



BC City Connection

Bi-monthly newsletter for the Battle Creek community

City Manager's Corner with Rebecca Fleury



Fall is one of my favorite times of year. A little cooler, lots of football, and vibrant, natural beauty.

It also means lots of **Halloween** fun. I hope you

make room in your busy schedule for Trunk or Treat, brought to you by the Battle Creek Police Department and other law enforcement agencies, Treat the Creek downtown, Bruin Boo, Zoo Boo, and the many fun activities around the city.

Fire Prevention Week also is this month, as you'll see in the theme graphic below. Watch for more information on the community-wide open house on Oct. 10, and the BCFD open house on Oct. 13, this year at Station 4. Fire crews will present again to our kindergartners, so be sure to ask your kids about it!

Speaking of the Fire Department, we are excited to welcome our **new fire chief,**

Brian Sturdivant, to Team Battle Creek! He was born and raised in Battle Creek, and has been away for a bit, but is thrilled to be back. His first day was Sept. 24 — if you see him out and about, please help us welcome him back home.



Lastly, your Team Battle Creek participated in the **Cereal City Corporate Cup** in September. All of the teams from across the city should be congratulated! We are proud of our Team Battle Creek for an overall bronze medal in Division 2, and a first place in Tug of War! This is a fun event, with lots of friendly competition, and lots of team pride, bringing so many Battle Creek organizations together.

Happy fall, neighbors!

City Calendar

For more, visit www.battlecreekmi.gov

- **Board of Appeals**, 1 p.m., City Hall: Nov. 21, Dec. 19
- **Bicycle Advisory Committee**, 3 p.m., City Hall: Nov. 15, Dec. 20
- **City Commission** organizational meeting, 7:30 p.m., City Hall: Nov. 13 due to election (regular meeting follows; will vote on upcoming schedule)
- **Civil Service Commission**, 4 p.m., City Hall: Nov. 26
- **Dangerous Buildings**, 1 p.m., City Hall: Nov. 14, Dec. 12
- **Historic District Commission**, 4 p.m., City Hall: Nov. 5 (due to holiday), Dec. 10
- Historic District **petition deadline**: Nov. 21
- **Human Relations Board**, 3:30 p.m., City Hall: Nov. 21, Dec. 19
- **Planning Commission**, 4 p.m., City Hall: Nov. 14, Dec. 12 (both due to holidays)
- Planning Commission **petition deadline**: Nov. 16
- **Police/Fire Retirement System Board**, 10 a.m., City Hall: Nov. 19, Dec. 17
- **Sustainable BC Committee**, 1 p.m., City Hall: Nov. 26, no Dec meeting
- **Zoning Board of Appeals**, 4 p.m., City Hall: Nov. 13, Dec. 11
- Zoning Board **petition deadline**: Nov. 16, Dec. 21
- City offices **CLOSED** for Veterans Day, Nov. 12. Transit bus/van services running; Waste Management open, making regular pickups.
- City offices **CLOSED** for Thanksgiving, Nov. 22. Transit bus/van services canceled for the day; Waste Management closed, with one-day pickup delay the rest of the week.
- City offices **CLOSED** for Thanksgiving, Nov. 23. Transit bus/van services running; Waste Management open, making regular pickups.
- City offices **CLOSED** for Christmas Eve, Dec. 24. Transit bus/van services running; Waste Management open, making regular pickups.
- City offices **CLOSED** for Christmas, Dec. 25. Transit bus/van services canceled for the day; Waste Management closed, with one-day pickup delay the rest of the week.
- **Curbside live holiday tree pickup**, Dec. 26-Feb. 1, 2019. Within city limits only.
- **BC Cargo**: Full Blast parking lot at McCamly & Hamblin, 11a-3p Sat, Sept. 8-Dec. 8.
- **Yard waste curbside pickup** for those within city limits, March 26-Nov. 30.

*Battle Creek area Fire Prevention Open House: 6-8 p.m. **Oct. 10** at Bailey Park

*Battle Creek Fire Dept. open house: 2-4 p.m. **Oct. 13** at Station 4, 8 S. 20th St.

LOOK. LISTEN. LEARN.

Be aware.
Fire can happen anywhere.™

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK: OCTOBER 7-13, 2018
firepreventionweek.org

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

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, 34 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 Sherry Sofia, at-large
269-967-8272

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

Jim Lance, Ward 5
269-234-1016

Susan Baldwin, at-large
269-963-6901

Kaytee Faris, at-large
734-330-6236

The BC City Connection is compiled &
designed by Communications
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Connect with us!

City of Battle Creek, Michigan

@BattleCreekCity

City of Battle Creek
Battle Creek Police Department

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
Comcast 17/917 and AT&T 99 at 6 p.m.
Wednesdays, and online, accessvision.tv.

October: Can I Get a Witness? replay
November: Fire Chief Brian Sturdivant

Spotlight on: *Leave your yard waste at the curb*

The fall season is here again, and the city team wants to remind our neighbors about the appropriate ways to get rid of your leaves, and other yard waste.

Please note that burning leaves within the city limits is **not allowed**, even if you have a burn permit.

You do have several options for disposing of leaves:

- Collect leaves in paper bags — leaf bags specifically for this purpose are sold in most area grocery and hardware stores — or place them in a container clearly marked “yard waste,” and place at the curb. Each container cannot exceed 50 pounds in weight. Waste Management will haul these away on your regular

trash day, through Nov. 30 this year. No plastic bags, please.

Please note that leaves must be contained in one of these ways — **the city does not collect loose leaves.**

- Hire a private contractor to collect your leaves; many will provide free estimates.

- Mow them with your lawn mower, and keep them on your lawn as a natural mulch.

- Compost them in a corner of your yard.

- Haul them to the city's drop-off compost site. Brice Pit is at 715

W. River Road — take Bedford Road south to River, and turn right, just past Budget Self-Storage. Drive approximately a quarter-mile, and Brice Pit will be on the left.

Currently, regular hours are 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Brice is closed Sundays.

Again, no plastic bags, please, and no contractor dumping.

With questions on this information, please call Waste Management at 866-797-9018, or the city's Field Services Division at 269-966-3507.



Thank you from Police Chief Jim Blocker



Aug. 20 was the first official day, and the start of police operations, out of our new police station at 34 N. Division St. It was an exciting day, and one the planning team anticipated for nearly four years.

We spent many hours in meetings, and on road trips to visit other new buildings — like colleges, libraries, and other public safety buildings — to help this team visualize, and design, what we have here today.

We wanted a facility of which our community would be proud, **open and inviting** and, most importantly, would serve as a **center of law enforcement excellence** for years to come. I believe we hit that mark.

Thank you to our community for your support, encouragement, and enthusiasm. During the open houses in mid-August, we hosted hundreds of visitors, community guests, leaders past and present, police retirees and families. The amount of support was overwhelming, and served as a confirmation that

we accomplished our mission.

Now, as we work through this new environment and stretch our legs, we focus on how we operate in this facility, and on the street. With this building design, we finally can **join community engagement and daily police operations** in a meaningful and productive way.

For example, the Fusion Center serves as a skilled hub of capabilities across the full spectrum of trauma response. Hosting community mental health, child services, parole and corrections, crime and data analysis, and state and federal law enforcement partners — the community Fusion Center has enhanced our daily response capability in a way that allows us to more deeply review and address the challenges in our community.

We are proud of this work's beginnings, and look forward to **seeing what we can accomplish with this new — community — approach.**