



City of the Village of Douglas Administration Report Week of January 27th, 2025

Ferry Street Culvert Replacement:

City of Douglas Announces Pre-Construction ADJUSTED Timeline for the Ferry Street Project

The City of Douglas would like to provide an update on the Ferry Street construction project.

The first phase of the project requires lining an existing sewer line to improve longevity. However, due to the sewer liner's unique dimensions, the previously reported project timeline has been adjusted, delaying the start of the project to the last week of February. As a result, the crossing will remain open to public safety until February 23rd but will close starting February 24th.

While this delay is due to circumstances beyond our control, we remain confident that the project will be completed before Memorial Day 2025.

Below is the anticipated NEW timeline for key phases of the project:

- Sewer Lining: Last week of February
- Cofferdam Installation: First through Third Week of March
- Water Main Construction: Fourth Week of March
- Storm Sewer Installation: First Week of April
- Restoration (including guardrail installation): Second & Third Week of April (except paving)
- Paving: Expected to be complete by mid-May.

The goal is to reopen the road to public safety vehicles by the end of April. The road will initially remain gravel, maintained by DPW, until paving is completed. Full access is expected shortly after May 16, 2025. Safety concerns, including guardrail installation, may impact the timeline for general use.

Temporary Water Service Interruptions

During the water main installation, residents in designated areas will experience water shutoffs lasting a minimum of 12 hours. Affected households will receive advance notice to allow for preparation, with letters already mailed on Friday, January 24, 2025.

Additionally, door hangers will be distributed to the affected homes closer to the shut-off date as a reminder, and we will continue to communicate with the public via social media updates, email notifications, and the city website.

Once service resumes, the KLSWA will issue a boil water advisory, requiring water testing over a 72-hour period to confirm safety. Residents, including short-term rental property owners, will be notified when the advisory is lifted.

From February 24th through the end of April, the Saugatuck Township Fire District will be unable to use the affected crossing, potentially impacting emergency response times. The Fire Chief has acknowledged the challenges, but unavoidable safety hazards, such as open ground, necessitate these limitations.

The crossing will also be closed to pedestrians and cyclists during this timeframe. As we have always stated, while the City of Douglas anticipates project completion by Memorial Day 2025, residents are advised that unforeseen delays or issues may extend this timeline, which is the case.

The City of Douglas appreciates the community's patience and understanding as we work diligently to complete this critical project.

Tri-Community Wildlife Deer Survey: In response to concerns/complaints regarding the deer population, the City of Douglas, City of Saugatuck, and Saugatuck Township created the Tri-Community Wildlife Committee. The committee issued a survey in each community that was due on Friday, January 31st, 2025. The results of those surveys will be discussed at the upcoming meeting on Wednesday, February 5th, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at Douglas City Hall. We want to thank everyone who participated.



Let the work begin: The City of Douglas is excited to announce that the work on the new City Hall and Police Department at 415 Wiley Road will commence on February 3rd. Carbon Six Construction is confident that the project will be completed by the end of

September 2025. Over the next month, the City Council is performing their due diligence with the property surplus ordinance, so that we can prepare for the sales of City Hall and Police Station for sale in late March. If you have any questions about any listed properties, please reach out to Bernie Merkle, the city's listing agent, from Coldwell Banker.

We look forward to inviting everyone back in late 2025 for the official ribbon cutting ceremony. Stay tuned for details in the upcoming months.

Short-Term Rentals: If you have a short-term rental, and you have not registered with the City of Douglas or had an inspection completed by the fire department, you could be in violation of the city ordinance and fire code. Please make sure to contact City Hall if you need to register or the fire department (numbers are listed below) if you need an inspection or have any questions. Both are required.

Fire Hydrants, "Keep them Clear": If you are able, please help us by clearing at least 3 feet of space around a fire hydrant located near you when we have snow events. Let's look out for one another's safety. Thank you in advance!

Thank you: The City would like to thank the hardworking men and women in the Douglas Police Department, Department of Public Works, and the Fire Department for everything they did during the recent frigid temps and endless snow. The DPW was out plowing day and night to ensure the roads and sidewalks were safe to use, and the Douglas Police Department and the Fire Department were running consistently to accidents on the highways. We appreciate each and every one of you.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Monday, February 3rd, 2025: Douglas City Council Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. at City Hall

Wednesday, February 5th, 2025: Tri-Community Wildlife Committee Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. at Douglas City Hall

City of the Village of Douglas City Council:

Cathy North, Mayor

Randy Walker, Mayor Pro-Tem

Neal Seabert, Councilmember

Jerry Donovan, Councilmember

John O'Malley, Councilmember

Greg Freeman, Councilmember

Matthew Balmer, Councilmember

City of the Village of Douglas Contact Information:

Website: <https://douglasmi.gov/>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/douglasmi.gov

City Hall: 269-857-1438

Police Department Non-Emergency: 269-857-4339
Saugatuck Township Fire District Non-Emergency: 269-857-3000
Department of Public Works: 269-857-2763
Kalamazoo Lake Sewer and Water Authority: 269-857-2709
Saugatuck-Douglas District Library: 269-857-8241

For emergencies, please call 911

City Hall Hours: Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.