



Good Afternoon Everyone.

This is the City Manager's week in review for the week of September 14, 2020.

**Lakeshore Drive Erosion** – The City continues to monitor the top side erosion at Lakeshore Drive south of Center Street. The Zoning Administrator and I responded to several complaints this week regarding the property, traffic and on-site construction activities. We spoke directly with the owner and shared our concerns about the long-term stability of the utilities, the slope, and the roadway. I also fielded multiple calls from residents regarding the status of the erosion. The property owner is working with engineers to implement a plan to stabilize the erosion and revegetate the slope. We have asked that the City's Engineer be provided with a courtesy review of the solution prior to implementation. Until permanent measures are put into place, the City DPW, KLSWA, and the other agencies are prepared in the event the situation needs immediate action. A pile of fill material has been staged at Douglas Beach for quick access if it's needed to backfill eroded areas. Residents experiencing a sudden drop in water pressure should contact the City or KLSWA immediately.

**Tax Day** – The final day for collecting taxes was Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup> and City Hall had a significant amount of traffic. Both the Treasurer and the Executive Assistant were busy most of the day handling payments. Thanks Matt and Jenny for all your hard work.

**Douglas Beach** – Edgewater Resources was at Douglas beach this week collecting topographic survey information in preparation for the engineered design of the revetment work.

**EPA Clean up Grant** – I had a meeting with the City's Environmental Engineering firm about an EPA Clean Up grant application being developed for 200 Blue Star Highway. The \$500,000 grant is available to communities to clean up contaminated sites. City staff will be providing information and a narrative for the grant application in coming weeks. The initial thought of our consultant was that we have a good chance to receive the grant funds.

**Downtown Pavement Marking** – DPW worked this week on freshening up the pavement markings in downtown this week. DPW was able to repaint parking stripes, crosswalks and stop bars quickly and efficiently with the new pavement marking machine. The equipment cut down staff time to a fraction of the time is used to take to repaint lines by hand.

**Treasurer** – Wednesday the new Treasurer and I spent some time reviewing project sites around the City. It was a good opportunity for him to see the variety of projects the City is working on and a chance for him to ask questions and get up to speed with progress.

**Water Main Projects** – The water main on Whittier Street is installed and is being pressure tested and chlorinated to kill bacteria. Water samples will be taken next week to determine if the main is bacteria free. Once the testing is complete, the water services will be tied over to the new main and the trenches will be backfilled and compacted in preparation for road paving. Crews have moved over to McVea Street while they await water sample results.

**Saugatuck Interim City Manager** – I had an introductory meeting with Karen Homan this week. Ms. Homan will be the interim City Manager of Saugatuck until the position is filled permanently. The Saugatuck Township Manager, myself, and Ms. Homan plan to meet in the near future to discuss common interests among the three communities.

**Inside Out Art** – An art curator was providing mini lectures about the Detroit Institute of Art Inside Out artworks displayed in downtown Douglas this week. Small groups gathered at each piece of art and were provided a presentation of the art and artist. It was a perfect day for the event and was well received.

**Water Street Curb** – The City opened bids to install a curb on Water Street hill that will help control erosion. The Water Street hill is an ongoing maintenance issue following rain events. The volume and speed of water rushing down the hill continuously erodes the road edge and requires DPW to restore the slope after rain events. The cost of the curb installation will be recaptured with staff time savings.

**Pride Garden** – A ribbon cutting ceremony is planned for this Saturday (9-19) at 3:00 p.m. If you haven't been to the garden, take the time to walk thru. It's a beautiful addition to downtown.

That is all I have for now. Have a great weekend.

Rich LaBombard  
City Manager