

DELTA NOW!

2021Volume 6; Issue 2



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THANK YOU DELTA

First and foremost, we want to thank you for your support, your words of encouragement, and most importantly, your patience throughout the past year-and-a-half as we navigated through an unprecedented global health crisis. The pandemic brought with it the unknown; fear of everyday activities that we all took for granted, and the inability to traditionally function as a community.

However, this event also brought with it the opportunity to reimagine the way we interacted as a community, prompting creativity in how we communicated with our family and neighbors, and how we showed care and compassion for one another. We worked to rethink our programming to accommodate new health and safety standards, dealing with the disappointment of cancelling well established community events and the excitement of launching new programs.

Additionally, we know that many of you faced extreme challenges and losses including the loss of business, loss of income or even the loss of a loved one. Please know our hearts go out to you and we are here to help.

On behalf of the Delta Township Board and staff we want to extend our sincerest thank you to our residents, businesses and local organizations for your kindness and support of the Township and one and other.

Southern Water Connection Adds Security to Delta

A southern redundant and emergency connection between the Lansing Board of Water and Light (LBWL) and Delta Township has been established. Earlier this year, we completed the necessary testing and confirmed the reliability of this connection. This second emergency connection is completely independent of our primary feed for reliable water from the LBWL. This water feed is the same water quality and would be indistinguishable by our customers. This emergency connection allowed us to petition EGLE for permission to abandon our existing emergency use water wells.



Our existing wells, which were requiring extensive maintenance, were also a water source that was incompatible with our existing water. EGLE granted our request for de-commissioning the existing wells and we are now solely on LBWL for primary and emergency water.



Annual Water Quality Report

The 2020 Annual Water Quality Report is available for our customers. This includes information about your water, where it comes from, and what the tests tell us. Download the full report by visiting the link below. To obtain a paper copy please contact the Delta Township Utility Department by calling 517-323-8570.

Deltami.gov/waterquality

Delta and Lansing Townships Celebrate the Completion of Waverly Pathway

On Tuesday, June 15 Delta and Lansing Charter Townships hosted a joint ribbon-cutting event and ceremonial walk of the recently completed Waverly Pathway Project.

In addition to the festivities, both Townships were presented with a resolution from State Representatives Sarah Anthony and Angela Witwer in recognition of the completion of the collaborative regional project.

The 10-foot Waverly Road shared-use pathway was a project completed after efforts by Delta and Lansing Charter Townships, brought together regional partners to coordinate a non-motorized need of the two municipalities, reconstruction of a county road, and a \$60 million freeway project. Delta Charter Township and Lansing Charter Township were active in discussions with multiple agencies to plan the addition of the shared use pathway through the project area to address a lack of facilities and associated hazards to pedestrians in the area. The project included connections to the west side of Waverly at St. Joe and Old Lansing Road to make the path available to all residents. The project was financed with three different grants totaling \$874,000. The project was made possible through extraordinary multi-agency collaboration which resulted in a regional non-motorized pathway.

Over the years, there have been many pedestrians and cyclists navigating along the edge of the road next to vehicles resulting in pedestrian fatalities and injuries. The shared-use pathway project had been discussed for many years but given the large number of different jurisdictions involved; a common goal and plan had not come to fruition. The Michigan Department of Transportation's (MDOT) announcement of a major freeway project including the interchange at Waverly Road, as well as Ingham County's plans to reconstruct Waverly Road provided the opportunity for vision and partnership on a non-motorized project. This project saw many levels of involvement, funding sources, and







visitors are now able to safely enjoy the new shared-use pathway to connect with local shopping, restaurants, services, and public transit.

was a true multi-agency collaboration starting with Delta Charter Township, Lansing Charter Township, MDOT in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration, the Ingham County Road Department, Eaton County Road Commission, and the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission. This multijurisdictional pathway is half built in Delta Township and the other half built in Lansing Township. Both Townships worked together to establish buy-ins from the road commissions and MDOT while pulling together all regional stakeholders. From securing easements and working with a railroad, to securing enough funding for the project that neither Township had out-of-pocket expenses. This level of cooperation gave all jurisdictions the opportunity to be more fiscally responsible by combining projects and working together.

Both Townships were determined to reduce the fatality and injury rates among bicyclists and pedestrians and improve this corridor for non-motorized travel. Addressing these safety issues was a major historical impetus behind the adoption of the project, along with the desire to develop a multimodal transportation network to provide safe and efficient transportation options for our citizens. Pedestrians and bicyclists no longer have to traverse along the edge of the roadway near busy intersections with the worry of being hit by a vehicle. Community members and

The pathway provides a regional benefit by providing access to a CATA bus stop that serves the Lansing Community College West Campus and Downtown Campus. Residents are also able to use the pathway for recreation and transportation to connect Delta Township and Lansing Township to the City of Lansing and is close to connecting with the Lansing River Trail. This pathway is for everyone to safely enjoy, whether they use a wheelchair, stroller, bike, or their own two feet. The result is a safer community with more livable neighborhoods and healthier residents, who have increased opportunities for active transportation.

While many non-motorized pathways are built, this project exemplifies the true example of multi-governmental cooperation. For that reason and more, the Waverly Pathway Project is one of four finalists for the Michigan Municipal Leagues (MML) Community Excellence Award. The Community Excellence Award is the Michigan Municipal League's most prestigious community award. This year, 25 projects were submitted from around the state. The winner will be announced at the 2021 MML Annual Conference in September.

LOCAL BUSINESS PROJECTS

Now Open/ Under New Ownership

- Lansing Mall (New Ownership)
- Marathon Gas Station (St. Joe & Waverly)

Under Construction or Renovation

- Michigan Primary Care Association (Remodel)
- Simplified Tax (Remodel)
- Coldspell Coffee
- Orthopedic Rehab (Remodel)
- Meijer Distribution Expansion
- 4233 W. Saginaw Hwy. (Demolition and Remodel)
- Delta Energy Park BWL natural gas-fired power plant
- Auto-Owners (new office building)
- Project Spartan

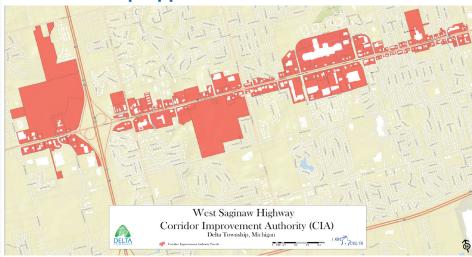
Delta Crossings - Phase 1

- Texas Roadhouse
- Hobby Lobby
- TJ Maxx
- Sierra Trading Post

Delta Crossings - Phase 2

- BJ's Wholesale Club
- Consumers Credit Union
- At Home
- Olive Garden

Delta Township Appoints CIA Board



On May 17, the Delta Township Board created the West Saginaw Highway Corridor Improvement Authority (CIA). The new authority includes parcels along Saginaw Highway from Broadbent to Waverly (See Map). The goal of the Corridor Improvement Authority which is governed by the Public Act 57 of 2018 is to assist communities with funding improvements in commercial corridors. The CIA will be governed by a nine-member board. On June 21, 2021, the Delta Township Board appointed the CIA board. Over 20 interested individuals applied. The board was appointed based on criteria that are laid out in the statute and for rotating terms including the Supervisor of the Township, five members that must have a business interest in the corridor, and at least one resident who lives within a half-mile of the corridor.

The members of the board are as follows:

- Supervisor Kenneth R. Fletcher (4-year term)
- Percy Bean (4-year term) Business/Property Owner
- Kris Krstovski (3-year term) Business/Property Owner
- Laura Miller (3-year term) Business/Property Owner
- Scott Berman (2-year term) Business/Property Owner
- Tony Migaldi (1-year term) Business/Property Owner
- Peggy Vaughn Payne (1-year term) Resident
- Rachel Elsinga (4-year term) At Large Member
- John Daher (2-year term)
 At Large Member

Economic Development Updates

The Community and Economic development department has assisted more than 20 Delta businesses in securing over \$280,000 in state grants. The department continues to research available grants to further assist businesses with their needs.

Business of the Month was established in February 2021 to help promote local businesses and nonprofits. So far, seven organizations have been featured on our website and social media pages.

Additionally, every month (begin-

ning in March 2020) Delta Township highlights two residents and why they choose Delta to live, work, and play. Our *I Am Delta Community Spotlight* highlights the diversity of our township.

In May of 2021, the department organized a Business Resource Open House virtual event. The event garnered over 50 employers and there are plans for a second business resource open house to take place in October.

In March of 2021 Delta Township introduced its inaugural Restaurant Week

encouraging residents and visitors to dine locally. Delta Township will continue Restaurant Week on an annual basis.

Delta Township will host its first Hotel Appreciation Month in August. Check our website for more information on this event.

Delta Township continues to work closely with LEAP on various projects, including Project Spartan which is focused on attracting an industrial business.

Road Project Updates

Michigan Avenue (Creyts Road to Dibble Avenue) Phase Two

Phase 2 began June 14 and is nearing completion. Phase Two of this project will resurface Michigan Avenue from Creyts Road to Theo Avenue, place a slurry seal to the existing asphalt pavement between Theo Avenue and Dibble Avenue, restripe Michigan Avenue between Creyts Road and Dibble Avenue with 3 lanes and bike lanes on each side. The changes to Michigan Avenue include a continuous left turn lane and the addition of bike lanes between Creyts Road and Waverly Road.





Mt. Hope Highway Resurfacing with **Bike Lanes and Road Improvement**

This project began on July 26, 2021 and is estimated to be completed in mid October. The project involves the resurfacing and widening of Mt. Hope Highway, for the purposes of adding bike lanes, between Nixon Road and the I-96/I-69 Overpass. The project was awarded both Surface Transportation – Urban Program (STP-U) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) federal funding, both of which provide capped, 80% federal and 20% local funding for construction costs, for projects on primary roads. The road will be closed to through traffic during construction with traffic detoured using M-100, St. Joe Hwy. and Canal Rd.

For questions please contact the Eaton County Road Commission Mathew Hannahs, P.E., Assistant County Engineer - (517) 543-1630

Delta Aquatics/Waverly Pool Upgrades Coming

In May 2021, residents approved a bond proposal of \$125 million for the Waverly School District. A portion of these funds will go to a large renovation of the pool locker rooms at Waverly East Middle School. Delta Township leases the pool for its aquatics programs from the district.

The two entities have worked collaboratively throughout the design phase of the project to assure the best amenity and facility upgrades will be provided to the community. Existing locker rooms will be upgraded, and new "All-Access" family-style locker rooms will be constructed to improve the experience for pool users of all ages and abilities. Pool users can expect to see a complete face lift to the changing room floor plan, showers, lockers, and overall look of these spaces.

Construction for the project is tentatively scheduled for summer of 2022. For more information visit: www.wcsbond2021.com

Wastewater Treatment Plant – Capital Improvement Project Proceeding Along

Why is this necessary?

There are three driving factors why this major capital improvement is needed.

- 1. Aging infrastructure: The plant was built 55 years ago, and the last major upgrade was 34 years ago. Although aggressive preventative maintenance measures have been taken, the plant is now at the end of its useful life and constructing a new plant is necessary.
- 2. The State of Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) has implemented new standards that go into effect in 2027, which require a new treatment process that the existing plant currently does not have.

3. On average, flows to the plant are over 80% of design capacity, and during wet weather, many current processes see flows higher than design capacity. To provide for continued growth within the township, a modest expansion of treatment capacity is needed.

Steps Taken

In early 2017, the Township Board issued a directive to evaluate the current wastewater system, the evaluation began in August 2018. Since then, a WWTP evaluation of the "Master Plan for Improvements" has been completed, EGLE has confirmed new permit limits, and a public information meeting and hearing has been held. The design process for the new facility began in August 2020, and we are currently at the 60% design review. This design milestone is a typical



check-in point to confirm project scope and budget prior to continuing with the detailed design. Preliminary plans and updated project cost information have been submitted to EGLE for SRF funding.

What's Next?

Milestone submittals will be made when we reach the 60% and 90% levels to complete the design of Phase 1. The Township is on track to begin Phase 1 construction in the Spring of 2022.

2021 Delta Township Community Awards Is Back And We Need Your Nominations!





The Delta Township Community
Awards is returning this October.
The Awards Committee is seeking
nominations for the Fifteenth Annual
Delta Township Community Awards
program. Please help us to highlight
the outstanding contributions made
by citizens, businesses, and organizations in our Township.

Nominees must meet the criteria listed within the nomination forms. All nom-





inations must be submitted no later than Thursday, September 3 at 5:00 p.m. Nominations should be submitted through the online entry form(s) at deltami.gov/communityawards under the Nomination Forms (a printable version is also available on our website or upon request.) If you choose to fill out a hard copy nomination, please return it via email to the Delta Township Community Awards Committee at awards@deltami.gov, by mail to the



COMMUNITY AWARDS



Manager's Office, 7710 West Saginaw Highway, Lansing, MI 48917, or via fax to 517-327-1703.

Nominations are being sought for the following categories:

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Person of the Year
- · Business of the Year

Clark Elected President of Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks

On Thursday, June 3, Delta Township Clerk Mary R. Clark was elected as the President of the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks (MAMC).

Clark, who has served as the Delta Township Clerk since 2011, has been a member of the MAMC for over nine (9) years serving as Education Chair for five (5) years, Treasurer, the 2nd Vice President, and Vice president for one year.

Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson appointed Clark to Michigan Election Modernization Advisory Committee in 2019, which focused on the implementation of Proposal 3. Clark was integral in helping lead local and statewide efforts in making absentee voting available to every voter during the 2020 election cycle, which saw a record voter turnout in spite of the extenuating circumstances and extreme

challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Prior to her service as Clerk, Clark served for five years as Legislative Staff to Representative Joan Bauer in the Michigan House of Representatives. While there, she also staffed the Women's Caucus, the Local Government Caucus, and the Capitol Caucus.

A graduate of Illinois State University, Clark is a Past President of the Junior League of Lansing and has served on several community boards including the Capital Region Community Foundation Program & Distribution Committee, Old Newsboys of Greater Lansing, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Community Advisory Council, and the Delta Waverly Kiwanis Club, where she was the first female member and President.

Currently, Clark serves as Vice President on the EATRAN Board of directors where she is also chair of the personnel committee. EATRAN is the public



transit provider for Eaton County. In addition, she is also a victim advocate for the Eaton County Sheriff's Office.

Previously Clark served as the Executive Directors of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Lansing (10 Years) and Capital Area Youth Alliance (3 years). Additionally, she served as Vice President of Development for Capital Area United Way for four years and remains the highest performing VP raising over \$7 million in one campaign.

Summer Parks Programming Changes

As the year 2020 wrapped up and everything within our lives had changed due to the Covid-19 pandemic, everyone had to adapt, including the Delta Township Parks, Recreation & Cemeteries Department. At first, all programs and events were cancelled, and then the parks had to be closed and the playgrounds caution-taped off. As things changed and restrictions were gradually eased, the parks and recreation department has adapted in multiple ways to still provide outdoor and indoor recreation opportunities, as well as clean parks and amenities to enjoy. These challenging times highlighted the importance of a high-quality park and trail system since these outdoor facilities provided the perfect outlet to refocus and unwind.

There were three main focus areas in which the parks and recreation department had to adapt: (1) decrease the size of classes and events, (2) move indoor classes to outdoor venues (when possible), and (3) create new classes and programs that would adhere to social distancing and other COVID-19 related restrictions.

It became the normal thing to see exercise classes, dance classes, and other groups using any and every available space at Sharp Park, Grand Woods Park, and many of the other parks around Delta Township. The common goal for everyone was to adapt and keep moving as much as possible. Being outdoors was the perfect venue for many to stay physically

active, socialize at a distance, and regain a sense of normalcy.

Changing from the norm and being able to adapt can be difficult at times, and that was evident when the Township had to choose to forgo some of the year's largest annual events. Although the conditions didn't allow for the Delta Rocks! Family Festival or the July 3rd Fireworks Show at Sharp Park, many new family-friendly events have been added this summer. The always popular parent/child dances were held on the ball fields at Mount Hope Park. There was a free "Music in the Park" series held at Sharp Park (1 each month), and multiple "Movies at the Park" will be rounding out the summer fun.

Delta Recognizes Recent Retirements & Departures



Mike Roman

Assistant Fire Chief Mike Roman retired in April after 25 years of service the Delta Township Fire Department (DTFD). Assistant Fire Chief Roman began his career with DTFD in April of 1996 and concluded his career on April 23, 2021, Assistant Fire Chief Roman has been instrumental in saving countless lives and has dedicated his life and career to the advancement of

the Fire Service. He served in many different roles throughout his career at DTFD including paramedic/firefighter, Engineer, Lieutenant, Captain, Union President, and Assistant Chief. His hard work, leadership, compassion for the community, and appreciation of each hard-working member of DTFD have left an incredible mark on this community. On behalf of Delta Township, congratulations Assistant Fire Chief Mike Roman on your retirement, thank you for your commitment to Delta Fire and the Delta community, and good luck on your future endeavors!



Tom Maier

Fire Lieutenant Tom Maier retired in June after 26 years of service with the Delta Township Fire Department. Tom was hired as a full-time paramedic firefighter in June of 1995, promoted to fire engineer in March of 2002, and promoted again to fire lieutenant in January of 2011. Delta Township wishes you all the best in retirement!

Attention Delta Township Residents:

On January 1, 2021 changes were made to the Eaton County Dog Licensing process and no longer can go through Delta Township. For more information please visit www.eatoncounty.org/403/Dog-Licensing-Information.



Recent Promotions



Matt Leach

Matt Leach was recently promoted to interim Building Director. Matt is currently the Township's Building Offi-

cial, overseeing all building inspections and has been with Delta for 18 years.

NEW Fulltime Hires

Kasey Furgala

Paramedic Firefighter Fire Department

Joseph Hovery

Paramedic Firefighter Fire Department

James Whately

Paramedic Firefighter Fire Department

Jacob Holzhei

Paramedic Firefighter Fire Department

Roy Castro

Building Services Coordinator Delta Township District Library

Sean Haskin

Code Enforcement & Rental Inspector **Building Department**



RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

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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.

Delta Township Board



Kenneth R. Fletcher Supervisor KFletcher@deltami.gov ph: 517-323-8590 ext. 8337



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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

Library 517-321-4014

Parks and Recreation 517-323-8555

Planning 517-323-8560

Utilities 517-323-8570

Non-Emergency Numbers

Fire Department 517-321-6622

Eaton County Sheriff's Office 517-372-8217

For All Emergencies
Dial 911

Eaton Co. Satellite Office

The Eaton County Satellite
Office located in the lower
level of the Township Admininistration Building is closed
until further notice.

Please watch our website, Facebook page, and monthly newsletter for reopening information.