



City of the Village of Douglas Administration Report March 24th-April 4th, 2025

Ferry Street Culvert Project Update – Week Ending April 4, 2025:

Work on the project site continued this week with the successful installation of the remaining sections of the culvert. On Thursday, April 3, two water main tie-ins were completed, which required a temporary water shutdown for some residents. Water service has been restored, but those affected are currently under a Boil Water Advisory. This advisory will remain in place until two consecutive passing water quality tests are confirmed by KLSWA, which is expected early next week. Site restoration efforts have also begun.

Looking ahead to the week of April 7, crews will begin removing the temporary sheeting and will either remove or abandon the old water main. Grading of the sand subbase and gravel for the new roadway will begin, and roadside slope stabilization and restoration work will get underway.

In the coming weeks, the public can expect continued site restoration, paving of the roadway, installation of the guardrail, and application of pavement markings. We appreciate everyone's patience and cooperation as progress continues on this important infrastructure project.

Public Notice: Please Plan Ahead- Notice of Road Closure/Construction on Wiley Road

The City of Douglas is working with CarbonSix to add a fire suppression line to the facility located at 415 Wiley Road. This new fire suppression line will require a new connection to the watermain along Wiley Road.

*Due to the location of the watermain on Wiley Road, this connection will require a full road closure approximately 450ft EAST of the Blue Star Highway / Wiley Road intersection.

This notice is being provided to introduce you to the proposed scope of work and provide a tentative timeline for the road closure, as well as the detour plan.

We anticipate the work to start the week of April 14 with detour signage being installed around 7:00am. The proposed work will take approximately 5-10 business days to

complete dependent on ground water levels and weather. Upon completion of the watermain connection, compacted gravel may be installed to open the road back up to maintain traffic if the asphalt plants are not open yet for the season. If this is the situation, resurfacing the project area will be scheduled as soon as the asphalt plants open. Typically, road resurfacing work can be done in sections/lanes, allowing for intermittent traffic flow and will not require another full road closure.

We anticipate the new connection to the watermain to be a “live tap.” This means that during the connection of the new line to the existing watermain, the service will remain on, requiring no shut off. You should see no interruptions to your water service. Driveway access for residents in the construction zone will be maintained throughout construction, though there may be periods of time when a driveway is temporarily inaccessible with construction operations.

While construction is an inconvenience, the City will work to minimize traffic conflicts and provide access. Active construction operations will limit vehicle travel to impacted residents only. All others should follow the marked detour routes. Parcel delivery services will be allowed to complete their normal deliveries when feasible. Trash and recycling pickup times are anticipated to continue as usual during construction.

If you have questions, please contact Chris Standeford from CarbonSix at 269-767-0239 or the City of Douglas at 269-857-1438 or by email at citymanager@douglasmi.gov.

Tri-Community Wildlife Committee Update: The Tri-Community Wildlife Committee composed of elected council/board members and residents, has been working hard to identify solutions for the growing deer population. At last night's meeting, the group took a big step, passing a resolution recommending the following below. The resolution will now be tailored to each community and will go to the councils/Township Boards next week.

Important Note: The committee appointed a sub-committee to start working on:

- Creating recommended deadlines for controlled hunts
- Assisting in the development of controlled hunt applications
- Researching best practices for regulatory considerations

"The Tri-Community Wildlife Committee recommends that the City of the Village of Douglas, the City of Saugatuck, and Saugatuck Township issue permits and facilitate controlled deer hunts using “Licensed Nuisance Wildlife Control Operators” (sharpshooters) authorized by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR); Such hunts should take place with the permission of private landowners, including Homeowner Associations (HOAs), within their jurisdictions, with all associated costs and liabilities borne by the landowner(s) and/or HOA until the Tri-Community Wildlife Committee determines that the deer population has been brought under control;

The Tri-Community Wildlife Committee further recommends that each municipality facilitate and direct controlled deer hunts on publicly owned lands within their jurisdiction, subject to budgetary constraints, using Licensed Nuisance Wildlife Control Operators (sharpshooters) authorized by the MDNR until the Committee determines the deer population is under control;

And to further manage the deer population, the Tri-Community Wildlife Committee recommends that the City of the Village of Douglas, the City of Saugatuck, and Saugatuck Township revise their existing ordinances to permit the discharge of archery equipment without a special permit, thereby allowing bow hunting of deer during the fall hunting season in accordance with all applicable State of Michigan hunting regulations."

The committee also did extensive research and determined that neither deer contraception nor relocation programs are currently viable due to cost and logistical constraints.

****As a reminder, feeding and baiting deer carries a fine of \$275 and is considered a misdemeanor offense.**

While feeding deer may seem harmless, it contributes to increased populations in residential areas and heightens the risk of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), a fatal neurological illness that can spread rapidly among deer. Reducing artificial food sources is an essential part of responsible wildlife management.

If you suspect someone is feeding or baiting deer, please report it to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) by calling 1-800-292-7800.

Your cooperation helps protect both the community and the local deer population.

Attainable Housing Update: The City received four requests for proposals for the development of attainable housing on the city owned 17 acres on Wiley Road. The proposals were officially unsealed at a public bid opening last Friday.

The City Council will now conduct a full review of each proposal with the help of Flywheel consultant, Ryan Kilpatrick, and determine the best path forward in the upcoming months!

Douglas Marina Park: Douglas Marina Park is getting a significant makeover thanks to a \$100,000 grant from Consumer's Energy Foundation and the generosity of two incredible local donors Bud Baty and Max Matteson.

Plans will be revealed at the Monday, April 7th, 2025, City Council meeting. The meeting starts at 6:00 p.m.

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.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Monday, April 7th, 2025: Douglas City Council meeting at 6:00 p.m. at Douglas City Hall

Thursday, April 10th, 2025: Planning Commission Meeting at 6:00 p.m. at Douglas City Hall

Tuesday, April 15th, 2025: Douglas Harbor Authority meeting at 4:30 p.m. at Douglas City Hall

Monday, April 21st, 2025: Douglas City Council meeting at 6:00 p.m. at Douglas City Hall

Wednesday, April 23rd, 2025: Douglas DDA Meeting at 10:00 a.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.