

Subscribe to List

View Past Issues

RSS




translate

 +1

 Like 0

Next on the Agenda and an update on selecting the City Administrator.



-  [Friend on Facebook](#)
-  [Follow on Twitter](#)
-  [Forward to a Friend](#)



**Sabra Briere**

First Ward, City Council  
[www.sabrabriere.org](http://www.sabrabriere.org)  
 sbriere@A2gov.org  
 sabra.briere@gmail.com  
 995-3518 (home)  
 277-6578 (cell)

Dear neighbors,

Art Fair starts this week, marking (for me) the middle of summer. It's supposed to be seasonally hot and uncomfortable, so I hope you are able to stay cool.

**On the Agenda for Monday, July 18**  
**Ordinances, First Reading**

The City Council began addressing retiree health care costs last month. At that time, the Council passed a resolution requiring the (interim) City Administrator and City Attorney to prepare amendments for the City Code that reflect a change in retiree health care. This ordinance would limit non union employees hired after July 1, 2011 to participation in City-provided health care benefits plan in retirement through an access only style plan. The access only style plan would allow those retirees to obtain health care coverage through the City in their retirement but would be paid for by the retiree.

**Resolutions (read and voted on in the same meeting)**

There are a series of linked resolutions regarding the **Stadium Bridges project**. To start, there's a

Subscribe to List

View Past Issues



resolution to approve a 'Use Agreement' for 1501 S. State, which will translate as the construction staging area. The resolution calls for paying the property owner \$12,560 immediately, with the remainder of \$70,000 due on completion. The highlight of this resolution is that it outlines the starting and ending dates for the construction: September 1, 2011 through August 20, 2013.

Like

C

## Coffee wakes some of us up

I hold office hours 7:30 to 9 am on Mondays at the Northside Grill.

While I'm there, I work on Council business, read documents and answer email. What I like best is when someone stops by to discuss the issues that concern them -- potholes, parks, trash pickup, construction noise, zoning, City staffing and changes they like or don't like.

The folks at the Northside put up with political talk early in the morning. If you see me there, please wave, and if you have time, please, join me for coffee and a chat.

## City Administrator Search

In March I was appointed a member of the City Administrator Search Committee. Committee members met on March 30th to discuss options, on April 13th and April 15th to discuss an interim City Administrator, the City

Here's a [map](#) of the parcel in question.

There are two related resolutions that ask the Washtenaw County Water Resources Commissioner to design and construct **stormwater controls in both the Malletts Creek and the Allen Creek drainage districts**. Both of these projects have been approved for a low interest (2.5%) State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan. The stormwater project in Malletts Creek costs \$1,284,331; the City pays 92.5% of \$1,188,006. The stormwater project in Allen Creek costs \$1,094,059; the City pays 96.1% or \$1,051,391.08. The resolutions authorize repayment of the low interest loans for this project from the Storm Water Fund (Fund 0069). This project has been discussed in detail, and the use of low-interest loans was mentioned at the last update by City staff on the project.

I've seen a map of the watersheds (I thank the maker) and learned that the boundary between Malletts Creek and Allen Creek runs parallel to South State Street from Granger to just past Stimson; stormwater detention projects will be built as part of the bridge replacement, and will help clean the storm water of suspended solids and phosphorus, among other benefits.

## Planting Trees to improve water quality

There's a resolution to award a contract for tree planting: 1200 trees along City street rights-of-way in the Malletts Creek, Allen Creek, Traver Creek and Swift Run drainage districts. The City expects that planting additional street trees will continue to decrease the quantity of stormwater runoff and will improve the quality of runoff that reaches

Administrator's job posting and whether to hire a consultant to assist in the search, on June 13th

Subscribe to List

View Past Issues

River

RSS

translate



+1



Like

C

to finalize the selection and interview process and on July 5 to review potential candidate applications and select the best 3 out of 9. All committee meetings were posted and were open, although certain portions (discussion of interim administrator candidates and the discussion of the final applicants) were closed.

The committee recommended to Council, and Council approved, hiring a consultant to work with the City's Human Resources staff to help define the job requirements, develop a final job posting – that included a lot of information about Ann Arbor, and screen applications as they arrived through interviews and background checks. The consultant came to Ann Arbor and met with staff members, City Council members, and various community members to better define the job expectations. With City Council approval, the consultant posted the job (Council members edited the job description first).

I hope you watched the presentations or came to meet the candidates while they were here. The City Administrator implements all policies, develops the budget, and works closely with staff. If we select a good administrator, communications and cooperation within the City as a workplace will improve.

Council members discussed their

the local creeksheds, and eventually reaches the Huron

According to a [2009 analysis of Ann Arbor's trees](#), about 65 million gallons of stormwater is captured and slowed by street trees. The contract is for \$301,475 from the stormwater fund.

## The Urban County

There's a resolution to renew Ann Arbor's participation in the Washtenaw Urban County. This resolution extends the agreement, instead of ending on June 30, 2012, it will be extended to June 30, 2015. [Urban Co Cooperative Agreement Template.pdf](#)

In April, 2008 the City entered into a three-year Cooperative Agreement with Washtenaw County for participation in the Washtenaw Urban County to access funds under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program, and Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) Program.

There is a lot of pressure on local governments to consolidate services, as regional cooperation continues to be explored and implemented. The joint office of Community Development has been in operation since September, 2004 and there have been a number of significant service improvements (and service retentions) in an area (human services) with shrinking funding.

## Granting Sewer Service Outside City Limits to 1643 S. State Street (Biercamp)

Did you read about the sausage-making company that was stuck in limbo because the owners rented property in a township island – not in the City? They needed city-water and city-sanitary sewer attachments, but that wasn't enough. The planned zoning for the parcel would not allow them to open; they needed to be rezoned. City staff and the property owner have been working together to rezone and annex the property into the City, but in the

thoughts, impressions, and

meantime, they weren't connected to water.

[Subscribe to List](#)

[View Past Issues](#)

[RSS](#)

[translate](#)



+1



Like

C

expectations at an open working session **last Wednesday (July 13)**, after meeting with the final two candidates. It's possible that a consensus candidate will be identified and that the Council will pass a resolution to offer the position to one of the two candidates interviewed. The Council meets on Monday.

If you have opinions, please share them with me before Monday's meeting. And I want to thank those individuals who have already talked or written to me with their viewpoints. I appreciate your wise words.

It turns out that the property already had city-water [1643 S State water service 1937 approval info.pdf](#); and although the property owner owed some improvement fees, all fees have now been paid. The resolution calls for allowing the sanitary sewer system to be connected to the property while it goes through the rezoning and annexation.

The property owners even paid for sidewalk improvements.

**[Biercamp Atisan Sausage is now open, next to the Produce Station.](#)**

Here's the entire [agenda](#).

[follow on Twitter](#) | [friend on Facebook](#) | [forward to a friend](#)

[unsubscribe from this list](#) | [update subscription preferences](#)

Sent to <<Email Address>> — [why did I get this?](#)  
[unsubscribe from this list](#) | [update subscription preferences](#)  
Sabra Briere, Ann Arbor City City Council · 1418 Broadway · Ann Arbor, MI 48105

