



City Manager Report

March 27, 2026

Maple Street and Other Infrastructure Improvements

- The City and our partners recently held a preconstruction meeting with Schippers Excavating. When construction starts, we will be meeting every two weeks to review progress and discuss any concerns.
- A notice will be going out to Township and City property owners along Maple and in the cul-de-sacs. The notice will include the tentative start date and ask those interested in regular project updates to sign up with the DPW Project Coordinator. **To receive the updates, sign up here: [Maple Street Project- Email Updates Sign-Up – Fill out form](#)**
- Water Street gate valve work is planned for this spring. This will involve some intersection closures and water service being interrupted. Engineering is checking to see if the work can be done at night to lessen impacts. Public Works, engineering, and KLSWA are coordinating a notice to downtown property owners that may be impacted. We know the disruption may be frustrating, but this work should avoid more impactful disruptions in the future.

Parking Improvements Task Force

- The next Parking Improvements Task Force meeting is April 7 at 3p at City Hall.
- The packet includes reports on:
 - Survey Results, including open ended responses.
 - Stakeholder Interviews
 - Framing Saugatuck's Parking Challenges and Potential Remedies
 - Parking Inventory
 - Estimated Cost to Build and Operate a Parking Structure in Saugatuck
 - Paid Parking Considerations for Saugatuck
 - Wayfinding, Signage, and Communication Evaluation
- Packet link:
https://www.saugatuckcity.com/uploads/1/3/3/9/133977444/pitf_4.7.26.pdf

Updated Capital Improvement Plan

- Each year, the City reviews and makes necessary adjustments to our five-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). On Monday, City Council approved the updated plan which can be viewed here: <https://tinyurl.com/493yabjf>
- As you can see from the plan, the City has a long and costly list of capital improvement needs, and we have to prioritize our needs with available resources. Here are the elements we evaluate:

- Asphalt condition (PASER rating).
- Utility needs: Sanitary sewer, water main, water service replacement needs.
- Traffic volume: Dead end vs. corridor used by entire community and visitors.
- Traffic type: Primarily residential vs. commercial/trucks.
- Non-motorized facilities: Does the corridor already have appropriate sidewalks, trail, shoulders, etc.
- Drainage issues, storm system condition and size.
- Maintenance cost/effort vs. project cost.
- Outside funding availability/opportunities.

Early Voting Site

- City Council approved a new tri-community agreement with the City of the Village of Douglas and Saugatuck Township to provide early voting. Early voting will take place at the Douglas City Hall facility for nine days prior to state and federal elections, with each community sharing staffing responsibilities. This coordinated approach improves efficiency, reduces costs, and maintains convenient early voting access for residents.

Interurban Articles

- City Council approved updates to the Interurban Transit Authority's Articles of Incorporation to add the City of Fennville as a full member. A pilot program over the past year showed strong ridership and demand, and this change supports expanded regional transit service. It also allows Fennville to be included in a potential future millage to fund long-term transit improvements.

Hydrant Flushing

- KLSWA advised the following:
 - Beginning on April 20 through approximately April 24, the Kalamazoo Lake Sewer & Water Authority (KLSWA) will begin our annual hydrant and watermain flushing activities. Flushing will occur in all of KLSWA's service area, including the Cities of Douglas, Saugatuck, and Saugatuck Township. Hydrant and main flushing is an essential maintenance task that should be undertaken at least annually. It allows us to ensure the safe and proper operation of fire hydrants, and to remove fine sediments and iron deposits from the mains. Water will remain safe to drink during this process, but for short periods of time may appear slightly cloudy or orange-ish in color. If you encounter this in your home or business, please run a COLD water only faucet into a sink or tub until it runs clear. Our "Thanks" to all for your patience and understanding as we quickly work through this task – KLSWA.

Plastic Pellet Spill Cleanup

- EGLE continues to provide weekly updates to the managers of the tri-community as well as the tribal nations. Here is a summary of the most recent update:

- EGLE continues to monitor and coordinate cleanup efforts following the pellet (nurdle) spill. Recent underwater video of the Kalamazoo River is being reviewed to evaluate location and concentrations.
- Cleanup work remains ongoing and weather-dependent, with crews continuing efforts along the highway, riverbanks, and nearby drainage areas using specialized equipment. EGLE has also reviewed and requested updates to the cleanup plan and timeline, with additional details expected soon.

Now Hiring: Summary Seasonal Positions

- We are now accepting applications for summer seasonal positions, including beach patrol, gate attendant, and Public Works Maintenance. Those interested can apply at saugatuckcity.com/employment

Spear Street Boat Launch

- Heading out on the water this season? Don't forget – a pass is required to use the Spear Street Boat Launch in the City.
- Daily Pass – \$7- Available starting March 1 at Star of Saugatuck (716 Water)
- Taxpayer Season Pass - \$20 – Available at Saugatuck City Hall (102 Butler)

Household Hazardous and Electronic Waste Events

- Residents of Allegan County can drop off hazardous or electronic waste at the following locations. An ID showing residency is required:
 - May 16 – 9a-12p – Hardings Wayland – 300 Reno Dr
 - June 13 – 9a-12p – Fennville City Hall Lot – 125 S Maple St
 - October 3 – 9a-12p – Otsego Public Works – 243 N Farmer St

Upcoming Meetings

Full meeting packets are posted on the City website and Facebook prior to each meeting. When available, they can be viewed by selecting the board/commission:

- April 2 at 6p – Historic District Commission
- April 7 at 3p – Parking Improvements Task Force
- April 8 at 4p – City Council Workshop Meeting
- April 13 at 6:30p – City Council Regular Meeting
- April 16 at 6:30p – Planning Commission