



Annual Report 2012

FARMINGTON HILLS

Michigan

focus

Message from Your Mayor

Since you are reading this article, it means the Mayans were wrong. The Mayans can now join Nostradamus for improperly foreseeing the end of human existence as we know it. Foreseeing future events can only be judged when they become the past. How many times have you heard someone say, "I saw that coming" after the fact. Running a big city like Farmington Hills requires some forecasting for the future, not predicting it. The Council and staff budget for many contingencies, but we cannot necessarily see everything. I am not aware of any clairvoyants on City Council.

Recently our State Legislature made several changes in how cities get funding and how they operate. This falls in the category of, "I did not see that coming or at least not this soon." I want to assure our residents that although these legislative changes do pose challenges for City government, we in Farmington Hills are up to the challenge. We are adaptable and will find solutions. We will still give great service to our residents as we always have. This gives us an opportunity to answer another false prophet – no, Chicken Little, the sky is not falling.

While we cannot predict the future, Farmington Hills constantly looks towards the future as a leader in innovation, which is something that other cities look at, admire, and emulate. We offer something tangible that attracts companies to our community. This year, we were fortunate to welcome Panasonic, Green Path, Auto-Wares, and many other businesses to our City. We were also fortunate to increase our collaboration with the City of Farmington. Our two cities started a project to revitalize the Grand River corridor and we have hired a consultant to help in the planning stage of the Corridor Improvement Authority. Expect to see more in the year to come.

I have no crystal ball that will tell me what will happen next. I can, however, look at our past accomplishments and make a bold prediction. With our City staff, our City Council, and our residents working together, our future remains very bright.

– Mayor Barry Brickner



Farmington Hills City Council
Front row: Nancy Bates, Mayor Barry Brickner, Cheryl Oliverio
Back row: Randy Bruce, Mayor Pro Tem Richard Lerner, Ken Massey, Michael Bridges

City Clerk's Office

Elections were the main focus this year for the City Clerk's Office. The Presidential Primary Election, held on February 28, 2012, was a Closed Primary in Michigan, which meant that voters had to request either a Republican or Democratic ballot prior to voting. Voter turnout was just over 21%.

Immediately following the Presidential Primary Election, the Clerk's Office was busy confirming new district boundaries for U.S. Congressional, State House and Senate Districts, and County Commissioner Districts. New voter I.D. cards were sent to over 59,000 registered voters due to area redistricting.

The new districts for Farmington Hills are as follows:

- U. S. Congressional District – 14th District (formerly 11th), effective January 1, 2013
- State Senate District – 11th District (formerly 14th), effective January 1, 2015
- State Representative District – 37th District (no change for Farmington Hills), effective January 1, 2013
- County Commissioner Districts – 13, 14 and 21 (formerly Districts 14, 15), effective January 1, 2013

The Primary Election was held on August 7, 2012, and site visits were conducted at school facilities used as polling places. Following the Primary Election, the focus quickly turned to the Presidential General Election, where Farmington Hills had a 74% voter turnout, once again higher than the national average. The Clerk's Office processed 15,933 absent voter ballots with 97% of those returned, and close to 300 Election Inspectors were employed for the Presidential Election.

For the November General Election, Oakland County communities used a cellular modem for the first time to transmit Election results directly from local precincts to the County. This worked extremely well; most of the results were transmitted and received by the County prior to the return of Election Inspectors to City Hall.

Special Recognition: City Clerk Pam Smith served as Vice President of the Oakland County Clerk's Association in 2012 and earned her Master Municipal Clerk (MMC) Certification in June 2012.

Fire Department

The Farmington Hills Fire Department is a combination department comprised of both Paid-on-Call and Career firefighters. The Fire Department continues to provide fast, efficient, and cost-effective emergency services, even with a 3.5% increase in emergency incidents compared to the previous year.

- The Department provides advanced life support (paramedic) services at all medical emergencies, extinguishment of fires, vehicular accidents, hazardous materials incidents, incidents involving utilities, and other types of incidents, and also responds as requested to Mutual Aid calls for service in surrounding communities.
- Inspectors provide fire inspections to local businesses while enforcing minimum requirements of the Fire Prevention code, provide acceptance testing for fire alarm systems throughout the City, and offer fire evacuation planning and preparedness to local businesses, as well as portable fire extinguisher training.
- The Department provides residential home fire safety inspections and has a smoke detector installation program.
- Fire Investigators investigate the origin and cause of all fires in the City and, along with Police investigators, attempt to prosecute fires determined to be arson.
- Members of the Department serve as the Emergency Manager and Assistant Emergency Manager, working closely with the Michigan State Police Division of Homeland Security, and serve as liaisons to the award-winning Emergency Preparedness Commission.
- The Department has representation on numerous boards and committees and its members are actively involved in raising money for various community benefits and fundraisers.
- In an effort to reduce costs and maintain the ability to respond to specialized incidents, the Hazardous Materials Response Team and Urban Search and Rescue Teams were implemented through our Mutual Aid associations.
- Members of the Department serve as team leaders for the Western Wayne County Urban Search and Rescue Team and the Hazardous Materials Response Team.
- Over 250 people attended the Fire Prevention Open House, which was held during Fire Prevention Week in October.

Police Department

Farmington Hills residents should be proud that their City was chosen by the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and the National Research Center (NRC) as the 2012 winner of the Voice of the People Award for Excellence, which was presented at the ICMA's 98th Annual Conference in Phoenix. Jurisdictions considered are those with the highest rated services, according to a representative survey of their own residents.

To win the Award for Excellence, a community must receive a service quality rating in the top three among all eligible jurisdictions, and must reside in the overall top 10% rating. For Farmington Hills, the category in the top three was the Police Department, which received a 93% favorable rating from citizens. Thank you to the citizens of Farmington Hills for the support and confidence you've shown the Police Department and the City of Farmington Hills – we couldn't have done it without you!

The Police Department also accomplished the Dispatch Consolidation Project with the City of Farmington. The City of Farmington Hills Communications Center officially became the Public Safety Answering Point for the City of Farmington on October 1, when months of planning and hard work resulted in a seamless transition. The cost of this project was offset by a State of Michigan Competitive Grant Assistance Program, where grants are awarded to assist local governments with training and equipment costs associated with consolidation projects. Both cities will benefit greatly from this consolidation, not only financially, but by maintaining a close working relationship.

The City also began using Nixle, a free web-based program that connects residents with the agencies that serve and protect them. The Department uses Nixle to disseminate information ranging from critical incidents, such as missing persons and crime trends, to crime prevention tips or community news. Residents can choose to receive messages by text, e-mail, or both. Signing up for Nixle is easy – just go to www.nixle.com and click on "Sign Up Free."

Danvers Pond

Annual Report 2012

City Council

Mayor - Barry Brickner

Mayor Pro Tem - Richard Lerner

- Nancy Bates
- Michael Bridges
- 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. Go to Quick Links on the home page and click on Newsletter. Click on the "+" button on the toolbar to increase the magnification of the entire page.



Register online for classes and programs at <https://recreg.fhgov.com>. Or go to www.fhgov.com, click on Quick Links, then Recreation Online Registration.

Or go to 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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Danvers Pond: In cooperation with the Alliance of Rouge Communities, the Department of Public Services removed the dam at Danvers Pond this summer and restored the natural stream channel and adjacent floodplain. Construction of the project was funded entirely by a grant through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. Work included removal of the failing dam, restoration of 6.5 miles of upstream fish passage and two acres of woodlands and wetlands, plus 300 feet of stream enhancement. (See corner photo above.)

Special Services Department

Find out more about Special Services Department offerings! Become a friend on Facebook (search Farmington Hills Special Services), review the seasonal brochure, call 248-473-1800 or visit www.fhgov.com. To register for programs and events online, go to <https://recreg.fhgov.com>.

Cultural Arts Division

Cultural Arts continued to thrive in 2012, with high-quality cultural experiences for thousands of citizens, including festivals, classes, special events, concerts, and summer camps.

Reproductions of famous artworks from the Detroit Institute of Arts were placed around town in some unexpected locations from April through June, as part of the DIA's "Inside/Out" program. A variety of exhibits at the Costick Center's City Gallery and at City Hall delighted patrons, offering different styles and subject matter, from life-sized paper dresses and intricate beadwork to paintings, sculpture, and photography. The Public Art Program at City Hall was renewed in November, with over 60 new pieces of artwork generously loaned to the City by fine artists from around the state.

The popular monthly teas were joined this year by a new event at the Longacre House, the "Night to Remember" Titanic dinner party, in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the voyage of the Titanic. Guests enjoyed an elegant night of history, live music, and food, with dining selections taken from the original Titanic menu.

Concerts and Youth Theater productions continued to provide great affordable entertainment close to home. The Concert Series at the Players Barn Theatre included high-quality performances by the Cut Time Players, Michigan Opera Theatre, Blackthorn, and Magic Bus. Youth Theatre performances brought more than 3,500 people to "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" and "Peter Pan."

The Festival of the Arts returned to the Costick Center in 2012, with several days of hands-on experiences for children, art demonstrations, live performances, and an array of artwork that showcased the vast talents of students and adults in our community.



Mr. and Mrs. Guggenheim were at the "Night to Remember" Titanic dinner party, as portrayed by City Council member Randy Bruce and Jill Prisca.



The serving staff at the Longacre House wore period outfits for the "Night to Remember" Titanic dinner party.

Youth & Family Services

Over 150 youth were enrolled in the 2012 Summer Drop-In Program and over 50 families took advantage of early morning care. Everything from a Tigers game to zip lining was offered in 27 field trips. The Lewis & Clark Adventure team built an Iroquois Longhouse near the Nature Center and the Girl Power group had an overnight retreat at Heritage Park. Through a partnership with Old Navy, a group of young men and women got some experience in working retail and did everything from dressing mannequins to working the cash register.

Membership numbers were up in the second year of welcoming fifth graders to the After School Program. The Wilderness Wellness program got kids outside to experience nature while reinforcing school curriculum. A partnership with OCC continued; eight students were hired to staff the After School Program. Best Buy returned again this year to support both the After School Program and the Farmington Public School Turnaround Program.

A new relationship with graduate students from the Michigan School of Professional Psychology helped meet the growing needs of community families, and a collaboration with Farmington Public Schools Title 1 students provided tutoring and a new creative writing class at the youth centers. Courtesy of Gordon Foods, PKC Group, and the Senior Division, over 300 people enjoyed the first Annual Community Thanksgiving Feast and another 300 people were fed Thanksgiving dinner through the Meals on Wheels program.

Gratitude goes out to the Xemplar Club, the Riley Foundation, and the Farmington Hills/Farmington Community Foundation for their continued support and generous donations, which assist the City in providing a safe, educational, and fun place for youth during after school hours.

Facilities Division

In 2013, head to one of the City's facilities for a class, program or special event:

Costick Center – The 70,000 square foot facility includes a 25-yard swimming pool, gymnasium with stage, large commercial kitchen, and meeting rooms ranging in size from 500 square feet to 7,500 square feet.

Longacre House – This historic home, built in 1869, offers a charming and elegant setting for weddings, parties, receptions, business meetings, programs, banquets, and social gatherings. The beautifully landscaped entryway and gazebo provide an attractive outdoor event site.

Jon Grant Community Center – The nearly 5,000 square foot Jon Grant Community Center offers a comfortable meeting space, the latest in high-tech equipment, and a 2,000 square foot Recreation Room known as the Fire Pit.

Senior Division

The Farmington Hills Senior Division offers recreation, education, socialization, volunteer opportunities, and information and referral services to adults 50 or better. Community-based services include home delivered meals, liquid nutrition, chore services, outreach, and transportation for homebound seniors.

Significant accomplishments for 2012:

The Senior Outreach program served 3,498 seniors during 2012. Over 100 seniors received individual assistance with Medicare Part D Prescription Drug coverage. About 150 seniors received holiday assistance and 475 seniors with low income received food assistance.

The Senior Transportation program provided over 36,000 rides for older adults and people with disabilities. The program served an average of 480 rides each week to medical appointments. Currently the program helps transport 30 residents to and from weekly dialysis and 40 residents to and from weekly physical therapy appointments.

Free memory screening was provided by Botsford Commons and a Positive Mental Health seminar was provided by St. Mary's Hospital in celebration of National Memory Day.

The Oakland County Health Department administered 574 flu shots at the annual Flu Shot Clinic.

AARP Tax preparers provided tax assistance to 670 low income seniors.

Numerous support groups were offered including caregivers, deaf & hearing impaired, grief & loss, first step stroke, and vision impaired.

The Senior Nutrition program provided 89,116 meals; 150 seniors received a home delivered meal every day.

Ice Arena

During 2012, the Farmington Hills Ice Arena (FHIA) 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. The Farmington Hills Figure Skating Club (FHFSC) members, as well as the Learn-to-Skate students, showcased their skills at the Annual Ice Show in May as well as hosting the Basic Skills Summer Swizzle Competition in June.

The FHIA is home to the Farmington Hills Hockey Association (FHHA), which serves 450 players at all skating levels and offers house and travel teams, plus the international TimBits development program. The 96 Flames won the Michigan State Championship and then came home as National Runners-Up at the Tier II 16U USA Hockey National Championships in Green Bay, Wisconsin; and the 97 Flames also came home as State Runners-Up. The FHIA is also home to high school hockey (Farmington Falcons, North Farmington/Harrison Flyers, Walled Lake Central, Catholic Central, Northville, and Novi) and high school figure skating (United Farmington, Mercy, Novi, and Northville). The North Farmington/Harrison Flyers JV Hockey Team won the JV State Championship, while the United Farmington Figure Skating Team won the Individual State Championships title in 2012. The A team finished as State Runners-Up, ending their four-year reign as State Champions, while the B team's three-year reign ended.

The FHIA 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 skating and skateboards, basketball, baseball, softball, soccer, beach volleyball, bocce ball, jogging, disc golf, and the Perani's Hockey World Clearance Sale.

Dates to Remember:

March 10: FHHA Championship Day

March 23 - 24: MHSAA Figure Skating State Championships

May 3 - 4: 17th Annual Ice Show

July 18 - 28: 20th Annual Perani's Hockey World Clearance Sale

For more information or a list of upcoming events, visit www.FHice.com or call 248-478-8800.

The 2012 Ice Show theme was "Toys to Teens and Everything in Between."



Recreation Division

In 2012, the Recreation Division provided more program offerings with increased participation. New programs included STEM Camps (Science, Engineering, Technology and Math), SNAG (Starting New at Golf), LEGO Classes, Advanced Archery, Fitness Classes, and several new nature programs such as Advanced Junior Naturalist Classes.

The Recreation Division placed strong emphasis on getting people outdoors - Riley Skate Park hosted thousands of visitors from Farmington Hills and around the country. The Nature Center had a record-breaking year with over 17,000 visitors, due to a large increase in program offerings, a new children's garden, and more visits from school groups, scout troops, and birthday party guests.

More than 20,000 people attended family events, including favorites such as the Daddy/Daughter Dance, Princesses & Super Heroes Fantasy Fun Night, Great Farmington Hills Campout, Hay Day, Marshmallow Fly & Fry, Pizzapalooza, Splash Bash, and the Holiday Shopping Expo. New partnerships with area businesses were developed through sponsorships, volunteerism, and program coordination.

Nearly 3,000 kids ages 4 to 15 signed up for over 20 different camps focusing on nature-related themes, sports, tours, and more. Participation in soccer, youth basketball, dance, and fitness remained strong and field use saw an increase with higher participation in flag football and baseball tournaments.

Program listings can be found in the Special Services seasonal brochures that come in the mail or online at www.fhgov.com.

Farmington Hills Golf Club

The beautiful Farmington Hills Golf Club, located at 11 Mile Court and Halsted Road, boasts 18 challenging holes (measuring 6,413 yards) with manicured bent grass tees, fairways, and greens surrounded by trees, ponds, and gently rolling hills. Over 44,000 rounds were played in 2012.

The Clubhouse includes the Greek Islands Restaurant, a full-service bar and grill, a pro shop, and a huge outdoor patio that provides great views of the course. The Driving Range is open daily from 7am-10pm, weather permitting, from early spring until late fall. It features 32 stations and two practice greens. Golf lessons are available for all skill levels with qualified instructors to help improve your game. For tee times and lesson schedules, call 248-476-5910 or visit www.fhgolfclub.org.

Finance Department

The Treasury Division is responsible for billing and collecting property taxes (twice annually), 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 2012, the Treasury Division issued over 61,000 tax bills and collected, deposited, and remitted in excess of \$147 million of property taxes. In addition, the Treasury Division bills and collects special assessments on the tax bills. 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 responsible for the annual preparation of property tax assessment rolls for approximately 27,800 real property and 3,100 personal property parcels. Assessment rolls are maintained by field inspections of building permits issued by the City, as well as reviews of existing assessment records. The Assessing Division continually monitors and complies with the professional requirements of assessment administration and updates its records with the State of Michigan, including the filing and recording of all property transfer affidavits. The Assessing Division also establishes special assessment districts for the City.

The Accounting Division is responsible for paying vendors and employees, reconciling bank accounts, and producing the City's Budget and Annual Financial Reports on a timely and accurate basis. The Accounting Division complies with all Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and financial reporting standards set by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) to ensure a clean annual audit opinion from the City's Independent Auditor.

The Administration Division is responsible for the overall management of the Department, including the management/administration of the City's Debt, General Liability and Property Insurance, Retirement System, and Passport Application Acceptance function.

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

- The City received an Unqualified Audit Opinion for the FY 2011/12 Audit, the 27th 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, 2011 – 13 years in a row.
- The City received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the GFOA – 26 years in a row.
- The City of Farmington Hills maintains non-insured bond ratings as follows: AA+ from Standard & Poor's and Aa2 from Moody's.

Central Services Department

The Department of Central Services manages purchasing, information technology (I.T.), telecommunications, and mail services. During the past year, several significant projects were completed, including the replacement of the voicemail system, Wi-Fi installation at City facilities, and data storage upgrades.

The procurement and I.T. staff successfully implemented a new print management program that will save the City over \$44,000 annually. The Department continued to participate in the Consumers Energy Choice program by acquiring the City's natural gas from an alternate supplier, which saved over \$60,000 during the last contract period. Farmington Hills continues to be a leader in cooperative purchasing and moved its procurement card program to a new vendor, which will provide rebates to the City that are projected to exceed \$7,500 annually.

The City's Purchasing Division was awarded the Agency of the Year Award from the Michigan Public Purchasing Officers Association (MPPOA). The award recognized the City for innovations in public purchasing, involvement within the community, and contributions to MPPOA and the purchasing profession. The Division was also recognized for its involvement in the LEED Gold-Certified City Hall Revitalization Project and for the creation of the MITN (Michigan InterGovernmental Trade Network) e-procurement system, which connects local government agencies and vendors. MITN (www.mitn.info) now boasts a membership of over 100 agencies.

Department of Planning and Community Development

Planning Office

The Planning Office processed, and the Planning Commission reviewed, 11 new site plans this year. They included plans for a new auto dealership and 10 other commercial projects.

The Planning Commission also worked on three major zoning text revisions intended to make Farmington Hills redevelopment ready. They include finalizing a new proposed mixed use district along the Orchard Lake Road corridor, adopting a new electric vehicle infrastructure ordinance, and re-formatting the Zoning Ordinance to be more user-friendly. The Planning Commission also adopted their Capital Improvements Plan, which helps guide the Council in prioritizing and budgeting Capital projects within the City.

In 2012, the Historic District Commission (HDC) issued six Certificates of Appropriateness for work on historic properties and refurbished three descriptive historic marker signs for designated properties. The annual Preservation Award was presented to Joe and Judy Derek for their efforts to restore and maintain the Lambert Sellers Barn. The HDC also embarked on the task of drafting a comprehensive guide for the maintenance of the historic cemeteries owned by the City.

As a reminder to all, the HDC holds its regular meetings at 7:30pm in the Community Room at City Hall on the second Wednesday of each month. For specific meeting locations, agendas, and past meeting minutes, please check the HDC webpage at www.fhgov.com/Community/HistoricDistrict.asp.

Zoning Division

- Over 17,000 code violations were investigated to help enforce City Ordinances and keep Farmington Hills a desirable city in which to live and work. The primary focus was on blight abatement.
- Education and public outreach were provided on ordinance requirements through flyers, handouts, and local newspapers.
- The Zoning Board of Appeals heard 44 cases at 12 meetings appealing code and zoning requirements.

Building Division

- 38 new single family homes were constructed for a total of \$14,204,009 and nearly 119,398 square feet of new commercial development was constructed for a total of \$15,286,092.
- Permits were issued for \$5,841,984 in home improvements and \$29,902,559 in commercial renovations.
- 14 substandard buildings were demolished as part of ongoing revitalization efforts; 11 were residential and three were commercial.
- 203 properties, including both commercial and residential structures, were identified as needing major repairs with follow up to eliminate code deficiencies. Currently, of the 203 properties, 22 permits remain open, with 181 closed out.

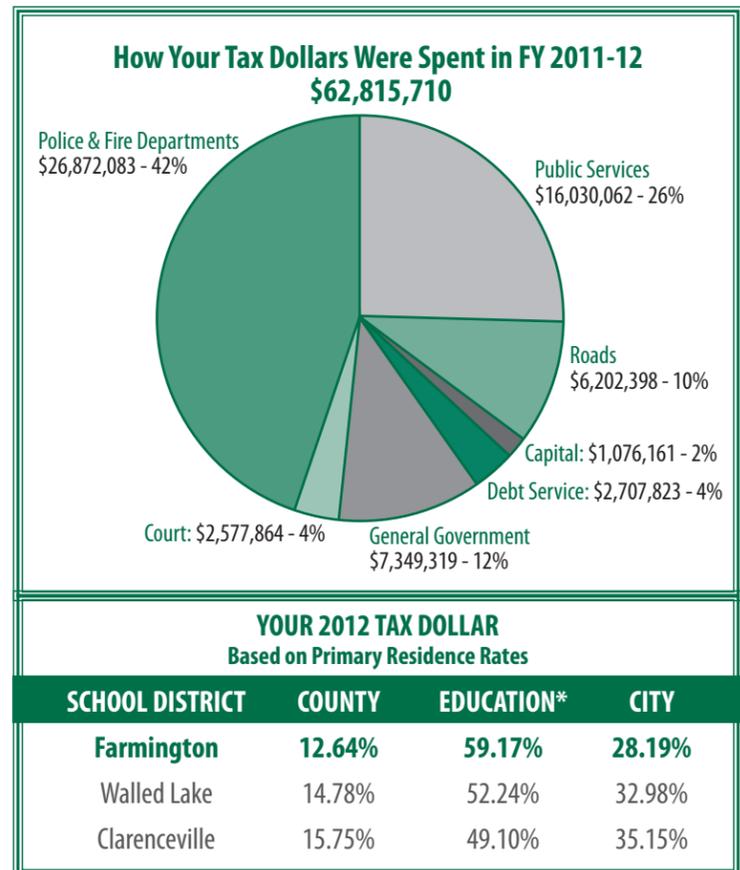
Community Development

The Housing Rehabilitation Program assisted 26 low income homeowners with improvements. Work included nine homes with new windows, nine replacement roofs, and eight new furnaces.

The Community Development Office supported Rebuilding Together to help nine homeowners with yard work, painting, and other general household repairs. The office also worked with two Farmington Hills businesses (Home Depot and Core Tek Services) to assist two low income families with yard clean up and minor home repairs.

The Community Development Office conducted a citywide survey through the City website to gather responses on public perceptions and experiences with Fair Housing Choice. The responses were incorporated into a document called the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, which is used as a tool to support diversity and remove barriers to Fair Housing Choice in Farmington Hills.

The 27th Annual Beautification Commission Awards Ceremony recognized beautification efforts throughout the City. Top awards went to Hitachi Automotive Systems Americas, which was awarded the Greater Farmington Area Chamber Award for the impressive landscape at their Grand River location, and to Chestnut Ridge Condominiums, which was awarded the Beautification Commissioners Award for their impressive landscape entrance at Halsted Road, north of Twelve Mile.



* Local Schools – Oakland Intermediate Schools – Community College – Library

Farmington Hills Named a Community for a Lifetime

In recognition of efforts to be "aging-friendly," Farmington Hills and Farmington have been designated as a Community for a Lifetime (CFL) by the Farmington Area Commission on Aging (COA), Michigan's Office of Services to the Aging (OSA), and the Commission on Services to the Aging. Only 13 Michigan communities have received this distinction.

The CFL designation is part of a nationwide movement to respond to the needs of a rapidly aging population. It's been shown that when communities provide for the greater living ease of older citizens, all community members benefit. CFL communities are good places to raise families, encourage new business growth, and accommodate growing old gracefully.

To qualify for CFL recognition, the Farmington Hills community was assessed in several areas including walkability/bikeability, access to healthcare and transportation, safety and security, housing, supportive community systems, business accessibility, enrichment, and community caring.



Hitachi Automotive Systems Americas, Inc.



Chestnut Ridge Condominiums

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Department Heads

Front row, left to right: Mike Lasley, Central Services Director; Ed Gardiner, Planning and Community Development Director; Corey Bartsch, Fire Chief; Steve Brock, City Manager; Chuck Nebus, Police Chief; Pam Smith, City Clerk.
 Back row, left to right: Gary Mekjian, Public Services Director; John Randle, Human Resources Director; Dave Boyer, Assistant City Manager; Dave Gajda, Finance Director; Nate Geinzer, Assistant to the City Manager; Ellen Schnackel, Special Services Director.

Human Resources

Fit for Life (Employee Wellness Program)

Participation in the Farmington Hills Fit for Life Employee Wellness Program increased for the seventh consecutive year with over 60% of City employees participating. Employees were encouraged to make lifestyle improvements by participating in wellness activities including educational Lunch 'N Learns.

Worker's Compensation

Once again this year, Farmington Hills has the lowest worker's compensation claims experience in the state. Due mostly to the thoughtful analysis, review and recommendations of the Safety Committee, the City received the Worker's Compensation Loss Control Achievement Award for its safety record for the 17th time in 20 years. The award is given through the Michigan Municipal League Worker's Compensation Fund. This excellent safety record ensures that the City will pay 45% less than the average premium for worker's compensation insurance - saving approximately \$321,000 in 2012.

Health Care Costs

The City successfully reduced per employee healthcare costs by implementing a State of Michigan recommended limit on the amount that a public employer may contribute to an employee medical benefit plan. Additionally, the City successfully partnered with employee bargaining units to identify alternative medical plan coverage.

Employment

In 2012, the Department processed over 1,600 employment applications, replacing many longtime employees who retired. In response to these retirements, HR has partnered with City departments to ensure that internal promotions are balanced with employees hired from the private sector. This combination helps the City retain institutional knowledge and bring fresh ideas to the services provided to residents.

Minority Outreach

The Department has enhanced efforts to increase minority applicants by collaborating with various Metro Detroit organizations, a strategy which is aligned with the City's goal to increase the percentage of minorities within the work force.

Labor Agreements

The City was able to settle labor agreements with all six employee bargaining units. In the spirit of cooperation, labor unions agreed to continue, over the life of the new contracts, the wage freeze in place since July 2010.



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FARMINGTON HILLS
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 Annual Report 2012

City Directory

Emergency Calls Only	
Fire Department	9-1-1
Police Department	9-1-1
Central Services/Purchasing	248-871-2430
City Clerk	248-871-2410
City Hall	248-871-2400
City Manager's Office	248-871-2500
Council Newsline	248-871-2511
District Court	248-871-2900
Farmington Community Library	248-553-0300
Finance Department	248-871-2440
Assessing	248-871-2470
Treasury	248-871-2480
Fire Department	
Non-emergency	248-871-2800
General Information	248-871-2400
Human Resources	248-871-2490
Planning Department	
Building	248-871-2450
Community Development and Housing Rehabilitation	248-871-2549
Planning	248-871-2540
Zoning	248-871-2520
Police Department	
Non-emergency	248-871-2600
Public Services Department	248-871-2530
Engineering Division.....	248-871-2560
Public Works	248-871-2850
Special Services Department	
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 & Family Services	248-473-1841

Department of Public Services

Engineering Division

Construction Projects Completed in 2012:

- ROADS**
 14 Mile – 1300 feet east of Haggerty (City western limit) to Drake Rd: *Reconstruct (FH)*
 Northwestern Highway – Beck Rd (Southfield) to Orchard Lake Rd: *Resurfacing (MDOT)*
 Independence Ave – Middlebelt to Colwell: *Rehabilitate (FH)*
 I-275 at 9 Mile: *Bridge deck replacement (MDOT)*
 8 Mile – Telegraph to Grand River: *Resurfacing (MDOT)*
 Orchard Lake Rd – 13 Mile to 14 Mile: *Resurfacing (RCOC)*
 Holly Hill Farms Subdivision: *Road rehabilitation (FH)*
 Glenbrook Subdivision (Minglewood): *Road rehabilitation (FH)*
 Springland Subdivision: *Road rehabilitation (FH)*
 LaMuera Subdivision: *Road rehabilitation (FH)*

TRAFFIC SIGNALS: None in 2012

NEW SIDEWALKS
 Independence Ave – Waldron to Roosevelt: (FH)

WATER MAIN
 Oxford – Shiawassee to Independence: *Replace (FH)*
 Waldron – Shiawassee to Grand River: *Replace (FH)*
 Collingham – Shiawassee to Grand River: *Replace (FH)*
 Independence – Middlebelt to Colwell: *Replace (FH)*

Scheduled for 2012:

- ROADS**
 Freedom Rd – City western limits to Drake: *Resurfacing (FH)*
 13 Mile Rd – Orchard Lake Rd to Middlebelt: *Resurfacing (FH)*
 Staman Acres Subdivision: *Road rehabilitation (FH)*
 Middlebelt Road north of Old Franklin Dr: *Gap fill-in (RCOC)*
- TRAFFIC SIGNALS**
 14 Mile & Drake Rd: *Signal upgrade and modernizations of signals*
 14 Mile & Halsted Rd: *Signal upgrade and modernization of signals*
 Gill Rd near Colfax: *Changeable school zone speed limit signs*
- NEW SIDEWALKS**
 8 Mile (north side) – Lujon to I-275: (FH)
 10 Mile (north side) – I-275 to Research Drive: (FH)
 12 Mile (south side) – Herndonwood to Inkster Road: (FH)
 13 Mile (south side) – Orchard Lake to Middlebelt: (FH)
- WATER MAINS**
 13 Mile – Drake to Lake Park Rd: *Provide new transmission feed (FH)*
 Water Tower at DPW – 27245 Halsted: (FH)
 13 Mile west of Drake – *Meter pit & control valve upgrade: (FH)*
 Halsted Road north of I-696 – *Meter pit & control valve upgrade: (FH)*
 10 Mile & Haggerty – *Meter pit & control valve upgrade: (FH)*
- STORM SEWER**
 Edgemoor Culvert – *Upsize and replacement: (FH)*

Recycling Recap

In 2012, the City of Farmington Hills directed its contracted solid waste hauler, Waste Management, to convert to single-stream recycling with automated cart collection. The conversion resulted in more efficient collection, lower contract costs, the deployment of larger capacity recycling carts at no cost to the City, and a dramatic increase in recycling. This conversion also set the stage for the City's contractor to transition to collection vehicles powered by compressed natural gas instead of diesel fuel, which will result in less tailpipe emissions.

The move to single-stream recycling was made possible by the City's partnership with the Resource Recovery and Recycling Authority of Southwest Oakland County (RRRASOC) and the public-private partnership with ReCommunity Recycling. ReCommunity invested approximately \$4.5 million to convert the RRRASOC Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) to a single-stream processing facility capable of accepting and processing mixed recyclable materials. This change will increase the MRF's capacity in terms of the types and volume of materials that can be processed.

There has been a larger amount of recyclable materials received, processed, and shipped; greater public and private revenue; higher employment at the MRF; significant efficiencies and costs savings for the municipal collection programs; and a documented increase in recycling with both environmental and economic benefits.

Farmington Hills September – November

