

1) **City Begins Discussions with MDOT on US 27 BR Improvements**

City staff, City Commissioner Dean, County Drain Commissioner and representative from Senator Cropsey's office met with MDOT Project Manager and staff on July 25, 2006 to initially review the BR 27 improvements from Townsend Rd. to Walker Rd (City limits). In depth discussions dealt with many facets of the improvements, with additional meetings to be scheduled. A few of the City's requests include:

- Pedestrian/Bike Paths on both east and west sides of BR 27
- New streetlights and buried utilities (electrical, cable, telephone)
- Re-open Railroad Street at BR 27 with a new bridge and lower grade
- M-21 and BR 27 intersection improvement to better accommodate semi-truck turns
- Improve intersection at Sturgis Street and BR 27
- Median improvement to BR 27, aesthetically soften with green space

2) **City Street Projects Update**

- Recently completed 2005 street projects include North Clinton Avenue and Daisy Lane extended.
- Current street project of Cass Street between Oakland and Ottawa should be completed this week. There were no underground utility issues, so this section was a good candidate for a "mill & fill". The City wanted to complete this project prior to school starting as this is a school zone as well a street that services the Courthouse and the Wilson Center.
- Upcoming street projects for fall 2006 include sections of Baker, Lansing and Morton Streets as well as completing the section of North Clinton between Ross and Gibbs Streets. Millings from the "mill and fills" will be placed on the gravel streets with a "seal coat" that will create a hard surface. The City is currently bidding out the fall project.

3) **Sidewalk Reimbursement Program**

Property owners are reimbursed \$1.00 per square foot for sidewalk replacement and \$.60 for concrete raising. The Sidewalk Code does outline property owner's responsibility to keep a safe sidewalk along their property. The City will also reimburse \$100 for driveway approaches that go from gravel to concrete. Contact the City Offices at 989-224-8944 for more information or log on to the City's website at www.ci.saint-johns.mi.us

4) **The City Continues to Work with the Schools**

- City staff continues to meet with Superintendent Kudwa and Ron Patterson to jointly work together to obtain Federal Safety Grants for sidewalks in school zones. Through collaborative efforts, more can be accomplished.

- The City of St. Johns is in the process of selling the football field to the schools. Although the schools have a lease for the field, the school wanted to own it before investing in any improvements.

5) **No New Increases to City Water/Sewer Bills**

There will be no new increases to water/sewer bills this fiscal year July 1, 2006 thru June 30, 2007.

If you water your lawn or garden, you may want to consider a sprinkling meter. With a sprinkling meter, you do not pay sewer charges on the water usage. For more information, contact Tammy at 989-224-8944 ext. 282.