

CITY OF IRONWOOD MICHIGAN



CITY OF IRONWOOD PUBLIC INFORMATION NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2015

City's Summer Projects are Plentiful

The City of Ironwood has recently completed a new city wide Comprehensive Plan that will guide the City into the next decade. The Comprehensive Plan will help the City establish goals and priorities for many years to come. There are currently many efforts underway that will improve our community and continue to make Ironwood a great place to live, work and play.

City activities and projects this summer include:

✓ The second phase of the MDOT's U.S. 2 reconstruction project will be completed in 2015. The US 2 re-construction will start at Curry Street and will go east to Wilson Street. The project will include a complete reconstruction of the roadway, new water main and sanitary sewer main as well as new sidewalk and street lighting on the north side. A public informational meeting will be held prior to the start of the project.

✓ Ruotsala Construction will complete Phase III of the City's water and sanitary sewer infrastructure project. The neighborhood north of U.S. 2 and west of Luxmore Street will be completed as well as six (6) blocks in the Norrie neighborhood.



✓ The first phase of the regional non-motorized trail system will be constructed through Ironwood this summer. Approximately three (3) miles of blacktop pathway will be constructed from the Montreal River on the west to the city boundary line, just past the Industrial Park at the east end of town. This will be the first phase of a multi-staged trail system that will ultimately connect Ironwood, Bessemer and Wakefield.

✓ A local street paving project (mill and overlay) will occur in 2015. Approximately ten (10) miles of local city roads will be milled and overlaid this summer.

✓ The City of Ironwood was the recipient of a Michigan MDOT Safe Routes to School grant. This project will include the construction of strategic sidewalk sections in the area of the Ironwood High School to improve the safety for school children that walk to school. This project will be completed in 2015.

✓ Grant funding has been received to provide handicapped assessable playground equipment in Longyear Park. This project is currently out for bids and will be installed in 2015.

✓ A crowd funding campaign for the development of the "Downtown Art Park" project was strongly supported by the community and the State of Michigan. Construction specifications for the Art Park will be developed and the project will be bid out for construction this summer (2015).

✓ The Downtown Art Place (DAP) has successfully secured grant funding for electrical upgrades to the downtown City Centre building and also for community art classes and programming.

✓ The City will be working with the Friends of the Miners Memorial Park to install additional fencing to better secure some of the old mine sites located in and around the park area.

INFORMATION FOR YOU

Board of Review

Tues, March 3 1-4 pm
Wed, March 4 9 am -12 pm
Thurs, March 5 1-4 pm
Fri, March 6 9 am - 12 pm

Michigan Free Fishing Weekends

Feb 14 & 15 no license required
June 13 & 14 no license required

City Offices Closed Good Friday
Fri, April 3

Smithsonian Exhibit *The Way We Worked*

Displayed at the Downtown Art Place
April 4 - May 31

Make a Difference Day
May 2 @ 8am - meet at Depot

Spring Clean-Up Day
May 9 @ 8 - 11am (Vacant lot on Ayer St)

City Wide Rummage Sale
June 6 - Contact Chamber of Commerce

Upper Peninsula History Conference
Hosted by Ironwood Area Historical Society
June 26 - 28

Festival Ironwood
July 15 - 18
event info: Chamber of Commerce 932-1122
or Western UP Convention & Visitor Bureau
906-932-4850

CARNEGIE LIBRARY EVENTS

Feb is National Library Lovers Month
Join in the celebration.

Awkward State Youth Drama Club
When the Lights Went Out

Performances @ Historic Ironwood Theatre
Fri, March 6 @ 7pm
Sat, March 7 @ 7pm

Sun, March 8 @ 2pm
For event info call 906-932-0203
or visit them on their website:

www.uproc.lib.mi.us/ironwood/



Mayor, Kim Corcoran

This fall I was nominated and offered a very honorable opportunity to serve of the Board of Trustees for the Michigan Municipal League.

My job on this board is to be part of an advocacy group that will work at the state and federal level to represent municipalities and help them to sustain highly livable, desirable, and unique places within the state.

On May 5, 2015 citizens will be asked to vote on a Michigan road funding ballot. The ballot proposal will be the only viable option to achieve road funding across the whole state. The ballot proposal will remove sales tax on gas and replace it with a wholesale tax that is adjusted to inflation. There will also be changes in vehicle registration, heavy truck fees and surcharges for electrical and hybrid vehicles. If passed, the proposal will achieve \$1.2 billion in road funding that will go toward improving the infrastructure and safety of Michigan's roads and bridges.

The proposal will also boost constitutional revenue sharing for municipalities and increase funding for our schools by \$300 million. There is a lot to this ballot and the City of Ironwood will be doing what we can to educate our voters before the vote in May. Please watch for meeting information and visit www.cityofironwood.org for future information on this important proposal.

Blight Grant Awarded to Ironwood

The City of Ironwood is a recipient of \$675,000.00 federal grant funds provided by the Michigan Home Owner Assistance Non Profit Housing Corp. and Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) for the "Help for the Hardest Hit", Blight Elimination Program to assist with the cost of residential blight removal (structural demolition/site clearance) activities. If you own a residential structure that meets the definition below please contact Tim Erickson, Community Development Assistant at 906-932-5050 ext 125 to be added to the list and schedule a meeting. As a requirement of the grant the property must be purchased from you by the Gogebic County Land Bank; the City is able to pay up to \$5,000 for it. If there are any back taxes owed they will be paid and the remainder will be provided to you the property owner.

City Ordinance No. 17-26 Dangerous and Unsafe Building Ordinance states: "The presence of dangerous and unsafe dwellings constitutes an attractive nuisance to children and endangers their safety; provides harborage for vermin; creates or enhances fire hazards, causes neighborhoods to become unsightly resulting in the depreciation of property values and, adversely affects the health, safety and general welfare of the inhabitants therein."

Michael J. D. Brown
Community Development Director

Snap this QR code to stay connected to Ironwood, a City with opportunities, adventure and history.



Live Where You Play

SUMMER PROJECTS CONT'D.

✓ The City of Ironwood has received "Big Freeze" disaster funding from the State of Michigan to help with the repair and replacement of water mains that were damaged last winter. The City will be replacing approximately four blocks of water main that was damaged during the extremely cold winter of 2013/14.

✓ Fresh pavement striping will be completed this summer on all local streets. Every two years the City completes a comprehensive pavement marking program and will paint all street centerlines, fog lines and crosswalks around the community.



✓ The Little League Baseball program is working with the City and the Ironwood/Hurley Rotary on the development of a second baseball/softball field adjacent to the existing baseball field. Many volunteers and community supporters have provided both time and money to make this project a reality.

✓ The City will be having the building adjacent to the Ironwood Carnegie Library razed this summer. The open space will be utilized by the library for additional outside programming.

✓ The City has received notice that it has been selected for additional grant funding to provide electrical upgrades at the Curry Park Campground along with grant funding for a new play structure at Depot Park. Although these projects will be worked on over the summer it is anticipated that the improvements will occur in 2016.

The Smithsonian is Coming to Ironwood!

April 4 - May 31, 2015



The TWWW exhibition will be located at the Downtown Art Place. Key venue sites include: the Historic Ironwood Theatre will host seven different entertainment events, including the Grand Opening on April 11 and the Closing Ceremony on May 31.

The Ironwood Memorial Building hosts three traveling exhibits; the Longyear Exhibit from the Marquette Regional History Center, a 3D U.P. exhibit and also an exhibit from the Dr. Kate Museum of Minocqua. The Ashland Historical Society will send a display on the historic significance of the ore docks on Lake Superior.

The Miners Mural, Miners Memorial Heritage Park, The Depot and many more other locations in Ironwood will host events and displays. Bessemer, Wakefield, Hurley, Mercer, Ashland and the Minocqua/Lakeland area will also be participants in hosting events and displays.

There will be something for everyone to enjoy. You won't want to miss this once in a lifetime event right here in Ironwood!



The Way We Worked at the Downtown Art Place is made possible by the Michigan Humanities Council. Exhibition created by the National Archives. A collaboration by the Smithsonian Institution's Museum on Main Street and State Humanities Councils. Support provided by the United States Congress.