



# BC City Connection

Bi-monthly newsletter for the Battle Creek community

## City Manager's Corner with Rebecca Fleury



It is so nice to see our summer weather return. The rain can give us pause, but it brings beautiful flowering trees, lush green grass, and the blossoming flowers. A big thank you to our green thumbs out there, as you make our city look and smell fantastic!



This time of year also means lawn mowing, street maintenance, water main work, and park activities. We ask for your patience if you encounter our employees at work. They are doing their best to be sure our city is safe, and looking nice.

The summer weather also means a kickoff of all the many activities happening in Battle Creek. Have you seen the **Discover Downtown flyer**? It was mailed to more than 40,000 addresses in the greater community, and beyond. There are so many cool things you won't want to miss!

I am positive that, over the next two years, you will see many transformations in our beautiful city. There have been many announcements about new projects, and it seems they are popping up as quickly as the flowers! While not a lot of work happening right now is visible, please know that many people are working behind the scenes to get these projects off the ground — projects like Heritage Tower, the McCamly Plaza Hotel, New Holland Brewing, buildings on Carlyle, changes at Lakeview Square Mall, development of the Battle Creek Plaza, and so many more.

We will make it a point to continue to communicate all the great things we are working on, to keep you in the know, and so that you can tell your friends and family.

We're on the move, and we believe in Battle Creek!

### City Calendar

For more, visit [www.battlecreekmi.gov](http://www.battlecreekmi.gov)

- **Board of Appeals**, 1 p.m., City Hall: July 18, Aug. 15
- **Bicycle Advisory Committee**, 3 p.m., City Hall: July 19, Aug. 16
- **City Commission**, 7 p.m., City Hall: July 3, July 17, Aug. 14 (due to election), Aug. 21
- **Civil Service Commission**, 4 p.m., City Hall: July 23, Aug. 27
- **Dangerous Buildings**, 1 p.m., City Hall: July 11, Aug. 8
- **Historic District Commission**, 4 p.m., City Hall: July 9, Aug. 13
- **Historic District petition deadline**: July 27, Aug. 24
- **Human Relations Board**, 3:30 p.m., City Hall: July 18, Aug. 15
- **Planning Commission**, 4 p.m., City Hall: July 25, Aug. 22
- **Planning Commission petition deadline**: July 27, Aug. 31
- **Police/Fire Retirement System Board**, 10 a.m., City Hall: July 16, Aug. 20
- **Sustainable BC Committee**, 1 p.m., City Hall: July 23, Aug. 27
- **Zoning Board of Appeals**, 4 p.m., City Hall: July 10, Aug. 14
- **Zoning Board petition deadline**: July 20, Aug. 17
- **Scrap tire collections**: June 26, 12-6 p.m., Village of Tekonsha, 537 Church St. July 28, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Ketchum Field, North Clark/East North streets, Albion. Full details, [calhouncountyrecycling.com](http://calhouncountyrecycling.com).
- City offices **CLOSED** for Independence Day: July 4. Transit bus/van services canceled; Waste Management closed, with pickups on one-day delay rest of the week.
- Third annual **City Fair**, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., July 11. Festival Market Square (rain location Kellogg Arena).
- **Movies in the Park**: activities start 8 p.m., lawn of Mill Race Park, dusk—July 13, Cars 3; Aug. 10, The Emoji Movie.
- **Kanoe the Kazoo**, all day Aug. 11. Marshall to Battle Creek paddle. More info at [kalamazooriver.org](http://kalamazooriver.org).
- **Styrofoam/electronics collection**, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Aug. 25, Dept. of Public Works, 150 S. Kendall. For those living in Calhoun County. Details at [calhouncountyrecycling.com](http://calhouncountyrecycling.com).
- **Flash Flood Water Park**, 35 Hamblin Ave. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 12-6 p.m. Sunday, through Labor Day.
- **Yard waste curbside pickup** for those within city limits, March 26-Nov. 30. Place in specially marked containers and/or paper yard waste bags. 50-lb limit each.

### Movies in the Park 2018!

**June 8:** Despicable Me 3 — **July 13:** Cars 3 — **Aug. 10:** The Emoji Movie — **Sept. 29:** CoCo



This is a FREE, family event, featuring pre-movie activities beginning at 8 p.m., followed by a family-friendly movie at dusk. Join all the fun on the lawn of Mill Race Park, corner of West Michigan Avenue and Capital Avenue SW. Bring a blanket or lawn chair! *Brought to you by Battle Creek Recreation.*



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
- Recreation**/Full Blast Fitness 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 2017-2020

- Mayor Mark Behnke, at-large  
269-441-7663
- Vice Mayor Dave Walters, Ward 5  
269-209-0626
- John Griffin, Ward 1  
269-358-4756
- Lynn Ward Gray, Ward 2  
269-830-2456
- Kate Flores, Ward 3  
269-832-2912
- Christopher Simmons, Ward 4  
269-274-8993
- Susan Baldwin, at-large  
269-963-6901
- Kaytee Faris, at-large  
734-330-6236
- Sherry Sofia, at-large  
269-967-8272

The BC City Connection is compiled & designed by Communications Manager Jessica VanderKolk: 269-966-3378 / [PublicInput@battlecreekmi.gov](mailto:PublicInput@battlecreekmi.gov).

# Connect with us!

City of Battle Creek, Michigan

@BattleCreekCity

City of Battle Creek  
Battle Creek Police Department

[PublicInput@battlecreekmi.gov](mailto:PublicInput@battlecreekmi.gov)  
See our website for a full staff directory.

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

**June:** KYI Town Hall: School Safety

**July:** To be determined — stay tuned!

## Spotlight on: Department of Public Works team

May 20-26 was National Public Works Week, and we love to share with you information about our team members working in this essential department.

We hope it's especially helpful to learn about this group, because we're well into the season when they are the most visible out in the community!

A few ways to learn more about Public Works this season:

- Catch our **special Keeping**

**You Informed** on-the-road tour of our Public Works facilities. While it's no longer airing, you can watch on demand at [accessvision.tv](http://accessvision.tv)/videos. On the right side, click Keeping You Informed, then choose the DPW Tour.

- Our wonderful schools are **painting snow plow blades** for the second year! We have five schools in the Battle Creek and Lakeview districts painting this spring,

look for them on display again at our DPW building, 150 S. Kendall. We enjoy every opportunity to connect with our schools!

- **Meet the team!** Check out some of the profiles we shared during Public Works Week, featuring our great staff and the cool jobs they do. See all nine profiles on our website, [battlecreekmi.gov/pwmedia](http://battlecreekmi.gov/pwmedia).

Kacie Brunner works in our Water Meter Shop, and is celebrating 20 years with the city this year. She has met hundreds of



you — her job is to spend time in neighbors' basements to make sure water meters are updated, valves are operational, and plumbing is current. She takes her job — to help provide safe drinking water to our community — seriously. If you see Kacie out and about, name any street in Battle Creek — she can tell you the size of the water main there!

Tad McCrumb is a civil engineer, and helps guide projects across the city from



“field to finish.” This means doing land surveys, creating ground surface models, calculating storm

water capacity, designing the project, seeking bids and choose a contractor and, finally, creating “as -builts,” adjusting the plan to how a project actually was built. Right now, Tad is managing the water main improvement project on Weeks Avenue. His favorites have been the Festival Market Square improvements, the last phase of Michigan Avenue reconstruction in 2012, and the Lynwood culverts project.

Kirk VanDeMoortel works in Records, and has digitized about one-quarter of our paper records in



just a year and a half! We keep tap slips for new water and sewer connections, street maps, property easements, and much more. Maps and tap slips are permanent records, so we'll always keep the paper, too. We have some dating back to the late

1800s! Kirk also locates utilities ahead of projects — something he considers an important job, because we don't want anyone to dig blindly, and hit a water, sewer, or any utility line.

Paul Sherlin works in our Sign Shop, and has worked with the city



for more than 11 years. The city makes 100 percent of our street signs, we make park signs, we make the logos on our vehicles — “We make signs for everybody, just about,” Paul said. He enjoys seeing his “stamp” on the community, every time he's out and observing the signs. You'll see Paul and others out soon, installing the signs to help direct traffic for the Field of Flight Air Show and Balloon Festival — it takes several weeks to place hundreds of signs to help this big event run smoothly.