your loved ones safe this holiday weekend. Recommendations for gatherings include:

- Keeping gatherings small and following the Executive Orders.
- Making sure areas are cleaned and disinfected, before and after use.
- Meeting outside.
- Mindful distancing. Keeping six feet apart from others outside your household.
- Eating outdoors. Consider getting takeout from your favorite places.

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- Wearing a mask, if possible.
- Washing or sanitizing hands often.
- Not sharing food, drinks, or other items. For small gatherings, having everyone bring their own snacks or serving food with single-use utensils.
- Avoiding large crowds outdoors and indoors. If social distancing cannot be maintained, facemasks are strongly encouraged.

For Allegan County statistics, visit our dashboard at <https://bit.ly/3e0GIFk>, Michigan's Coronavirus site at www.michigan.gov/coronavirus, or the MI Safe Start Map at <https://mistartmap.info/>. COVID-19 resources can be found by visiting Allegan County's COVID-19 website at <https://bit.ly/38erjiR>.

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