



## Annual Report 2010

### City Council

Mayor - Jerry Ellis

Mayor Pro Tem - Michael Bridges

Nancy Bates

Barry Brickner

Randy Bruce

Ken Massey

Cheryl Oliverio

City Manager - Steve Brock

Each issue of the Focus newsletter can also be found on the City website at [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com). Go to Quick Links on the home page and click on Newsletter.

Register online for classes and programs at [www.recreg.fhgov.com](http://www.recreg.fhgov.com). Or go to [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com), click on Quick Links, then Recreation Online Registration.

If you have an account, follow the prompts to register. If you're new, create an account by registering online or in person at the Costick Center, Monday thru Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm.

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## Message from Your Mayor

Many of you joined us this fall at the Rededication of the newly revitalized Farmington Hills City Hall. Others have come to visit and seen the many innovative, sustainable features used in the building. We thank you for being a part of the future of our City and for supporting the forward-thinking approach that our community is known for.

There's an old saying, "There is a light at the end of every tunnel." At the City of Farmington Hills, we see that light and we are going toward it. Our City Council has wisely managed taxpayer dollars and we will be in a stronger position than many other cities when the economy turns around.

Fortunately, as 2010 comes to a close, we are seeing signs of this turnaround. Property value decline is slowing, entrepreneurs are taking advantage of our business-friendly environment and establishing new companies in our City, and construction projects are starting up again. In fact, more building permits have been issued in Farmington Hills in the past six months than during the entire past two years. Evidence of the improving economy is seen not only in the upswing in commercial remodeling and residential renovations, but also in people's attitudes as we anticipate better times.

During the past few difficult years, we take pride in our ability to tighten the budget without sacrificing services. The residents of Farmington Hills have continued to enjoy public services, cultural and recreational offerings, and a quality of life that is unparalleled in the metro Detroit area.

As our revitalized City Hall so clearly demonstrates, we are poised for growth and ready to welcome new residents and businesses to a City that has maintained both a realistic fiscal approach and a positive outlook. People want to live in Farmington Hills and businesses want to establish or maintain their base here. We are all fortunate to call this City home and we look forward to even brighter days together.

— Mayor Jerry Ellis



Mayor Jerry Ellis welcomed the public to the newly revitalized City Hall at the Rededication event on November 17.

## Fire Department

Under the leadership of Fire Chief Corey Bartsch, the Fire Department continues to provide excellent service to the people of Farmington Hills.

- The Department responds to fires, emergency medical incidents (paramedic response and transport), vehicle accidents, hazardous materials incidents, emergencies involving utilities, and numerous other calls for service in Farmington Hills, as well as other Mutual Aid requests in surrounding communities.
- Firefighters participate in educational speeches, conduct station tours, talk to civic groups regarding fire and safety issues, and are involved in many community events throughout the year. Lieutenant Denny Hughes continues to contribute fire and safety columns to The Farmington Observer.
- Firefighter/Inspectors work closely with local businesses, reviewing and assisting with their emergency evacuation preparedness plans. Fire alarms are tested, and portable fire extinguisher training is provided.
- Firefighter/Inspectors enforce the Fire Prevention Code, conducting inspections throughout the City to ensure the safety of employees and customers.
- Fire Inspector/Investigators follow up after each fire to determine the origin and the cause.
- The Fire Department is working with SWOCC Studios to produce a new cable show titled "Farmington Hills Heat," which will highlight Fire Department job functions and emergency response.
- Fire Department members serve as the City's Emergency Manager and Assistant Emergency Manager, and also act as liaisons to the national award winning Farmington Hills/Farmington Emergency Preparedness Commission.
- The Department is represented on the Safe Schools Committee and the Call to Action Coalition.
- Members serve on Hazardous Material Response teams, Urban Search and Rescue teams, and Fire Inspector and Investigator groups where they respond and train with firefighters from other local Fire Departments.

## Police Department

The past year was marked by a number of milestones and accomplishments:

- Crime in Farmington Hills was once again on the decline with "Group A" offenses, which represent the most serious classification. These decreases resulted in Farmington Hills again being rated as one of America's safest cities by the CQ Press and Sage Publications. Farmington Hills was ranked as the second safest city in Michigan and thirtieth safest city in the nation, compared to cities with populations of more than 75,000 people.
- Police Chief Chuck Nebus completed his first year as Chief of the Department. Significant budget and staffing reductions occurred and the Department was reorganized to ensure the quality of essential public services.
- Two critical components of the communications system linking the Police and Fire Departments to the community were introduced and implemented.
  - Following years of planning and testing, a new radio system, dubbed "OpenSky," was put into operation. Noted for its interoperability capability, this system allows officers and firefighters to communicate directly with members from other jurisdictions who also utilize the system and to establish "talk groups" that include any number of first responders from these departments.
  - The "Vesta Pallas" telephone system was installed replacing an aging analogue phone system and updating the previous 9-1-1 system used exclusively within the Department's Communication Center. With the rapid development of new wireless and IP-based communication devices, this system was a necessary enhancement to accommodate emerging technologies. The new system is among the first steps needed for the 9-1-1 system to begin receiving distress calls via text message, video messaging and other communication methods.

The purchase, installation and training of both these systems carried a cost well over \$1.3 million. The actual cost to residents was less than \$94,000, with the remaining funds obtained through federal grants.

The changes and technological advancements realized during the past year will further allow the Police Department to provide a higher quality of service to residents. However, these are only tools used to accomplish the mission of ensuring the safety and security of citizens. The Police Department continues to call upon residents to serve as "eyes and ears" within the community. Residents are reminded to remain vigilant during the upcoming year and to report any suspicious persons, vehicles or activity they may encounter. In the event of an emergency, use the new 9-1-1 telephone system!

## City Hall Rededication

The City of Farmington Hills celebrated the completion of the City Hall Revitalization Project with a Rededication Ceremony on November 17. The event featured remarks from City officials, a keynote address from Amy Butler, Director of the Michigan Bureau of Energy Systems, and self-guided tours.

Over the past 18 months, Farmington Hills City Hall has undergone a comprehensive renovation and addition to promote environmental sustainability and energy efficiency, to create staff and operational efficiencies, and to improve public space. The revitalized structure uses the latest innovations in sustainable building practices such as solar panels, geothermal heat pumps, daylighting, pervious pavement, and a green roof. The project is seeking Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) gold certification.

More than 300 members of the public and business community attended the Rededication and learned about the building's innovative environmental features and also about the financial and environmental advantages of sustainable design.



The Cultural Arts Division spearheaded the decorating of the newly renovated City Hall, with over 100 artists generously submitting close to 700 works for consideration. A wide variety of striking artwork now enhances the beautiful new facility including sculpture, glass, paintings and fiber, in a myriad of styles for staff and visitors to enjoy.

## Special Services Department

To find out more about offerings from the Special Services Department, become a friend on Facebook (search Farmington Hills Special Services), call 248-473-1800 or visit [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com).

### Parks & Golf Division

- Oversaw the construction and operation of the new Splash Pad at Heritage Park, which became an extremely popular summer gathering spot for residents.
- Farmington Hills Golf Club set new records for rounds played. Maintenance operations focused on improving playability throughout the 18 holes.
- Continued the commitment to the eradication of invasive plant species in order to maintain and restore healthy vegetation and preserve native plant populations in the City. Ongoing removal work is being done by staff, court programs, and volunteers.
- Installed a trash compaction station at the Parks & Golf Maintenance facility in order to reduce trash removal costs by an estimated 70%.

During 2010, the Ice Arena welcomed skaters of all ages who participated in Learn-to-Skate, Open Skate, Drop-in Hockey, Mid-Day Skate, Parent and Tot Skate, Adult Skate, Figure Skating, Youth Hockey, and Adult Hockey. Figure Skaters and Learn-to-Skate students showcased their skills at the Annual Ice Show in May.

The Ice Arena is home to the Farmington Hills Hockey Association (FHHA), which serves 500 players at all skating levels and offers house and travel teams, plus the international TimBits development program. The Arena is also home to high school hockey (Farmington Falcons, North Farmington/Harrison Flyers, Walled Lake Central, Catholic Central) high school figure



#### Dates to Remember:

March 13 – FHHA Championship Day | May 6-7 – 15th Annual Ice Show

In 2010, the Recreation Division received the Facility Design Award for Riley Skate Park from the Michigan Recreation & Parks Association. Riley Skate Park received high praise from visitors and also made a positive economic impact in the community as parents shopped, dined, and frequented local businesses while their kids skateboarded.

Record participation was seen in several programs including tennis lessons, the Founders Run, and Flag Football. Farmington Hills hosted its first Outdoor Summit in partnership with Michigan's No Child Left Inside Coalition and the DNRE, Metro Parks, and Oakland County Parks. Nature Center attendance doubled this year as new programs such as Fall Hayrides brought thousands of people to Heritage Park.

Family events such as the Princesses and Super Heroes Fantasy Fun Night

### Recreation Division



skating (United Farmington and Mercy). The United Farmington Figure Skating Team won State Championships at both Level A & B in 2010! It was a three-peat for the A-team and a repeat for the B-team.

The Ice Arena offers many non-ice activities throughout the year: Youth & Family Services After-School Programs, Club 2nd Floor for high school students on Friday nights with bands, Summer Day Camps, Riley Skate Park for inline and skateboards, basketball, baseball, softball, soccer, beach volleyball, bocce ball, jogging, and disc golf. For more information or for a list of upcoming events, visit [www.fhice.com](http://www.fhice.com) or call 248-478-8800.

continued to generate sold-out crowds; Hay Day and the Marshmallow Fly & Fry each had over 1,000 in attendance. Boo Bash offered two sold-out sessions and the Great Farmington Hills Campout had over 100 scouts and 70 families camping in Heritage Park.

Over 2,900 youth participated in Camps, over 700 youth participated in soccer leagues, nearly 400 fourth to eighth graders participated in youth basketball, and thousands of others participated in lacrosse, field hockey, cheerleading, karate, softball, and other sports.

Participation at dance classes increased by 25%, Junior Golf participants partnered with seniors in a mentoring experience for both adults and youth, grants were received to implement new golf and archery programs, and additional evening fitness classes were offered.

### Youth & Family Services

For the first time, the After School Program welcomed fifth grade students due to the reconfiguration of schools. Over 700 youth are registered for the After School Program; and close to 300 attend one of the five centers daily. The Summer Drop-in Program had record numbers with 150 youth enrolled and an average of 90 youth attending per day. Over 45 families took advantage of early morning care and 27 fun field trips were offered. The most popular field trip was the tour of the University of Michigan and Michigan stadium where youth members were able to go through the locker room, stand on the 50 yard line, and see the campus.

New this year is a "Green Fun" program, funded by a grant from Bright House, where members increase their appreciation for nature and reinforce school curriculum with hands-on experiences. The Girl Power Program

has two separate classes for 5th/6th and 7th/8th grade girls. Leadership programs with Heavner Nature Connection in Milford are planned to reinforce the life lessons shared in Girl Power.

Even in this tough economy, new partnerships have been cultivated with GFS Marketplace and Home Depot who support both the After School Program and the community. Busch's and GFS, along with AEES, are once again working with Youth & Family Services to provide dinners for needy local families.

Thanks to the continued support and generous donations from the Xemplar Club, other local service organizations, small corporate grants, and the Farmington/Farmington Hills Foundation for Youth & Families, the City can continue to provide a safe and educational place for youth during after school hours.

### Cultural Arts Division

Participation in Cultural Arts programs reached its highest level ever in 2010. Art After Dark and the Victorian Teas at Longacre House were filled to capacity and the "Stars in the Park" summer concerts drew thousands to the amphitheater in Heritage Park. Art on the Grand doubled in size and, for the first time in its ten-year history, became a stand alone street art fair held on the first weekend in June.

The 2010 Festival of the Arts had a "Hats Off to the Arts" theme, which focused on hat design and featured special guest Luke Song, designer of Aretha Franklin's inaugural hat. The event was awarded the Michigan Recreation and Park Association's 2010 Innovative Program Award. Under Mr. Song's guidance, 600 students made their own hat creations and several ladies modeled hats at the annual Art After Dark fundraiser.

The Farmington Hills Youth Theatre provided fun-filled experiences for 290 participants in productions of "Cinderella" and "High School Musical, Jr." and also through summer theater camps, acting classes, workshops, and "Script to Stage," a program for kindergarten through second grade actors.

The City Gallery hosted exhibits by many local and regional artists, including the Great Lakes Beadworkers Guild and the Michigan Weavers Guild, who also held their first "Holiday Trunk Show" to benefit the City's Cultural Arts programs.



High School Musical, Jr.

### Senior Division

The Senior Division meets the diverse needs of a broad age group with daily and evening programming. Community-based services are available for those requiring home delivered meals, liquid nutrition, chore services, outreach, or transportation services.

#### Significant accomplishments for 2010 included:

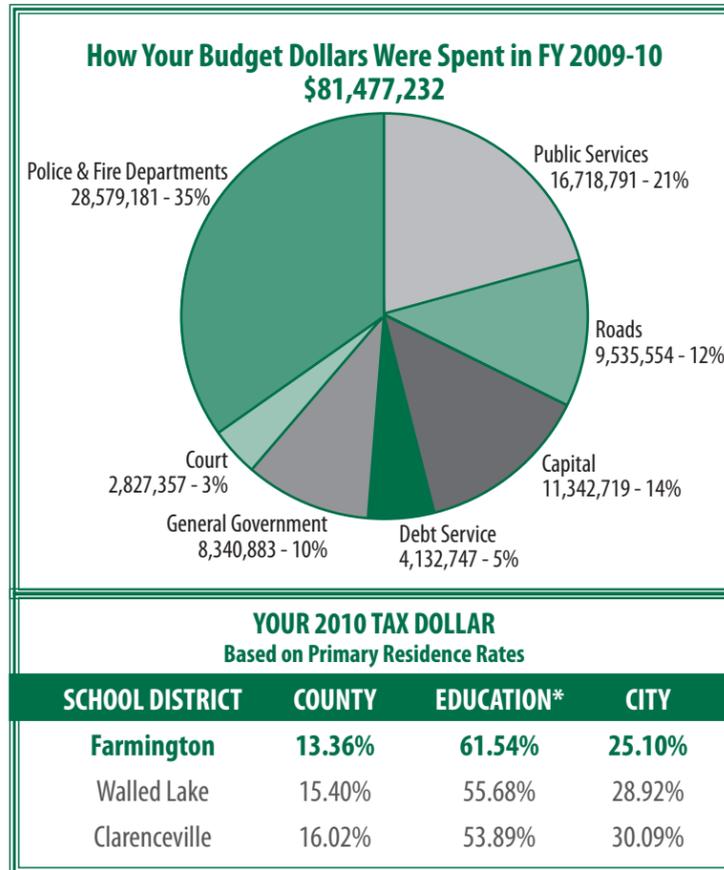
- The Meals on Wheels Program provided 78,761 meals and the Congregate Meal Program provided 23,365 on-site meals.
- Specialized Transportation and Dial-a-Ride cab provided 29,385 rides. The demand for wheelchair accessible rides and access to dialysis has increased significantly.
- A third successful Total Wellness Fair provided a wide array of healthy lifestyle choices with information on fitness, law, finances, and nutrition along with health screenings, healthy cooking classes, demos and prizes.
- The first annual Classic Rod & Custom Car Show held in June displayed over 65 cars and showcased vendors in a fund-raising effort for Senior Transportation.
- "Pies on the Grand" baked and sold 650 blueberry pies and 1,200 oatmeal blueberry cookies to raise funds for senior transportation.
- The top three spellers from the Farmington Hills Spelling Bee participated in the Oakland County Spelling Duel, with one participant placing fourth.
- New classes in areas such as financial concepts, consumer protection, downsizing, elder abuse, and early retirement choices addressed issues relevant to the current economy.
- Shredding for Safety continued to be a well-attended program offered quarterly to assist in keeping personal information safe through shredding.
- Youth Mentoring has become a popular program with high school volunteers who offer individual tutoring in current technology to older adults.

## Finance Department

The Treasury Division is responsible for billing and collecting property taxes, not only for the City of Farmington Hills, but also as a collection agent for the local school districts, Oakland County, Oakland County Community College, the District Library, the State of Michigan, and other governmental authorities. During 2010, the division issued over 60,000 tax bills and collected, deposited, and remitted in excess of \$147,000,000 of property taxes. The Treasury Division is also responsible for billing, collecting and accounting for non-property tax receipts and investing surplus and idle funds in compliance with the City's Investment Policy.

The Assessing Division is in the fourth year of a five-year project to electronically convert all property sketches using Apex drawing software. This process allows the sketches to be available on the City website and saves time with future updates to the property.

The Accounting Division is responsible for paying vendors and employees, reconciling bank accounts, and producing the City's Budget and Financial Report on a timely and accurate basis.



\* Local Schools – Oakland Intermediate Schools – Community College

**Recent accomplishments/awards highlight the excellent job done by the City's Finance Department:**

- The City received an Unqualified Audit Opinion for the FY 2009-10 Audit, the 25th consecutive year the City has received a "clean" financial audit opinion.
- The City received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers' Association (GFOA), for the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2009 – 12 years in a row.
- The City received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the GFOA – 24 years in a row.
- The Finance Department also administers and accounts for all Pension System transactions; administers the Risk Management activities of the City; and establishes, manages, and accounts for all Special Assessments. In addition, the Finance Department is responsible for the City's Debt Management. The City of Farmington Hills maintains non-insured ratings as follows: AA+ from Standard & Poor's and Aa2 from Moody's.

## City Clerk's Office

As the "information hub" of the City, the Clerk's Office offers help to the public in a manner that is efficient, timely, and cost effective. During the first part of the year, the Clerk's Office worked on the electronic imaging of all City records to provide easier access to accurate information for both residents and staff.

Attention then turned to the August Primary Election and to planning for the November Governor's election. The City of Farmington Hills once again achieved higher voter turnout on November 2 than the statewide average, with 55% of the City's voters casting a ballot.

This year, the Clerk's Office also focused on the clean-up and revision of two City ordinances - Massage Establishments and Massagists, and Solicitors and Peddlers. These ordinances were revised to better protect the welfare and safety of residents. Both of these new ordinances are fully outlined on the City's website at [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com).

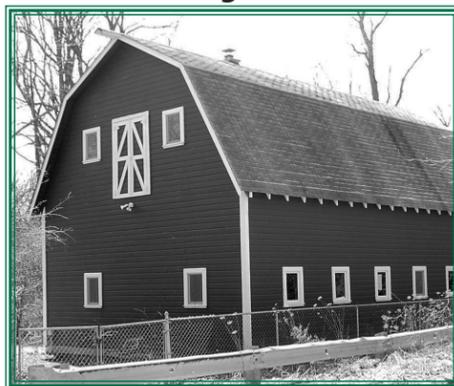
The next election will be on Tuesday, November 8, 2011, where voters will cast ballots for the Mayor of Farmington Hills, three City Council Members, and Farmington Public School Board Members.

## Department of Planning and Community Development

### Planning Division

The Planning Commission hosted a series of Public Outreach Meetings to gather input on the implementation of the City's Master Plan. Commissioners, Planning Office staff, and Planning Consultants were available to answer questions. A series of public questionnaires also helped the Commission evaluate specific land use issues.

Ordinance amendments needed to implement Master Plan goals and policies help to ensure continued investment in Farmington Hills. This past year, the off-street parking section of the Zoning ordinance was amended to better reflect current land use trends. This resulted in a lessening of required parking and included additional incentives to encourage land bank parking in order to preserve greenspace. The Commission also initiated several other ordinance



Lambert Sellers Barn

amendments including overlay and mixed use districts that should be enacted within the next year.

The Historic District Commission reviewed two applications for historic designation (Lambert Sellers Barn and Glenn Burnie House) and two applications for new historic markers for the Boorne Halsted House and the Ely Stodgell House. In response to requests for quicker review times, the Commission also adopted a policy that allows staff to review limited exterior changes to historic structures. The Commission also continues to educate the public about historic properties through an annual newsletter, a new and improved website, and educational events open to the public.

### Zoning Division

- Over 19,000 code violations were investigated to help enforce City Ordinances and keep Farmington Hills a beautiful and desirable community. The primary focus was on blight abatement.
- Education and public outreach were provided on ordinance requirements through flyers, handouts, and expert presentations to residents, neighborhood associations, and local newspapers.
- The Zoning Board of Appeals heard 56 cases at 13 meetings appealing code and zoning requirements.

### Building Division

- 28 new single family homes were constructed for a total of \$7,431,126 and nearly 140,038 square feet of new commercial development was constructed for a total of \$16,132,000.
- Permits were issued for \$4,489,921 in home improvements and \$13,521,405 in commercial renovations.
- 18 substandard buildings were demolished as part of ongoing revitalization efforts; 14 were residential buildings and four were commercial buildings.
- 248 properties, including both commercial and residential structures, were identified as needing major repairs with follow-up to eliminate code deficiencies. Currently, of the 248 properties, 31 permits remain open, with 217 closed out.

## Community Development

The Housing Rehabilitation Program assisted 26 lower-income homeowners with improvements such as roofs, replacement windows, and furnaces.

The Community Development Office implemented the Neighborhood Stabilization Program with funding from the Michigan State Housing Development Authority. This program allowed four qualified families to purchase vacant and foreclosed homes located within Farmington Hills.

Volunteers participated in Rebuilding Together to help seven homeowners with yard work, painting, and other general household repairs.



Erhard BMW landscape

The 25th Annual Beautification Commission Awards Ceremony recognized landscape design throughout the City. Top awards went to Erhard BMW, which was awarded the Greater Farmington Area Chamber Award for the impressive landscape at their Grand River Avenue location, and to North Farmington Garden Club, which was awarded the Beautification Commissioners Award for 25 years of maintaining the circle garden at O.E. Dunkel Middle School.

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## Department Heads



Front row, left to right: Dave Gajda, Finance Director; Chuck Nebus, Police Chief; Dana Whinnery, Assistant City Manager; Steve Brock, City Manager; Dave Boyer, Special Services Director; Dale Countegan, Planning and Community Development Director.  
Back row, left to right: Corey Bartsch, Fire Chief; Mary Kohls, Human Resources Director; Kathy Dornan, City Clerk; Teri Arbenowske, Economic Development Director; Mike Lasley, Central Services Director; Gary Mekjian, Public Services Director.

## Human Resources - Employee Wellness Program

Over 100 City employees participated in the Farmington Hills Fit for Life wellness program, in cooperation with St. John Providence Occupational Health Partners. Employees were encouraged to make lifestyle improvements by participating in a variety of wellness activities including educational Lunch 'N Learns, a health fair, body composition analysis, and smoking cessation. New this year was the introduction of a free and innovative web-based SparkPeople Team where employees are encouraged to track their nutrition and fitness activity and are able to access articles, tools, and resources to inspire healthy living.

## Video Division

### The City's Video Division received recognition in 2010:

Michigan Emmy Award – David Tietmeyer in the Lighting Craft Category

Michigan Emmy Awards – Three additional nominations included The Works, Alliance of Rouge Communities (ARC) Watershed, Call to Action Coalition PSA on Domestic Violence

National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors – Third Place Documentary Profile and two Honorable Mentions for Public Education and Public Health Programming

Preparing the Public Award – The Video Division was recognized by the National Office of Citizen Corps for its public informational videos produced for the Farmington Hills/Farmington Emergency Preparedness Committee.

State of Michigan Beautification Award for the Farmington Hills Beautification Commission – The Video Division was recognized for its video presentation on The Great Tree Hunt project.

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## City Directory

<b>Emergency Calls Only</b>	
Fire Department .....	9-1-1
Police Department .....	9-1-1
<b>Central Services/Purchasing</b> .....	248-871-2430
<b>City Clerk</b> .....	248-871-2410
<b>City Hall</b> .....	248-871-2400
<b>City Manager's Office</b> .....	248-871-2500
<b>Council Newsline</b> .....	248-871-2511
<b>District Court</b> .....	248-871-2900
<b>Farmington Community Library</b> .....	248-553-0300
<b>Finance Department</b> .....	248-871-2440
Assessing .....	248-871-2470
Treasury .....	248-871-2480
<b>Fire Department</b>	
Non-emergency .....	248-871-2800
<b>General Information</b> .....	248-871-2400
<b>Human Resources</b> .....	248-871-2490
<b>Planning Department</b>	
Building .....	248-871-2450
Community Development and Housing Rehabilitation .....	248-871-2549
Planning .....	248-871-2540
Zoning .....	248-871-2520
<b>Police Department</b>	
Non-emergency .....	248-871-2600
<b>Public Services Department</b> .....	248-871-2530
Public Works .....	248-871-2850
<b>Special Services Department</b>	
Costick Center .....	248-473-1800
Cultural Arts Division .....	248-473-1856
Golf Club .....	248-476-5910
Ice Arena .....	248-478-8800
Jon Grant Center .....	248-871-2849
Longacre House .....	248-477-8404
Nature Center .....	248-477-1135
Parks & Golf Maintenance.....	248-473-1890
Recreation .....	248-473-1800
Senior Adult Program .....	248-473-1830
Youth & Families Services .....	248-473-1841

## Department of Public Services

### Engineering Division – Construction Projects

#### Completed in 2010:

##### Roads

Inkster – 9 Mile to 11 Mile – Reconstructed  
Middlebelt – 8 Mile to I-696 – Reconstructed  
Orchard Lake Road leading to I-696 Bridge – Reconstructed  
Orchard Lake Road – 12 Mile to 13 Mile – Reconstructed  
Grand River – 10 Mile to Haggerty – Reconstructed

##### Traffic Signals

Middlebelt at East Middle School - Relocated

##### New Sidewalks

Folsom – Power to Farmington Road  
Middlebelt – Chateau to Spring

##### Water Main

Grand River – Middlebelt to Colwell – Replaced  
Middlebelt at Northwestern Highway – Replaced

#### Scheduled for 2011:

##### Roads

14 Mile – Middlebelt to Northwestern Highway – Reconstruction  
Grand River – 8 Mile to Purdue – Widen existing lanes

##### Traffic Signals

12 Mile Road – Haggerty to Inkster – Retiming  
Middlebelt – 8 Mile to 14 Mile – Retiming  
Inkster – 8 Mile to 14 Mile – Retiming

##### New Sidewalks

Halsted – Windwood to Grand River

##### Water Main

Oxford – Shiawassee to Independence – Replace  
Waldron – Shiawassee to Grand River – Replace  
Collingham – Independence to Grand River – Replace  
Independence – Hamilton to Waldron – Replace

### Division of Public Works – Anti-Icing Procedures

The City of Farmington Hills is always looking at ways to keep our residents safe. In a pro-active effort to improve road conditions and reduce salt usage, the City is now applying salt brine or a salt brine/beet juice mixture to dry roadways in advance of snowstorms. This prevents snow and ice from bonding to the road surface, providing both better tire traction and more efficient plowing and salting. In layman's terms, it's like spraying "Pam" on the road.

#### Quick facts about anti-icing alternatives:

- Salt brine mixed with beet juice is effective at much lower temperatures than salt brine alone and it cuts corrosiveness by 70%.
- The mixture uses a 100% organic Michigan sugar beet product.
- The City purchased its own Brine Maker, which can produce up to 4,000 gallons per hour.
- Anti-icing may be applied one to three days ahead of the event with salt brine or three to five days ahead with the beet juice blend if no rain is in the forecast.
- Anti-icing won't melt all the snow off, but it will melt off a dusting. Its main purpose is to act as a de-bonding agent.
- It takes eight hours for the one truck with the specially-equipped tank unit and another tow-behind tank trailer to anti-ice all of the City's major roads.

