



# Battle Creek Current



December 2015

## City Manager's Corner



City Manager Rebecca Fleury

It's winter time again in Michigan. Time for us to bundle up, stay warm

and be sure our sidewalks and fire hydrants are clear of snow.

It is also a time to be mindful of our neighbors. Do they need help with snow clearing? Does their home look like they have not been out and about? Please notify someone if you are concerned. Winter is a good time to look out for each other.



Our Police Department will perform wellness/welfare checks if you are concerned. Please call 911 if you believe they should check on someone near you. Our non-emergency police

phone number is 269-781-0911.

December is also "Holiday Season Impaired Driving Prevention Month," as proclaimed by the City Commission on Dec. 1. Please be extra cautious as you are out driving in the winter conditions.

Be mindful of plow truck drivers, from the city and other entities, and watch for icy roads. And always remember not to drink and drive,

as we celebrate the holidays.

My wish for each of you is to have a safe and joyous holiday season. We look forward to serving you in the new year!

### Check out our new website!

In November we unveiled a completely new look at our website, [www.battlecreekmi.gov](http://www.battlecreekmi.gov) — we wanted it to be more intuitive and friendly to all our residents, customers and visitors. We also wanted to make a big improvement — making our site device friendly.

We changed the focus of the website in a way that we hope will help you find the services you need. The new "[I Want To...](#)" tab gives a list of specific services for which we know a lot of you are looking for information.

Our new site is considered "mobile-responsive." That means that, no matter the device, be it smart phone, tablet or desktop monitor, our site should appear and work properly and allow access to all services.

See **WEBSITE** on page 2...

### City Calendar

For more, visit [www.battlecreekmi.gov](http://www.battlecreekmi.gov) and [www.battlecreekvisitors.org/events](http://www.battlecreekvisitors.org/events).

- **City Commission** work session, 5:30 p.m., City Hall Room 302A, Dec. 15
- **City Commission**, 7 p.m., City Hall: Dec. 15, Jan. 5, Jan. 19, Feb. 2, Feb. 16
- **Civil Service Commission**, 4 p.m., City Hall: Dec. 28,
- **Dangerous Buildings**, 1 p.m., City Hall: Dec. 9, Jan. 13, Feb. 10
- **Historic District Commission**, 4 p.m., City Hall, 10 N. Division: Dec. 14, Jan. 11, Feb. 8
- **Housing Board of Appeals**, 1 p.m., City Hall: Dec. 16, Jan. 20, Feb. 17
- **NPC 1**, 7 p.m., Community Action, 175 Main St.: Jan. 7, Feb. 4
- **NPC 2**, 7 p.m., Neighborhoods Inc., 47 N. Washington: Jan. 11, Feb. 8
- **NPC 3**, 7 p.m., Michigan Tile & Carpet, 99 E. Columbia Ave.: Dec. 10, Jan. 14, Feb. 11
- **NPC 4**, 7 p.m., First Congregational Church, 145 Capital Ave. NE: Jan. 20, Feb. 17
- **NPC 5**, 7 p.m., Christ United Methodist Church, 65 N. Bedford Road: Dec. 14, Jan. 11, Feb. 8
- **NPC 9**, 6:30 p.m., St. Peter Lutheran Church, 1079 Riverside Drive: Jan. 12, Feb. 9
- **NPC 10**, 7 p.m., Lakeview Senior Living, 14661 S. Helmer Road: Jan. 25, Feb. 22
- **NPC 11**, 7 p.m., Riverside Elementary, 650 Riverside Drive: Jan. 27, Feb. 24
- **Planning Commission**, 4 p.m., City Hall: Dec. 16, Jan. 27, Feb. 24
- **Planning Commission petition deadline**: Dec. 31, Jan. 29, Feb. 26
- **Police/Fire Retirement System Board**, 10 a.m., City Hall: Dec. 21, Jan. 19, Feb. 16
- **Sustainable BC Committee**, 4 p.m., Dept. Public Works, 150 S. Kendall, Dec. 2
- **Transit Local Coordinating Committee**, 1:30 p.m., Dept. Public Works: Jan. 12
- **Transit Local Advisory Council**, 2 p.m., Dept. Public Works: Jan. 12
- **Zoning Board of Appeals**, 4 p.m., City Hall: Dec. 8, Jan. 12, Feb. 9
- **Zoning Board/Historic District petition deadline**: Dec. 18, Jan. 15, Feb. 12
- **Christmas holiday**, Dec. 24—city offices CLOSED—bus/van services running
- **Christmas holiday**, Dec. 25—city offices CLOSED—NO bus/van services
- **Fresh Christmas tree pickup** begins at the curb, Dec. 28
- **New Year holiday**, Jan. 1—city offices CLOSED—NO bus/van services



City Hall  
10 N. Division St., Battle Creek, MI  
49014

[www.battlecreekmi.gov](http://www.battlecreekmi.gov)

**City Manager**, (269) 966-3378  
Fax, (269) 966-6654

**City Clerk**, (269) 966-3348

**Code Compliance**, (269) 966-3387

**Fire Department** administration,  
195 E. Michigan Ave., (269) 966-3519

**Police Department**, 20 N. Division  
St., (269) 966-3322

**Non-emergency**, (269) 781-0911

**Department of Public Works**, 150  
S. Kendall St., (269) 966-3343

**Parks & Recreation/Full Blast Fit-  
ness Center**, 35 Hamblin Ave., (269)  
966-3431

**Transit**, 339 W. Michigan Ave., (269)  
966-3474

**Utility Billing**, (269) 966-3366

**W.K. Kellogg Airport**, 15551 S.  
Airport Road, (269) 966-3470

#### City Commission

Mayor Dave Walters, Ward 5  
(269) 209-0626

Vice Mayor Susan Baldwin, at-large  
(269) 963-6901

Deb Owens, Ward 1  
(269) 420-4031

Lynn Ward Gray, Ward 2  
(269) 830-2456

Kate Flores, Ward 3  
(269) 832-2912

Michael Sherzer, Ward 4  
(269) 420-0384

Mark Behnke, at-large  
(269) 441-7663

Kaytee Faris, at-large  
(734) 330-6236

Andy Helmboldt, at-large  
(269) 660-9659

## Connect with us!



[City of Battle Creek, Michigan](http://City of Battle Creek, Michigan)



[@BattleCreekCity](https://twitter.com/BattleCreekCity)



[@cityofbattlecreekmi](https://www.instagram.com/cityofbattlecreekmi)



[PublicInput@battlecreekmi.gov](mailto:PublicInput@battlecreekmi.gov)

[CityClerk@battlecreekmi.gov](mailto:CityClerk@battlecreekmi.gov)

See our website for a full staff directory.



Learn more about city departments and ser-  
vices on Vice Mayor Lynn Ward Gray's Ac-  
cessVision TV show, *Keeping You Informed*. It  
appears on Channels 17 and 917 at 6 p.m.  
Wednesdays and online, [accessvision.tv](http://accessvision.tv).

**December:** Economic Development

**January:** Winter at Binder Park Golf Course

## WEBSITE, cont'd

Some of the features we want you to know about:

- The big search bar on the home page will drop down some options as you type, helping you navigate.
- The "[Get Connected](#)" section shows you our meeting and events calendar, social media, alert center, blog and more.
- We have a Google Translate feature, always

located at the bottom of your browser view. We hope this is helpful to our Burmese and Hispanic populations, and all residents who speak other languages.

- We have a robust [notification section](#), allowing you to subscribe to calendar events, agendas, alerts, latest news and more. Sign up for emails and/or texts!

**Check out the new [www.battlecreekmi.gov](http://www.battlecreekmi.gov) for more!**



## What residents need to know this winter



As we move further into winter, the city has some friendly reminders for citizens regarding snow plowing and other snowy weather issues:

- Please remove basketball hoops from the street. The city cannot be held responsible for damage to items left in the street.
- As much as possible, please don't set trash containers in the street on your designated pickup day. Instead, place them on the curb lawn or the end of your driveway.
- Please note Waste Management is closed Christmas Day, with a one-day pickup delay the rest of the week.
- If a plow truck damages your mailbox, please call Field Services at 269-966-3507. We replace damaged mailboxes in previously good condition on a case-by-case basis.

- It's inevitable that plows will place snow back into driveways as they go, but you can lessen the impact by plowing a space at the street where the plow will pass just before reaching your driveway. Place your driveway snow at the opposite side. We do not clear private driveways.
- Plows make multiple passes on each street to clear snow; we recommend that, if you see a truck pass, wait about 30 minutes before shoveling or blowing to be sure the truck has finished. This will help avoid frustration if you clear your driveway and the truck comes back around.
- It is residents' responsibility to ensure snow is removed from around your mailbox. The U.S. Postal Service may not deliver mail if they can't reach your box.
- When you see plow trucks, please give them space on

the road. When you see a truck convoy, please do not cut between them. Please be attentive as plows may back up on occasion.

- It is residents' responsibility to clear sidewalks of snow and ice after accumulations. We now have on our website a Priority Snow Removal Map. We have designated areas where sidewalk snow removal enforcement will be a priority—particularly near schools. Direct questions to Code Compliance, 269-966-3387. [To view the map, visit our website and navigate to Your Government, Geographic Information Systems and Maps.](#)
- We ask for your help to shovel snow around fire hydrants in your yards, so they are easily accessible if needed, and to help keep bus stops clear of snow.

We appreciate your attention to keep all safe this winter!

The Battle Creek Current is compiled and designed by Communications Specialist Jessica VanderKolk: (269) 966-3378 or [PublicInput@battlecreek.gov](mailto:PublicInput@battlecreek.gov).