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Farmington Energy Prize on Facebook.

## Annual Report 2014

### City Council

Mayor - Barry Brickner

Mayor Pro Tem - Ken Massey

Michael Bridges

Randy Bruce

Valerie Knol

Richard Lerner

Samantha Steckloff

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. Click on the "+" button  
on the toolbar to increase the  
magnification of the entire page.



Register online for classes & programs  
at <https://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-Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm.

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Special Services Department

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The Focus is printed on  
recycled paper with a 30%  
post-consumer waste content.

Please recycle this  
newsletter when  
you are done with it.

## Message from Your Mayor

Things are looking up in Farmington Hills. When you drive along I-696 on the west side of town you can see our new fully functional water tower. Whether it's greeting you or bidding you a fond farewell, it reminds you to "live and love" Farmington Hills. While the water tower is a new landmark in town, it's also the largest structure of its type in Michigan, recently winning an award from the Michigan Concrete Association. Since becoming operational in June, the tower is doing exactly what it was built for – storing water and saving money. Your City Council just approved a new agreement for lower water rates due to the functioning water tower. As you pass our new landmark, think about how welcoming our community is and how much money you're saving. The water tower is expected to save Farmington Hills residential water customers \$3.5 million annually.

Also on the horizon is the new Riley Archery Range, which will open in the spring at Heritage Park. This partially enclosed facility, which blends into the landscape of the park, will allow residents to learn or practice archery skills in a safe environment.

I thank the residents of Farmington Hills for supporting public transportation and additional funding for locally maintained roads. Because of your support, the City can accelerate the time table for upgrading our deteriorating roads. Our State Legislature finally came through with a plan to move forward on increased road funding, but it is subject to the approval of the voters in May, putting State funding behind for this year's construction season.

In my final year as Mayor, I want to thank the people of Farmington Hills for all the support they have given to me and to the City Council. I am truly honored to be the Mayor and head cheerleader for Farmington Hills. Our staff and administration, under the leadership of City Manager Steve Brock, is without compare. I thank them for making the Council look so good. As I often discuss with my friend, former Mayor and State Representative Vicki Barnett, being Mayor of Farmington Hills is the best job ever! Thank you for giving me this opportunity to serve you.

~ Mayor Barry Brickner

## City Clerk's Office

In 2014, the City Clerk's Office fully implemented a new State-wide birth and death registry system. Funeral homes will now be able to process death records electronically instead of traveling to each municipality, and the Clerk's Office can now offer State Certified birth records, upon request, for births that occurred in Farmington Hills.

Due to the closing of Bethlehem Evangelical Church on Eight Mile Road, a polling location change was approved for Precincts 22 and 23 to St. John's Lutheran Church on Gill Road. New Voter I.D. Cards were mailed to over 4,500 affected voters.

The Clerk's Office administered the August 5 Primary Election and processed over 6,700 absent voter ballots with an overall turnout of 22.2%. The November 4

Gubernatorial Election generated over a 50% turnout and the Clerk's Office processed over 10,000 absent voter ballots. Electors voted for Governor and Lt. Governor, various state and federal offices and proposals, County Commissioners, and School Board members, plus passed a local road and street millage.

The Clerk's Office continues to streamline services by receiving and transmitting documentation electronically, whenever possible, and online registration has been implemented for all Election Inspector Training.

City Clerk Pam Smith was named City Clerk of the Year for 2014 through the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks Association. Both City Clerk Pam Smith and Deputy Clerk Angela Brunke earned their Certified Michigan Municipal Clerk (CMMC) Certifications.

## Fire Department

The Farmington Hills Fire Department is a combination department comprised of both Paid Call and Career Fire Fighters. The Fire Department continues to provide fast, efficient, and cost-effective emergency services, including a 3% 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.
- Members of the Department serve as Emergency Manager and Assistant Emergency Manager, working closely with the Michigan State Police Division of Homeland Security, and also serve as liaisons to the award-winning Emergency Preparedness Commission.
- The Department has representation on numerous boards and committees and active involvement in various community benefits and fundraisers.

- Fire Department representatives serve as leaders and members on a variety of response teams implemented through mutual aid agreements with neighboring fire departments; Specialized Hazardous Materials and Urban Search and Rescue Teams are a consortium of fire fighters highly trained for the specific response discipline.
- **Fire Prevention efforts include:**
  - Prevention** – Fire Inspectors complete commercial building and residential/home safety inspections, test life safety systems, consult on emergency and evacuation planning, and offer a smoke alarm installation program.
  - Investigation** – Fire Investigators investigate the origin and cause of all fires that occur in the City. Fire investigation is a joint effort with specially-trained Police Officers.
  - Public Education** – Fire safety and fire prevention education is provided to the business community



Fire Fighter Don Schinske and other members of the Fire Department demonstrated the Jaws of Life at the Fire Prevention Open House.

and also through fire station tours, school visits, and community events (Fly n' Fry, Hay Day, Costick Center Health Fair). In 2014, over 7,800 seniors, adults, and children received fire safety messages. The October Fire Prevention Open House had over 800 in attendance, and the school fall assembly program was presented to over 6,000 students and staff. Overall, Fire Prevention messages impacted over 14,000 community members.

## Police Department

### Record Low Level Crime

Burglaries, auto thefts, and larceny from autos in 2014 had the lowest numbers recorded in the City's 42-year history. The total number of Part A Crimes (the 20 most serious crime categories) last year was the lowest in 24 years. There were no murders in 2014, the number of armed robberies was the third lowest ever, and there were the fewest number of sexual assaults in 20 years.

Such crime reductions are extraordinary accomplishments and a source of pride for residents and the brave men and women who serve and protect this community. Officers respond to approximately 27,000 annual incidents and the Department's Dispatch Center is the busiest City-operated Dispatch Center in Oakland County, averaging 40,000 emergency 911 calls annually. Farmington Hills remains well known for being cited annually in various polls as one of Michigan's safest cities, when compared to other cities with both large and small populations. Community policing partnerships and support from residents are both key components to low crime rates and public confidence.

The Police Department remains committed to their Mission Statement which includes, "... the delivery of superior police services without prejudice or partiality." Our professional police officers embrace modern "fair and just" policing philosophies. Combined with your support, this serves as a powerful dynamic in helping to keep this community safe in 2015 and beyond.

### Police News

- The Police Crime Prevention Section has revitalized the City's Neighborhood Watch program. Police personnel and volunteers coordinated both City-wide and individual neighborhood meetings over the past two years and provided an array of safety tips including home security and identity theft prevention. Farmington Hills currently has 116 Neighborhood Watch groups, a 5% increase from 2013; these groups are encouraged to report any suspicious activity to police.
- Over five million Americans currently have Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. When a person with the disease is missing, searches are exhaustive, expensive, and can have tragic

endings. The International Association of Chiefs of Police and the Bureau of Justice Assistance developed an Alzheimer's training program for law enforcement first responders, attended by members of the Police Department. Following this training, the Department developed a policy to provide guidance to officers in recognizing, dealing with, and responding to lost persons who have Alzheimer's disease or other related dementias.

- In November, ProQA EMD (Emergency Medical Dispatch), a revolutionary computer aided dispatch software program, was installed in the Police and Fire Dispatch Center. There are only ten other Dispatch Centers in Michigan, and only two others in Oakland County with this new technology. During an emergency medical call, ProQA guides the dispatcher in collecting vital information. The program then assists with obtaining the patient's status, choosing an appropriate priority level, and instructing the caller with medically-approved protocols until the emergency responders arrive. This results in a consistent, predictable, and repeatable high level of service to the public on every medical emergency call received.

# Special Services Department

## Cultural Arts Division

The Farmington Hills Youth Theatre presented "Disney's Camp Rock the Musical" this spring, where almost 140 actors in grades 1- 12 performed in two casts to sold out audiences. For the first time, the Youth Theatre produced a summer musical, performing "Seussical" at the Players Barn Theatre. The production featured more than 30 local actors in three shows. This fall, more than 100 young actors performed "Rapunzel! Rapunzel! A Very Hairy Fairy Tale!" a hilarious retelling of the classic story performed for the first time in this area.

The Cultural Arts Concert series entertained audiences at the Players Barn Theatre, through a partnership with the Farmington Players and partial funding by grants from the Michigan Humanities Foundation. Performances included vocalist Sam Fazio, Blackthorn, The New Christy Minstrels, and Three Men and a Tenor. Eight weeks of free summer concerts in Heritage Park, ranging from big band music to indie-folk to rock and soul, were sponsored by Mercedes Benz Financial Services.

Art on the Grand returned to downtown Farmington for its fifth year on Grand River Avenue, attracting thousands of visitors and over 100 local and national artists. This year's Festival of the Arts, with the theme "Grow with the Arts," offered artwork, performances, and hands-on art activities, plus hosted 600 fourth graders at the Costick Center.

## Senior Division

The Farmington Hills Senior Division provides Adults 50 & Better with recreation, education, socialization, volunteer opportunities, and information and referral services. Community-based services include home delivered meals, chore services, outreach, and transportation.



*The Farmington Hills/Farmington Cycling for Active Adults (CFAA) Bike Club participated in the Founders Parade.*

### Significant accomplishments for 2014:

- The Senior Outreach program served over 4,000 seniors. Over 100 seniors received individual assistance with Medicare Part D Prescription Drug coverage. About 170 seniors received holiday assistance and 780 seniors with low income received food assistance.
- The Senior Transportation program provided over 35,000 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 appointments and 40 residents to and from weekly physical therapy appointments.
- AARP Tax preparers provided tax assistance to 670 seniors.
- The Senior Nutrition program provided 84,193 meals; 160 seniors received a home delivered meal every day. Over 180 volunteers donate time to serve food, pack meals, and deliver food for the Meals on Wheels program.
- New programs for 2014 included Courtyard Picnics, Karaoke, Mardi Gras Bingo, Mah Jongg Mondays, and a four-session "Memory Matters" series.

## Ice Arena

In 2014, the Farmington Hills Ice Arena (FHIA) welcomed skaters of all ages with Learn-to-Skate, Open Skate, Drop-in Hockey, Mid-Day Skate, Parent and Tot Skate, Adult Skate, Figure Skating, Youth Hockey, and Adult Hockey. Farmington Hills Figure Skating Club (FHFSC) members and Learn-to-Skate students showcased their skills at the Annual Ice Show in May and also hosted the Basic Skills Summer Swizzle Competition in June.

The FHIA is home to the 2014 Michigan High School Hockey Division 3 State Champion Farmington Falcons and also houses 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, numerous other high school hockey teams (North Farmington/Harrison Flyers, Walled Lake Central, Catholic Central, Northville, and Novi) and high school figure skating teams (United Farmington, Mercy, Novi, and Northville). The FHIA is also home to the Michigan Ice Dogs Junior Hockey Team of the Midwest Junior Hockey League and Little Caesar's Boys AAA Hockey Teams for both 15U (ages 15 and under) and for those born in 2001.

Many non-ice activities are offered throughout the year including Youth & Family Services After-School Programs, summer day camps, Riley Skate Park for inline and skateboards, basketball, baseball, softball, soccer, jogging, disc golf, and the Perani's Hockey World Clearance Sale.

**Dates to Remember:** March 8 is FHHA Championship Day, May 8-9 is the 19th Annual Ice Show and July 16-26 is the 22nd Annual Perani's Hockey World Clearance Sale. For more information, visit FHice.com or call 248-478-8800.

## Youth & Family Services

Over 186 youth were enrolled in the 2014 Summer Drop-In Program and over 85 families took advantage of early morning care. Campers were offered 26 field trips including the ever popular zip-lining and a new favorite "Imagination Station." The summer program at the POP Center hosted their first ever Lemonade Stand and raised enough money to donate to a cause of their choice and take 40 youth to a Pistons game. Another highlight was the Bernstein Law Firm Field Day.

In a new program at the Jon Grant Center, Crescendo Detroit teaches youth members about dance expression and building character through music. They performed at the City's Thanksgiving dinner and entertained at local high schools.

OCC - Orchard Ridge Work Study Program students are hired to staff the After School Program; Oakland Early College students volunteer their time at Youth Centers a few days a week; and representatives from the Michigan School of Professional Psychology continue to help us with understanding today's youth.



*The Special Services Department's float in the 2014 Light Up the Grand holiday parade.*

Courtesy of the Farmington Hills PKC Group, Busch's, Gordon Foods, and the Senior Division, over 450 people enjoyed the Third Annual Community Thanksgiving Feast and another 300 received Thanksgiving dinner through Meals on Wheels. PKC Group employees made it possible for 87 families to receive Thanksgiving baskets. Gratitude goes to the Xemplar Club, the Riley Foundation, Farmington/Farmington Hills Education Foundation, the Farmington Hills/Farmington Community Foundation, and Suzanne Sloat and Ray Okonski for their continued support and donations.

## Recreation Division

In 2014, the Recreation Division continued to expand outdoor programming, camps, and special events. The Nature Center had another record-breaking year with over 21,000 visitors. Over 3,800 youth ages 4 to 15 attended weeklong camps. New events included the Mother/Daughter Tea and the Summer Solstice Celebration. More than 20,000 people attended favorite annual events including the Daddy/Daughter Dance, the Great Farmington Hills Campout, Hay Day, Splash Bash, Earth Day, Pizza Palooza, and the Holiday Shopping Expo. The Longacre House hosted popular events including the Adult Flashlight Egg Hunt, Story and Cookies with Santa, and Breakfast with Santa. Over 2,000 youth participated in soccer, basketball, flag football, karate, tennis, and gymnastics.

Fields throughout Farmington Hills, Farmington, and the Farmington Public Schools were used at full capacity through Recreation Division programs, NFWB and SFBI Baseball Associations, Farmington Soccer Club, and other community organizations - 21 weekend-long baseball tournaments were scheduled, with the First Annual Community Softball Tournament taking place in August.

Highlights in 2014 included Tony Hawk's visit to Riley Skate Park; a new Fishing Pier constructed in Founders Sports Park with support from the Bosch Community Fund; a new Children's Garden near the Nature Center in Heritage Park built with support from the Chrysler Foundation; and the construction of the archery range in Heritage Park made possible with support from Panasonic, the Riley Foundation, and ROWE Professional Services. The Riley Archery Range will have a grand opening in the spring and will offer classes, camps, leagues, and open shooting times.

Sign up for the monthly newsletter (email [specialservices@fhgov.com](mailto:specialservices@fhgov.com) with subject "Newsletter"), join us on Facebook, check us out at [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com) or watch your mailbox for the seasonal Activities Guide. For more information, call 248-473-1800.

## Facilities Division

- The historic and elegant Longacre House, featuring a charming gazebo and beautifully landscaped gardens, hosted over 145 weddings, showers, and special events in 2014. A dedicated group of volunteers once again put on the annual Fashion Show to fund renovations at the Longacre House and raised over \$8,000! Visit [www.longacrehouse.org](http://www.longacrehouse.org) for more info.
- The Jon Grant Community Center offers a nearly 5,000 square foot event space that's hosted baby showers, wedding showers, and birthday parties in the past year. The Center also features a 2,000 square foot recreation room known as the Fire Pit, one of the sites for the City's award-winning After School program.
- The Costick Center had over 350,000 visits in 2014! The 70,000 square foot facility includes a gym with a stage, a large commercial kitchen, and meeting rooms ranging in size from 500 square feet to 7,500 square feet. Come see the renovations underway in the locker rooms and join us for a swim!



*Longacre House*

## 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. In the past year, 39,349 rounds were played during the 222 days that the Farmington Hills Golf Club was open - that's over 177 rounds per day! Updates at the course included resurfacing the cart paths on the front nine holes and dredging the pond on Hole 13 to improve course irrigation.



The Driving Range is open daily from 7 a.m. until 10 p.m., 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 schedule, call 248-476-5910 or visit [www.fhgolfclub.org](http://www.fhgolfclub.org).

Stop by the Clubhouse and visit the pro shop or have a meal at the Greek Islands Restaurant, a full-service bar and grill with a huge outdoor patio that provides great views of the course. For restaurant special events, banquets, and offsite catering, please call 248-957-6734.

# 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 2014, the Treasury Division issued approximately 58,000 tax bills, and collected, deposited, and remitted in excess of \$141 million of property taxes, assessments, and fees. 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 assessment rolls for approximately 28,000 real property and 3,000 personal property parcels, whether they are taxable or not. 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 insure 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.

Following are some of the recent accomplishments and awards that highlight the excellent job done by the City's Finance Department. The City:

- Received an Unqualified Audit Opinion for the FY 2013/14 Audit, the 29th consecutive year the City has received a "clean" financial audit opinion.
- 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, 2013 – 15 years in a row.
- Received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the GFOA – 28 years in a row.
- Maintained its AAA bond rating from Standard & Poor's and its Aa1 bond rating from Moody's.

# Department of Planning and Community Development

## Building Division

- 56 new single family homes were constructed for a total of \$18,875,107 and nearly 90,161 square feet of new commercial development for a total of \$8,347,960.
- Permits issued for \$19,103,808 in home improvements and \$35,098,786 in commercial renovations.
- 30 substandard buildings, including 22 residential and 8 commercial, were demolished as part of ongoing revitalization efforts.
- 202 properties, including both commercial and residential structures, were identified as needing major repairs with follow-up to eliminate code deficiencies. Currently, of the 202 properties, 56 permits remain open, with 146 closed out.

## Planning Office

The Planning Office processed 20 new site plans this year - 17 for commercial businesses and three for places of worship. The Planning Commission reviewed and recommended approval for one Planned Unit Development proposal, and also considered four rezoning requests and four amendments to the zoning ordinance.

The Planning Commission began implementing the concepts in the Grand River Corridor Improvement Authority's Vision Plan by drafting and providing City Council with a new optional mixed-use overlay zoning district for the area along Grand River around the Botsford Hospital complex, and will continue to work on zoning ordinances for the remaining two focus areas identified in the Vision Plan in 2015. The Planning Commission also adopted the annual City-wide Capital Improvements Plan, which helps guide the City Council in prioritizing and budgeting capital projects.

In 2014, the Historic District Commission (HDC) reviewed and approved four applications for Certificates of Appropriateness for work on historic structures and purchased two new historic markers in cooperation with the property owners. The HDC also completed its Guidelines for Improving Energy Efficiency in Historic Structures. A copy of the document was mailed to all owners of historic homes and structures in the City and is also available for viewing at the HDC section of the City website.

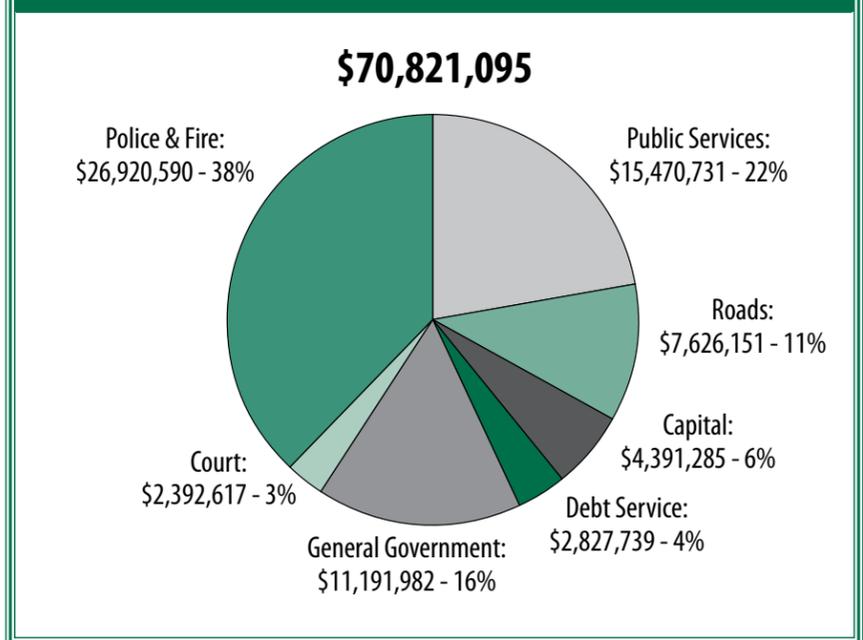
## Community Development

- The Housing Rehabilitation Program assisted 26 low income homeowners with improvements. Work included five homes with sanitary sewer connection or septic field replacement, four replacement roofs, and three new furnaces.
- The City of Farmington Hills joined a partnership in July with Oakland County Home Improvement Division to offer additional opportunities for residents to receive zero interest loans for home improvements.
- The Community Development office supported Rebuilding Together to assist nine homeowners with yard work, painting and other general household repairs. The office also worked with Coretek Services, a Farmington Hills business, to assist a struggling family with yard clean up and home repairs.
- The 29th Annual Beautification Commission Awards Ceremony recognized beautification efforts throughout the City. Top awards



David Sharpe, Individual Service Award for Finnish Center – Finlandia Gardens.

## How Your Tax Dollars Were Spent in FY 2013-14



# Central Services Department

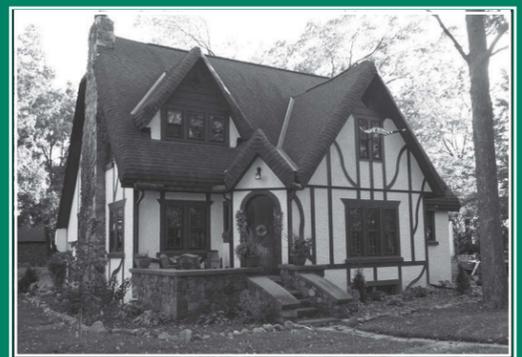
The Central Services Department manages purchasing, information technology (IT), telecommunications, and mail services. During the past year, the department issued 53 formal bid solicitations for various products and services.

Cooperative bidding, where two or more governments share procurement contracts, continues to be a high priority. The City of Farmington Hills was the lead agency on cooperative contracts for rock salt and OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer) auto parts. The City also partnered with Oakland County on the conversion of stock vehicles into duty-ready Police cars and Fire trucks.

Central Services/Information Technology transferred the City of Farmington onto the City of Farmington Hills data network and e-mail servers, which was funded through a State of Michigan Economic Vitality Incentive Program Grant. Installation of a new storage technology was completed, which will accommodate both cities' data needs for several years.

## Zoning Division

- Over 13,500 code violations were investigated to help enforce City Ordinances and keep Farmington Hills a desirable city in which to work and live. The primary focus was on blight abatement and property maintenance.
- Education and public outreach were provided on ordinance requirements through flyers, handouts, and local newspapers.
- The Zoning Board of Appeals heard 47 cases at 12 meetings appealing Code and Zoning requirements.



The 2014 Ruth Moehlman Preservation Award was presented to the owners of the Edward Beals House.

went to **Café Cortina, Essex Club** and **David Sharpe**. Café Cortina, located on Ten Mile, east of Orchard Lake Road, was awarded the Greater Farmington Area Chamber Award for their stunning and creative landscape. Essex Club, located off Halsted, north of Twelve Mile, was awarded the Beautification Commissioners' Award. The commissioners recognized the condominium entrance's colorful plantings and maintenance efforts. The Beautification Commission presented the Individual Service Award to David Sharpe for his many years of dedication to beautify the Finnish Center's Finlandia Gardens. David was responsible for creating the gardens, and organizing the volunteers to maintain the expansive grounds.



Essex Club – Beautification Commissioners' Award.



Café Cortina – Greater Farmington Area Chamber Award.



## Department of Public Services - Engineering Division - Construction Projects

FH: Farmington Hills; RCOC: Road Commission for Oakland County; WRC: Water Resources Commission; WB: West Bloomfield; MDOT: Michigan Department of Transportation

### Completed in 2014

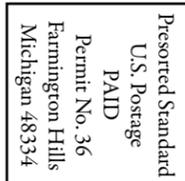
- Roads**
- Farmington Road – 10 Mile to 11 Mile Road: Road rehabilitation (FH)
  - Farmington Road – 11 Mile to 12 Mile Road: Road rehabilitation (FH)
  - 10 Mile Road – Orchard Lake Road to Farmington Road: Road rehabilitation (FH)
  - Orchard Lake/14 Mile/Northwestern Highway Roundabout: 14 Mile Road leg completed (RCOC)
  - Westhill Street: Road rehabilitation (FH)
  - Lakehills Drive: Road rehabilitation (FH)
  - Middlebelt Road north of Old Franklin Drive: Gap fill-in (RCOC)
- Traffic Signals**
- 10 Mile and Power Road: Signal modernization and pedestrian facility upgrade (FH)
  - 14 Mile and Drake Road: Signal interconnection and modernization (FH)
  - 14 Mile and Halsted Road: Signal interconnection, pedestrian facility upgrade and modernization (FH)
  - Gill Road near Colfax Street: Changeable school zone speed limit signs (FH)
- New Sidewalks**
- 10 Mile Road (north side) – East of Farmington Road to Power Road (FH)
  - Farmington Road – Ridgewood Street to 11 Mile Road (FH)
- Water Mains**
- Farmington Road Water Main – south of Glen Valley Street to Raphael Road (FH)
- Sanitary Sewer**
- Middlebelt Transport and Storage Tunnel – work started in December 2014 (WRC)
  - Farmington Road Sanitary Sewer – Quaker Valley Road to Harlan Street (FH)
  - Pearl Street Sanitary Sewer Separation Program (FH/WRC)
- Drainage**
- Caddell Drain Improvements (WRC)

### Scheduled for 2015

- Roads**
- Orchard Lake/14 Mile/Northwestern Highway Roundabout (FH/RCOC/WB/MDOT)
  - Woodbrook Subdivision: Road rehabilitation (FH)
  - Orchard West Subdivision: Road rehabilitation (FH)
- New Sidewalks**
- 8 Mile Road (north side) – Lujon Drive to Connaught Street (FH)
  - 14 Mile Road (south side) – Claymore Road to west of Farmington Road (FH)
  - 14 Mile Road (south side) – Westwood Road to Harmony Road (FH)
  - Halsted Road (west side) – River Bend Drive to Windwood Drive (FH)
- Water Mains**
- Grand River Homes Phase I Water Main replacement (FH)
  - Muer Cove Water Main (FH)

## Road Millage Passed in November Election - Thank You!

In November, Farmington Hills voters approved a road millage of up to 2.0 mills that will generate approximately \$6.1 million annually, over 10 years, for the reconstruction, rehabilitation, and improved maintenance of City roads. The goal is to improve the overall condition of pavement City-wide; Farmington Hills currently ranks among the lowest in comparison to many of our neighboring communities.



31555 Eleven Mile Road | Farmington Hills, MI 48336

FARMINGTON HILLS Michigan

focus

Annual Report 2014

Residential Customer

## 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>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 ..... | 248-871-2543 |
| 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 |
| Engineering Division .....                             | 248-871-2560 |
| 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 Division .....                            | 248-473-1830 |
| Youth & Family Services .....                          | 248-473-1841 |
| <b>Volunteer Center</b> .....                          | 248-473-1813 |

## Human Resources

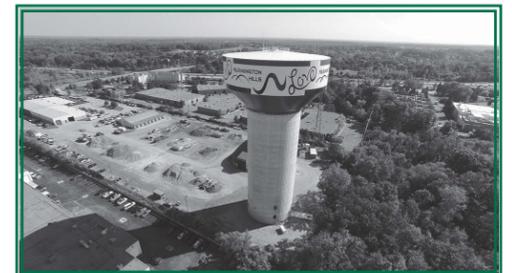
- Over the past 22 years, the City has received the Michigan Municipal League Workers' Compensation Loss Control Achievement Award 18 times. In 2014, Farmington Hills again had one of the lowest workers' compensation claims and best safety records in the State. Being serious about safety produces low claims, saves tax dollars, and considerably lowers the City's costs. This impressive record can be attributed to the City Council and administration providing employees with resources needed to be safe on their jobs. The Farmington Hills Safety Committee also deserves thanks for reviewing each safety-related incident and offering recommendations for improvement.
- Participation in the Fit for Life Employee Wellness Program continues to increase. There's been an 8% increase since last year with employees making lifestyle improvements, participating in wellness activities, and attending educational Lunch 'n Learns.
- Human Resources processed over 800 employment applications, replacing many retiring employees. HR works to ensure that internal promotions are balanced with employees hired from the outside to help retain institutional knowledge while bringing in fresh ideas.
- Efforts continued to increase minority hiring by collaborating with various Metro Detroit organizations and seeking internal employee referrals, a strategy which is aligned with the City's goal to increase the percentage of minorities within the workforce.
- The City adopted the Employer Group Waiver Program (EGWP) program in 2013 through Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan to help manage increases in the City's post retirement benefit obligations. The EGWP allows the City to more effectively leverage Medicare Part D (which covers prescription drugs) to reduce the risk of increased cost. To date, the City has saved over \$52,000 and plans to continue this program in the future.
- All six of the collective bargaining unit contracts were successfully negotiated and renewed this year. The settling of these contracts clarified wages, hours, and work conditions for the next three years. Cost savings were also realized by maximizing in-house resources to negotiate the contracts.

## Water System Improvements

The City's new three-million gallon elevated water storage tank was dedicated and put into service in June. The water tower will help improve water system pressure distribution and will minimize future water rate increases by saving about \$3.5 million per year.

Additional water system improvements include new water transmission mains and pressure reducing valves, which will provide better control over pressures and flows throughout much of City. These improvements are projected to be completed by the end of June 2015.

The Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner's Office, in cooperation with the City of Farmington Hills, began construction of the Middlebelt Road Transport and Storage Tunnel Project. The project, which will take two years to complete, involves building a 7,600-foot-long, 9-foot diameter tunnel under Middlebelt Road from just north of I-696 to 13 Mile Road. The tunnel will temporarily store excess water during heavy rain storms, to reduce the likelihood of residential sanitary sewer overflows.



## Video Division

Bright House Networks has recently moved the City's cable channel to digital 8.1. If you have a newer television set with a built-in digital tuner, just take your remote control and "auto re-scan" your TV channels. For AT&T customers, nothing has changed, just go to Channel 99, and then search for "Farmington Hills." For non-digital televisions, digital conversion boxes are available from your cable TV provider. Residents are invited to subscribe to the City's new YouTube channel - go to www.YouTube.com and search for "Farmington Hills Channel 8.1," then click on the Subscribe button to receive great shows about your community.