

NOW!

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Mount Hope Park Development Underway



The Delta Township Board, along with members of the community, gathered to break ground at the future location of Mt. Hope Park on May 22. Over 75 people were in attendance despite the wet weather.

The first phase of the project is a \$3.5 million investment that will include soccer fields, youth-based ball fields, playground equipment, restrooms, a pavilion, pathways and infrastructure improvements to the site including roads, parking lots, water, sewer, and storm drains. It gives the Township much needed athletic fields for its youth programs as well as a neighborhood park west of I-96. Most construction will be completed in late 2018 with the rest completed in the Spring of 2019. Pathways, pavilion, restrooms, and playground equipment will likely be usable by the summer of 2019. Soccer and baseball fields will be usable in the fall of 2019 (playing turf needs two growing seasons to be fully established for play).

Delta Mills Canoe Launch Slated for 2019

In 2017, Delta Township was awarded grant funds from the MDNR Trust Fund in the amount of \$237,500 to construct an accessible canoe/kayak launch and other park improvements at Delta



Mills Park. Investments such as these are intended to increase recreational opportunities within Delta Township by creating a water trail that will connect the surrounding communities. The new launch at Delta Mills Park is slated to be constructed in 2019.

West Willow Hwy. Canoe Launch Update



The development of a canoe/kayak launch along the Grand River is underway. The 5 acre wooded parcel located on West Willow Highway was purchased from the Michigan Depart-

ment of Natural Resources (MDNR) in 2009 with the intention of creating public recreation, and will now provide opportunities for wildlife viewing, fishing, canoeing, and kayaking. Bank stabilization work within the area of the proposed launch facility will mitigate erosion issues along the riverbank and provide an improved natural habitat. The project, which was approved for \$415,700 in July, received grant funds in the amount of \$162,500 by the MDNR Trust Fund in 2016.

The project will include a new, ADA accessible canoe/kayak launch system, an able-bodied canoe/kayak launch along the riverbank, a parking lot with handicap accessible parking, and an accessible walking path from the parking area to the launch. In the spring of 2019, the ADA accessible launch will be installed and the park site will be opened for use for connections and coordination with non-motorized facilities in adjacent communities.

Delta Paramedic Millage



On August 7, voters in Delta Township overwhelmingly approved (88%) the renewal of the Paramedic Millage. The millage generates approximately \$1.4 million annually and pays for paramedics/firefighters, ambulances, training, and other related items needed to provide nearly 5,000 emergency medical runs a year in the Township. This allows the Township to maintain extraordinary 24 hour/365 days a year service to our residents. Thank you for recognizing the value that our Fire and EMS provide to the community.

Final Non-Motorized Transportation and Parks & Recreation Plans Available



In 2017 and 2018, Delta Township was busy updating both the Parks & Recreation Master Plan and the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan.

Township staff and elected officials began the processes of updating the plans over a year ago, and with the help of citizen input through surveys and public meetings, were able to put together comprehensive guidance for future improvements and additions that will continue to make Delta Township a great place to live, work, & play.

Both plans have been a priority for the Board which is continually seeking ways to improve the quality of life and provide access to a wide array of recreational opportunities for the residents of the community.

Visit our website at www.deltami.gov to view both completed plans.

New Sidewalks in Delta

Delta Township is committed to creating a safer pedestrian and bicycle-friendly community by continually evaluating both the Sidewalk Plan and the Non-Motorized Transportation Plan. In 2018, Delta Township is working towards constructing three new sidewalk segments as funding allows:

Canal Road, West Side, in front of Comfort Inn: This project would con-

struct approximately 100 feet of sidewalk to fill in a gap in front of Comfort Inn on Canal Road, south of Saginaw Highway.

St. Joe – South Side, East of Broken Ridge Drive to Century Blvd: This project would construct approximately 500 feet of sidewalk to fill in a gap on the south side of St. Joe Highway west of Century Blvd., connecting to Morgan Creek Condos.

Willow Highway – North Side at Grand Woods Park Entrance: The existing sidewalk on the east side of Willow Highway, at the entrance drive to Grand Woods Park, includes switch back that makes snow removal difficult. The sidewalk will be reconfigured to eliminate the switchback.

Sidewalk Repairs

The Delta Township Engineering Department is asking for your help in locating sidewalks that are in need of repair. The Township's sidewalk ordinance places the responsibility on the property owner to maintain the walks in a safe condition. The Township Board has consistently budgeted funds and has directed staff to see that many of the repairs are completed each summer as funds allow. The ordinance lists the following as conditions requiring repair:

- A rise or drop of more than an inch between sections.
- More than two cracks of one-quarter inch in width or more in any two lineal feet.
- Any section of walk that is tilted in excess of one inch per foot from side to side.
- If, in any square, more than 50% of the surface has scaled off to a depth of 1/4 inch or more.

Delta Township works hard to monitor conditions proactively, however it is always helpful to receive feedback from residents. If you notice any of these conditions on existing walks please contact the Engineering Department at 323-8540.

LOCAL PROJECTS

Now Open!

- Rainbow Child Care
- Morgan Learning Center
- Starbucks
- Panda Express
- Wal-Mart (*Renovation*)
- LCC West - Center for Manufacturing Excellence/ Mechatronics Lab
- Impact Church
- Delta Business Center - Auto-Owners Claims Training Center
- Marco's Pizza
- Burger King (*Renovation*)
- Super Tobacco II
- Meritain Health, an Aetna Insurance company
- Outback Steakhouse
- Lansing Hot Yoga
- Success Virtual Learning Center
- Cops & Doughnuts
- Nine Lives Blood Service
- Kroger (*Renovation*)
- The Rusty Mug
- GroSolar
- Kelly's Pet Boutique West
- McDonald's renovation

Projects Under Construction/ Renovation

- Hilton Garden Inn
- Popeye's Chicken
- Tropical Smoothie Café
- Unclaimed Freight Furniture
- Klingman's Furniture
- Spadafore Equipment
- Buck's All Repair
- 4125 W St. Joe (former LAFCU)
- Midwest Press & Automation

Delta Township: What Are Franchise Agreements?



Franchise agreements are important contractual agreements that cities and townships enter into with companies to protect and regulate their use of rights-of-ways. The right of way is space that is publicly controlled on either side of public roadways for the use and deployment of public utilities (such as water, sewer, storm drains, sidewalks, and other public uses). Franchise agreements are generally obtained by telecommunication companies, cable companies, and electric and gas providers, as these companies utilize public rights of ways to deploy their infrastructure.

Delta Township currently has five franchise agreements with the following entities: Comcast Cable, AT&T, Lansing Board of Water and Light (Electric), and Consumers Energy (Electric & Gas). All franchise agreement are available on Delta's website.

Delta Township levies a 5% franchise fee with the LBWL, Comcast, and AT&T consistent with many other communities in the region and in the state. In 2019, Delta Township estimates \$2.2 million in overall revenue from franchise fees.

Franchise revenue provides a stable revenue source for municipalities and is critical for Delta Township for several reasons:

1. Local property tax revenue growth is constrained by state statute,

meaning in good economic times municipalities have not seen the same growth.

2. Delta Township has lost more than \$8.5 million in State Shared Revenue from the State of Michigan since 2002 (source: savemichigan.org).
3. The Township has critical needs to keep up with rising costs of local government services and the needs of the community such as providing police (increasing costs of Eaton County Sheriff contract), fire and EMS (added six new firefighter paramedics due to rapidly increasing EMS runs).
4. The Township has critical infrastructure needs such as addressing deferred maintenance in aging Township buildings.
5. The additional revenue helps sustainability by funding parks and trailway projects that serve our citizens and make Delta an attractive place to live, work, and play. Examples include Mt. Hope park development, Old River Trail pathway, West Willow and Delta Mills Canoe launches, and bicycle lanes on Old Lansing Road.
6. Franchise revenue helps keep tax rates low. Delta Township has not increased its operating millage in decades and continues to have lower property tax burdens than regional communities such as Lansing, East Lansing, Grand Ledge, Dewitt and Delhi, Meridian and Lansing Townships.

The Township is on a calendar year fiscal budget. The 2019 budget will be developed and discussed by the Township Board in September and October. The 2018 Township budget and audit reports are available on the website. Delta Township follows accepted government accounting standards. We always encourage and welcome public input into the budget process.

Delta to Update the Township's Comprehensive Land Use Plan

Delta Township's "Comprehensive Plan for Land Use" is intended to guide Township officials and citizens in making decisions about public facilities and the use of public and privately owned land. The Plan is a land use and infrastructure plan that sets forth local goals and objectives for future community growth and redevelopment. The Plan was last updated in 2013 and is due for its requisite 5-year review and update consistent with requirements of the Michigan Planning Enabling Act (Act 33 of 2008). The Planning Department has prepared a Request for Proposals (RFP) that will be circulated to planning consulting firms for the purpose of soliciting their proposals for reviewing and updating the Plan. Once a consultant is selected by the Township Board, work will commence on the update. The update is proposed to begin this year and be completed by the end of 2019. Questions regarding the update may be directed to Planning Director Gary Bozek at gbozek@deltami.gov.

Delta Assesses Water & Sewer System



Today's news points to the failing grade of our nation's water and sewer infrastructure because of the age and condition of these systems. Delta Township has taken meticulous care of its water and sewer infrastructure and significantly extended the life span of our assets. However, like many communities with failing assets, some components of our infrastructure are

reaching or nearing its useful life expectancy and need upgrades.

Delta Township has been performing critical asset management studies of our water and sewer systems. These evaluations should be wrapped up by the spring of 2019. Once completed, we will have the necessary information to start the process of prioritizing and upgrading our infrastructure and assets for many years into the future.

PFAS: What Are They and Are They in Delta?



Many people have been hearing a lot about PFAS lately in the news. PFAS, or perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, have become a common household acronym. EPA testing from 2013 to 2015 found significant amounts of PFAS in public water supplies in 33 U.S. states, and moved these substances up their list as a national priority. In 2016, the EPA set advisory limits for two specific PFAS compounds. Research has shown these substances to have adverse effects in humans when ingested. In February of this year, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) directed numerous wastewater treatment plants to evaluate potential sources of PFAS within their communities.

Delta Township, like many other Michigan cities and townships, has conducted an extensive evaluation to determine if any potential sources of PFAS are present. The Township's Industrial Pretreatment Staff evaluated all industrial and commercial customers that have the potential to be PFAS

sources. These evaluations were able to determine that no locations within Delta Township currently, or historically, as best as could be determined, are sources of PFAS.

In addition, the firefighting foam (a common source of PFAS) that Delta Township Fire occasionally utilizes is free of PFAS. The wastewater treatment plant will continue to follow any directives from the MDEQ to ensure PFAS is properly addressed.

Across the country, there is heightened concern regarding the presence of polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), such as perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) contaminating drinking water supplies. Recent local news reports about PFAS in the upper (less than 20 feet) groundwater aquifer near the Adams Plating Superfund Site and adjacent RACER locations (former General Motors Plants 2, 3 and 6) has increased inquiries among customers in BWL's service area. The Lansing Board of Water and Light draws water from the deeper Saginaw Aquifer, approximately 400 feet underground. The BWL conducted monitoring for PFAS in 2015 and 2018 and no PFAS compounds were found in our water. The BWL and MDEQ will continue communication regarding the status of the Adams Plating Superfund Site and RACER location. If changes occur at the site that may affect the BWL drinking water supply, we will evaluate the potential impact immediately. BWL continues to meet or exceed state and federal drinking water standards and is committed to providing customers with safe, clean drinking water at the lowest cost possible.

Old River Trail Update

Delta Township is in the process of developing the Old River Trail Pathway. The project is an approximately ½ mile of 10 foot wide, shared-use pathway extending from Webster Road to the Hunter's Orchard Park parking area. The project involves a new pedestrian

Contact Us

Manager's Office
517-323-8590

Accounting
517-323-8510

Assessing
517-323-8520

Building
517-323-8530

Clerk's Office
517-323-8500

Engineering
517-323-8540

Parks and Recreation
517-323-8555

Planning
517-323-8560

Utilities
517-323-8570

Non-Emergency Numbers

Delta Twp. Fire Department
517-321-6622

Eaton County Sheriff's Dept.
517-372-8217

For All Emergencies Dial 911

Other Delta Services

Delta Twp. District Library
517-321-4014

Delta Twp. Enrichment Center
517-484-5600

Eaton County Satellite Office
Located in the lower level of the
Delta Twp Admin. Building
517-816-8222

Clerk's Office Hours:
1st & 3rd Fridays of the month
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Treasurer's Office Hours:
2nd & 4th Fridays of the month
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

bridge at Carrier Creek and elevated boardwalk across the wetland areas adjacent to the creek. This project is a priority project identified in Delta Township's recently updated Non-Motorized Transportation Plan.

Due to the federal transportation funding involved for the construction phase of the project, the Township is working with both MDOT and the Eaton County Road Commission on the implementation of the project. Delta Township retained an engineering consultant, Moore & Bruggink, Inc., to complete the engineering design for the project. The design phase is nearing completion. Moore & Bruggink, Inc. provided a project update to the Delta Township Board of Trustees at the Board Meeting on July 16, 2018.

The total project cost is estimated at \$1,000,000. Delta Township was awarded grant funding from the federal Transportation Alternatives (TA) grant program in the amount of \$416,705 and a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) Grant in the amount of \$298,500, with the remainder of the project funding coming from Delta Township.

The permitting for the project has been completed and final plans and specifications will be submitted to MDOT for final approval in September 2018. Bids will be opened in early December 2018. The project is anticipated to be constructed between March and July of 2019.

Delta Fire Receives Grant for New Exhaust System

This summer, Delta Township was successful due in part to the Assistance to Firefighters Grant program through FEMA in purchasing new vehicle exhaust systems for Delta Fire. The \$166,819 grant provides a comprehensive exhaust removal system for Station 1 (Central Fire Station – Canal Road) and Station 3 (Snow Road). The exhaust systems are an important safety feature to allow firefighters to start, test, run vehicles in the station

bay without raising levels of carbon monoxide. Delta Township will match 10% of the grant and the systems will likely be installed later this year.

Delta Hires Two More Full-Time Firefighters



Ashton Ketchum was promoted to full-time Paramedic Firefighter on July 1, 2018. Ashton was originally hired as a part-time

Firefighter EMT for the Delta Township Fire Department on December 4, 2017. She received her EMT license in August 2014 and her Paramedic license in June 2018. Prior to coming to Delta, Ashton worked for LSW Emergency Services and Clinton Area Ambulance as an EMT, and For Sparrow Hospital as an ER Tech.

Alec Fowler was promoted to full-time Paramedic Firefighter on July 22, 2018. Alec was originally hired as a part-time Firefighter



EMT for the Delta Township Fire Department on December 4, 2017. He received his EMT license in September 2016 and his Paramedic license in June 2018. Prior to coming to Delta, Alec worked for the Oakfield Township Fire Department and the Plainfield Township Fire Department as an EMT.

Eaton County Radio Tower

Eaton County will be constructing an emergency radio tower on Delta Township owned property off Canal Road (North of Willow). The radio tower is part of Eaton County's plan to provide a p25 compliant system countywide. The County system will provide new radios for Delta Public Safety professionals (Delta Fire Department and Delta Patrol). The new radios provide greater interoperability with all inter-county agencies, as well as between neighboring jurisdictions. The new

system will provide more reliable communications and lifesaving technology for taxpayers.

2018 Delta Township Community Awards



The Delta Township Community Awards Committee is pleased to announce the 13th Annual Delta Township Community Awards event to celebrate the accomplishments of Delta Township organizations, businesses, and citizens.

Call for Nominations

Nominations are currently being sought for the following categories: Community Organization of the Year, Business of the Year, Citizen of the Year, and Young Person of the Year. The Young Person of the Year award recipient will also receive a \$2,000 academic scholarship sponsored by the Delta Side Business Association.

All nominations must be submitted no later than Thursday, September 27, at 5:00 p.m. Nominations may be submitted online at bit.ly/DeltaCommunityAwards or a printable PDF version is also available. If you choose to fill out a hard copy nomination form, please return it via email to Linda Wells at lwells@deltami.gov, by mail to the Manager's Office, 7710 West Saginaw Highway, Lansing, MI 48917, or via fax to 327-1703.

Interested in Sponsoring this Event?

The Delta Township Community Awards Event is an excellent opportunity for your business or organization to gain some public recognition on multiple media platforms for supporting your community.

For a small investment in this event, your business will receive online recognition via the Township's website, social media pages, and monthly e-newsletter, as well as recognition during the award event that includes signage, inclusion in our slideshow presentation and in our program. Visit bit.ly/DeltaCommunityAwards-Sponsorships to read about our wide range of sponsorship opportunities. For questions or more information contact Mary Worland at mworland@deltami.gov or at 323-8590.

Delta Township Community Awards Reception will take place Thursday, October 25, from 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Lansing West located at 925 Creyts Rd.

Attention Businesses: Check Out the Facade Improvement Program

Businesses along the east end of the Saginaw corridor (Waverly to Elmwood) will now have an opportunity to apply for some financial assistance from a facade improvement program offered and funded by the Delta Township Economic Development Corporation (EDC).

This program is part of an effort by the Township's EDC to improve the aesthetics of buildings along areas of the Saginaw corridor that have aged and/or fallen into disrepair and encourage improvements of those properties.

The Delta Township Economic Development Corporation meets quarterly and works to improve economic development in Delta. If you have any questions about this program, please call Economic Development Coordinator Ed Reed at 323-8560.

Delta Township receives certification for energy sustainability

Delta Township participated in the Michigan Green Communities (MGC) Challenge in 2018 and received a Silver certification. Silver is the 2nd highest certification a community can receive. Certifications are based on commitment to reducing energy use and creating innovative sustainability initiatives. The MGC is a program through the Michigan Municipal League Foundation. Delta Township is proud to receive this designation.

Neighborhood Beautification Grant Opportunity

Before:



After:



Again, in 2018 during the beautiful summer months, Delta neighborhoods took advantage of the Neighborhood Beautification Grant program offered through the Township to help improve the aesthetics of their residential areas.

Delta Township offers a grant program in which residential neighborhoods and neighborhood organizations can apply for matching funds for improving their identification and welcome signs to their neighborhood. Matching funds will be on a first come/first serve basis and typical grant awards will be \$500. It is part of the Township's goal to help create community identity, neighborhood involvement, and encourage and maintain the character of residential neighborhoods. Visit www.deltami.gov for more information or to fill out an application. If you have any questions, please call 323-8510.



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RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

The Delta Township Board has set a goal to improve ways to disseminate the Township's story. You are receiving this semi-annual update to communicate some of the positive happenings that have taken place over the past six months.



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Delta Township Board

