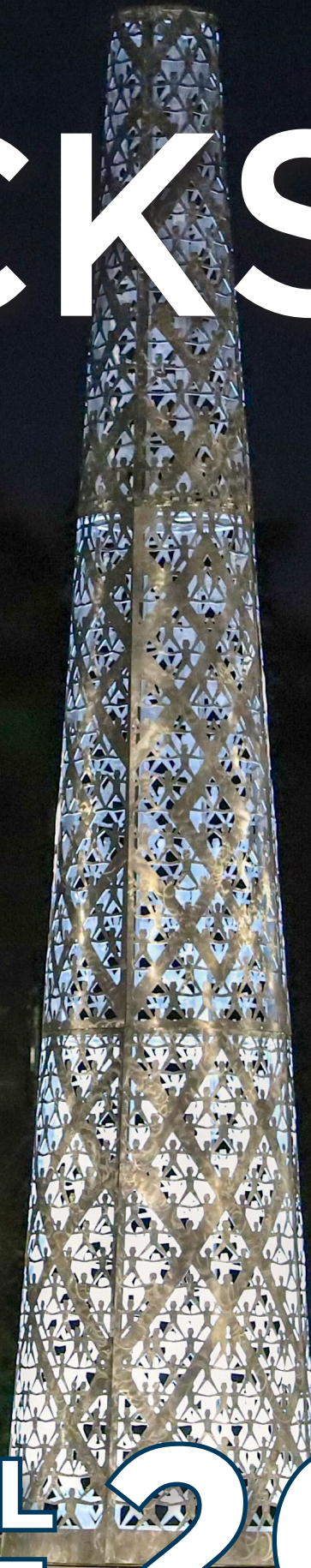



CITY OF  
**JACKSON** **N**  
MICHIGAN



Martin Luther  
King Jr. Dr 

**ANNUAL  
REPORT 2023**



## A Message from the CITY MANAGER

As we reflect and look back on the past year, it is clear that 2023 was a year of great achievement and progress for our community. Despite the many challenges, we came together and worked towards a common goal of creating a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment for everyone in the City of Jackson.

One of the most notable accomplishments of the year was the launch of the 100 Homes Program. The initiative aims to construct 100 new homes in the City of Jackson by providing \$25,000 in down payment assistance and connecting buyers to home builders. Another highlight of 2023 was the successful completion of several major infrastructure projects. These projects not only improved our physical environment, but also created new job opportunities and boosted economic growth. The vibrant and bustling community we have today is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our local leaders and neighbors.

Perhaps the most inspiring achievement of the year was how we came together to support those in need. Whether it was through volunteering, donating, or simply offering a listening ear, our community demonstrated that we are stronger when we work together. As we move forward into the future, we can look back on 2023 with pride and optimism. We proved that when we work together, there is no challenge we cannot overcome. Let us continue to build on the progress we have made, and strive towards an even brighter future for our community.

**Jonathan Greene**  
City Manager

**Front cover photo:** "Tower of Us/We Rise" sculpture by Maxwell Emcays in the MLK Drive roundabout. Installation was completed in Aug.  
**Pictured:** A spring day in Downtown Jackson along the Grand River.

# TREASURER & INCOME TAX

The City of Jackson runs the **TREASURER'S OFFICE** and **INCOME TAX** administration jointly and both are administered by City Treasurer Martin Griffin.

Property taxes, income taxes, water bills, special assessments and parking violations are all paid through the Treasurer's Office. Payments can be made in person, in our drop box, online, or through the U.S. Mail.

The City of Jackson has had an income tax since 1970. All residents with an income of \$600 or more, no matter where it was earned, are required to file a tax return each year. The resident tax rate is 1%. All non-residents working inside the City Limits are taxed at a rate of .5% on all wages earned in the City. The income tax filing deadline is April 30 of each year.

Efforts are ongoing to bring all residents into compliance with the Income Tax Act. Assessments, collection agencies and warrants are all measures utilized by the City to collect unpaid or unreported taxes.



**Martin Griffin**  
City Treasurer

# CITY CLERK

The **CITY CLERK'S OFFICE** is led by City Clerk Andrea Muray. Functions of the office include business licenses, payments from/to City departments, parking permit administration, custodian of City records, elections, and voter registration. Muray is also the clerk of the City Council. Highlights of the year include:

- Conducted elections in May, Aug. and Nov.
- Additional absentee ballot drop box with security cameras installed at Nixon Park.
- Planned early voting locations inside the City Limits.
- Implemented a permanent absentee ballot voter list.
- Consolidated the number of voting precincts as a cost savings measure.
- Secured updated election equipment.
- Registered 2,601 new voters in 2023, bringing the number of registered voters in the City to 24,395.



**Andrea Muray**  
City Clerk

# CITY ASSESSOR

The **ASSESSOR'S OFFICE** is responsible for determining the assessed and taxable value for all property in the City of Jackson. We answer inquiries from residents, property owners, mortgage companies, prospective buyers, business professionals, appraisers and government agencies. We provide information on assessment policies and procedures, lot sizes, lot splits, legal descriptions, owners of land and qualifications for filling of State exemptions.

Additionally, the Assessor's Office tracks and verifies principle residential exemptions, updates property ownership information, creates special assessment rolls, maintains property tax maps, collects and analyzes sale data, defends assessments before the Michigan Tax Tribunal, and maintains a computer assisted mass appraisal system.



**Jason Yoakam**  
City Assessor



Residents enjoy the new Loomis Park playground following its completion in May.

## CITY ATTORNEY

The **CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE** is a full service law office, delivering a complete range of legal services to the City's elected and appointed officials and departments. The legal department consists of the City Attorney, Matthew Hagerty, two staff attorneys, and two paralegals. The office defends the City against lawsuits; provides legal advice to other City departments; works to resolve citizen complaints; and drafts City ordinances, resolutions, contracts, and real estate documents. The office frequently engages with citizens, businesses, and non-profit entities throughout the City on a multitude of legal topics.

City Attorney's Office staff handles criminal prosecutions in 12th District Court as well as at the Administrative Hearings Bureau (AHB), which handles zoning and building code violations. Other services include defending the City Assessor's Office in real and personal property tax cases filed with the Michigan Tax Tribunal, administering the City's insurance programs, responding to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, and providing information and support services to victims of crimes. In 2023, the City Attorney's Office implemented a prosecution software system to increase case efficiency and information access.



**Matthew Hagerty**  
City Attorney

The following is a synopsis of some of the matters that were handled in 2023 by the legal department:

- 1,191 criminal cases were prosecuted in the 12th District Court.
- 566 police reports were reviewed for possible criminal charges.
- 263 new zoning, housing, garbage, and other blight-related ordinance violations were prosecuted in the City's AHB.
- 42 insurance claims were processed for incidents ranging from flooding and tree limb damage to malicious destruction of property and vandalism.
- 383 FOIA requests were processed by City Attorney's Office staff.

In addition to the foregoing, the City Attorney's Office represents the City in matters pending in State and federal court and provides counsel to the City's elected representatives and its appointed boards, committees and commissions.

# CITY MANAGER

The **CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE** is led by City Manager Jonathan Greene. Appointed by the City Council, the manager oversees all other appointed officials and City departments. Along with maintaining the efficiency of services, this office assists the Mayor and City Council with official business, provides internal and external City communications, manages the sale of City-owned property, and oversees economic development.

The City Manager's Office continued to lead efforts to address homelessness in Jackson. 2023 saw the start of a new homeless shelter and service center at the former T.A. Wilson School facility. Staff worked with community organizations to launch this effort and set up pallet shelters at the site. The shelter was instrumental in providing additional support for Jackson's homeless population.

Employee engagement and teamwork continued to flourish this year. Monthly all-staff Zoom meetings and events built connections amongst City employees. Department leaders participated in Extreme Ownership training from Echelon Front throughout 2023.

Public Information Officer (PIO) Aaron Dimick provided communication services under the direction of the City Manager. During 2023, the City's social media accounts grew to 18,000 Facebook followers, 2,300 Instagram followers and 285 YouTube subscribers. The PIO dispersed 86 news releases to local media outlets and served as the City's primary media contact, representing Jackson in dozens of television, radio, digital media and print interviews. Four seasonal City newsletters were produced and distributed from the PIO office. Dimick maintained the CodeRED mass communication system and provided communication support for multiple emergencies.

## DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

The **DEPARTMENT OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION (DEI)** made significant strides in advancing the City's commitment to becoming a more diverse, equitable and inclusive organization. DEI oversees four key subsidiaries: the Martin Luther King Corridor Improvement Authority (MLKCIA), the Racial Equity Commission (REC), the Youth Council, and the Employee Diversity Action Team. Highlights from 2023 include:

- Neighborhood Impact presentation from Chief Equity Officer John Willis was presented throughout the year, detailing the long-lasting effects of redlining and urban renewal in Jackson.
- Collaborated with REC and Purchasing Division to revise purchasing policies to include more minority vendors and suppliers.
- Worked with the City Council to allocate nearly \$12 million for MLK Corridor redevelopment.
- Landmark year for the MLKCIA. The improvement authority hosted two neighborhood cleanups and two business resource fairs. The MLKCIA Entrepreneurial Fund was established and distributed \$250,000 in grants to five local businesses.
- REC secured funding for a comprehensive Racial Equity Audit to identify areas of racial inequity within the City's practices and policies.
- "More Than Talk" event series hosted by REC fostered public engagement and training on unconscious bias, microaggressions and more.
- "Creating Spaces for Equity: Community Outreach Forum" hosted by REC featured a guest speaker with discussion on equity-related topics.
- Under the guidance of Liaison Nacoya Weatherspoon, the Youth Council focused on engaging local youth in politics and policy. Their efforts included an open house dinner and training sessions.
- The Employee Diversity Action Team, comprised of staff from various departments, met monthly to discuss DEI topics, share concerns and engage in educational activities.



Racial Equity Commission at the "Creating Spaces for Equity" event.

# HUMAN RESOURCES

The **HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION (HR)** serves the City's workforce and job-seeking public. The division is responsible for customer service, recruitment, benefits administration, compensation, unemployment and workers' compensation, employee law compliance, and employee and labor relations for the City's four unions and the non-union workforce. 2023 numbers:

- Reviewed 436 applications to hire, promote or transfer 53 full-time employees
- 222 full-time and 10 part-time employees by end of 2023 for a total of 232 City employees
- 30 new hires, 19 promotions and 4 transfers
- 9 terminations, 15 resignations and 5 retirements
- No positions eliminated

Human Resources remained committed to refining citywide HR processes and procedures in 2023. The division continued the implementation of new HR software to better attract and keep talent, streamline work tasks, increase reporting capabilities, and gather employee data. The new software has assisted with boosting communication amongst departments, specifically between in-office and fieldwork staff, furthering employee relations and retention efforts. This year saw HR staff attending 12 service-learning events and one state conference. HR Manager Doria LaPorte became a leader in the local Human Resources field by serving as president-elect of the local Human Resource Management Association. Division staff participated in over 20 hours of Extreme Ownership training along with fellow employees and assisted in the formation of an Extreme Ownership Women's Assembly.

Per the request of the City Council, the division worked with GovHR in 2023 to conduct a Classification and Compensation Study. The study examined salaries and benefits, job evaluation analysis, and the creation of a job classification system for all union and non-union employees. Following the conclusion of the study, recommendations were made by GovHR, and approved by City Council, to correct the classification range for non-union employees below minimum compensation to realign the City's nonunion wage and compensation plan.

HR staff continued their championing of initiatives from the City's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Department by serving on the DEI Committee, along with leading the DEI Internal Policy and Practices Team.



Female employees gather in Horace Blackman Park for a photo to celebrate Women's History Month in March.

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (CD)** is responsible for implementing and enforcing City programs promoting the vision and goals of the City Council.

Community Development is instrumental in the administration of building permits, dangerous building enforcement, building and housing inspections, planning and zoning administration, homeowner rehabilitation, housing code enforcement, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) funds, economic development, and blight ordinance enforcement. CD also provides staffing for the Historic District Commission, Jackson Brownfield Redevelopment Authority, Administrative Hearings Bureau, Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Affordable Housing Development Board, and the Building Code Board of Examiners and Appeals.



**New single-family home built on E. Ganson Street.**

The Building Division is responsible for enforcing the State Construction Code. Building inspectors investigate and prosecute instances of work done without permits or improperly licensed persons performing work. Staff reviews building and site plans, issues permits, conducts inspections, issues certificates of occupancy, enforces sign and zoning ordinances, and condemns dangerous properties throughout the City. During 2023, CD issued 617 building permits with an estimated construction value over \$34 million. 626 electrical, 471 mechanical, and 480 plumbing permits were issued and inspected. Staff oversaw the demolition of 17 residential structures, seven garages, and two commercial buildings.

The department's Code Enforcement Officers work closely with property owners to ensure the City is clean and sanitary. During 2023, 2,134 warnings were given to property owners to correct violations without charge. Unfortunately, approximately one-third of the warnings are converted to citations, which do carry a charge between \$50 (first offense) and \$120 (second and subsequent offenses). Code Enforcement Officers also conduct housing inspections on rental properties. Over 1,250 housing inspections were initiated during 2023, inspecting 3,078 individual living units. The City refunded nearly \$50,000 to owners of rental units with no violations at the initial inspection. This was significant increase from previous years thanks to the efforts of the rental property investors.



In Oct., Community Development launched the 100 Homes Program. This initiative aims to construct 100 new single-family homes on City-owned vacant lots by providing \$25,000 in down payment assistance and connecting buyers to home builders. Construction on these homes is set start in 2024. The 100 Homes Program spurred a housing boom, with permits issued for 16 new homes by private builders in the City of Jackson.

The City was also awarded \$800,000 in MSHDA Investing in Community Housing (MICH) for new home construction and \$250,000 in MI-HOPE funding through MSHDA to expand Jackson's current rehabilitation program.

The City of Jackson is a State-certified Redevelopment Ready Community. To become certified, the City has to demonstrate planning for new investment and reinvestment, identify assets, and focus on limited resources. Redevelopment Ready Communities attract and retain businesses, offer superior customer service, and have a streamlined development approval process.

# DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



St. Patrick's Day crowd celebrates the official launch of the Downtown Jackson Social District.

The **DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (DDA)** remains unwavering in its dedication to fostering economic growth, enriching the downtown experience, and nurturing community bonds. This commitment has been demonstrated through the expansion and triumph of hallmark events in 2023. Notably, the Cruise In & Concerts garnered record-breaking attendance, Food Truck Tuesdays became a local favorite, and Christmas in the City brought festive joy to all. Despite global challenges, the authority persevered, fortifying these events as platforms for local businesses and artists to thrive.

In March, the DDA launched the Downtown Jackson Social District, featuring the active participation of 11 bars and restaurants. This innovative addition injected a fresh vibrancy into the downtown experience, creating a dynamic social hub. The district allowed participating businesses to sell beverages to customers for enjoyment in the open spaces of Downtown Jackson.

The authority welcomed new Executive Director Beth Kuiper in 2023. Kuiper quickly got to work, spearheading a historical haunted walking tour and introduced a new grant for 2024. The DDA eagerly anticipates her innovative ideas and strategic vision that align with the authority's mission to cultivate growth and prosperity.

Support for downtown businesses remained steadfast this year. The authority continued to offer facade loans/grants, sign grants, and diligently processed special event applications for the City. The remarkable growth of the Grand River Farmers Market in 2023 can be attributed to the dedicated leadership of new Market Manager Dodi Wheeler. Under her guidance, the market tripled in size, showcasing an expanded array of fresh produce, artisanal goods, and unique finds. Wheeler's efforts secured an inside market space at Found Church, transforming it into a year-round destination for both vendors and patrons alike.



# PARKS, RECREATION & CEMETERIES

The **PARKS, RECREATION AND CEMETERIES DEPARTMENT** consists of 28 parks, two cemeteries, three recreation facilities, the oldest public golf course in the county and several miles of multi-trail systems.

**PARKS:** There were several projects throughout the year:

- Completed installation of new playground, pavilion, lights, trail and exercise equipment at Loomis Park.
- Reshaped Optimist Park with new playground, basketball court, parking and sidewalks.
- Planned Boos Recreation Center renovation project.
- Upgraded grass tee area at Golf Learning Center.
- Installed new fountain and landscape at Miniature Golf Course.
- Partnered with People for the Parks and Trails on park cleanups and holiday lights.
- Furthered collaboration with Grow Jackson on their garden at the Howard Woods Recreation Complex.
- Started new Master Plan process.

**RECREATION:** The Recreation Department provides a variety of athletic, enrichment and special event programs throughout the year for all ages. The department is also the first employment stop for up to 300 local youths and college students. Highlights from the year:

- Partnered with Jackson High School baseball and softball programs to offer camps and leagues at the MLK Recreation Center.
- Continued collaboration with the Jackson YMCA to share lifeguards for the Nixon Water Park.
- Worked with Jackson Public Schools on aquatic programs at the Jackson High School Natatorium.
- Added disc golf, putting, pickleball, volleyball and e-games to summer youth programming.
- Partnered with the Jackson Symphony Orchestra and Jackson School of the Arts on new programs at the MLK Recreation Center.
- Increased participation in Adult Softball League.

**TRAILS:** The trail system continued to improve:

- Reconstructed section of MLK Equality Trail from W. Prospect Street to S. West Avenue, bringing new 12-foot wide concrete trail surface and new pedestrian crossings.
- Completed installation of 62 LED lights on the MLK Equality Trail from W. Prospect Street to Weatherwax Drive.
- Received grant from Michigan Department of Natural Resources to reconstruct the MLK Equality Trail from the Optimist Rest Shelter to Weatherwax Drive.



Omari Coleman uses slide at new Loomis Park playground.



Youth recreation basketball program.



Residents Evan Hendershot (left) and Ian Wilson (right) use new trail surface and lights on MLK trail.

**CEMETERIES:** The City of Jackson owns and operates Mt. Evergreen and Woodland Cemeteries. The cemeteries are fully operational and provide burials, marker settings, and operation of maintaining the cemeteries. 2023 numbers:

- 29 cremations
- 43 full burials
- 69 foundations

# POLICE

The unwavering commitment to serving the community with respect and dignity was once again displayed by the men and women of the **JACKSON POLICE DEPARTMENT (JPD)** in 2023. Whether it is a patrol officer responding to a 911 call, a detective assigned a new case, or a records clerk fulfilling a citizen's request, doing so with professionalism, compassion, and care is vital. The trust of the community is critical to any law enforcement agency's success and the Jackson Police Department is no exception.

In order to provide the level of service our citizens deserve, bringing in the future generation of law enforcement officers is constantly ongoing. One way of accomplishing this is through the department's Police Cadet Program. Sherman Smith and Kyle Richardson were hired as cadets in Feb. Cadets work full-time and their responsibilities include noncriminal police reports, parking violations, community presentations, and administrative tasks. While working full-time, cadets are required to take classes at Jackson College towards an associate's degree. The goal of the program is sending a cadet to the police academy to ultimately serve as a police officer for the City of Jackson.

After a 13 year hiatus, JPD was able to provide a school liaison officer again in 2023. Officer David Stallworth completed the school year in June splitting his time between Jackson High School and Middle School at Parkside. This success led to the creation of a second liaison position and Officer Warren Johnson was selected for the special assignment. For the 2023-24 school year, Officer Stallworth is the liaison at Jackson High School and Officer Johnson is serving at Middle School at Parkside. This partnership with Jackson Public Schools is invaluable to creating long-lasting relationships and furthering the safety of students and staff members within the schools.



**K9 Taz joined the force in 2023 and worked with Officer Autumn Schram.**



**Police Cadet Sherman Smith visits a local lemonade stand.**

This year saw the retirement of K9 Gleeson and a new police dog joining the force. K9 Taz started working with Officer Autumn Schram in June. Schram is JPD's first female K9 handler. Some new and much needed equipment upgrades were made in 2023. Due to the national back order of the Ford Police Interceptor patrol vehicle, JPD had been waiting over two years for new replacement vehicles. The decision was made to cancel the existing orders and purchase Dodge Durango patrol vehicles. A total of nine Durangos were purchased. The department's Axon body-camera and in-car video camera system were both upgraded in 2023 to the latest version. The upgraded technology provides enhanced recording capabilities for evidentiary value while increasing transparency to the community.

In addition to daily law enforcement activities, JPD continued looking for new ways to be engaged. Outreach events in 2023 included an Easter Egg Hunt, National Night Out, Trunk-or-Treat, Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway, Shop With A Hero, and through partnering with Garcia Laboratory, a Ham Giveaway.

JPD strives to become better than before while keeping the community's needs and interests at the forefront. The members of the Jackson Police Department are committed to making our tomorrow better than yesterday.

# FIRE

Throughout 2023, the **JACKSON FIRE DEPARTMENT (JFD)** responded to over 6,000 calls for service, demonstrating readiness to address a wide range of incidents. From medical emergencies to fire incidents and rescue operations, the demand for JFD's resources reached exceptional levels. The ability to respond promptly and efficiently became paramount, testing the resilience and adaptability of our firefighting teams. Dedicated firefighters exhibited exceptional professionalism and skill in handling various situations, ensuring the safety of residents and property.

The year saw the department successfully navigate and manage several high-profile incidents and complex rescues. From structure fires to hazardous material incidents, firefighters exhibited bravery and expertise, showcasing the strength of operational capabilities.

Continuous training remains a cornerstone of JFD's success. In 2023, personnel participated in rigorous training programs and drills, enhancing their skills and ensuring readiness for any scenario.

Educating the public on fire safety and prevention is a priority for Jackson fire crews. In 2023, JFD conducted numerous public education programs that reached schools, community centers, and local events. These initiatives aimed to empower residents with the knowledge needed to prevent and respond to emergencies effectively. Collaboration with the community is at the heart of JFD's mission. Throughout the year, crews actively participated in community events, fostering positive relationships with residents and local organizations.

Preventing fires is as crucial as responding to them. The department implemented targeted fire prevention campaigns, emphasizing safety measures and providing resources to reduce the risk of fires in homes and businesses. With a focus on community engagement, the new Fire Inspector has actively connected with local businesses and residents. The prevention outreach efforts have not only raised awareness about fire safety but have also fostered positive relationships within the community.

David Wooden retired as Deputy Fire Chief in April after 38 years serving the City of Jackson. Tim Gonzales, a 15 year veteran of JFD, officially stepped into the Deputy Chief role in June.



Deputy Fire Chief Tim Gonzales



Jackson fire crews responded to a massive fire at a vacant industrial building on W. North Street in Aug.

# FINANCE

The City's **FINANCE DEPARTMENT** plays a crucial role in ensuring the City's financial stability, compliance with regulations, and transparency in financial reporting, as well as supporting the effective functioning of various City services and programs by managing resources responsibly.

Departmental responsibilities include the preparation of budgets, financial statements, and audit schedules. In addition, the department processes payroll, accounts payable, and accounts receivable.

The Finance Department also serves as administrative staff for the City's three pension plans whose net assets currently exceed \$104 million. The department also acts in an administrative oversight capacity for the City's Management Information Systems, Purchasing, and Water and Sewer Billing/Public Works fiscal staff. A summary of activity during the year is as follows:

- Processed payroll for 275 full-time and 310 part-time employees for a total payroll of approximately \$18.8 million.
- Maintained records for 375 pensioners with benefit payments of over \$10.6 million.
- Issued over 5,600 accounts payable checks to vendors totaling approximately \$91 million.
- Processed approximately 1,800 invoices for various City charges totaling approximately \$5.8 million.

The City of Jackson recently received the "Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting" for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending

June 30, 2022. The Certificate of Achievement is a prestigious national award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparing State and local government financial reports. To receive the award, a governmental unit must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, with contents conforming to program standards. The City has received this award for 31 straight years.

The City has three self-administered pension plans. P.A. 202 of 2017 requires the City to report the funding levels of each plan, as well as the OPEB plan, annually. Funding levels for pension plans under 60% need to demonstrate steps are being taken to improve their respective funding status. As of June 30, 2023, all three of the City pension plans were over the 60% threshold and will not need to further demonstrate the steps taken to improve their funding.

The Finance Department is currently implementing a new system for developing the fiscal year 2024-25 budget document. The new system will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of budgeting, forecasting, and transparency processes at the City. Once adopted, a fully interactive and easily digestible online budget book will be available for internal and external end-users.

**Pictured:** "Community of Shapes" sculpture by Chris Turner and Doug Jones was installed along S. MLK Drive in July.

# FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2023

	Revenues	Expenditures
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$31,915,571</b>	<b>\$31,161,333</b>
<b>Special Revenue Funds:</b>		
Major Street Fund	17,899,923	18,481,147
Local Street Fund	1,521,377	1,421,575
Ella W. Sharp Park Operating Fund	1,235,523	1,305,278
Affordable Housing	678,325	678,325
Public Improvement Fund	1,353,025	1,501,298
Cortland St. Redevelopment Projects Fund	475,508	499,582
Building Department Fund	553,892	579,599
Housing Code Enforcement Fund	1,753,087	1,131,296
Building Demolitions Fund	212,225	219,399
Drug Law Enforcement Fund	4,818	14,281
Police/Fire Grant Funds-Variou	168,450	168,450
SAFER Grant	440,098	440,098
Opioid Settlement	118,176	0
Community Development Block Grant Funds	2,664,462	2,664,462
Community Development HOME Grant	288,294	288,294
American Rescue Plan Act	94,223	94,223
Recreation Activity Fund	298,801	262,143
Recreation Millage Program Fund	685,148	671,801
	<b>\$30,445,355</b>	<b>\$30,421,251</b>
<b>Debt Service Funds:</b>		
City Hall Refunding Debt Service Fund	750,689	714,608
2016/20 Capital Improvement Bond Debt Service Funds	1,777,789	1,777,789
2017 Michigan Transportation Bond Fund	761,889	761,889
DDA TIF Debt Service Funds	2,945,323	2,945,323
BRA TIF Debt Service Funds	1,193,068	1,193,068
Special Assessment Debt Service Fund	161,288	161,288
	<b>\$7,590,046</b>	<b>\$7,553,965</b>
<b>Capital Project Funds:</b>		
Capital Projects Fund	590,644	500,499
Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Fund Downtown Development Authority Project Fund	1,932,918	1,843,547
MLK Corridor Improvement Authority Project Fund	3,630,598	2,945,323
Special Assessment Capital Project Fund	144,654	144,654
	894,886	864,042
	<b>\$7,193,700</b>	<b>\$6,298,065</b>
<b>Enterprise Funds:</b>		
Automobile Parking System Fund	98,918	291,146
Parking Assessment Fund	312,661	325,858
Parking Deck Fund	30,281	281,977
Sewage Fund	9,920,715	5,338,964
Water Fund	16,226,815	9,479,223
	<b>\$26,589,390</b>	<b>\$15,717,168</b>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING FUNDS</b>	<b>\$103,734,062</b>	<b>\$91,151,782</b>

NOTES:

- Operating Funds do not include Internal Service, Permanent or Trust & Agency Funds.
- Above amounts include transfers to and from other funds.

# PUBLIC WORKS



Lead service line replacement crew from DPW replaces service line at a home on Bates Street in Aug.

The **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS (DPW)** maintains the City of Jackson's infrastructure and provides water and sewer service to the Jackson area.

**UTILITY BILLING DIVISION** staff sent out 71,028 bills in fiscal year 2022-23 for water and sanitary sewer service for a total amount of \$17,674,227.84. **WATER SERVICE** completed 6,357 calls for service. These calls include emergency turn offs, water turn ons, investigations for disruption of service, low pressure, and leaks.

The **WATER TREATMENT PLANT** and **WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT** operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week by certified operators and maintenance staff. The Water Treatment Plant treats and softens the drinking water that is supplied to over 50,000 residents and businesses of the City of Jackson and Blackman Township. In 2023, the Water Treatment Plant produced and delivered 2.046 billion gallons of safe drinking water to customers. The water is tested daily in the City's certified testing laboratory in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State of Michigan regulations.

The Water Treatment Plant began a \$1.5 million comprehensive upgrade of drain lines, lime/soda ash feed lines and variable frequency drives for wells. This project replaces 50-year-old infrastructure that is failing.

The Wastewater Treatment Plant provides service to over 85,000 residents and businesses in the City, sur-

rounding townships, and the State Prison of Southern Michigan. Wastewater coming to the plant in 2023 averaged approximately 11.3 million gallons per day or 4.1 billion gallons treated during the year. Pollutants are removed from the wastewater as it passes through the treatment process, with the clean water returned to the environment through a regulated outfall to the Grand River north of the City Limits.

The Wastewater Plant has two ongoing major projects at the Myrtle Street Lift Station and primary effluent work at the plant. The vast majority of this project is paid for with American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds. The second project is the primary clarifier and electrical equipment project. This effort is being paid for with Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) money. It consists of a \$11.9 million low interest loan with \$2.3 million in principal forgiveness.

The **PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE DIVISION** through the **STREETS, SANITARY SEWERS, WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM, FORESTRY & MOTOR POOL** is responsible for maintaining 100 miles of local streets, 54 miles of major streets, and eight miles of State highway in the City. Maintenance activities include street maintenance and repairs, including 2,234 tons of asphalt patching/padding, snow and ice removal, forestry services, street sign repair, storm water maintenance, as well as sanitary sewer collection system maintenance.

The **WATER DISTRIBUTION** staff is responsible for maintaining 244 miles of water main, 1,670 hydrants and 2,412 valves.

In 2023, crews repaired 25 water main breaks, exercised 132 water main valves, replaced 10 water main valves, repaired 149 hydrants, replaced six hydrants, replaced 30 curb stops, and retired three water mains.

In the fiscal year 2022-23, the **PUBLIC WORKS FISCAL SERVICES DIVISION** continued to seek funds for infrastructure upgrades from State and federal government sources. The DPW secured \$16.5 million in funding from grants and a low-interest loan from the State. This funded multiple projects in 2023, such as lead service line and water main replacements, elevated tank improvements, well pump improvements, and treatment plant improvements.

The division aided in obtaining \$9.2 million from the EPA for the replacement of new water transmission mains below Hupp and Morrell streets.

Staff also succeeded in obtaining \$6.8 million in federal grant funding through the United States Department of Transportation's 2023 RAISE Program for the reconstruction of S. MLK Drive from Morrell Street to South Street.

A major water service expansion project entered the planning phase in 2023. \$5 million in federal funds will be used in the coming years to construct a new water

main along M-50 to connect Napoleon Township to City of Jackson water.

Allocations of ARP funds from the City Council allowed the department to start replacing some of its aging vehicle and equipment fleet. New plow trucks, loaders and valve trucks were purchased using ARP and City funds.

Leaf collection was a success this year, with DPW crews completing leaf collection on schedule. Two rounds of hydrant flushing were conducted in the spring and fall. The department also assisted with two City Cleanup Day events, which had residents bringing yard waste and household trash to the DPW Operations Center for free disposal.

Lead service line replacements gained traction in 2023, with DPW staff completing 177 lead line replacements and contractors completing nine in street construction projects. 143 of these replacements were paid for with ARP dollars.

DPW crews were busy this year with cleanups after two powerful storms, an ice storm in Feb. and a thunderstorm in Aug. Staff report these were the biggest cleanup operations in decades.

Under a State order, Public Works issued a precautionary Boil Water Advisory in June due to a water treatment plant malfunction. This was the City's first Boil Water Advisory.



Updated water service line installed by DPW.



New plow/salt truck purchased using American Rescue Plan funds.

# ENGINEERING



S. Brown Street from W. Michigan Avenue to W. Morrell Street was redesigned with a new pedestrian trail and street surface.

The **ENGINEERING DIVISION** bid and managed 19 projects in 2023 totaling over \$15.64 million. Engineering also participated in two projects administered by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), the Jackson Street and Mechanic Street Railroad Bridges (\$32.35 million) and seven traffic signals on Cooper Street. As part of water main projects, the division replaced nine lead service lines.

Construction projects included:

- S. Brown Street: W. Morrell Street to W. Michigan Avenue – new multi-use path with mill and asphalt resurface.
- Wildwood Avenue: S. West Avenue to Steward Avenue – mill and asphalt resurface.
- N. Wisner Street: Wildwood Avenue to W. Ganson Street – mill and asphalt resurface.
- W. North Street: N. Wisner Street to N. West Avenue – asphalt pavement replacement including the intersection of Wisner from 140 feet north of North to 80 feet south of North.
- Trail crossing enhancements – installed perimeter lit flashing LED signs at the trail crossing on W. Prospect Street, and at the intersections of Hickory Avenue at Fourth Street, S. West Avenue at Fourth Street, and Denton Road at Kibby Road.
- MLK Equality Trail: S. West Avenue to W. Prospect Street – upgrade to 12 foot wide concrete trail.
- Steward Avenue at Amtrak Railroad Crossing – replace water main under railroad.
- N. Perrine Street: E. Michigan Avenue to Burr Street – water main, lead service replacement and pavement reconstruction.

Miscellaneous projects included:

- Asphalt patching on S. West Avenue and N. Brown Street, MLK Drive roundabout sculpture installation.

Design projects included:

- Pearl Loop of the north branch water transmission main.
- Hupp-Morrell water transmission main connector.
- Blakely Avenue and Oakridge Drive– street and water main design.
- N. Elm Avenue – pavement replacement.
- High Street – crush and shape.
- Lansing Avenue safety improvements and street design.
- Interceptor sewer rehabilitation engineering.
- MLK Equality Trail construction engineering.

Engineering staff also participated on the Jackson Area Comprehensive Transportation Study Technical and Policy Committees and the University Region Bridge Council.



Construction underway on N. Perrine Street.



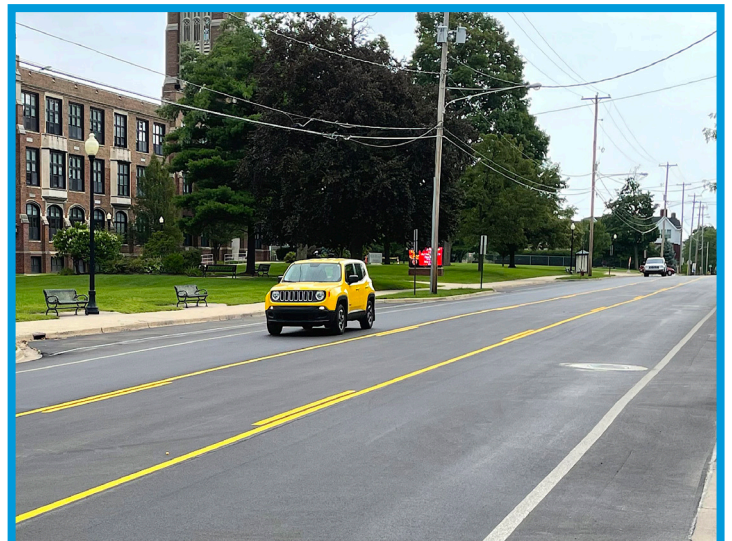
MLK Equality Trail reconstruction.



Railroad bridge replacements at N. Mechanic and N. Jackson streets were completed by MDOT in 2023.



Trail crossings were made safer with new pedestrian signals.



Resurfacing project on Wildwood Avenue.

# AROUND THE CITY



City officials present a Key to the City to Alro Steel in honor of Al Glick.



A second absentee ballot drop box was placed at Nixon Park ahead of the Nov. election.



Damage on Audubon Boulevard from a Feb. ice storm that left residents without power and meant a large cleanup operation for City staff.



Firefighter responds to the W. North Street industrial fire in Aug.



Community Development staff at the National Night Out event in Loomis Park.

# AROUND THE CITY



Volunteers help cleanup S. MLK Drive at an event in May.



Jackson Youth Council poses for a group photo.



Mayor Daniel Mahoney delivers the State of the City Address at the MLK Recreation Center in March.



Director Elmer Hitt at the Ham Giveaway in Dec.



Firefighters Trevor Blankenship (left) and Gavin Warner (right) practice rope rescues at the Blake Building in June.

# MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL



**Conner Wood**  
Ward 4



**Angelita V. Gunn**  
Ward 3



**Shalanda Hunt**  
Ward 5



**Freddie Dancy**  
Ward 2



**Will Forgrave**  
Ward 6



**Arlene Robinson**  
Ward 1



**Daniel Mahoney**  
Mayor