

2017

A look back at the highlights and accomplishments over the past year.

City of Traverse City Performance



Table of Contents

Page 3	Letter from City Manager and Mayor
Page 4	Securing Our Future
Page 5	Community Enhancements
Page 6	Infrastructure Investments
Page 8	Governance
Page 9	City Operations
Page 10	Accolades/Raising the Bar
Page 11	Directory of City Officials
Page 12	Let's Connect!



Happy New Year!

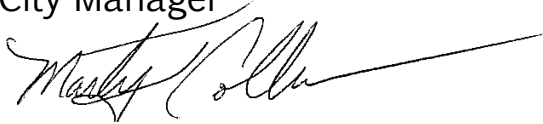
As the year 2018 draws upon us, we would like to take the opportunity to reflect on what has been done in 2017. It has been a year of artistic exploration, as well as infrastructural and operational improvement. Seeing the completion of the Bryan Crough Memorial as part of Lay Park improvements, and working to further design the Boardman Lake Loop for increased connectivity, we are working hard to enhance the community atmosphere of Traverse City.

Along with some aesthetic updates, in order to make the voting process more efficient, the City adjusted precinct boundaries to prevent overcrowding at busy polling places. The City also allocated close to \$4,000,000 to improve City sidewalks, repair City streets, and complete other infrastructure projects in order to increase the walkability, health and safety of the community for our citizens and our visitors.

It is the people like yourselves that drive us, as well as the City Staff, to work diligently to create a safe environment to live, work and play, not only for today, but for the future generations of Traverse City.

2018 surely holds more growth and development for our community!

Marty Colburn
City Manager



Jim Carruthers
Mayor



Securing Our Future



- Utilizing the expertise of the City's Green Team, advanced the City Commission's commitment to having City operations supported by 100% renewable energy by 2020.
- Participated in a City Exchange Program with the City of Holland to cultivate a learning environment, leveraging and sharing best practices for City Government.
- Adopted a resolution in support of Traverse City Walks to School Day, setting an example of a healthy lifestyle for our children.
- The Microbiology lab at the Water Treatment Plant tested over 1,700 water samples to keep the City and nearby water supplies safe.
- Installed and began operating a new 1 megawatt solar array as part of the City's continued effort to utilize green energy and promote energy efficiency.
- Replaced 36 lead gooseneck water service connections to support the cleanliness and safety of our drinking water.
- Adopted a revised City Master Plan and Future Land Use Map to guide development and public improvement projects.
- Received Michigan Green Communities Bronze certification, and was awarded a \$3,000 mini-grant to update the lighting at our Marina for increased energy efficiency.
- Established the first LGBTQ Police Officer Liaison to better connect our Police Department with this segment of our community.
- Saved more than 2.4 Million kilowatt hours through various Energy Smart Programs.



Securing Our Future Cont'd

- Worked with local biologists and stakeholders to prepare initial design concepts and conduct public input open houses on FishPass, to enhance fish passage and connectivity between the Boardman River and Lake Michigan, to remove invasive or non-desirable fishes through controlled sorting, in connection with the re-design of the Union Street Dam.
- Adopted a resolution encouraging all Traverse City businesses to provide accessible gender neutral restrooms in our community.
- Completed MDEQ-mandated lead and copper testing of the City's drinking water with excellent results significantly below EPA action levels.

Community Enhancements

- Created a contra-flow bike lane at the intersection of 7th Street and Division, completing the cross-town bike route.
- Partnered with Grand Traverse County, Charter Township of Garfield, and Traverse Area Recreation and Transportation (TART) Trails Inc, to move forward with the completion of the West Boardman Lake Loop project for a continuous trail surrounding Boardman Lake.
- Approved the conceptual project for a mural to be painted at the Open Space, to further the Arts Commission's efforts of placemaking and adding aesthetic interest to existing spaces around the City.
- Provided a more accessible mobile payment option for our City parkers.



Above: Enspire, by DeWitt Godfrey

- The Traverse City Arts Commission partnered with Artist DeWitt Godfrey to design and install Enspire, in honor of the late Bryan Crough, as part of Lay Park Improvements.
- Added 192 new trees to the inventory of more than 11,000 City-wide, to improve the aesthetic and natural environment of the City.
- Approved the construction and installation of a Coast Guard Monument to be placed in Mini Park to spark further improvements at the gateway to Downtown.
- Partnered with Traverse City Light and Power to provide a framework for public art on utility infrastructure throughout the City.

Community Enhancements Cont'd

- Released \$1.5 million in Brown Bridge Trust Funds for park improvements at Hickory Hills including a new lodge and ski terrain, in partnership with the non-profit group, Preserve Hickory.
- Launched the City's official Instagram page to better connect with our younger followers, and bridge the gap between Local Government and the community we serve.
- Made the necessary changes in various City buildings to provide barrier-free entry-ways and facilities, to ensure accessibility for those living with disabilities.

Infrastructure Investments

- Invested over \$400,000 for the Park Street Streetscape project and the mid-block crosswalk project at 300 E. Front Street to promote a consistent appearance for our downtown and walkability along and across Front Street.
- Allocated close to \$75,000 for street edge line and center line markings, parking areas, crosswalks and street legend markings to keep our drivers, bikers and pedestrians safe, including more than 730 pavement markings and more than 81 miles of street lines!
- Partnered with Traverse City Light and Power in the joint funding of the new Garland Street lighting to enliven the street scene by providing a welcoming atmosphere.
- Organized a public engagement effort within the community to help plan and guide the redesign of 1 street, 3 City blocks and 12 public spaces from Park Street to Grandview Parkway as part of the Plan-It East project.
- Invested more than \$420,000 for the Sidewalk Replacement and Gap Infill project to promote safety and walkability throughout the City.



Infrastructure Investments Cont'd

- Constructed and paved Station Street, providing improved connectivity to the North side of Boardman Lake and to the Depot neighborhood.
- Invested over \$765,000 for the 2017 Pavement Preservation Project to keep our streets in top condition.
- With assistance of approximately \$2 Million in grant funds, completed a major condition assessment of our underground City infrastructure, including wastewater, and water systems to assist in better financial planning for maintenance and system reliability.
- Invested \$143,000 to replace coagulant bulk storage tanks at the Water Treatment Plant to secure reliability in the treatment process.
- Allocated \$780,000 for the West Front Street Reconstruction Project, to continue the flow of Front Street from the Downtown area as part of the Corridors Master Plan.
- Conducted walking and biking audits as part of a Safe Routes to School Program for all ten K-8 schools within the City to identify areas of improvement including sidewalks, intersection crossings, traffic calming, and speed limit signs to make the routes to school safer.
- Invested approximately \$650,000 to convert overhead power lines to underground for easier access to the utilities, and to preserve existing mature trees in proximity to the lines.
- Invested close to \$4,000,000 overall, in infrastructure to preserve our City streets and improve our City sidewalks, including the redesign of Park Street along with East and West Front Street.
- Completed Parking Lot D, making the storm water drainage from the parking area environmentally friendly.
- Rebuilt the boat launch in Parking Lot D and added a universal kayak and canoe launch providing greater access to the Boardman River from Downtown.
- Invested \$50,000 to rebuild various water pumps, ensuring the reliability of our water distribution system.
- In cooperation with members of the community, installed a new footbridge at the Brown Bridge Quiet Area for increased accessibility to this great City asset.



Above: Brown Bridge Area Footbridge

Governance

Below: Historic Courthouse



- Ensured the preservation of the night sky by limiting outdoor lighting while permitting reasonable uses for safety and enjoyment.
- Adopted 17 Traffic Control Orders, increasing public safety on our City streets.
- Vetted and reviewed various permits and licenses, including 25 Mobile Food Vendors, 24 Sidewalk Cafes, 132 Liquor Licenses, and more than 50 Special Events.
- Organized and provided comprehensive briefing materials to facilitate over 48 official sessions of the City Commission, supporting open access and transparency of City government deliberations and decisions.
- Prohibited the use of smoking and tobacco products in City parks and beaches, to ensure the safety and health of our community.
- Processed multiple requests for public and HIPAA protected records, ensuring proper protection, access and disclosure of City records.
- The City was issued a “clean audit” report, essentially certifying the accuracy of the City’s financial statements.
- To ensure compliance with ordinances aimed at preserving our quality of life and community character, the City addressed over 350 code enforcement complaints, and conducted more than 500 Rental Housing Inspections.
- Planned, organized, and conducted 2 elections, executing extensive legal and procedural requirements to ensure proper and efficient conduct of elections.
- Processed over 2,500 voter registration transactions, including moves within and outside of the City.
- Adopted a public participation strategy to better facilitate community input on developments and public improvements.
- Reduced the fee for a parking ticket if paid on the date the ticket was issued, to encourage and reward early payment of fines.



Above: The Open Space



Right: Parking Pay Stations

City Operations

- Nearly 40 community volunteers were appointed to various boards/committees to help provide recommendations to our City Commission on a range of City and regional issues.
- Our Water Treatment Plant treated and provided over 1.95 billion gallons of quality drinking water to our City and bulk water customers (*including surrounding townships*).
- Allocated over \$2 Million to update water meters that will allow the City to provide real-time data on our customers' water consumption, providing for clear analysis and better water conservation.
- Negotiated letters of agreement outlining the proper use of City resources, and public safety considerations for the 2018 and 2019 National Cherry Festival, the 2017 Film Festival, and a five-year agreement for the Paddle for Pints events.
- Developed an Asset Management Plan for the City water system to enhance the safety, health and quality of life for our residents through effective management and maintenance of its drinking water infrastructure.
- Adjusted boundary lines of our voting precincts to allow for a more even number of voters within each precinct, alleviating long lines and providing a quicker voting experience at our busier polling locations.
- Replaced 3 in-car computers for Police Patrol cars for increased effectiveness of our Police Force, allowing them to spend more time patrolling and interfacing with our community.
- Retired one K-9 Officer, and added a new K-9 Officer to the Police Force to assist with our Community Policing.
- Established the Director of Municipal Utilities position to more effectively manage the City's water and sewer infrastructure.
- Cleaned 13 miles and televised 10 miles of sewer pipeline as part of our sewer maintenance program.
- Purchased 1,000 tons of bulk salt, and 2,000 tons of road sand for the 2017/2018 winter season to keep our City roads safe and drivable.
- Annually, City Street crews plow snow on 76 miles of City Streets, 25 miles of public alleys, 72 miles of City Sidewalk and 4.6 miles of bike paths within the City.



Drago - 2017
Handler: Adam J. Verschaeve



City Operations Cont'd

- Sold over \$566,000 in Downtown Gift Certificates, helping to promote small businesses and encourage local spending.
- Responded to and remedied over 70 emergency sewer back up calls.
- Committed to investing over \$2 Million to construct a 2 Million Gallon Water Reservoir in order to make necessary repairs to the existing infrastructure at the Barlow Water Treatment Site.
- Invested over \$400,000 for repairs and much needed upgrades to the Department of Public Services Building to ensure the structural integrity of this City resource.
- Renewed a 3-year partnership agreement with the Cherry Capital Airport for our Fire Department to provide firefighting services at the airport.

Accolades – Raising the Bar

- 2017 Strongest Town by Strong Towns for multi-modal transportation, thriving small businesses and natural beauty.
- #1 Best Foodie Town in the Midwest by RewardExpert.
- #4 Best Beach Town to Live In by WalletHub.
- Voted the Prettiest Town in Michigan by MSN's Daily Meal.
- Scored 86 out of 100 (up from 75) for the Municipal Equality Index for non-discrimination laws, municipal services, law enforcement and the City Leadership's public position on equality.

Below: Clinch Park Waterscape



Right:
Coast Guard
Falcon Jet
Static Display



Above: Traverse Area District Library

Directory of City Officials

City Commission

Jim Carruthers, Mayor
Brian Haas, Mayor Pro Tem
Michele Howard
Richard Lewis
Brian McGillivary
Amy Shamroe
Tim Werner

Mayor Pro Tem Gary Howe—term ended November 2017

City Officials

City Manager	Marty Colburn
City Attorney	Lauren Tribble-Laucht
City Clerk	Benjamin Marentette
City Treasurer	William E. Twietmeyer

Department Directors

City Assessor	Polly Cairns
Director of Municipal Utilities	Arthur Krueger
City Engineer	Timothy Lodge
Police Chief	Jeffrey O'Brien
Fire Chief	James Tuller
Planning Director	Russell Soyring
Human Resources Director	Kristine Bosley
Light & Power Executive Director	Tim Arends



Let's Connect!

Follow @CityofTC

