

PORTAGER

A Natural Place to Move



A Message from Mayor Patricia M. Randall

As we enter the most colorful time of the year, may we embrace the splendor of the season. Only through the contrast of colors – red, yellow, brown, green, and orange – can we appreciate the greatest beauty. Lessons for life, I am sure. The older I get, the more I love fall.

Speaking of aging, the month of September was National Senior Citizens Month. The City of Portage celebrated the historic groundbreaking of our new Charles and Lynn Zhang Portage Community Senior Center. I would like to take this opportunity to bring you up to date on this exciting project.

Through an innovative private-public collaboration – Engage, Empower, Enrich – this vision will become a reality! A special thank you to Sarah Baker and Jim Stephanak who served as fundraising campaign co-chairs, leading a cabinet of thirty community members. These individuals worked hard to secure private dollars needed to fund this campaign. The cost of the entire project is \$12.5 million. To date, the private fundraising has reached \$4.2 million with additional funding pending the outcome of various grant applications, including a \$2 million grant via the federal government CARES Act. There are still opportunities for citizens to financially support this endeavor through room naming opportunities, dedicated furniture or equipment purchases and/or general giving. Our Donor Recognition Wall will celebrate the generosity of the community. Details can be found at e3.portagemi.gov. Proceeds from the potential sale of the existing Senior Center may also be used to support

the project. Additional project funding is available via the City of Portage Capital Improvement Program budget.

The new center will be located at 203 East Centre Avenue. The building will be strategically located on this site, allowing access from both Centre Avenue and Brown Street. Plans are in place to support a city hub/centrum to connect to surrounding businesses, the Portage District Library, City Hall, and our bike trails. I envision this to be a “mecca” where all can come and be included. The connectivity piece is important.

As our senior population increases, it is important to create a place where older adults can come together to stay connected and participate in activities that will keep them healthy and independent. The Portage Senior Center has demonstrated a commitment to being on the leading edge of innovative programming and has achieved national recognition by becoming the first center in Michigan to be accredited by the National Council on Aging and the National Institute of Senior Centers. This means that programs and operations are held to the highest standards in the industry. Our senior center is a special place that provides programs and activities to promote personal growth, health, friendship and independence for adults aged 50 and older. This legacy will continue in the new center as it becomes a vibrant destination for older adults in our region. More than 40% of current members of our senior center come from outside of Portage, which illustrates the need for this type of facility reaches beyond the boundaries of our city.

We are looking forward to everything that will be offered in the new facility which, at 36,000 square feet, is approximately five times the size of the current building.

There will be a large main floor, as well as a second floor and expanded basement area. The architectural design has been entrusted to Byce & Associates, and the construction will be done by American Village Builders. We are proud to be supporting local firms.

Some highlights of this building include:

- » Expanded program space including flexible classrooms
- » Central café with seating both indoors and out
- » Commercial kitchen designed for meal prep, cooking classes and rentals
- » Fitness center
- » Performing arts area
- » Active space for pickleball, group exercise classes, and volleyball
- » Quiet space for yoga, book groups, and relaxation
- » Flexible lease space that will allow community organizations, interested in partnering with the City of Portage, to help provide services such as Medicare counseling, legal clinic, health clinics, massage therapy, and more!

The City Council is supporting this project because we believe our community needs to champion all people, including older adults. If this pandemic has taught me one thing, it is that isolation has effects on both mental and physical health. For seniors, isolation is an ongoing challenge with real health implications. The value we place on one of our most vulnerable populations speaks greatly to the type of community we are. As Mayor, I look forward to walking—together—through our new, state of the art Senior Center in late fall 2021, healthy and mask-free!

– Patricia M. Randall



From the Desk of City Manager Joe La Margo

A Natural Place to Move! It is a great slogan for the City of Portage and a brand that defines us as a community. The exact definition and interpretation varies from person to person and can lead to challenges when tasked with managing this beautiful city.

As city staff, we receive many conflicting points of view on various topics, and it is our job to shepherd the city with policies and ordinances that preserve the things that make our community special. We strive to get it right, knowing that not everyone will be satisfied all the time. Recently, a tree ordinance was developed to preserve existing wooded acres from clear-cutting by developers. This was in reaction to the practice being exercised, and citizen concern over the loss of habitat, newly created water issues and environmental concerns that can negatively impact our quality of life. They are a big part of what attracted each of us to Portage, and they are essential factors in what will attract new businesses, developments, and even more residents to our city.

We studied the issue by reviewing tree ordinances from neighboring communities and legal precedents in the courts regarding this issue. We also formed a committee of local builders and citizens to listen and learn of their concerns regarding a future ordinance. After compiling this information, we drafted a new tree ordinance presented to our Planning Commission last month. Despite the best intentions, many people felt the tree ordinance, as presented, was not in their vision of Portage.

Based on the feedback, I directed city staff to withdraw the current tree ordinance from further consideration by the Planning Commission. I acknowledge and appreciate the time our volunteer members of the Planning Commission put into this effort. I thank my staff for their time and energy put forth into writing this proposed ordinance. Most importantly, I thank the citizens who emailed, called in, or attended a public meeting to convey their perspectives. We listened, we learned, and we have paused on the tree ordinance.

– Joe La Margo, City Manager

Lake Center District Area Master Plan Ideas Ready to Be Presented

The Lake Center District Area is an important part of the community. The rarity of not one, but two lakefronts, presents unique development opportunities that most communities desire. The Lake Center District Area runs along Portage Road between Osterhout and East Centre Avenue. A sound Master Plan for the future of the Lake Center District Area that benefits the community, affected property owners and businesses is essential.

The city hired Farr Associates, a planning firm that specializes in urban, mixed-use, pedestrian-friendly developments, to help reimagine the Lake Center District Area as a destination corridor. To ensure that the Lake Center District Area was represented, the city assembled a Steering Committee made up of area business owners, developers and residents to help guide the city and consultant through the planning process.

To help shape the plan’s recommendations, several activities were undertaken. Two community workshops were held on February 10, 2020 to discuss the future of the Lake Center District Area with business owners and residents. Altogether, nearly 225 individuals representing the business community and residents attended the sessions. Also, a planning/placemaking virtual workshop was held on July 22, 2020, that provided an opportunity for the public to learn about the methodologies that Farr Associates would use to develop conceptual plan options for the Lake Center District Area. Throughout this time, the city invited public input to advise the direction of the work being accomplished. Approximately 75 residents provided the city with input using an online comment form or via email.

As another opportunity for public input, a three-day charrette was held on August 5 - 7, 2020. Farr Associates presented several initial design concept options based on all

of the public input received to that point. As part of the charrette, the public was invited to participate in an online survey to glean opinions about specific design options. Finally, the public was able to attend an open house to view the proposed ideas, ask city staff and the consultants questions and provide more feedback on the concepts.

Then, using all of the insights gained through Steering Committee meetings, public meetings, written comments surveys and the open house, Farr Associates staff returned to their offices to work on the Lake Center District Area Master Plan, which will include several options for the city to consider. The planning documents, which include drawings and design options to help reimagine the Lake Center District Area as a destination corridor, has been prepared and is ready to be shared with the community.

On October 14, 2020, at 6 PM, the public is invited to participate in a public meeting at which Farr Associates will present options for the Lake Center District Area Master Plan. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the number of people that can assemble indoors is limited to no more than ten. As a result, the Farr Associates presentation will be broadcast live on Cable Access (Spectrum channel 995 and AT&T U-verse channel 99) and live-streamed at portagemi.gov/205. To voice a question or make a comment in real-time, please call (844) 854-2222 and enter Access Code 529853#. When prompted, press *6 to enter the queue.

Following the Farr Associates presentation on October 14, the proposals for the Lake Center District Area



Interested residents review planning concepts at the three-day Lake Center District Area three-day charrette in August.

Master Plan will be available for public review and comment for ten days. The planning documents will be available at portagemi.gov/721, as well as at Portage City Hall (7900 South Westnedge Avenue), Monday through Friday, 9 AM to 4 PM. Public comment and feedback will be received before any plan is finalized.



Fire Prevention Week is October 4 - 10

The week of October 4 - 10 is designated Fire Prevention Week for 2020. Since 1922, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has sponsored the public observance of Fire Prevention Week. In 1925, President Calvin Coolidge proclaimed Fire Prevention Week a national observance, making it the longest-running public health observance

in the country. The 2020 Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen" works to educate everyone about the small but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe.

According to NFPA, cooking is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries in the United States. Thanksgiving is the leading day for fires involving cooking equipment. The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking. Follow these tips to keep your home and loved-ones safe in the kitchen:

- » Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, boiling, grilling, or broiling food.
- » If you are simmering, baking, or roasting food, check it regularly and stay inside the home.
- » Always keep a lid nearby when cooking. If a small grease

- fire starts, slide the lid over the pan and turn off the burner. Leave the pan covered until it's cool.
- » Keep anything that can catch fire away from your stove top.
- » Loose clothing can hang down onto stove burners and catch fire. Wear short, close-fitting, or tightly rolled sleeves when cooking.
- » Have a "kid-free zone" of at least 3 feet around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

Due to COVID-19 precautions, the Portage Department of Public Safety is unable to hold its traditional open house this year. Watch our Facebook pages for fire prevention tips throughout the week of October 4 - 10.

For general information about Fire Prevention Week and home escape planning, visit www.fpw.org.

Fall Collection Reminders

Quarterly Curbside Brush Collection

The October Quarterly Curbside Brush Collection program is underway. Brush collection began in the first neighborhood zone on Monday, September 28 and will continue through the remaining three zones through the week of October 19.

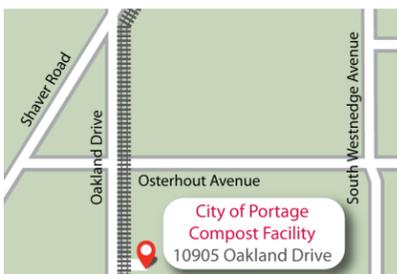
The collection of brush occurs only once in each neighborhood zone. The schedule below shows the week that each neighborhood zone collection begins.

Zone	Collection Begins
Zone 1 - Northwest Quadrant	Monday, September 28
Zone 2 - Southwest Quadrant	Monday, October 5
Zone 3 - Southeast Quadrant	Monday, October 12
Zone 4 - Northeast Quadrant	Monday, October 19

Each neighborhood zone will be cleared of brush by the end of the designated week. Visit www.portagemi.gov/280 to view complete program details.

Brush Drop-off Day

The City of Portage Compost Facility, located at 10905 Oakland Drive, will be open from 8 AM - 12 PM on Saturday, October 24. Residents can drop off brush for no additional fee. Proof of residency (driver's license) is required to participate in drop-off day.



Fall Leaf Collection Program

The annual Fall Leaf Collection Program will begin on Monday, October 26 in Zone 1. Complete program details and a collection map were provided to residents in the September Portager newsletter.

The Fall Leaf Collection Program includes collection of leaves along public streets in each zone. Leaf collection will occur three times in each zone or until prohibited by weather. ONLY loose leaves or leaves bagged in biodegradable paper bags will be collected. **There is NO burn period in Portage. Burning of leaves is not permitted at any time.** Visit www.portagemi.gov/282 to review program details and use the handy [Address Locator Tool](#) to view your three collection dates.

These programs are not performed for commercial establishments, churches or schools or on private streets (unless every property owner on a private street has signed an indemnification form).

Questions concerning any of these programs can be addressed by calling the Department of Public Works at 329-4444.

Be a Property Steward!

Keep Drainage Grates Clear

Quick intense rainstorms and winter snow can cause water ponding on streets, especially when drainage grates are clogged. It is easy to overlook the buildup of lawn clippings, falling leaves and debris deposited in the street gutter and on street drainage grates.



The Portage Department of Transportation & Utilities reminds residents of their civic responsibility to inspect and clean street gutters and storm drainage grates abutting their property on a regular basis. Please follow these simple rules:

- » Don't blow grass clippings, leaves or debris into the street. Water carries these materials down the gutter to the nearest drainage grate.
- » Periodically inspect grates near your property and remove accumulated debris. Major maintenance needs can be reported to Transportation & Utilities at 329-4422.
- » Never pour used motor oil, chemicals or foreign substances into drainage grates or street gutters.
- » Never use a street drainage basin as a "garbage collector" or dumpster for pet waste.

These simple preventative actions will keep storm sewers functioning at a maximum level, minimize water ponding in the street abutting your property and keep your property looking pleasant.

Experience the Last Days of the 2020 Portage Farmers Market

Sundays, 10 AM – 2 PM Through October 25

Thank you to all of the patrons, vendors and volunteers who have made the Portage Farmers Market a success in 2020! As we enter the final month for the market this year, enjoy more fall produce and products. During October, you can expect to find a pumpkin cart, apples, squash, potatoes, garlic, apple cider and other fall produce. You will also find a large variety of baked goods, fall-themed crafts, soaps, mittens, fiber goods, ready-to-eat food and more.

When at the market, please remember to practice social distancing, refrain from touching products and produce and use the designated entrance and exit. In response to the COVID-19 mandates, **everyone inside the market area is required to wear a face covering.** Please ask a Park Ranger or Market Staff for a mask if you require one. The limit of 150 patrons in the market at one time remains in effect and the market continues to provide vendors and patrons with access to a hand-washing station and hand sanitizer.

The Portage Farmers Market is Fresh, Rain or Shine every Sunday from 10 AM – 2 PM in City Hall parking lot (7900 South Westnedge Avenue). The last market day of the season is October 25, so don't miss out! For more information please contact farmmkt@portagemi.gov or call 324-9237.



I Love Portage Essay Contest!

Students! Do you have a passion for Portage? Tell us about it! Mayor Randall and the City Council may select you to virtually "flip the switch" to light the annual holiday lights in the Portage City Centre on December 1.

Submit a one-page essay about why you love Portage – your favorite places to go or fun things to do in Portage – and what makes Portage *A Natural Place to Move!* Entries should include you:

- » Name
- » Mailing Address
- » Phone Number (so that we can contact you should your essay be selected)
- » Grade in School
- » School Name

The entry deadline is Friday, November 6. City Council will read all of the submitted essays and determine the winner (or winners!) The winning author(s) will have the opportunity to participate in kicking off the holiday festivities at the 2020 "Virtual" Traditional Holiday & Tree Lighting Celebration on December 1 at 7 PM during the City Council Meeting.

Submit entries by US Mail or deliver to:

I Love Portage Essay Contest
City of Portage
7900 South Westnedge Avenue
Portage, MI 49002

You may also email your essay to: thomasm@portagemi.gov



YOUR BACKYARD IS BIGGER THAN YOU THINK

Ping Pong League

Ping pong is great low impact sport for any athlete! Come play and meet new friends in our recreational ping pong league. Two 10-week sessions are offered. All games for both sessions will start at 6 and 7 PM. To register, visit mypark.portagemi.gov and click on the purple Recreation Activities & Facility Rentals button.

- » Session 1: Wednesdays, October 7 – December 16 (No session Wednesday, November 25)
Registration is open and closes October 2
- » Session 2: Wednesdays, January 6 – March 10
Registration opens November 9 and closes December 18
- » Schrier Park (850 West Osterhout Avenue)
- » \$30 per player

Monster Mash

Portage Parks & Recreation will host the very popular Monster Mash at Ramona Park! To comply with COVID-19 restrictions, this event will be held "drive-in" style. Families can drive through the spooky forest and trick-or-treat without ever leaving the safety of their cars. At dusk (approximately 7:25 PM), the classic *Hocus Pocus* show on the drive-in movie screen. Parking, beginning at 6 PM, is limited and will be first-come, first-served. Concessions will be available for purchase from!



- » Saturday, October 17, 3 - 7 PM | Movie starts at dusk
- » Ramona Park (8600 South Sprinkle Road)
- » FREE

Junior Ranger Earn-A-Badge

Calling all Junior Rangers! Work on your Ranger apprenticeship with these 60-minute Earn-A-Badge workshops. These sessions are focused on helping Junior Ranger apprentices complete the requirements to earn badges towards becoming an official Junior Ranger. Rangers and staff will help kids and their families complete these activities. Each session will be dedicated to one Badge. To register, visit mypark.portagemi.gov and click on the purple Recreation Activities & Facility Rentals button. Registration deadline is one week before each workshop.

- » October 21: Survival Badge, 6 - 7 PM
- » November 18: Health Badge, 6 - 7 PM
- » Stuart Manor (7340 Garden Lane)
- » FREE

Portage Parks & Recreation Events, Camps & Classes

1,000 Acres. 18 Parks. One City.

To find out more and register online, visit mypark.portagemi.gov and click the purple Recreation Activities & Facility Rentals button.

Recreation Activities & Facility Rentals

John Ball Zoo Program - Habitats

Meet animals and discover how they meet their basic needs in different types of habitats, from deserts to wetlands.

- » Schrier Park (850 West Osterhout Avenue)
- » Saturday, November 14, 10 AM
- » FREE



Ranger Fall Color Hike

Take a stroll through Schrier Park and the Eliason Nature Reserve during the beauty of the fall season. Gather leaves along the way to make fall inspired art with the Kalamazoo Book Arts Club!

- » Sunday, November 1, 2 PM
- » Schrier Park (850 West Osterhout Avenue)
- » FREE



Portage Parks Photo Contest

Along with the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts and the Arts Council of Kalamazoo, Portage Parks & Recreation is seeking



submissions of photos from all seasons. Winning photos will be selected from four categories: Seasonal Changes; Outdoor Recreation; Flora, Fauna & Wildlife; and Youth (14 years and under). Photos must be taken in a City of Portage park by June 14, 2021. Limit three entries per category, per person. Photos will be judged by a panel of area photography professionals with prizes awarded for first, second and third place in each category. Entry costs are \$10 for up to three entries per category, except Youth; \$5 for up to three entries in the Youth category (i.e., maximum \$30 for nine entries). Prizes: 1st - \$75; 2nd - \$35 and 3rd - \$25 for each of the four categories. Visit mypark.portagemi.gov and navigate to the Parks Programs & Events page for full category descriptions and complete contest rules.



- » October 1 - June 14
- » \$10 per Entry

Holiday Card Walk at Celery Flats

Deliver cards by November 9 to the Department of Public Works (7719 South Westnedge Avenue)

Area groups, clubs, families and organizations annually provide seasonal "cards" to create the Holiday Card Walk along walkways in the Celery Flats Historical Area on Garden Lane. Cards should depict a winter, non-denominational holiday theme and be painted on a 4' x 8' sheet of plywood; minimum 1/2 inch thick, painted white on the backside and be able to withstand outdoor weather conditions. The

Sea Serpent Drawing Winner

Thank you to those who participated in the first-ever Ramona Sea Serpent Egg Hunt. Following the clues the serpent left behind, Portage resident Keya P. drew her vision of what she thought the reptile may have looked like from the fabled tale of 1901. Congratulations to Keya for her winning drawing! Rumor has it that the Sea Serpent may return. Stay tuned for details in 2021!



cards will be installed in an upright vertical position. Cards must be delivered by November 9 to the Department of Public Works (7719 South Westnedge Avenue), Monday through Friday, 9 AM to 3 PM. Cards can be picked up after January 8, 2021. Any cards remaining after January 25 may be disposed of by the city.



Holiday Tree Walk at Celery Flats

New for this holiday season, Portage Parks & Recreation will host the Holiday Tree Walk to compliment the Holiday Card Walk at Celery Flats. What better way to spread holiday cheer than decorating your very own themed tree as part of the Holiday Card Walk?

Parks & Recreation will offer trees in the Celery Flats Historical Area to local businesses and organizations to decorate. The City of Portage will provide the tree and lights, just bring your own themed decorations representing your organization. Trees should be decorated by November 29. Contact Portage Parks & Recreation at 329-4522 by November 2 for more information and to reserve a tree.

YOU HAVE MORE FRIENDS THAN YOU KNOW

"Virtual" New Member Breakfast

PSC staff will host a "virtual" New Member Breakfast this month. Wonder what it means to be a member of the Portage Senior Center? Curious about the activities and services being offered? Join us for a free virtual overview of all that the Portage Senior Center has to offer. Whether you're a brand new member, or just want a PSC update, consider joining us for this unique virtual event! Simply call 329-4555 to register.

- » Thursday, October 15, 9 AM
- » FREE

Portage Senior Center Events, Activities & Classes

Find us at 320 Library Lane. | mypsc.portagemi.gov | Questions? Call 329-4555.

Explore More. Have Fun. Live Well.

Experience a vital, vibrant community offering a wide variety of services and activities that match the needs of active older adults. Membership at the PSC is open to anyone over the age of 50. Portage residency is not required. All events are held at the Portage Senior Center unless otherwise noted.

Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP)

Virtual One-on-One Appointments Available
In partnership with Senior Services of Southwest Michigan

The Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program helps senior and caregivers make informed decisions about healthcare and prescription benefits. Information about Medicare, Medicaid, regulations and insurance products will be available. MMAP counselors are not connected with any insurance company, nor are they licensed to sell insurance. Their purpose is to serve you objectively and confidentially. These appointments will be held virtually via Zoom. You

can also choose to have your appointment over the phone. When you register, please let the receptionist know which you prefer. If you choose a Zoom appointment, you will receive an email confirmation with instructions on how to access your appointment.

To register, please call the PSC at 329-4555. Appointments available from 1 - 4:45 PM on the following dates:

- » Monday, October 5
- » Monday, October 19
- » Monday, November 9
- » Monday, December 7

PORTAGER

General Election: Tuesday, November 3

With less than 30 days before the Election on November 3, now is the time to prepare. DO NOT WAIT until the week of the election; voter interest is expected to be very high!

Register to Vote Now – Don't Wait

- » Will you be 18 years of age on November 3?
- » Not sure if you are already registered?
- » Register to vote or check your registration status using the Michigan Voter Information Center (MVIC).
- » Check before Tuesday, October 20 to avoid extra steps to verify residency.



Michigan Voter Information Center
Department of State

Visit the Michigan Voter Information Center at mi.gov/vote

Confirm Your Polling Place – Check Now

- » If you plan to vote in person on November 3, verify your polling location with the MVIC.
- » COVID-19 Measures: Each polling location will have face coverings, gloves, hand sanitizer, sanitizing cleaners/wipes and will encourage social distancing.
- » Help Us! Bring your own **blue** or **black** ink pen.
- » Polls are open 7 AM - 8 PM.
- » While we will work hard, there will likely be a line. Please be patient!

DID YOU KNOW?

Under Michigan Election Law, campaign apparel is not permitted in polling locations on Election Day. Be engaged, but plan ahead.

COUNCIL MEETING DATE CHANGE

Due to the General Election on Tuesday, November 3, the first regular City Council Meeting in November will be conducted on **Wednesday**, November 4.

Avoid the Lines – Vote Absentee

- » Since 2018, no reason absentee voting has been allowed. All registered voters in Michigan have the right to vote by mail.
- » Apply for an absentee ballot soon – avoid the rush!
- » Apply online using the MVIC.
- » Fun Fact - You can vote and return your absentee ballot as soon as you receive it.
- » Return your ballot at Portage City Hall using the indoor drop box (Monday through Friday, 9 AM - 4 PM) the secure outside night drop box (24/7), and coming soon, a new parking lot drop box.
- » The U.S. Postal Service recommends voters mail ballots back no later than Tuesday, October 27.
- » Track your ballot online with the MVIC.
- » Attention Snowbirds! Be advised: the U.S. Postal Service DOES NOT automatically forward ballots like other postal mail. Your application for a ballot must include the address to which you want your ballot mailed.

NO POSTAGE NECESSARY!

The State of Michigan has offered to pay the postage on return absentee ballots! Each green return absentee ballot envelope will feature a **pink postal meter stamp** in the upper right. No stamp needed!

Follow the City of Portage MI on Facebook for timely election updates. Find us on  **#PortageVotes**

Biking in Portage

Fall is a season for adventure. Cooler weather and colorful leaves create the perfect atmosphere for bicyclists. There's no better time to explore the trails in the City of Portage. From the very tip of Portage Creek Bicentennial Park to the far end of Eliason Nature Reserve, bicycling is woven into the fabric of our city. We have 41 miles of roadway shoulder bicycle lanes and 20 miles of bike trails and we're always seeking new paths. Join your friends and family and experience Portage on two wheels. Portage is the city for trailblazers. These trails are calling your name.



Tips for Bicyclists

- » Bicyclists should stay on Portage designated bike lanes, trails and roadways.
- » Make sure to wear bright colors to maximize visibility.
- » Invest in a bike light to ensure safety at dawn and at dusk.
- » Always ride with traffic, and make sure to signal when turning.
- » Obey all traffic signs and lights.

Tips for Homeowners

- » Please keep bike lanes free of leaves, especially during the fall season.
- » Keep garbage and recycling bins out of bike lanes.
- » Keep basketball hoops and other recreational equipment out of bike lanes.



7900 South Westnedge Avenue
Portage, Michigan 49002-5160
portagemi.gov | (269) 329-4400

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ECRWSS

POSTAL CUSTOMER



City Hall Temporary Business Hours

Monday - Friday, 9 AM - 4 PM

In the event of a police, fire or medical emergency, please dial 9-1-1.

Portage City Council

Portage City Council meetings are held twice a month on Tuesdays at 7 PM at Portage City Hall (7900 South Westnedge Avenue) in Council Chambers and are always open to the public.



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Joseph La Margo, City Manager
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The City Manager

The City Manager is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the city. Citizens are encouraged to contact the City Manager with concerns or complaints about city services by calling Complaint Resolution at 329-4404 or by visiting reportit.portagemi.gov.

Televised City Meetings

City Council, Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals meetings can be viewed live on Charter channel 995 and AT&T channel 99. All meetings can be viewed via live streaming at portagemi.gov/205.

October 2020

1	7:00 PM	Planning Commission Meeting
6	7:00 PM	City Council Meeting
12	7:00 PM	Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting
15	7:00 PM	Planning Commission Meeting
20	7:00 PM	City Council Meeting

The Portager

The *Portager* is the official publication of the City of Portage, used to inform residents of city services and events, as well as city projects that have significance to Portage citizens. The newsletter is published monthly and delivered to every mailbox in the 49002 and 49024 zip codes.

This month's front and back cover photo features Bishop's Bog Trail.

PORTAGER Editor
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