



Good Afternoon Everyone,

This is the City Manager's week in review for the week of August 24, 2020.

**Union Street Resurfacing** – Work on the Union Street resurfacing project began this week. The culvert at the dip on South Union was replaced early in the week and the manhole structures were removed and adjusted in preparation for road milling. The milling crews are on site as of Friday to mill down the road surface. The true transformation begins on Monday when paving crews will begin the resurfacing work. All the work is weather dependent. As of now, Center Street remains open to thru traffic when construction crews are not present near the intersection.

**Pickleball Club** – I received an update from the president of the pickleball club this week. They continue to have great turnout at the courts and routinely leave at least one court available for the public to use during club hours. Because of COVID, they have limited the interaction of the public with club members. The club used to invite the public to join the games and also offer lessons, but the COVID concerns caused them to rethink how they interact with non-club members.

**Point Pleasant** – The City is working closer to the final closing on the purchase of Point Pleasant Marina. The City was awarded a DNR Trust Fund Acquisition grant to purchase the marina and the grant covers 75 percent of the purchase price. The purchase of the marina is included in the waterfront master plan and is attractive to the community for several reasons. It provides the public an opportunity to have another point of access to the waterfront which is one of the goals of the waterfront master plan. Also, owning a municipal marina qualifies the community for the opportunity to apply for funding assistance for future channel dredging projects that will be necessary to keep the harbor navigable. With the current high-water levels, the topic of dredging doesn't seem as pressing, but the great lakes went from record low levels to record high levels in just 8 years. If you'd like to see the waterfront master plan, go to: <https://ci.douglas.mi.us/public-marine-plan/>

**South Street Survey** – Residents located within 300 feet of South Street have been mailed a survey asking about their opinion in converting the street to a one-way westbound street. Once the survey closes, the results will be evaluated and if the residents agree to the change, it will be taken to City Council for approval. If approved, new signage will be added to the street indicating the direction of travel. The idea of making this a one-way street is necessary because of the limited site visibility at the South Street / Water Street intersection and due to the road being very narrow—so narrow its difficult for two cars to pass.

**Schultz Park MDOT Fence** – There have been questions about the condition of the fence along the highway at Schultz Park. MDOT has informed me that its is scheduled to be replaced during a project in 2021.

**Consumer Energy Tree Grant** – The City's Executive Assistant was successful in getting a "Right Tree, Right Place" grant from Consumers Energy to assist with replanting trees in several locations around the City. The grant provides up to \$100 per tree for 14 locations. The intent of the program is to plant the proper size tree within the

appropriate proximity of power lines. For example, small growing trees can be planted directly under power lines, and larger trees planted further away from the influence of power lines. The “Right Tree, Right Place” program reduces the amount of tree maintenance activities performed by the power company. Congratulations Jenny, this was her first ever grant.

That is all I have for now.

Have a great weekend.

Rich LaBombard  
City Manager