THIS IS **SAGINAW** WEBUILD THE FUTURE



A Season of Change

Hello, Saginaw! Welcome to the Fall 2021 issue of the "This is Saginaw" newsletter. We hope you are enjoying the beautiful fall season in our city.

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Fall is a time of change, a time to let go of the old and prepare for the new. The City of Saginaw is certainly in a season of change and preparing for the new.

In this issue, we highlight the work that we are doing as a city to advance Saginaw progressively into the future. We are excited to shine a spotlight on the events that make our city so special, and to recognize the employees and organizations that help make Saginaw a great place to live, work, and play.

This is an exciting time in Saginaw! It's a season of rebuilding, a season of revitalization and renewal. Together as a community, we are coming together and building a solid foundation for the future. Let's enjoy this special season in Saginaw.

American Rescue Plan Act and the Future of Saginaw

All About ARPA

The City of Saginaw has been designated as the recipient of \$52 million in funding from the American Rescue Plan Act legislation. The ARPA funds allocated to Saginaw provide an opportunity to invest in community needs that were magnified by the pandemic, and to consider generational investments in public infrastructure. At this time, the City has not established a process to plan and allocate funds. Once official final guidance is provided from the Department of Treasury, City Council will work on a process to determine the best manner in which to proceed.

Taking Steps Forward:

In August, the City launched an online survey to receive feedback from residents and community organizations on how to spend the \$52 million in funding. On September 17, 2021, a Strategic Planning Session was held to identify priority investment opportunities and review community survey results. The session served as a starting point for the city council's discussion on how to utilize this once-in-a-generation money. After presenting the survey results, City council identified five primary focus categories of investment opportunities.

Survey Results: City Respondents Top Priorities

Category	Number of Responses	Percentage of Responses	Importance Scoring
Crime and fire prevention	197	25%	4.1
Housing (neighborhood revitalization)	171	22%	3.8
Public infrastructure	142	18%	4.2
Economic development opportunities	69	9%	3.4
Social programs and nonprofit agencies	63	8%	3.1
Parks and trails	61	8%	3.3
City beautification	57	7%	3.8
Healthcare access	19	2%	3.4
Others	5	1%	
Unspecified	2	0%	
Total	786	100%	

Source: City of Saginaw online and paper survey August 19, 2021, to September 7, 2021; 1,000 total respondents

The September 17 Strategic Planning Session gave citizens the opportunity to observe and listen as Council Members developed ideas on the use of the ARPA funds. The planning session helped determine the next steps and future meetings for public input discussion.





Tim Dempsey, Public Sector Consultants, presents survey results



Expenditure Focus Areas

Youth and Family	Preservation and Beautification	Health	Economic Development	Housing
Family programs	Community centers	Pandemic relief healthcare, etc.	Employment	Money towards affordable housing programs (Saginaw County Land Bank)
Education stipends for low-income residents	Neighborhood programming	Funding for utility assistance to homeowners and renters	Funding for programs supported by Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	Housing
Invest in city/county/school liaison activities	Parks and recreation	Mental health services	Manufacturing	
New and expanded childcare	Public relations/marketing specialist	Mobile medical stations	Small businesses	
Programs for youth: skills trades/apprenticeships	Revitalization	Program start-ups: local food co-op	Increase funding for technology improvements and water infrastructure	
Stimulus payments for citizens	Revitalization of fairgrounds Self-funded program funds for city programs			
Youth programs and Family				
Youth programs after school				

American Rescue Plan Act and the Future of Saginaw

Making Sure Every Voice Is Heard

On November 2 and November 5, City Council conducted two City Hall Open House events to meet informally with the public and receive feedback on what the public wants to see prioritized with the \$52 million in federal funding.

"While we await final guidance from the Treasury, it is important that we continue conversations with our citizens. We realize some residents may not want to address council formally at a public meeting; however, we want to make sure their voices are heard. This is an opportunity to sit down with a council member for a few minutes and provide your input on the use of the funds."---Mayor Brenda F. Moore



"This is an opportunity to sit down with a council member for a few minutes and provide your input on the use of the funds." Mayor Brenda F. Moore



New ARPA Webpage



AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA)

Click the "ARPA" quicklink on our homepage



The City has also recently launched an ARPA page on its website to help share the latest information regarding ARPA with the community. We encourage citizens to visit this page frequently for the latest news, information and guidelines regarding the implementation of ARPA funds.

Visit <u>https://www.saginaw-mi.com/government/city_council/arpa.php</u> for more information

Charging Toward the Future





The City of Saginaw has installed its first set of electric vehicle charging stations, and is now progressively looking toward the future. The city has installed 2 Direct Current Fast Chargers (DCFC) charging stations in the Ippel Parking Lot, 110 S. Hamilton. Six standard Level 2 charging stations will also be placed in pairs at the SVRC Marketplace parking lot, 211 S. Water St.; the retention basin parking lot, 100 N. Hamilton St.; and 220 S. Baum St, the site of a newly proposed downtown city parking lot. The city anticipates all 8 installations will be completed by November 30, 2021. "The new charging stations will draw visitors and residents to our Downtown and Old Town area. We hope they will take the opportunity to explore and enjoy our city while they recharge their vehicle."

Tim Morales, City Manager



LOCATIONS:

Two Direct Current Fast Chargers (fully functional) **110 S. Hamilton St.**

 Six "Level Two" Chargers (complete by November 30, 2021)
SVRC Marketplace parking lot, 211 S. Water St.
Retention basin parking lot, 100 N. Hamilton St.
Between the SVRC Marketplace and Saginaw Police Department building, 220 S. Baum St.

Saginaw Supports Small Business

Saginaw Soup Event Increases Entrepreneurship in Saginaw

The Saginaw Soup Event was held on November 1 at the CMURC Offices in the upper level of the SVRC Marketplace. The event highlighted local entrepreneurs pitching their business ideas to a panel of judges and a local audience.

The goal of Saginaw Soup is to inform entrepreneurs and visionaries of the resources that are available and to help develop their business idea. Whether they just need information, consulting, or capital to get their business off the ground, the resources are plentiful.

Saginaw Soup is a collaborative effort between Saginaw Future, Saginaw Economic **Development Corporation, Small Business Development Center, Saginaw Chamber of** Commerce, CMURC, City of Saginaw, Saginaw Township, Frankenmuth, and Chesaning. At the November 1 event, pitches were presented from Upstairs Resale Shop, Tink Top Models, Kakes The Great Popcorn Co., Self-Love, Self-Respect and Sisterhood, INC, and Zetta's Brand Studio. Congratulations to 1st Place winner: Kake's the Great and 2nd Place: Self-Love, Self-Respect and Sisterhood. We look forward to seeing these dynamic entrepreneurs flourish both here in the City of Saginaw and beyond! We want to congratulate our winners and thank all our participants. We wish them great success in all their future endeavors.



First Place winner, Kaylynn "Kakes the Great," owner of Kakes The Great Popcorn Co. and Second Place winner, Keoshia Banks, owner of Self-Love Self-Respect Sisterhood







For more information, visit the Saginaw Soup Facebook page-https://www.facebook.com/Saginawsoup

Celebrating Our Sister City

The annual Japan Festival was held at the Japanese Teahouse and Cultural Center on September 13. The festival included Taiko and Okinawa dance performances, authentic tea ceremonies for the public, Japanese children's games, flower arranging exhibits, origami and more! Mayor Brenda Moore attended the event and helped welcome citizens to the unique celebration of culture and diversity.

Since 1961, the City of Saginaw and Tokushima Japan have shared a special Sister City relationship with the desire to promote friendship, cultural exchange, and international goodwill between our communities.







Mayor Brenda F. Moore welcomes citizens to the Japan Festival at the Japanese Tea House and Cultural Center.

Over the past 6 decades, this special bond of sisterhood between Tokushima and Saginaw has linked our cultures together and allowed for many memorable visits between each city. The Japan Festival allows citizens to revisit the rich history of cultural exchange between our two communities and enjoy a remarkable celebration of friendship.



Winners of SCENIC Awards put their Best Lawn Forward

The Saginaw Neighborhood Recognition Award program continued for another successful summer season in 2021. The grand prize winner was announced at the Neighborhood Association Action Group meeting held at City Hall on October 19.

David Gray, who has revitalized his home on Bro Mor, was the big winner of this year's prize.

The grand prize winner was chosen from the monthly neighborhood quadrant winners from June, July, and August. The grand prize winner also won a recognition certificate and a grand prize gift basket with prizes donated from local sponsors. The awards recognize exceptional yard work and acknowledge those residents who take pride in their properties and care about the look of their neighborhood.

Congratulations to all of our 2021 winners!

Make a difference in your neighborhood!

Did you know, the City of Saginaw has 16 neighborhood association groups that meet monthly throughout the city? If you are committed to your



neighborhood, dedicated to seeing its progress, and want to make a difference in your corner of the world, then join your neighborhood association.

Neighborhood associations promote neighborhood safety and enhance the quality of life on each block. Make a difference in your neighborhood this year and help make our Saginaw neighborhoods safe, fun and a great place to live and play!

To learn more your neighborhood association's meeting date and time, and to learn more about your neighborhood association, visit:

Celebrating Art and Culture in Saginaw



Bernarda C. Jimenez & Jose Santos Jimenez, owners of La Estrella Del Norte



Great Mural Project Members Cassie Zimmerman, Laura Mettam, Jamie Forbes, along with Dawn Goodrow proudly stand with artists Anthony "Birdie" Rendon and "S.W. Freddy Diaz in front of the final piece. This art would not be here without their motivation and love for Saginaw!

The Great Mural Project Leaves its Creative Footprint Once Again

In September, paint and graffiti artist Freddy Diaz came to Saginaw from Southwest Detroit as part of a Great Mural Project collaboration. The artwork he brought to life is located at Saginaw's La Estrella Del Norte Bakery at 2406 N. Michigan Ave. The mural depicts the owners, Bernarda and Jose Santos Jimenez, working to create their famous tortilla shells. The new mural not only highlights Hispanic history in the city; but how far the bakery has come as a business, and the tight-knight relationships residents of all backgrounds in the area share.

The mural will serve as the sixth piece of art coordinated through the Great Mural Project. This organization, founded in 2017, consists of a group of volunteers that work together to beautify Saginaw through mural paintings. They never fail to impress!

Graffiti Artists Create a Hidden Gem in Saginaw











Have you seen the new look under the Court Street Bridge? Here are just a few of the incredible creations from the Graffiti Showdown 2021 Event that took place under the Court Street Bridge on September 11, Ten top-ranked graffiti artists from Saginaw, Flint, Detroit and Chicago were given eight hours to finish a piece.

These talented artists created new pieces of graffiti artwork alongside the old artwork still existing in that space.

The showdown was sponsored by the Old Town Saginaw Street Art Park initiative.

Together We Can Make A Difference

Wimsatt Building Materials Gives the West Side Boat Dock Parking Area a New Look The City of Saginaw would like to thank the team from Wimsatt Building Materials Saginaw for their hard work at our west side boat dock parking area. Thank you to the hard working crew that volunteered their time to make this area look so good!







Praying for Peace in our City

On Labor Day weekend, Mayor Brenda Moore invited local pastors and community members to join her at Borchard Park for a time of prayer for the City of Saginaw.

Mayor Moore partnered with Bishop Larry Camel of New Birth Missionary Baptist Cathedral to plan and organize the powerful event.





"I believe in the power of prayer. I believe that prayer is a crucial element in fighting the violence and other issues that plague and divide our city. Now is the time that we must stand united as we pray for peace in our city." --Mayor Brenda F. Moore

Saginaw Welcomes Darrin Jerome as the Director of Neighborhood Services and Inspections

The City of Saginaw recently welcomed Darrin Jerome as the new Director of Neighborhood Services and Inspections. Darrin replaced the previous director, John Stemple, who retired on August 31st.

After serving in the department for nearly 25 years, Mr. Jerome anticipates great things as he steps into the role of Director of Neighborhood Services and Inspections. Darrin began his career with the City of Saginaw in 1997 when he was hired as the Plumbing and Mechanical Inspector. Darrin was promoted to Chief Deputy Inspector in 2015 and served in that role until 2018 when he was promoted to Chief Inspector. As the Department Director, Darrin will continue to work closely with the Neighborhood Associations, Saginaw County, and the Police and Fire Chiefs.



"I look forward to building on the great work our team has done and continue to strengthen our neighborhoods and improve the quality of life in our city." -Darrin Jerome, Director of Neighborhood Services and Inspections

Recognizing a Job Well Done

The City of Saginaw took a moment to recognize John Stemple, our Director of Neighborhood Services and Inspections, who retired on August 31. John served the City of Saginaw for nearly 27 years; he served in various roles in planning, development, inspections, and neighborhood services, eventually being named the Director of Neighborhood Services and Inspections.

John was always willing to assist with any project in the city, even those outside of his direct area. We wish John the very best in his retirement.

Thank you, John Stemple, for your dedication, leadership and commitment to the City of Saginaw!





Department Highlight Assessing Division



The primary function of the Assessing Division is to calculate uniform and equitable property values through physical inspection, analysis of sales, and determination of exemptions and abatements. The Assessing Division oversees approximately 26,500 real property parcels and 1,700 personal property accounts. The functions of this division are regulated by the State Constitution and Michigan Compiled Law, and are in accordance with the City Charter. Additionally, the Assessing Division is responsible for:

- Maintaining accurate property records for each parcel in the City, including legal land descriptions and physical improvements to the land;
- Tracking the history of ownership for all parcels, as well as ensuring the proper conveyance of ownership, through verification of deeds, transfer affidavits, and other legal documents;
- Providing property owners with information and guidance in relation to property valuations, tax rates, exemptions, and State and City required forms.





Meet the Assessing Team: K. Dunn, J. Pozenel (back) J. Inman, T. Lister (middle) M. Malocha (front)

Did you know???

The Assessing Division oversees approximately 26,500 real property parcels and 1,700 personal property accounts in the City of Saginaw.

Department Highlight Assessing Division <u>What is your proudest accomplishment?</u>



"Earning my Michigan Advanced Assessing Officer Level 3 certification and getting out of massive debt...and staying out for going on 2 decades!"

Janice Inman Property Appraiser II

"My proudest accomplishment is how far I've come in the Assessing Division. I started as an Office Assistant II and I am now a Michigan Certified Property Appraiser II in less than 3 years. Its great to have supportive co-workers as well."



Deputy Assessor

Kala Dunn Assessing Technician

"My proudest accomplishment is owning and paying off my house before I was 30 and still being able to enjoy and work on it."



Theresa Lister Property Appraiser II

"My proudest accomplishment would be my daughter. She is the light of my life and brings joy to everyone who knows her. ... She gives me the best reason to strive to make a good life for the both of us"



John Pozenel Assessing Technician

"My proudest accomplishment is helping raise three intelligent and conscientious young ladies. Although I find many aspects of my life and work rewarding, none can compare to seeing my three teenage daughters transforming into wonderful women before my eyes."



Celebrating Local Heroes



Fire Marshall and Firefighter of the Year Derron Suchodolski and Congressman Dan Kildee



Saginaw Hosts Annual Fire Awards and Memorial Ceremony

In recognition of Fire prevention week, the Saginaw fire department hosted their annual Fire Awards and Memorial Ceremony on October 5 to recognize the efforts of citizens, firefighters, and other first responders who have made the City of Saginaw a safer community. Fire Marshal Derron Suchodolski was also recognized as Firefighter of the Year. The event was a great opportunity to say THANK YOU to these heroic men and women for their lifesaving efforts.





K9 Officer of the Year Deebo

Meet the K9 Officer of the Year!

Congratulations to our Saginaw K9, Deebo. Deebo won the 2021 K9 Officer of the Year award at the Police Officers Association of Michigan Banquet. Deebo has been a brave and loyal K9 Police Officer for the Saginaw Police Department since 2016. Congratulations, Deebo. Thank you for your bravery and service to our city!!

Human Resources Updates

Interested in a Career with the City?

The City of Saginaw is continuously posting multiple job opportunities for members of the public. New jobs are posted periodically, so keep an eye out for your ideal position with the city! If you'd like to apply for an exciting position with the city, please visit the City of <u>Saginaw</u> <u>website</u> at https://www.saginaw-mi.com/ and click "I Want To"--"Apply for/Obtain"--"A Job with the City". From there, you can create an account, upload your resume, and apply for your future! To prepare for your application, please have your driver's license on-hand. While filling out the application, include ALL work history including City Positions. We require start and end dates, company and position name, supervisor name, and reason for leaving. Please include ALL education, and any additional certificates, licenses, and languages.

Once the application is complete, you'll receive an email saying your application has been successfully submitted. Please allow 2-4 weeks after the application deadline for the screening process to be completed. Visit <u>https://www.saginaw-mi.com/jobs/</u> to sign in and see a list of job opportunities.

The City of Saginaw job page is powered by NEOGOV, or governmentjobs.com. If you've already made an account to apply for a job outside the City of Saginaw, use the same account to apply for a job with the city.



Need Help Getting Set Up?

Visit:

https://www.governmentjobs.com/Home /ApplicationGuide for a full list of instructions if you haven't already made your account.

If you already have your account set up and would like more assistance in applying for a job, log into your existing account. On the "Job Opportunities" page, click on the Menu in the top left hand corner. From there, click "Applicant Guide" for further instructions.



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Human Resources Updates



Alexander Wojewoda - Firefighter Randolph Disena - Fleet Mtc Tech II Mitchell Hoffman - Fleet Mtc Tech II Justin Zeitz - Utilities Person I James Campbell - Police Officer **Ernest Fulco - Police Officer Richard Jacklin III - Police Officer** John Luth - Police Officer **Christopher Wheaton - Police Officer Devin Yaklin - Police Officer** Kenneth Knapp - Fleet Mtc Tech I Lee Grimshaw - Traffic Mtc Tech I Nicole McLeod - Employment Recruiter **Spenser Sutton - Laborer II** Steven Roberts - Utilities Person I **Gustavo Burgos-Borton - Firefighter** Gary Tull - Packer Operator

Best of luck to our new employees!

Follow us on social media!!



@CityofSaginawGovernment



@cityofsaginawmi



@CityofSaginawMi



<u>August:</u>

William Chapman - Facilities Simeon Martin - Streets John Stemple - Inspections

<u>October:</u> Mary Hiser - Purchasing

Enjoy your retirement. You have been great to work with and a great role model!

The flu is serious. Protect yourself and everyone around you.

Every year, millions of people get the flu. Hundreds of thousands of people get so sick, they wind up in the hospital.* Why risk it?



The flu shot is your best defense against getting and spreading the flu.

Who should get the

Everybody 6 months and older especially pregnant women and anyone caring for infants.

flu shot?



The flu sprea shot will help if you don't g

Protect yourself and others

The flu spreads easily, but the flu shot will help protect you. And if you don't get the flu, you can't spread it to others.



No. The flu shot doesn't contain a live virus. However, it can take up to 2 weeks for your body to be fully protected.

Once a year, every year Flu viruses change each year, and so does the vaccine. Get your flu shot every year to reduce your risk.





The Most Magical Time of the Year Holidays in the Heart of the City is BACK for 2021

tolidays in the	Friday, November 19 - 5:30 to 8:30 pm
Tean of the	Holidays in the Heart of the City
5:45-6:00	Lighting Ceremony at the Water Treatment Plant begins at 5:45 pm with lights going on at 6:00 pm
5:30-8:30	Food vendors offering hot dogs, popcorn, Mexican cuisine, coffee, hot chocolate and more
5:30-8:30	Open house at The Montague Inn with a Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra pop-up performance at 6:30 p.m.
5:30-8:30	Open house at Grove Dental Group/Robert Cady DDS
5:30-8:30	Open house at the Mexican-American Council with singers and Mexican treats
5:30-8:30	Free admission to the Saginaw Children's Zoo (\$1.00 train and carousel rides / ZOOletide wreath raffle) /
	The Morse Telegraph Club will be transmitting Santagrams to the North Pole
5:30-8:30	Andersen Enrichment Center - 1000/WSGW Cookie House Competition, Hoyt Library Story Time and
	READ Association book giveaway
	Downtown Saginaw Farmers' Market "Holiday Market" on the Andersen Enrichment Center lawn
5:30-8:30	Borchard Park in Old Town Saginaw - Santa, Reindeer, Castle Museum Cookie Hut and Free Pony Rides
	Special Events in Old Town Saginaw - Business Specials, Holiday Lights, Window Displays
5:30-8:30	Holy Cross Lutheran Church - Court St Music (on porch and indoors), free cookies and hot chocolate
5:30-8:15	Free horse-drawn wagon rides on Ezra Rust sponsored by Frank N. Andersen Foundation, board at Andersen Ctr.
5:30-8:30	Complimentary transportation over the Court St. Bridge provided by First Student
6:00-7:00	Free Concert* at The Court Theatre featuring the Saginaw Area Concert Band 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm
7:15-8:15	Free Christmas Concert* at Holy Family Church featuring the Saginaw Choral Society 7:00 pm to 8:15 pm
	* (donations of new hats, gloves and scarves will be collected at concerts)
8:30	FIREWORKS from Oilbway Island

Saturday, November 20 - 11:00 am

Annual Christmas Parade "Christmas Miracles"

featuring floats, marching bands, drill teams, costumed characters, Santa and more!

** Route begins in Downtown Saginaw traveling south on South Washington from Johnson, then west on Ezra Rust Drive to Ojibway Island **

Grand Marshal - Lt. Harry Davis, Retired, Saginaw Police Reserves

Morley Plaza on S. Washington Avenue will have the ABM reviewing stand and visits with Santa before the parade Free parking 8:00 am to 2:00 pm provided by EZ Park at the corner of N. Washington and Johnson Avenues No party this year but the Castle Museum is providing a take home Holiday Party Pack includes toys, activities, crafts, and treats for one child. Pre-order and pick up by contacting 989-752-2861 (x-303) or holidays@castlemuseum.org Holiday Bingo at Hoyt Library 2:00 to 3:00 pm (bcp) /WSGW Cookie House Competition continues at Andersen Enrichment Center 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Downtown Saginaw Farmers' Market Holiday Market at Andersen Enrichment Center 10:00 am to 1:00 pm Makers Market at the SVRC Marketplace Friday and Saturday, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm Old Town Saginaw Business Open Houses until 5:00 pm



Dornbos Printing impressions



Maxwell K Pribil **Memorial Trust**

Huntington

Frank N. Andersen Foundation







> NETWORK

Important Dates to Remember



City Offices will be closed on:

Veteran's Day - Thursday, November 11 Thanksgiving -Thursday, November 25-Friday, November 26 Christmas -Thursday, December 23-Friday, December 24 New Year's - Thursday, December 30-Friday, December 31

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGSNOVEMBER 22 AT 6:30 PM
DECEMBER 6 AT 6:30 PM
DECEMBER 20 AT 6:30PMATTEND IN PERSON, WATCH ON
YOUTUBE or SGTVFOR PUBLIC INPUT: 989.399.1311 OR
CLERK@SAGINAW-MI.COM

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

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