



CITY OF BERKLEY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2022 | www.berkleymich.org | (248) 658-3300 | Facebook: [@CityofBerkley](https://www.facebook.com/CityofBerkley)



MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER

Matthew Baumgarten

Hello Berkley,

I write this fresh off of a wildly successful Cruisefest Classic Car Parade. As fun as the parade itself was (who doesn't love an upside-down van!), I genuinely do love the hours after when Twelve Mile is closed and full of music, dancing, movies, and neighbors. It has the feel of a block party but for the entire City. It was great to see Twelve Mile so alive and full of people. I look forward to those couple of hours each and every year.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank the team that brings the fun every year. Our own Parks & Recreation and Public Works staff put in hours upon hours working with a great group of volunteers planning and executing a seamless plan to ensure that we can all be wowed by the cars of yesteryear and then stroll around enjoying the sites and sounds of the evening. I still, for the life of me, cannot figure out how they always get the weather to be absolutely perfect. I want to give a heartfelt **THANK YOU** to all those who make CruiseFest a true point of pride for Berkley.

Now on to the other good things that are happening in our community. This time of year marks the return to school for our little (and not so little) ones across the community. Please keep in mind that Berkley is a walking district so the sidewalks and crosswalks will be busy with children heading to and from school each day. I implore any and all reading this to be alert and pay attention when driving and to urge your kids to do the same when walking.

On that note, we are always looking for Crossing Guards to help students safely get to school between the hours of 7:45 AM to 8:30 AM, and leave between the hours of 3:00 PM to 3:45 PM (as well as half days). These are paid positions at \$15 per hour/4 hours per open school day.

[You can apply here.](#)

Have a great September Berkley,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Baumgarten".

– Matt Baumgarten

STRAIGHT FROM THE CLERK'S OFFICE

248-658-3310 | Email: clerk@berkleymich.net | Monday - Friday (8:30 AM - 5:00 PM, closed for lunch from 1-2 PM)

2022 Elections ... #BerkleyVotes

The General Election will take place on **Tuesday, November 8, 2022**. All seven precincts will be open from 7 AM to 8 PM.

Interested in Voting Absentee?

Visit the Clerk's Office today to register to vote or sign up to receive an absentee ballot.

Residents wishing to complete an application to receive an absentee ballot may do so by **contacting the Clerk's Office at 248-658-3310 or via email at clerk@berkleymich.net**.

Electronic absentee ballot applications can also be completed at www.michigan.gov/vote.

- **NOTE:** A lot of changes are happening this year including **new voter ID cards and redistricting for our community**. Be sure to review your new voter registration and what district you are in.

Want to see a Sample Ballot?

Sample ballots are available in the Clerk's Office and online at www.berkleymich.org/vote or www.michigan.gov/vote.

- **NOTE:** The Clerk's Office does not have enough absentee ballots on hand to use as a sample ballot. Once absentee ballots are completed, feel free to drop them in the mail, place them in the City's secure drop box, or bring them to the Clerk's Office at your earliest convenience. Although it is very helpful for the Clerk's Office to receive your absentee ballots before Election Day, voters have until 8 PM on November 8, 2022, to turn them in.

ELECTION EXTENDED HOURS

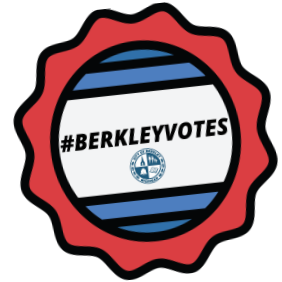
We want to ensure that Berkley voters have ample opportunity to make their voices heard in the upcoming election.

The Clerk's Office has extended its hours for **election business only** on the following days (**no appointment needed**):

Date:	Time:
Saturday, October 1, 2022	9 AM to 1 PM
Thursday, October 13, 2022 (<i>drive-thru</i>)	5:30 PM to 7:30 PM
Thursday, October 20, 2022	5 PM to 7 PM
Saturday, November 5, 2022	8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Residents will be allowed into City Hall **AFTER** normal business hours to do the following:

- Register to vote
- Vote absentee ballot
- Drop off absentee ballots in-person
 - **NOTE: Residents can still drop off their ballots via the secure Dropbox located at City Hall**
- Spoil ballots



BERKLEY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY NOTICE

EMERGENCIES: Dial 9-1-1 | Non-Emergencies: 248-658-3380 | Facebook: [@BerkleyDPS](https://www.facebook.com/BerkleyDPS)



School Safety Zones

In partnership with Berkley Schools, we have implemented school traffic procedures around each school within the City of Berkley known as **School Safety Zones**.

School Safety Zones are there to **keep students safe** and to **allow public safety quick and clear access to all school buildings**.

They also allow for consistent parking rules and clear drop-off and pick-up areas as you will see in the maps and videos outlined on our webpage www.berkleymich.org/schoolsafetyzones.

To keep the School Safety Zones clear of vehicles, students should be:

- Dropped off across the street from the school
- Exit on the curbside
- Walk to the corner
- And cross the street with the crossing guard

We would like to remind all parents and guardians that as a walking district it is important to lead your children to the crosswalk and ensure all children cross safely.



Lastly, we would like to share with Berkley residents living near any of our schools what this means for you. Instead of parking across the street, you will now get to **park your car in front of your residence**, excluding the 2 to 6 AM parking restriction.

We want to thank you for following the School Safety Zone rules. It will keep our kids safe and ensure we have access to all of our school buildings. For those living or traveling in the area, please remember to **slow down and pay attention as you drive through residential streets** to protect our children.



Public Safety Fire Open House

We will be hosting our annual Fire Open House event on Saturday, September 24, 2022, from 10 AM to 2 PM at the fire hall located at 2395 Twelve Mile Rd. Berkley MI, 48072.

BERKLEY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

248-658-3335 | Email: museum@berkleymich.net | Facebook: [@BerkleyHistoricalMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/BerkleyHistoricalMuseum)

Woodward Avenue - America's First Superhighway

Named by and for Michigan's first chief territorial judge, Augustus B. Woodward, the route was originally the Saginaw Trail, a pathway followed by the early Indians between Detroit and Saginaw. As settlers populated the region, its importance grew and it became a plank road in the 1800s as well as the right-of-way for Michigan's first railroad, the Detroit and Pontiac Railway. In the late 1800s, A two-track interurban railway was constructed parallel to the railroad to serve passengers between Detroit and Pontiac as well as the villages in between.

Eventually, the plank road fell into disrepair and was replaced by gravel which periodically became mud. With the coming of the motorcar, gravel and mud were no longer acceptable and in 1916, a two-lane concrete highway was completed from Detroit to Pontiac. With the number of motorcars on the road growing exponentially, the highway soon became the scene of regular traffic jams.

Men of vision wanted to show the world the highway of the future and, in 1923, it was decided that Woodward needed to have a 204-foot right-of-way that could accommodate a 4-lane, 40-foot roadway in each direction, a 40-foot center section for streetcar tracks and space on each side for parking, sidewalks, and greenery. They called the concept Wider Woodward.

In 1931, Woodward, as we know it today, was complete, with the exception of the bypass around Birmingham. It took another six years of inaction and two more years of planning and construction before the Birmingham bypass opened on Friday, November 3, 1939. Wider Woodward, America's first Superhighway, was complete.

A display of newly added pictures taken in the early 1930s is now on display in the museum. This photo shows the trolley that used to run from Detroit to Pontiac with what became Roseland Park Cemetery in the background.



East Side of Woodward, circa 1930.

SEPTEMBER MEETINGS & EVENTS

Please visit our [calendar page](#) on our City website for more details and to stay up-to-date with all our boards & commissions.

SEPTEMBER 05: Labor Day

- City Offices Closed in Observance of Labor Day.
 - ***NOTE: Trash collection will be delayed by a day all week.***

SEPTEMBER 07:

- 7:00 PM - Citizen Engagement Advisory Committee Meeting

SEPTEMBER 12:

- 7:00 PM - Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting - **CANCELLED**

SEPTEMBER 13:

- 7:00 PM - Historical Committee Meeting
- 7:00 PM - Planning Commission Special Meeting

SEPTEMBER 14:

- 8:30 AM - Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Meeting

SEPTEMBER 15:

- 6:30 PM - Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting

SEPTEMBER 19:

- 4:00 PM - Public Safety Pension Board Meeting
- 7:00 PM - City Council Meeting

SEPTEMBER 21:

- 7:00 PM - Library Board Meeting

SEPTEMBER 24:

- Public Safety Fire Open House from 10 AM to 2 PM @ the Fire Hall (2395 Twelve Mile Rd)

SEPTEMBER 26:

- 7:00 PM - Tree Board Meeting

SEPTEMBER 27:

- 7:00 PM - Planning Commission Meeting

SEPTEMBER 28:

- 6:30 PM - Beautification Advisory Commission Meeting