



July 17, 2014

Mayor Donald D. Lyons  
City Council Members

City Meetings: None

Dear Mayor Lyons and City Council Members:

The following report has been prepared to provide you with an update on current issues or projects in progress:

**Middle Crossing property**

On July 15, closing for the 28733 Middle Crossing storage building property was finalized as well as an agreement for property management. Since this purchase was made out of foreclosure, the first step will be to identify the tenants and enter into new rental agreements. These tasks are part of the work that is being contracted for and will likely take 60-90 days to fully resolve.

**Brush removal**

The DPS crews have focused on getting the debris from recent storms picked up. By the week's end, all brush and remnants of the storms will have been removed.

**DPS press release:**

This summer it seems like more people than usual are blowing grass clippings into the street. DPS is issuing the following press release as a reminder for people of the problems this practice can cause when it rains.

*Due to the recent heavy rains and storms, the city has had issues with flooding of roads and yards due to the accumulation of debris along the gutter pans, inlets and catch basins. The City is requesting that residents adhere from blowing, raking, or placing debris into the streets to avoid plugging the inlets and catch basins.*

*Please be advised that per the Dowagiac City Code, Chapter 70, Streets, Sidewalks and Other Public Places, Section 70-5. Same – Yard Waste and Household Debris,*

*“No person shall place or cause to be placed in or on any public sidewalk, or on any pavement, gutter, drain, ditch, alley or roadway in the city, any grass clippings, leaves, lawn rakings, tree or bush trimmings, tree trunks, stumps, ashes, soil, dirt or household debris, unless specifically approved by the engineer.”*

*Should you have any questions on disposal of yard waste and debris, please contact the Department of Public Services at 269-782-8200. As a reminder to residents, they may take compostable yard waste to the City's Compost Site located behind Riverside Cemetery. Hours of operation are Tuesdays, 6 PM to Dusk, and Saturdays, 10 AM to 3 PM.*

### **Summer in the City**

Catch the biggest festival celebration of the year Thursday, July 24 through Sunday, July 27. The city comes alive with music, dance, food and activities for the entire family. Enjoy games, art, sidewalk sales, animals, trains, a dunk tank, magic, BMX trick riders, queens and princesses. What more could you want! Support the area business, performers and organizations – Join in on the fun.

### **Steve's Run**

“Fire Up!” on Saturday, July 26. Race registration will take place at City Hall on Friday 7/25 from 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm and Saturday from 7:00 am and to 8:30 am with first race gun sounding at 8:30 am.

### **Sculpture Preservation Fund**

Visual Arts Committee members of the Dogwood Fine Arts Festival conducted sales of special prints of a photo collage of *Dance of Creation* constructed by Ron Taylor. All sales benefit the Sculpture Preservation Fund held by the city for future care and maintenance of public art. A second generous donation has been collected by the group for this fund. Our thanks go out to the Visual Arts Committee for their generosity and commitment to care for public art in the City!

Sincerely,



Kevin P. Anderson  
City Manager