



CITY OF TRAVERSE CITY MICHIGAN

2016 PERFORMANCE

A report to the Community
highlighting some of the
City's accomplishments
from 2016



Happy New Year!

As we enter into the year 2017, we, and the City staff, would like to point out some of the accomplishments of 2016. It has been a year of place-making, and connectivity, with many changes ranging from a new look on Garland Street to the completion of the Pine Street Pedestrian Bridge connecting Front Street to the Warehouse District.

In 2016, the Arts Commission selected an artist to design a sculpture to be installed in Lay Park in memory of Bryan Crough, who was key in establishing Downtown Traverse City as we know it today. The City welcomed a new Parks and Recreation Superintendent, we set a goal to power 100% of City Operations with renewable energy, and many other things as detailed in this report.

Through public and private investments, Traverse City continues with the idea of place-making; Establishing Traverse City as the World Class City you enjoy, and many of your family and friends visit every year to appreciate.

It is because of you, and for you, that the many dedicated staff members of the City serve diligently and with integrity. We appreciate so many of you who serve on the various Boards and Commissions, dedicating your time and resources to your community.

We look ahead to 2017 with anticipation and excitement for our growing community.

Marty Colburn
City Manager



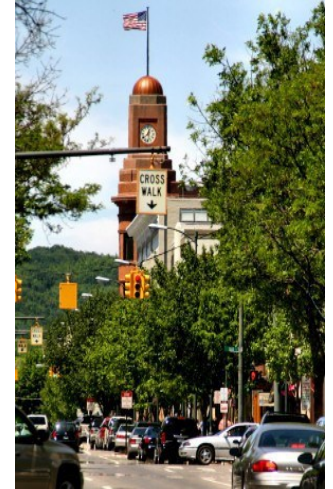
Jim Carruthers
Mayor





WHO WE ARE

Local government in Traverse City serves members of the community in many ways - police and fire protection, water and sewer systems, street maintenance, parks and recreation activities, and much more. Traverse City government plays a major role in daily life, but what are some things the local government accomplishes over the course of a year? And, how do these actions impact our residents? This booklet highlights some of the City's accomplishments from 2016 in the categories of infrastructure investments, operations, governance, how we are working to secure our future; and finally, accolades from various publications highlighting Traverse City.



Form of Government

The City of Traverse City operates under a Commission-Manager form of government. The Mayor and City Commissioners are elected officials who set broad policy direction for the City. The City Manager is appointed by the City Commission to handle the day-to-day administrative duties of the City.

City Commission

The City Commission consists of a Mayor and six Commissioners. Commissioners are elected to four-year terms, staggered every two years. The Mayor is elected every two years and is the presiding officer of the Commission. The City Commission acts on business at regularly scheduled meetings held on the first and third Monday of each month.



City Manager

The City Manager advises the Commission and makes recommendations on matters related to the operation of the City, including responsibility for overseeing all departments and staff.

Citizen Participation

The City of Traverse City relies on citizen participation on various Commission Advisory Boards and Committees. The advice received from these groups assists the City Commission and City Administration in making Traverse City the best place to call home. Citizens can provide the special talents and experience needed to meet the diversity of challenges facing the community today and in the future.

WHO DO I CALL?

City Clerk - (231) 922-4480

www.traversecitymi.gov/clerk.asp

tcclerk@traversecitymi.gov

Contact for general information, elections, voter registration, permits, special events, public information/records, City Commission and Board meeting information, ordinances/policies/regulations.

City Assessor - (231) 922-4450

tcassessor@traversecitymi.gov

Contact this department for information regarding property valuation, ownership questions, tax legal descriptions, as well questions regarding the Principal Residence Exemption Program, also known as the Homestead tax exemption.

Police Department - (231) 995-5150

<http://www.traversecitymi.gov/police.asp>

The Police Department has established community policing, with police officers designated to specific areas of the City where they build relationships within sectors of the community. The Police Department's top priority is to protect the people.

Engineering - (231) 922-4460

<http://www.traversecitymi.gov/engineering.asp>

Contact this office for stormwater drainage and soil erosion, historical information regarding the location of utilities, public construction projects, requests to conduct work over the public right-of-way and questions regarding public infrastructure.

Human Resources - (231) 922-4481

citypers@traversecitymi.gov

Contact this office for Employment Opportunities within the City Offices.

Traverse City Parking Services - (231) 922-0241 parking@downtowntc.com

Contact this office for questions regarding public parking in downtown Traverse City, including public parking garages, metered lots and on-street parking.

City Manager - (231) 922-4440

tcmanage@traversecitymi.gov

This is the Central Administrative Office with oversight of City Government. Contact for City departments, suggestions, feedback or concerns regarding City services.

Finance/Treasurer/Utilities - (231) 922-4430

jhenderson@traversecitymi.gov

Contact this office for water, sewer and electric utility accounts, payment for property taxes, and the City Budget or the allocation of City funds in general.

Department of Public Services - (231) 922-4900

dgreen@traversecitymi.gov

This department is responsible for Parks and Recreation, City street/sidewalk maintenance, water and sewer infrastructure maintenance, treatment and distribution of public water, Clinch Marina, and Hickory Hills.

Fire Department - (231) 922-4930

tcfire@tcfire.org

The Fire Department provides all emergency life safety services; fire suppression, medical advanced life support, water rescue and hazardous materials response. Contact the Fire Department for fire code rules, inspections and public education programs.

Planning and Zoning - (231) 922-4460

<http://www.traversecitymi.gov/planning.asp>

This office oversees the look and feel of Traverse City. Contact this office for items such as: land use permits, planning and development, code enforcement, zoning information/rules regarding permissible land use.

Downtown Development Authority - (231) 922-2050

info@downtowntc.com

The Downtown Development Authority works to create a vibrant downtown. Contact this office for questions regarding downtown in general.

Traverse City Light and Power - (231) 922-4940

website@tclp.org

Contact Traverse City Light and Power regarding public electric power, outages, issues and lighting.



CITY of
TRAVERSE CITY

TRAVERSE CITY

AT A GLANCE

- ◆ Resident Population: 14,572 (2010 census)
- ◆ Daytime Population: 33,050 (2010 Census)
- ◆ Micropolitan Statistical Area population: 143,372
- ◆ Area: 8.33 Square Miles
- ◆ Persons/Sq. Mile: 1,762
- ◆ Housing Units: 7,358 (2010)
- ◆ Median Value of Owner-Occupied Housing: \$182,300



Ms. Tiponya Woodcox playing the piano downtown.



- ◆ Median Household Income: \$43,759
- ◆ Per Capita Income: \$28,872
- ◆ Legal Status: Home Rule Charter City
- ◆ Incorporated: May 18, 1895
- ◆ Government: City Commission—Manager

City Commission's Mission Statement:

The mission of the Traverse City City Commission is to guide the preservation and development of the City's infrastructure, services, and planning based on extensive participation by its citizens coupled with the expertise of the City's staff. The Commission will both lead and serve Traverse City in developing a vision for sustainability and the future that is rooted in the hopes and input of its citizens and organizations, as well as cooperation from surrounding units of government.



COMMUNITY AMENITIES

AND ENHANCEMENTS

- Invested \$1,880,000 in the Garland Street Reconstruction Project to connect Garland Street from Hall Street to Union Street – creating the City’s first curb-less street.



- The Pine Street Pedestrian Bridge was completed including plaza areas, landscaping, lighting and electrical undergrounding, connecting West Front Street to the Warehouse District.
- Purchased 14 multi-space pay stations for \$184,417.00 for increased security and ease of payment.
- Entered a two year agreement with Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District to have a police officer at all campuses during the school year to improve the safety of students.
- Received a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant, and worked with professional consultants and stakeholders to prepare site plans for improvements and enhancements for Hickory Hills Park, to continue providing passive recreation while protecting natural areas, wildlife habitat and scenic views.
- Partnered with the Detroit Institute of Art and the Downtown Development Authority to bring the Inside Out Street Art Program to Traverse City.
- Collaborated with Traverse Area Community Rowing to provide a community rowing program at Hull Park.
- Passed a Resolution of Support for the Traverse City to Charlevoix Trail to increase access to recreational trails.
- The Arts Commission and the Art Selection Panel accepted proposals and chose a finalist to construct a Memorial Sculpture in memory of Bryan Crough.





SECURING OUR FUTURE

- Sold 517 Wellington and 519 Franklin to Safe Harbor to be used as an emergency shelter facility to provide shelter to those in need within the City.
- Established the Adopt-A-Commissioner program to connect local High School students to our City Commissioners promoting community involvement in local government.
- Set a goal to have 100% of City operations to be powered by renewable energy by 2020.
- Invested in the Cross Connection Control Program to prevent water contamination.
- Allocated \$235,879 for the Lead Gooseneck Replacement Project, replacing 36 lead connections to improve the quality and safety of our drinking water.
- Commissioned a Transportation Demand Study to better understand the transportation trends and needs of the City.
- The Microbiology Lab at the Water Treatment Plant passed inspection and was recertified by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), attesting to the City's safe practices for providing healthy drinking water.
- Passed an ordinance regarding impervious surface limits to protect our waters from polluted run-off.
- Acquired a grant from the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians for almost \$10,000 to purchase water rescue personal protective equipment to increase the Fire Department's safety on the water.
- Agreed to partner with the Boardman River Implementation Team and the Great Lakes Fishery Commission to redesign the Union Street Dam to create a clear native fish passageway and deter invasive species to protect the Great Lakes.



GOVERNANCE

As a City, we approved over 160 Licenses and Permits, Including:



Tourist
Homes
17

48
Special
Events

Second-hand
Stores
10

- Adopted 8 Traffic Control Orders to increase public safety on our streets.
- Processed over 6,500 voter registration transactions including moves within and outside of the City.
- Planned, organized and conducted 3 elections, executing extensive legal and procedural requirements to ensure proper and efficient conduct.
- Organized and provided meaningful information for over 45 official sessions of the City Commission for it to make sound decisions and to support open access and transparency in our government.
- Provided responses to several requests under the Freedom of Information Act to properly disclose City records.
- Added 14 employees to our City Offices in new and replacement positions.
- Addressed over 500 code and enforcement complaints to ensure compliance with ordinances aimed at preserving quality of life in the City.
- Coordinated several Mayoral Proclamations for various events and awards throughout the City.

INFRASTRUCTURE

INVESTMENTS

- Invested over \$4 million to reconstruct streets, replace water mains, sanitary sewer systems, curbs, gutters and sidewalks throughout the City to improve safety, functionality and walkability.
- Devoted \$252,776 of the Stormwater and Wastewater (SAW) Grant to an additional 110,000 feet of sewer pipe cleaning and televising.
- Allocated \$105,000 to the 8th Street Corridor Design Charrette to discuss proposed plans for the reconstruction of 8th Street.
- Invested over \$82,362 for the painting of centerlines, edge lines, legends, crosswalks and parking areas to keep drivers, bikers and pedestrians safe.
- Designated \$100,000 to the construction and paving of 85 parking spaces in Lot V on West Front Street to increase access to parking for residents and visitors.
- Contracted with a professional company for catch basin cleaning and storm filter system work to keep our waters and environment clean.
- Replaced equipment at the Water Treatment Plant to secure reliability in the water treatment process.
- Authorized a nearly \$3.2 Million option agreement for wastewater treatment plant technology upgrades to protect our natural resources and pristine waters.
- Devoted \$41,199 for assistance in bridge design for South Cass St. Bridge to improve safety for motorists and pedestrians.



Invested
\$1,486,422
for replacement
vehicles and
equipment
for the Streets,
Police, and
Public Service
Departments

Utilized
\$231,068
on more than
165,900
gallons of fuel to
run City vehicles
and equipment



OPERATIONS

- Re-established the Human Resources Director position to better serve all City staff.
- Planted 189 new trees, and pruned 646 existing trees City-wide to improve aesthetic and environmental aspects.
- Provided over 2.1 billion gallons of quality drinking water to our City and bulk water customers (including surrounding townships).
- Began a monthly, two-year baseline water quality analytical testing program to confirm that the Chloride Sulfate Mass Ratio (corrosive properties) of the drinking water is within the acceptable limit.
- Began a monthly, two-year raw water testing program to measure the presence of cryptosporidium, giardia, and e. coli in the untreated water of East Bay.
- Appointed or reappointed over 30 members to various City Boards and Committees.
- Added a new Rescue Fire Engine to the Fire Department's Fleet to replace one that has been in service for 20 years.
- Re-evaluated and updated the City's property and liability coverage to protect the City's assets and financial position.
- Replaced 241 utility poles to safely distribute electricity to City residents.



DO YOU WANT TO BE INVOLVED?

- If you would like to learn more about, or become involved with, the various City boards and committees that help make these decisions and facilitate these accomplishments, please visit our website, and submit an "Application to Become Involved"

<http://www.traverscitymi.gov/boards.asp>

ACCOLADES

“One of the Most Beautiful Towns in America” -CONDE NAST TRAVELER (Jan 2016)

“The Midwest’s Greatest Town” -MIDWEST LIVING (July 2016)

“The Best American Beach Towns for July Fourth” -COASTAL LIVING (May 2016)

“The 25 Best Places to Retire in 2016” -COASTAL LIVING (April 2016)

“One of America’s Favorite Towns” -TRAVEL & LEISURE (April 2016)

“One of the Best Small Towns in America” -ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST (October 2016)

“Official Runner Friendly Community” -ROAD RUNNERS CLUB OF AMERICA (2016-2021)

Number of calls the TC
Police Department
responded to:

12,207

\$566,000

Sold in Downtown
Gift Certificates—
Setting a new record!

Attendance at Hickory
Hills for 2015/2016 Ski
Season:

10,525

Traverse City scored 75 out of 100 for the 2016 Municipal Equality Index – rating based on non-discrimination laws, the municipality as an employer, municipal services, law enforcement, and the public position of the City leadership on equality.





TRAVERSE CITY

CITY of
TRAVERSE CITY

Governmental Center
400 Boardman Avenue
Traverse City, MI 49684

Phone: 231-922-4480

Fax: 231-922-4485

E-mail: tcclerk@traverscitymi.gov

Web: www.traverscitymi.gov

THE PERFORMANCE 2016




Jill Rosen-Walton
July 2010

Connect with the City of Traverse City on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube!

