

15

Winter 2025

CHECKING IN WITH FERNDALE

*The official newsletter of
the City of Ferndale*



FERNDALE

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SEEN ON SOCIAL

Curling Club Cup - Back Cover


On the cover: City staff from various departments assembled at The dot parking structure in Downtown Ferndale to take a staff photo as a present for departing City Manager Joseph Gacioch.

A couple weeks after this photo was taken, our friend and co-worker William "Luke" Lucas (pictured on the far right) passed away. Luke was a Public Works employee with the City for 34 years and served our community with a smile, a style, and a spirit. We miss him dearly and our thoughts are with his loved ones during this time. He will always be a member of our Ferndale family.

STAY CONNECTED

Ferndale City Hall
300 East Nine Mile Road
Ferndale, Michigan 48220

Current Hours:
Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

 248-546-2525

 Information@ferndalemi.gov

1  ferndalemi.gov



[Facebook.com/Ferndale.Michigan](https://www.facebook.com/Ferndale.Michigan)



[Facebook.com/FerndaleParksandRec](https://www.facebook.com/FerndaleParksandRec)



[Facebook.com/FerndalePoliceMI](https://www.facebook.com/FerndalePoliceMI)



[@FerndaleMich](https://www.instagram.com/@FerndaleMich)



[@FerndalePolice](https://www.twitter.com/@FerndalePolice)

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MESSAGE FROM MAYOR RAYLON LEAKS-MAY

DEAR FERNDALE COMMUNITY,

It's a New Year, and I'd like to take a moment to reflect on the results of the November Election. First, I want to thank each of you who participated in shaping our City's future: your voices were heard and your input is valued as we work to ensure the best for our community.

While voters did not approve Proposal 1, which aimed to increase the City's millage rate to 20 mills, your support for Proposal 2—which would have earmarked funds for police, fire, and recreation—made it clear where our priorities align. Even though Proposal 2 could not take effect without the passage of Proposal 1, your message is clear: investing in our essential services matters deeply. Your City Council and I are listening and are committed to taking this energy and momentum forward.

Engaged with Our Community

Since the election, we have connected with residents, neighborhood groups, and community leaders by holding a town hall to understand your feedback. The themes that emerged gave us a clearer picture of how we can move forward together.

1. Voter autonomy for public safety: Many voters expressed a desire to have the option to vote on funding for a public safety facility as a standalone proposal. We understand the importance of making these decisions independently and transparently.
2. Limited-term proposals: The idea of a perpetual property tax increase was a concern for many. We hear you and recognize that a term-limited approach may better reflect your expectations and trust.
3. Sustaining City services: There is an appreciation for the services supported by our current millage of 4.2 mills, which is set to expire. We all value the work done by our City employees and the services they deliver.

The Challenges We Face Together

As we look to address these concerns, it's important to remember the needs that continue to impact our City:

- Employee wages and contracts: Many of our employees—80%—are union members, and most of their contracts will expire on Monday, June 30, 2025. Without the stability of property tax revenue provided by a renewed millage, we face challenges in negotiating fair contracts and maintaining current staffing levels. This could lead to employees feeling uncertain about their future with the City, making it more difficult to retain our valued team members.
- Facility challenges: Issues related to aging and inadequate facilities remain, and these need to be addressed for safety, functionality, and efficiency.
- Employee morale: Our employees work hard for this community; we value and support them. Your commitment helps instill confidence and motivation. Delaying resources until next November would mean facing \$4 million in budget cuts—an outcome that would affect every resident.

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR RAYLON LEAKS-MAY

Moving Forward Together

City Council is committed to bringing back revised ballot proposals for a Tuesday, May 6, 2025, Election. This process includes:

- Drafting updated proposals: The Council will work diligently to shape ballot language that better aligns with your input and priorities.
- Meeting the deadline: Final proposal language must be confirmed and submitted to the State by Monday, February 10, 2025.
- Community engagement: As we move forward, more information will be available on the City's website and social media channels, and you can always reach out to me and City Council directly. Please stay involved, as your engagement is vital to the success of these efforts.

Thank you for your commitment to making our community the best it can be. Together, we will chart a path forward that reflects our shared values and priorities.

**With appreciation,
Mayor Raylon Leaks-May**



Raylon Leaks-May
Mayor
rleaksmay@ferndalemi.gov



Laura Mikulski
Mayor Pro Tem
lmikulski@ferndalemi.gov



Donnie Johnson
Councilmember
djohnson@ferndalemi.gov



Rolanda Kelley
Councilmember
rkelley@ferndalemi.gov



Greg Pawlica
Councilmember
gpawlica@ferndalemi.gov

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

FINAL MESSAGE FROM THE OUTGOING CITY MANAGER

Dear Residents,

I write this, my last community message, with mixed emotions: I have accepted an appointment as the next City Manager for Royal Oak, Michigan, and will be leaving Ferndale at the end of 2024.

As is likely the case for many of you, the holidays inspire reflection for me, allowing me to focus on gratitude for what I have earned and been given. Looking back on my 13 years with Ferndale, I feel an immense sense of appreciation. When I first joined the City, I was excited because of Ferndale's reputation for boldly standing by its values. Over the years, we've worked hard to build on this foundation, fostering a culture within our organization that promotes growth, allows people to try new things (even if we fail), and embraces the idea of strength and betterment through diversity and inclusion.

My tenure with Ferndale was both challenging and highly rewarding, allowing me to accomplish everything from helping to launch the Livernois Red Ram art piece to creating our first communications and technology departments... from leading our organization through the COVID-19 pandemic to tackling legacy facility issues. It has been an incredible journey, and none of it would have been possible without Ferndale's dedicated staff and community.

Music is one of my love languages, so I've gathered some songs from my own personal Ferndale playlist that were inspired by my experiences over the years:



🎵 Hit or Miss, Odetta

🎵 Wake Up, Arcade Fire

🎵 I Still Believe, Michael Been AKA. The Call

🎵 Run This Town, Adeem the Artist

🎵 We Just Disagree, Dave Mason

As I embark on my next adventure, I carry with me the invaluable lessons learned and the positive experiences shared with you and our team. Moving forward, I encourage you to reach out to your new Interim City Manager, James Krizan, at jkrizan@ferndalemi.gov. He's a humble and talented leader, and I know you'll be in great hands.

**Your friend and neighbor,
Joseph Gacioch**



**Outgoing City Manager
Joseph Gacioch**

PUBLIC WORKS

YARD WASTE SEASON

Yard waste season resumes in April of 2025. In the meantime, all remaining yard waste items like leaves, sticks, twigs, grass, and stones can be brought to the SOCRRA facility by appointment only. Learn more at socrra.org.

TRASH AND RECYCLING DELAYS

New Year's Day, Wednesday, January 1, 2025, is the only holiday in January, February, or March that impacts curbside garbage and recycling pickup. Please set your containers out one day late for the rest of the week.

SNOW REMOVAL

You never know what Michigan winters are going to bring, so let's prepare for snow. The Public Works Department plows streets according to the Winter Maintenance Guide.

While DPW handles the roads, residents must shovel the sidewalks around their property. Shoveling must be finished 24 hours after snow accumulation. Please pay careful attention to fire hydrants and clear any snow and ice in the area. Your loved ones, neighbors, bicyclists, firefighters, and local dogs thank you for your efforts.

Learn more about snow removal at bit.ly/ferndalesnowremoval.



FERNDALEMI.GOV/PUBLIC-WORKS



DPWSERVICE@FERNDALEMI.GOV



521 E. CAMBOURNE



248-546-2519

WINTER MAINTENANCE GUIDE

This guide identifies how City of Ferndale streets are cleaned in a snow emergency. Streets are divided into priorities and are cleaned in accordance with the schedule below.



1 MAJOR AREA ROADS



2 EMERGENCY ROUTES



3 SIDEWALKS AND CROSSWALKS



4 ALL OTHER STREETS



SNOW EMERGENCIES

The Public Works Department may declare a snow emergency if weather conditions are hazardous and the roads are impassable. If a snow emergency is called, all vehicles must move off the streets to the dedicated snow emergency parking lots. Failure to move vehicles may result in citations or towing.

SNOW EMERGENCY PARKING MAP

1. Kulick Center Lot
2. The dot Parking Garage (Level Two)
3. West Breckenridge Lot
4. East Breckenridge Lot
5. Harding Park Lot
6. Martin Road Park Lot
7. Wilson Park Lot

*Please note: Residents can park in any of the parking areas mentioned above in the event of a snow emergency. The numbers above do not indicate an order or preference. They are for guide purposes only.



Individuals without a driveway or with accessibility considerations can apply for a permit at bit.ly/ferndalesnowparkingpermit. Applications must be verified along with a property inspection by the Ferndale Police Department.

Snow emergencies are announced as early as possible on the City's website, social media channels, cable channels, and text alert system. City staff will provide updates throughout the emergency as necessary. Visit bit.ly/ferndalesnowemergencies for more information.



During regular snows (non-emergencies), residential streets are not generally plowed or salted. DPW determines the treatment of streets based on a variety of factors, including temperature, forecast, amount of precipitation, and more. They're also mindful of salt usage in an attempt to lessen the likelihood of potholes and reduce environmental effects on the local water system.

PUBLIC WORKS

- ✓ VERIFIED 1,000 AND REPLACED 500 LEAD SERVICE LINES
- ✓ PUBLISHED A SELF-REPORTING LEAD SERVICE LINE VERIFICATION TOOL
- ✓ CLEANED AND TELEVISED 60,000 LINEAR FEET OF SEWER LINES THROUGH THE SEWER TELEVISIONING AND CLEANING PROGRAM
- ✓ LINED 8,000 LINEAR FEET OF OLDER SEWER LINES IN POOR CONDITION THROUGH THE SEWER IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
- ✓ REPAVED 6.6 MILES OF ROADWAY AND FOUR PARKING LOTS
- ✓ REMOVED AND REPLACED 22,000 SQUARE FEET OF BROKEN AND DAMAGED SIDEWALKS
- ✓ PLANTED 20,000 FLOWERS IN DOWNTOWN FERNDAL
- ✓ REMOVED 50 HIGH-RISK TREES AND PLANTED 125 HEALTHY TREES
- ✓ PLOWED 14 SNOW EVENTS

SUSTAINABILITY

RESIDENTIAL COMPOST PROGRAM

Join the compost program! It's an amazing way to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills, turn your food into healthy soil, and discourage rodents and pests near your waste cans. Sign up for the program at bit.ly/ferndalecompost. Collect food scraps in a container of your choice, empty it regularly at one of the six drop-off locations throughout the city, then bring it home, rinse, and repeat.

There are six drop-off locations throughout Ferndale to bring your food waste—not to be confused with curbside yard waste (sticks, twigs, etc.). You can compost food scraps like coffee grounds and filters, meat and bones, eggshells, veggie cuttings, and BPI-certified products. Please do not compost single-use products unless they have the BPI label.



FERNDALEMI.GOV/GOVERNMENT/
SERVICES/SUSTAINABILITY



ZEROWASTE@FERNDALEMI.GOV



300 EAST NINE MILE RD



248-336-4236

INFLATION REDUCTION ACT

The Inflation Reduction Act offers homeowners tax credits when they make qualifying improvements to their primary residence through the Energy Efficient Home Improvement Credit or the Residential Clean Energy Credit. These credits can be claimed for the year the improvements were made.

- The Energy Efficient Home Improvement Credit recognizes exterior projects like doors and windows and interior projects such as air conditioners, water heaters, furnaces, boilers, and home energy audits. The maximum credit amount is 30% of total improvement expenses (with exceptions to certain items).
- The Residential Clean Energy Credit covers projects in solar, wind, and geothermal power generation, solar water heaters, fuel cells, and battery storage. The maximum credit amount is 30% of the total improvement expenses with no annual maximum or lifetime limit.

For more credit information and requirements, please visit bit.ly/IRAcredit.

2024
Reflections

SUSTAINABILITY

- ✓ COLLECTED 160,300LBS OF COMPOST—ON TRACK TO COLLECT MORE THAN 2023!
- ✓ SIGNED UP 163 NEW HOUSEHOLDS TO THE RESIDENTIAL COMPOST PROGRAM
- ✓ ADDED ONE NEW PERMANENT COMPOST DROP-OFF LOCATION AT CITY HALL
- ✓ PROVIDED MORE ACCESS TO RECYCLING FOR MULTI-FAMILY UNITS
- ✓ DISTRIBUTED A CURATED NATIVE SEED MIXTURE TO FERNDALE RESIDENTS (COMPLETELY GRANT-FUNDED)

PARKS & RECREATION

GET INVOLVED

Have fun and get active with a new class, event, program, or park.

Sponsors and volunteers for events, sports, or programs are always welcomed and encouraged. If you are passionate about Parks and Recreation, lend your voice to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Please contact Parks and Recreation if you are interested in an opportunity.



[BIT.LY/FERNDALEAMILIA](https://bit.ly/FerndaleAmilia)



RECREATION@FERNDALEMI.GOV



INCUBIZO, 1938 BURDETTE ST



248-544-6767



[FACEBOOK.COM/
FERNDALEPARKSANDREC](https://facebook.com/FerndaleParksAndRec)

EVENTS

Little Princess Dance

- Saturday, February 1, 2025: 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Ferndale High School

Get that tiara ready, it's time to celebrate! Princesses, kings, and other royal family are invited to the Little Princess Dance, an enchanting evening filled with fun, treats, music, photos, goodie bags, and a lovely carnation. Tickets are \$15 per person until Friday, January 24, 2025, and will then increase to \$20 per person. Beans, jewels, magic carpets, or any other fairytale items will not be accepted for payment. Pre-registration is required at bit.ly/ferndaleparksandrecevents. Please send a scroll to the Ferndale Parks and Recreation Department for any questions.



Eggstravaganza

- Saturday, April 12, 2025
 - Wilson Park: 1:00 p.m. (for bunnies 1-4 years old)
 - Geary Park: 1:30 p.m. (for rabbits 5-12 years old)
 - Martin Road Park: 2:00 p.m. (for rabbits 5-12 years old)

Hop to it! The free Eggstravaganza egg hunts are back at our Ferndale parks this spring. Children can gather as many prized-filled eggs as possible—be sure to look out for the extra special Golden Egg. Plus, the Easter Bunny will hop over to Martin Road Park for a meet and greet.

SENIOR PROGRAMS

If you or someone you know is 55+ years old, you're qualified for the Ferndale Senior Group! This is a great place to socialize, make friends, get involved, travel, and have fun. Whether exploring Eastern Market, experiencing the elegance of Meadowbrook, staying in the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island, or all of the shopping, dining, and museums in between...there's something for everyone.

Members must be 55+ years old and pay a membership fee of \$15 which includes a bi-monthly newsletter. Residents 65+ years old can also receive a discounted parking pass of \$10. Reach out to Parks and Recreation or contact Senior Group President Jeannie Davis at jeanni111@comcast.net for more information.






There are many resources available for seniors on the City's website at bit.ly/ferndaleseniors. Other resources include:

- Area Agency on Aging 1-B | 800-852-7795 | aaa1b.org
- Julie's List | julieslist.homestead.com

SMART Bus Service: Community transportation is a convenient option for seniors, people with disabilities, or individuals with limited transportation access. Make an appointment with the Ferndale SMART Bus to travel anywhere in a five-mile radius of Ferndale. One-way trips are \$2 and roundtrips are \$4. Children under the age of eighteen must be accompanied by an adult. The buses can accommodate wheelchairs, scooters, canes, or walkers. Please contact the dispatch line at 248-914-2701 or 248-544-6767 Ext. 535 for more details.



SPORTS

WHAT	WHEN	WHERE	MORE
 Youth Soccer	Played on weeknights and Saturday mornings Registration opens in February 2025 and games begin in April 2025	Ferndale fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players need cleats, shin guards, and water bottles • Jerseys are provided
 Youth Baseball/Softball	Registration opens in April 2025 and games begin in June 2025	Ferndale and surrounding fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services co-ed teams from ages 3-14, a girls' softball league from grades 3-8, and a travel Major League Division ages 13-14 • Jerseys are provided
 Adult Softball	Registration opens in February 2025 and games begin in April 2025	Martin Road Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid-level and recreational league for both co-ed and men's teams • \$650 for twelve games which covers umpire fees, a scorebook, a rulebook, and softballs
 Aquatic Programs	Saturday mornings	Ferndale High School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water aerobics, lap swimming, and (tentative) parent/tot swim classes, and Level 1 swim classes • Held in 4-5-week blocks
 Chair Yoga	Saturday mornings	Withington West Community Room	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free program for all capabilities to get moving and improve flexibility, balance, and health • Full range of movement and modified poses • Reduce stress, increase muscle tone, improve sleep, and increase well-being

Get your head in the game and join a team at bit.ly/ferndaleamilia. This is a great opportunity for fun, skill development, and team building.

WHAT'S NEW AT OUR PARKS?

The **Martin Road Improvement Project** is almost complete. This project improves the accessibility, functionality, and aesthetic of the park space. When the project is complete, parkgoers can enjoy a new full-size basketball court, four pickleball courts, a shade structure, a pavilion, accessible parking lot upgrades, walking paths, benches, trash cans, and recycling bins. Thank you to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Oakland County, and America in Bloom for your generous grant opportunities!

The City is also proud to celebrate the new and improved **Wilson Park**. Be sure to check it out once the weather warms up—there are so many exciting features and upgrades.

Did you know that **Wilson Park** also has a dog park for large and small dogs? These amenities include a fenced play area, sitting areas, dog water stations, waste pickup stations, urine-resistant shrubbery, and more. Membership is required and must be accompanied by a dog park safety course, an application, updated vaccine records, updated license information, and a \$40 fee for residents (\$65 for non-residents). Get your four-legged friend signed up at bit.ly/ferndaledogpark.

2024
Reflections

PARKS AND RECREATION

- ✓ **SOLD OUT THE SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM IN JUST 3 MINUTES! PARTICIPANTS INCREASED FROM 50 TO 80 WEEKLY AND EXTENDED FROM 9 TO 10 WEEKS**
- ✓ **INCREASED YOUTH SPORTS PARTICIPATION IN BASKETBALL BY 56% SINCE 2023, AND INTRODUCED A GIRLS' LEAGUE BY POPULAR DEMAND TO PROVIDE A SPACE FOR THIRD TO FIFTH-GRADERS**
- ✓ **EXPANDED ADULT SPORTS WITH THE LAUNCH OF ADULT DROP-IN SOCCER AND AN AQUATICS PROGRAM, INCLUDING WATER AEROBICS, OPEN LAP SWIM, AND A PARENT-TOT SWIM CLASS**
- ✓ **HOSTED THE GEARY PARK SKATE JAM AND HELD CONTESTS FOR ALL AGE GROUPS IN SKATEBOARDING, BMX, AND SCOOTERING**
- ✓ **REACHED NEW HEIGHTS WITH SENIOR TRIPS TO MACKINAC ISLAND AND THE GRAND HOTEL, AN ALL-INCLUSIVE, 5-STAR HOTEL PACKED WITH ACTIVITIES AND EXCURSIONS**
- ✓ **CONTINUED PARK REVITALIZATION EFFORTS WITH MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS TO WILSON PARK AND MARTIN ROAD PARK WITH NEW ACTIVITIES, SUSTAINABLE FEATURES, AND ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS**

ELECTIONS

NOVEMBER 5, 2024, GENERAL ELECTION RECAP

The Tuesday, November 5, 2024, General Election saw a 76% voter turnout. Thank you to Ferndale voters!

Nearly 100 election inspectors worked to ensure the voices of Ferndale voters were represented. Thank you to these community heroes for your dedication to Ferndale.



[FERNDALEMI.GOV/CITYCLERK](https://ferndalemi.gov/cityclerk)



CLERK@FERNDALEMI.GOV



300 EAST NINE MILE RD



248-546-2525 Ext. 5

2025 CITY MEETING SCHEDULE

View the new City meeting calendar for 2025 at ferndalemi.gov/calendar.

2024
Reflections

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

- ✓ HELD 4 ELECTIONS IN 2024
- ✓ PROCESSED OVER 22,600 BALLOTS TOTAL
- ✓ REBRANDED BALLOT BOXES AND POLLING SIGNS
- ✓ SUPPORTED THE MAYOR IN OFFICIATING 29 MARRIAGE CEREMONIES

FINANCE

PROPERTY TAXES

Winter taxes are due on Friday, February 14, 2025. Payments received from Saturday, February 15, 2025, to Friday, February 28, 2025, will incur a 3% penalty.

All remaining 2024 summer and winter taxes must be paid by Friday, February 28, 2025. City Hall is open on Friday, February 28, 2025, for tax payments only. All other City business will resume on Monday, March 3, 2025.

Visit BSA at bit.ly/ferndaleBSA to verify your balance and other tax information or reference your paper bill. Payments can be made online, by phone at 866-873-9157 (only partial payments), by mail, in-person at the City Hall front counter, or in the drop box attached to City Hall.

Beginning Saturday, March 1, 2025, all unpaid 2024 property taxes are delinquent and must be paid with additional penalties to the Oakland County Treasurer. During the months of March and April, a revised tax statement from the City of Ferndale must accompany your remittance to the Oakland County Treasurer.

2025 NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT

Oakland County Equalization, the City's Assessor, will mail out the 2025 Notice of Assessment in February of 2025. It's an important notice that details the upcoming tax year's approximate changes in your taxable, assessed, and state-equalized values, along with other property information. Keep an eye out for this—it will have a header indicating it is not a tax bill.



FERNDALEMI.GOV/GOVERNMENT/
FINANCE



TAXBILLING@FERNDALEMI.GOV



300 EAST NINE MILE RD



248-546-2525 Ext. 4



FIRE

WINTER FIRE SAFETY

The Fire Department wants to make sure you and your loved ones stay safe, warm, and healthy this winter season. Visit bit.ly/ferndalefiresafety for tips and important fire safety information. Reach out to the Fire Department anytime for fire safety questions or concerns.



FERNDALEMI.GOV/FIRE



INFORMATION@FERNDALEMI.GOV



FIRE STATION 1: 1635 LIVERNOIS
FIRE STATION 2: 1070 E. NINE MILE



248-546-2510 (non-emergency)

2024
Reflections

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- ✓ SET THE REGIONAL STANDARD FOR FIRE AND EMS SERVICES BY DOUBLING THE NATIONAL AVERAGE OF CPR SURVIVAL RATES
- ✓ CELEBRATED FIRE CHIEF TERESA ROBINSON'S ELECTION AS THE FIRST FEMALE PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS
- ✓ AWARDED JOSEPH DICAMILLO AS FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AND RECOGNIZED BRANDON BRUNELL FOR GRADUATING FROM THE OAKLAND FIRE ACADEMY
- ✓ WELCOMED NEW STAFF MEMBERS AND FIREFIGHTERS/PARAMEDICS, INCLUDING NEW ASSISTANT CHIEF ROBERT GINTHER
- ✓ CREATED A FREE VIRTUAL HOME INSPECTION TO SURVEY RESIDENTIAL SAFETY AND OFFER A CUSTOMER RESOURCE GUIDE
- ✓ PROVIDED FIRE SAFETY AND HANDS-ONLY CPR TRAINING TO FERNDALE SENIOR LIVING FACILITIES

CITY PLANNING

ZONEFERNDALE

City staff partnered with McKenna, a consultant, to draft ZoneFerndale, the City's zoning ordinance rewrite project. Visit zoneferndale.com to read the current draft and review upcoming public meetings.

SECLICKFIX

Have an issue to report around the City? Visit bit.ly/ferndalescf to issue an official report.

2024
Reflections

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- ✓ ISSUED NEARLY 2,000 PERMITS IN BUILDING, PLUMBING, MECHANICAL, ELECTRICAL, AND SIGNS
- ✓ STARTED THE PROCESS TO DEVELOP THE SOUTHEAST OAKLAND COUNTY SAFE STREETS FOR ALL JOINT SAFETY ACTION PLAN AND HELD SEVERAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MEETINGS
- ✓ DEVELOPED A NEW DRAFT OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE
- ✓ RECEIVED A SENIOR CHORE GRANT OF \$380,000 FROM THE OAKLAND LIVINGSTON HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
- ✓ REVIEWED OVER 20 SITE PLANS AND VARIANCE REQUESTS
- ✓ WORKED TO DEVELOP THE RAYMOND E. SHEPHERD HOUSE, A 53-UNIT MULTIPLE-FAMILY BUILDING FOR LGBTQIA+ SENIORS
- ✓ COMPLETED THE WOODWARD MOVES PROJECT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MDOT, DPW, COMMUNICATIONS, AND THE DDA

2024
Reflections

SPECIAL EVENTS

- ✓ HOSTED AND COLLABORATED ON OVER A DOZEN EVENTS, INCLUDING THE TEMPORARY RECYCLING DROP-OFF STATION, JUNETEENTH, STATE OF THE CITY AND VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION, EGGSTRAVAGANZA, GEARY PARK SKATE JAM, FALL FESTIVAL, DOWNTOWN TRICK-OR-TREATING, NINE ON NINE, FERNDALE PRIDE, DIY STREET FAIR, FUNKY FERNDALE ART FAIR, CINCO DE MAYO, THE MEMORIAL DAY PARADE (AND MORE!)
- ✓ WELCOMED OVER 200 DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS

2024
Reflections

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- ✓ DOWNTOWN FERNDALE AWARDED THE BEST NEIGHBORHOOD TO LIVE IN BY METRO TIMES
- ✓ ATTENDED THE MAIN STREET NATIONAL CONFERENCE
- ✓ RECEIVED A MATCH GRANT OF NEARLY \$300,000 FOR WAYFINDING AND SIDEWALK CONDITIONS
- ✓ PARTNERED WITH THE FERNDALE ARTS AND BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION TO HOST THE NINE ON NINE CONCERTS
- ✓ ADDED THREE NEW ART INSTALLATIONS TO THE PUBLIC ART COLLECTION AND REFRESHED CURRENT ART PIECES
- ✓ SAW MANY PEOPLE OUT AND ABOUT ON THE BIKE LANES!

SEEN ON SOCIAL



The Detroit Curling Club welcomed the 'Can-Am Cup of Curling' tour to Ferndale! The tour alternates between the US and Canada every five years; this year, the Can-Am returned to the US, with teams competing in 107 games in 28 curling clubs across Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan. Players came from as far northwest as British Columbia and Yellowknife, and as far northeast as Halifax.



Learn more about Martin Road Park's Detroit Curling Club at detroitcurlingclub.com.

Photo credit: Photographed by Eric Trytko, provided by Maryanne Wessels, Detroit Curling Club Vice President (Chair of the event), Arts and Beautification Commissioner, and Ferndale resident