The City’s Mission is to deliver exceptional services that sustain and enhance a vibrant, safe and diverse community.

City of Ann Arbor
City Administrator’s Report
October 3, 2022

Prepared for City Council. Kindly forward questions, comments, or suggestions for input to mdohoney@a2gov.org, jfournier@a2gov.org, or shiggins@a2gov.org.

Safety Notes

A2 Be Safe! Coronavirus (COVID-19) update. It remains vitally important for everyone to follow the latest public health guidelines, both inside and outside of the workplace, and to get vaccinated when eligible.

City facilities are open to the public. The city will continue to share updated information via all channels — including Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/TheCityOfAnnArbor), Twitter (https://twitter.com/a2gov), NextDoor and via email (subscribe at http://service.govdelivery.com/service/subscribe.html?code=MIANNA_5).

City staff continue to serve the community and residents can always contact the city’s customer service center for assistance Monday–Friday, 7:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m. (except holidays) at 734.794.6320 or via email at customerservice@a2gov.org with questions or concerns.

For the latest COVID-19 health information, please visit www.washtenaw.org/COVID19 or the Centers for Disease Control https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/. For city related business, individual safety reminders include:

- Please check the city’s meeting calendar for the most up-to-date information on public meetings.
- To pay parking tickets, water bills, property taxes, apply for permits as well as other customer service options, residents and visitors are encouraged to take advantage of online services by visiting www.a2gov.org/services.

A2 Be Safe!

Success Stories

Success. Thank you to staff throughout the organization who have worked and continue to work tirelessly, and those who have gone above and beyond during the COVID-19 pandemic. You are appreciated! The City extends appreciation to the Ann Arbor community for their patience; cooperation with mask wearing and distancing; increased handwashing; support of local businesses; and for getting/planning to get vaccinated all in a united effort to bring the pandemic to an end.
Sustainability & Innovations Corner

- Catch up on the latest from the Ann Arbor Office of Sustainability and Innovations (OSI). For more information, including registration links, visit [https://www.a2gov.org/departments/sustainability/Newsletter-Events/Pages/default.aspx](https://www.a2gov.org/departments/sustainability/Newsletter-Events/Pages/default.aspx).

- **Subscribe to the OSI Newsletter** – Every two months we send out a detailed newsletter highlighting some of the sustainability-related activities unfolding in the community. If you aren’t already, consider subscribing by filling out [this short form](https://www.a2gov.org/departments/sustainability/Newsletter-Events/Pages/default.aspx).

- **Solarize** — If you have been thinking about installing solar at your home, OSI’s Solarize program is a great resource to help you navigate the terrain. For details, visit [https://www.a2gov.org/departments/sustainability/Sustainability-Me/Families-Individuals/Pages/Ann-Arbor-Solarize.aspx](https://www.a2gov.org/departments/sustainability/Sustainability-Me/Families-Individuals/Pages/Ann-Arbor-Solarize.aspx). To learn more, to sign up for a Solarize event or to be added to the Solarize mailing list, contact Julie Roth, the Ann Arbor Solarize program coordinator, at jroth@a2gov.org.

- **Join the Ann Arbor Resident Race to Zero Home Energy Challenge.** Ann Arbor residents are invited to participate in a multi-week challenge to reduce their energy consumption, save money and win prizes. The challenge, known as the Resident Race to Zero Home Energy Challenge is an opportunity for residents to learn how they can improve their homes’ energy efficiency and health while reducing their carbon footprint. Created by the City of Ann Arbor Office of Sustainability and Innovations and the GreenHome Institute, this challenge will help residents identify easy actions they can take to improve home health, comfort and lower energy bills while also engaging in friendly competition with other residents to see who can lower their energy and water usage the most! More information is available via [https://www.a2gov.org/news/pages/article.aspx?i=912](https://www.a2gov.org/news/pages/article.aspx?i=912).

- **Fall 2022 Free Tree Giveaway** — OSI is excited to announce our next Free Tree Giveaway event through the 10,000 Trees Initiative will be on Sunday, Oct. 2, at the Leslie Science & Nature Center! To see a list of available species and register for a time slot to pick up some trees, please visit [https://bit.ly/Fall22FreeTree](https://bit.ly/Fall22FreeTree). Please note that registration opened Saturday, Sept. 24.

- **Sustaining Ann Arbor Together.** The City administers a grant program for residents to advance community-wide sustainability, known as the Sustaining Ann Arbor Together (SA²T) grant program. SA²T is currently accepting applications for this year’s grant program. Successful applicants can receive up to $10,000 to advance social or environmental sustainability in the community. Learn more at [www.a2gov.org/sa2t](http://www.a2gov.org/sa2t). The most recently awarded grants are available via [https://www.a2gov.org/news/pages/article.aspx?i=906](https://www.a2gov.org/news/pages/article.aspx?i=906).

- **UPCOMING EVENTS**
  - **Bandemer Park Workdays, third Tuesdays, 8:30–10 a.m.** — OSI has adopted Bandemer Park and holds a monthly workday there with GIVE365 (on the third Tuesday of each month, except December–February). If you are interested in volunteering to help maintain Bandemer Park with OSI (by picking up trash, removing invasives, clearing brush from trails, etc.), please email Melissa at adopt-a-park@a2gov.org.
• Ann Arbor Solar Stories, first Thursday of each month, online, 7-8 p.m.: Hosted by the GLREA, hear from Ann Arborites who have gone solar, and have a chance to ask them all your questions! Register for "Thursday Night Energy Events" to receive meeting links at https://www.2glrea.org/events-1/thursday-night-energy-events

• OSI's 2nd annual Autumnal Green Fair on Oct. 7th. Join us Oct. 7 6–9 p.m. for the second annual Mayor's Autumnal Green Fair on Main Street in downtown Ann Arbor, on both Main Street and the Library Lane. Stroll local exhibits and learn innovative ways to live sustainably and take climate action. Events will include:
  ▪ Parade for the Planet — wear a costume and get a hand stamp good for a free kids cone at Washtenaw Dairy!
  ▪ Ki5 — local vocal looping artist with mesmerizing, hypnotic and inspiring sound.
  ▪ E-cargo Bike Show.
  ▪ Games, quizzes and prizes.
  ▪ Over 30 nonprofit, governmental and collaborator exhibitors on hand to answer your questions and connect you to resources and communities for sustainable actions ranging from the circular economy, solar technologies, green transportation, plant-based foods and much, much more. Find details at www.a2gov.org/fallfair.

More details about green fair can be found at: https://www.a2gov.org/departments/sustainability/Newsletter-Events/Pages/Green-Fair.aspx.

• Community Benefits of Maximizing the Utilization of Fallen Urban Trees — Join Urban Ashes, OSI and Ann Arbor Forestry on Sunday, Oct. 9, noon–2:30 p.m. at The Lumberjacks (8205 Jackson Road) to learn about the existing process of urban tree disposal and its inherent lack of benefits and missed opportunities — and how the CUT Model differs from the status quo and directly benefits the community both socially and environmentally. See videos and live demonstrations showing the tree removal, sorting and milling processes; and see some of the finished goods that can be made from these removed trees. For more information, visit www.urbanashes.com.

• A2 Local Food Festival on Oct. 13th from 5-10 p.m. at the Kerrytown Farmer's Market. Join us for the first Ann Arbor Local Food Festival, an event to celebrate and enjoy the abundance of this year’s harvest from local farmers. More details about the event can be found at: https://www.a2gov.org/departments/sustainability/Sustainability-Me/Families-Individuals/Pages/Local-Food-Festival.aspx

Council Priorities/Initiatives

Ordinance Chapter 14, 1:316 Sole/Best Source Data. Pursuant to changes approved by City Council on July 15, 2019, to Chapter 14, 1:316, attached is the Sole/Best Source data for September 2022 for purchases over $3,000.
The October 3 Council Meeting will feature the following items of interest:

Consent Agenda (11). There are eleven items on the consent agenda.

Ordinances – Second Readings – (1)

- A Public Hearing and an Ordinance to Add Section 8:531 to Chapter 105 (Housing Code) of Title VIII of the Ann Arbor City Code (Right to Renew Relocation Assistance). This proposed amendment adds a section to Chapter 105 (Housing Code) which creates a new ordinance that requires landlords to renew to existing tenants, absent good cause, and mandates the payment of relocation assistance if a landlord fails to do so. It also defines the reasons for good cause and sets forth penalties and remedies for enforcement.

Ordinances – First Readings (1)

- An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 55 (Unified Development Code), Rezoning of 190 Parcels in the W Stadium and N Maple Area to TC1 (Transit Corridor District), City-Initiated Rezoning, (CPC Recommendation: Approval - 6 Yeas and 0 Nays). Approval of this ordinance will rezone 190 parcels in the West Stadium Boulevard and North/South Maple Road are to TC1.

Other

Ann Arbor Welcomes New Director of Organizational Equity Laura Orta! The City of Ann Arbor has hired its first director of organizational equity. Laura Orta started with the city Sept. 19 and will lead efforts for diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). Orta will focus on strategic planning as well as working with community stakeholder groups and the city's workforce for cultural competency and greater diversity in participation.

Orta has more than 15 years of senior-level DEI experience. She most recently served as the director for Center for Engaged Inclusion, part of the Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Institute. She was previously the director of women's studies and diversity coordinator for Central Michigan University. She has a specialization in trauma-informed practices, LGBTQ+ and BIPOC in community and organizations and has designed and delivered training curricula.

Orta is pursuing her Ph.D. in educational leadership and social justice and currently has a master's degree in public administration and a bachelor's degree in intercultural, multicultural and diversity studies.

"Coming on the heels of our recent addition of Debra Buckson as the city's chief human resources and labor relations officer, we are making strides in our efforts to strengthen the city as a whole," said Ann Arbor City Administrator Milton Dohoney Jr. "We look forward to the important contributions, conversations and initiatives that will be happening through Laura's work, collaboration and leadership, helping ensure city operations and services are conducted in a positive and inclusive manner."
Election Day Info & Opening Dates for Satellite Offices. The City of Ann Arbor is preparing those wishing to vote in the State General Election Tuesday, Nov. 8, by sharing useful information and providing greater ease, security and access to cast their ballot. In addition to the Ann Arbor City Clerk’s office at Larcom City Hall, two satellite city clerk’s offices are opening on the University of Michigan campus in advance of election day — U-M Museum of Art (UMMA), 525 State St., and north campus, Duderstadt Center, 2281 Bonisteel Blvd. The satellite office at UMMA opened on Tuesday, Sept. 27. The office at the Duderstadt Center will open on Wednesday, Oct. 12, at noon. Each location can assist residents and students ages 18 and up with voter registration; issue and receive absentee ballots and ballot applications; and answer elections questions. Both satellite offices were designed by professors at the Penny Stamps School of Art and Design and, in addition to serving as fully functioning clerk’s offices, include voter education elements in fun and informative presentations.

Find ballot language and candidate information — and complete elections details including in-person voting, absentee voting, voter registration, as well as tips tailored to college students and more — at www.a2gov.org/elections.

A Plan for Emerging and Unregulated Compounds in the City’s Drinking Water. The Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Facility Plan is in full swing. For background information on this project, please refer to the city’s news release on Aug. 31, 2022, and the project website. In the scope of this project, the city is conducting an evaluation of alternatives to identify the preferred approach to meet the drinking water needs of the community well into the future, as well as constructing a pilot plant to test recommended technologies in the real world. More information is available via https://www.a2gov.org/news/pages/article.aspx?i=918

Natural Area Preservation Workdays and Events in October. City of Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation (NAP) works to protect and restore Ann Arbor’s natural areas and to foster an environmental ethic among its community. This involves conducting plant and animal inventories, ecological monitoring, and stewardship projects in Ann Arbor’s parks. These tasks are performed by both staff and volunteers. NAP is gearing up for a busy fall with many events planned in October. Join NAP for volunteer workdays, to celebrate World Habitat Day and Make a Difference Day, for an autumn guided nature walk and more! Please see the news release via https://www.a2gov.org/news/pages/article.aspx?i=911, for details.

To attend a workday, participants are encouraged to preregister using VolunteerHub at http://vhub.at/NAP; links to each event in VolunteerHub are also provided with each description.

NAP is continuing to closely monitor recommendations from city and other health officials. As a result, the events planned are subject to change in order keep volunteers and the public safe. Should it be prudent to make changes to the event schedule, NAP will update its website and notify anyone registered for events. Visit www.a2gov.org/NAPevents for the most up-to-date information.
At all NAP workdays, participants are asked to please wear long pants and closed-toe shoes, bring a water bottle and gardening gloves if available. All minors should be accompanied by a guardian. Tools and know-how provided. Stay home if you are feeling unwell. For more information about NAP, visit www.a2gov.org/NAP.
MEMORANDUM

TO: Milton Dohoney Jr., City Administrator
FROM: Colin Spencer, Purchasing Manager
DATE: 9/30/2022
SUBJECT: Sole/Best Source Data for September 2022

Pursuant to changes made to Chapter 14, 1:316 on 7/15/19 by Council, attached is the Sole/Best Source data for September 2022 for purchases over $3,000. Any questions, comments or concerns please do not hesitate to reach out.

cc: Marti Praschan, Chief Financial Officer
    Sara Higgins, Director of Operations
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