



The Village of Friendliness – Since 1870

This is the City Manager's week in review for the week of March 13, 2023.

MDOT Bridge Work – In a meeting this week with MDOT, we learned that upcoming bridge work at exit 36 and exit 41 will impact traffic this summer. The exit 36 bridge will be completely redecked starting in April and lasting through October. While we didn't get an opportunity to review the detour plan, those in attendance had concerns about how traffic would be managed while the work is in progress. MDOT stated that the detour would be complex. I took the opportunity to ask for a temporary traffic signal to be placed at the Blue Star and Wiley intersection based on our last experience with MDOT work and traffic using Blue Star. Their suggestion back to me was a four way stop at the intersection. The exit 41 bridge will be resurfaced and shouldn't have a long-term impact on traffic, in the sense I got from the meeting. Another meeting will be held in the coming weeks to review the detour plan and safety concerns.

Forest Gate – The Planning and Zoning Administrator held a site plan review committee meeting this week to look at updates to the Forest Gate condominium plan. The meeting is necessary to get input about the plan from the developer, City Engineer, Public Works, KLSWA, Police and Fire.

Law Enforcement – A committee met this week to discuss policing and out of jurisdiction calls. We received a copy of the department policy that guides out of jurisdiction priorities. The police department was asked to continue with data gathering and reporting of the out of jurisdiction calls and assists.

Budget Workshop #2 – In the next budget workshop, City Council will take a closer look at budget priorities related to facilities, property, and parks. The budget workshops are beneficial to City Council and staff to determine where to allocate funds for the upcoming fiscal year.

City Engineer – Staff met with the City Engineer to go over projects in progress and requested quotes for projects proposed in the next fiscal year.

Manager's Lunch – This week I was invited to attend lunch with the Holland and Saugatuck City Managers. The meeting was beneficial to talk about collective projects and opportunities to collaborate when possible.

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

Rich LaBombard
City Manager