

# City of Hagerstown, Maryland Status & Information Report No. 35 for 2014

September 5, 2014

To Mayor Gysberts and Members of the City Council:

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

<b>SEPTEMBER 2014</b>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <b>HOLIDAY CITY OFFICES CLOSED</b>	2 No M&C Meeting	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 3pm Executive Session 4pm Work Session	10	11 8am-2pm Market Faire in the Square	12	13 2-6pm Historic Heights 2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual PORCHFEST
14	15	16 4pm Work Session	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 4pm Work Session	24	25	26 5-9:30pm Thunder In The Square	27
28	29	30 7pm Regular Session				

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### BUSINESS & COMMUNITY RELATIONS DIVISION

1. **Events**

- Ditch the Workout. Join the Party. Hagerstown's City Center Zumba Fitness Party will be held on Friday, September 12 from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM in the Elizabeth Hager Center Lot. Advance Tickets are \$10 Adult/\$5 children and at the door tickets \$13 Adult/\$5 children. Instructors include Anita Binder, Kelsey Barnhart, Nichole Tarkanick, Chanda Thompson and daughter (Roniya), Christine Rieber, Dana Sprowls and Rene Garcia Kesecker. Donating his time is Bobby Starr, disc jockey. For tickets and information contact Anita Binder (301-393-0884) or the Free Clinic (301-733-9234). Proceeds benefit the Community Free Clinic. Sponsors are the City of Hagerstown, The Downtown Alliance and The Gourmet Goat.
- Staff are working with groups on three September Events including the Leadership Washington County Welcoming Reception on September 11.
- Staff met with representatives of Porchfest on logistics. The event is being held on September 13 from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM on South Prospect Street from Park Circle and Washington Street. It features groups such as Strung Tight, The Plate Scrapers, The Dry Bridge Project, Alt 40 and The Batistas. It is free.

- Staff are coordinating Fall Fest at City Park on Saturday, September 20, 2014 from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Featured events include Opening Ceremonies and the Unveiling of *The Fishing Lesson* Public Art Sculpture. The sculpture was done by Paul Rhymer. The partners of the sculpture are the City of Hagerstown, Maryland State Arts Council, Washington County Museum of Fine Arts, Valley Art Association and the Barbara Ingram School for the Arts and public sponsors. At 12 PM, the 275th Anniversary Commemoration Event of the Jonathan Hager House will occur, and at 1:00 PM the 75th Anniversary Commemoration of the Valley Art Association at the Mansion House Art Center. Family activities will be held at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts, Hager House, Mansion House Art Center and the Hagerstown Railroad Museum & Engine 202. Entertainment will be provided with special appearance by the Hagerstown Municipal Big Band. The Hagerstown Bicycle Advisory Committee will do a ride throughout the Hub City Bike Loop starting at 9:30 AM at the Hager House and ending at the Hager House at 10:30 AM.
  - City Center, Hagerstown will be a hub for cars, trucks, motorcycles and tractors the evening of September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014 from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. with the *Third Annual Thunder in the Square* event. The Alsatia Club is hosting *Thunder in the Square* which is also sponsored by the City of Hagerstown. Simultaneously, Wind Down will be occurring on South Potomac Street. The Maryland Theatre will have entertainment by The Cruisers and kids' activities.
  - Harvest Hoedown is coming up on Saturday, October 11 from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM at Fairgrounds Park and Ghost Tours will occur on Friday, October 24. Columbia Bank Hagerstown Trust Division, Pediatric Dental of Frederick and the Maryland Apple Promotion Board have all signed up to sponsor this event.
  - Staff is working with The Maryland Theatre on a new Wind Down on October 17 with a fall theme. Also, coming up is the City Center Ghost Tours, Alsatia Mummies Parade and the Spooky Sprint.
2. **A&E District:** Sounds of the Square is continuing on Fridays in Public Square from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Michael Jonnes is chairing the subcommittee. Entertainers coming up are Candice Craig on September 5; Barbara Ingram School for the Arts on September 12; School of Rock, Acoustic Performers on September 19; Rock Band, School of Rock, on October 3 and Alt. 40 for October 10.
  3. **Fundraising:** Staff are working on fundraising for the City Park Fall Fest and Harvest Hoedown. The fundraising for the Fishing Lesson Sculpture has been completed.
  4. **This Week's Headlines and Media Releases:**
    - Residents and Businesses Cautioned Amid Telephone Scam Reports
    - Updated Traffic Advisory: Pavement Preservation Program
  5. **Channel 25:**
    - Watch the City Newsroom at the top of every hour. This week's news stories include:
      - City Park Fall Fest Promotion
      - Hispanic Festival Commercial
      - Porchfest Preview
      - New Outdoor Fitness Equipment Workout
      - 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration for the Hagerstown Municipal Band
      - Maryland Theatre Seating Promotion
      - Color Splash Commercial
      - Celebration Fanfare and Song: Hagerstown Municipal Band's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Performance

- Special Broadcasts:
  - Divided Valor – Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 PM
- In production:
  - The Community's City Center Plan
  - Downtown Pop-Up Shops Re-cap

6. **Websites:**

- City Website
  - About 7,400 users visited [www.hagerstownmd.org](http://www.hagerstownmd.org) for the week of August 25, 2014 - August 31, 2014.
  - Top entrances (first page users accessed on the website):
    - ▶ Home page                    2,386 users
    - ▶ Jobs page                      440 users
    - ▶ Utility Billing                 306 users
  - Top Searches:
    - ▶ "jobs"
    - ▶ "most wanted"
    - ▶ "schools"
    - ▶ "hotels"
- engageHagerstown
  - Total Participants:        271
  - Unique Visitors:         4,360
  - Page Views:                28,969
  - Current topics:
    - ▶ Where would you like to see public pianos in our community?
    - ▶ What kind of retail opportunities would bring you downtown?

**PLANNING & CODE ADMINISTRATION DIVISION**

1. **Zoning Certificates Issued:**

- 50 Summit Avenue – Dagmart LLC – convenience store.
- 927 South Potomac Street – Country Thyme Primitives – retail sales of gift items.

2. **Historic District Commission:**

The HDC took the following action on August 28:

- 115-117 South Potomac Street – Dr. Prasad Readdy/Dale Ford – approved a revision to a previously approved application for replacement windows.
- 6 and 12 South Potomac Street – Bridge of Life/Daniel Poyner – approved a revision to a previously approved application for façade alterations.
- 50 Summit Avenue – Leroy Roberts/Advantage Bail Bonds – approved a proposal for a new projecting sign.
- 49 South Potomac Street – Hamada Abuzyiad – approved an application for replacement windows on the front façade.

Due to quorum issues, the September 11 meeting has been canceled.

3. **Planning Commission:** The Planning Commission will review the following on September 10:
  - Collegiate Acres – final plat for the open space area.
  - Land Management Code Text Amendments – CC-MU packet.
4. **Weekly Activity Report:** August 25–29, 2014

<b>PERMITS</b>								
<b>TYPE</b>	<b>NUMBER OF NEW APPLICATIONS</b>							<b>NUMBER ISSUED</b>
Building	15	Residential -	7	Commercial -	4	Other -	4	8
Electrical	15	Residential -	8	Commercial -	6	Other -	1	15
Plumbing	19	Residential -	13	Commercial -	5	Other -	1	19
Mechanical	6	Residential -	4	Commercial -	1	Other -	1	6
Engineering Dept.	19							19
<b>TOTAL</b>	74		32		16		7	67
<b>Est. Value of Issued Building Permit Projects:</b>					<b>Fiscal Year Totals:</b>			
Residential				\$ 31,600.00				\$ 476,977.00
Commercial				\$ 28,000.00				\$ 7,298,113.00
Apartment				\$ 1,700.00				\$ 2,406,240.00
Sign				\$ 0.00				\$ 34,090.00
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 61,300.00</b>				<b>\$ 10,215,420.00</b>
<b>Projects of interest: none</b>								
<b>RENTAL LICENSING PROGRAM</b>								
					<b>PROPERTIES</b>			<b>UNITS</b>
Total registered or invoiced for 2014-2015 program					3289			8838
Registrations received week of August 25					20			67
New applications issued week of August 25					5			6
Percentage of total invoiced that have registered & paid					93.7 %			94.5 %
<b>PAYMENT</b>								
Weekly payment received		\$ 3,350						
Weekly adjustment/credits		\$ 450						
<b>INSPECTIONS</b>								
<b>TYPE</b>	<b>NUMBER CONDUCTED</b>							
Building	36							
Electrical	32							
Plumbing	23							
Mechanical	10							
Safety	40							
Neighborhood Vitality	91							
Quality of Life	9							
Preventive Maintenance	20							
Planning & Zoning	0							
<b>INSPECTIONS KEY:</b>								
<b>Categories of Conditions</b>								
Safety	Conditions which are or reasonably present a hazard to occupant or public. <u>Example:</u> No smoke alarms, improper wiring, handrails							
Neighborhood Vitality	Conditions which cause or tend to cause diminution to property <u>Example:</u> Weeds, trash, debris, junk vehicles, deterioration of a structure.							
Quality of Life	Conditions which negatively impact occupants. <u>Example:</u> Damaged surfaces, damages elements, missing screens							

Preventive Maintenance	Conditions which are technical violations and need addressed to prevent deterioration.
	<u>Example:</u> Mortar deterioration, clogged gutters, minor rotting wood
Planning & Zoning	Conditions which violate Land Management Code requirements (zoning, forest conservation, floodplain, historic district and other requirements) and progress inspections of development projects for site plan compliance.
	<u>Examples:</u> Uses not permitted in property's zone, construction of new facilities, follow up inspections on open violations.

**PARKS & ENGINEERING**

1. **Memorial Park.** The four granite stone walls were set yesterday and concreted in. We continue to grade and lay brick and pavers in the Plaza area.
2. **“The Fishing Lesson”.** The bear sculpture was temporarily set on rocks to drill the anchoring system. The sculpture was then removed and the sculptor took it back for final touches (painting, etc). All the landscaping has been completed and the concrete pad was poured for the plaque.
3. **43-53 West Washington Street.** The old two-story building in the rear has been demolished and the “hole” is nearly filled in. Additional asbestos was discovered and has been removed. There are some unexpected issues with the alignment of the vertical face for which the architect is designing a resolution.
4. **Bike Routes.** The State of Maryland gave final approval of the bike route drawings we prepared for 6 streets under the first Bikeway Grant, so we delivered letters to advise residents where bike “lanes” are proposed (Maryland, Pennsylvania and South Walnut). We expect Alpha Space Control to start on these pavement markings in the next week or so. Public Works is ordering the signs for these 6 street bike routes, and will install them.
5. **RT 40 Paving.** We worked with State Highway to add parking spaces in two blocks of West Franklin Street at request of residents.
6. **Overlay.** Cracksealing is nearly complete and the slurry streets will begin in next few days, followed by overlay.
7. **Bester School Traffic.** We have been watching the traffic at the new Bester School and have discussed some options with the principal. We have taken counts and asked our traffic consultant to review the signal timing at Potomac/Memorial to recommend changes to help address the congestion.
8. **Yard Sales at Fairgrounds Park.** The September yard sale is scheduled for the 20<sup>th</sup>. Out of 72 stalls, to date, we have 12 reserved. For the October 11<sup>th</sup> yard sale, we have 41 stalls reserved
9. **City Park Walkways.** The contractor has overlaid several of our deteriorated walkways. Our crews assisted in preparation and are now putting topsoil along the edges of the walkways.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

1. **STATS**

Calls for Service:	1,057	Field Interviews:	111
Arrests/Warrants Served:	31	Moving Violations:	29
Domestic Violence Calls:	24	Parking Violations:	20
DUI Arrests:	0	Safety Repair Orders:	11
Reports Filed:	223	Warnings:	69

## 2. REPORTS

- 08/31/14: Officer Young responded to South Locust Street for a report of an assault. The victim advised that he was assaulted by an unknown black male. The suspect knocked on the door and then pushed his way through. He then struck the victim in the face. The suspect is described as being around 5'9", weighing 160 pounds, with an unkept flat top afro. It should be noted that soon after the officer left the residence, he was called back because the victim wanted to report that as a result of the incident his dog was missing from his home. No additional information is available at this time.
- 09/01/14: Officer Vanderwall was dispatched to East Lee Street for a report of a burglary. The victim advised that she had money stolen from her. When the victim returned home at 2 a.m. she discovered her bedroom was in disarray and her money was gone from her dresser. There are no suspects at this time.
- 09/02/14: Officer Culp was dispatched to HPD to take a report of a strong armed robbery that occurred in the area of Salem Avenue and Mitchell Avenue. The victim stated he was approached by a Hispanic male in his 20's or 30's, wearing a tan shirt and blue jeans. The suspect pushed him in the chest and took his cell phone. The victim fell down and struck his elbow but refused medical treatment. No further information is available at this time.
- 09/03/14: Officer Mikash responded to East Irvin Avenue for a malicious destruction of property report. The victim stated someone had broken into his vehicle and took items valued at \$60. There are no suspects at this time.

## 2. PRESS RELEASES

- The Hagerstown Police Department Criminal Investigation Division is asking for help from the public concerning two unsolved homicides:
  - Case 1: Occurred March 26, 2012 on Linwood Road, Hagerstown. The victim in that case, Alfarad Acquil Evans, was murdered in his home after armed assailants broke in and shot Evans multiple times.
  - Case 2: Occurred December 20, 2013 in the 200 block of South Locust Street. The victim in that case, Everette Wade (AKA Dontae Marvus), was shot one time by an unknown assailant while he was walking northbound in the 200 block of South Locust Street. Wade ran to the 100 block of East Baltimore Street where he collapsed. Wade was transported to Meritus Medical Center where he succumbed to his injuries and was pronounced dead.

Although these cases are considered cold, police department officials want the public to know that they will continue to be actively investigated until the perpetrators are brought to justice. Information can reach investigators by the following ways: Phone 301/790/3700; Email: [crimetip@hagerstownpd.org](mailto:crimetip@hagerstownpd.org) Website: [www.hagerstownmd.org](http://www.hagerstownmd.org) (click the police department link, follow links to contact us, links to report a concern; facebook; twitter).

- On Wednesday September 3, 2014 at approximately 12:04 PM, an officer with the Hagerstown Department of Police observed a stolen vehicle in transit at the intersection of East Baltimore and King Streets. HPD attempting to stop the vehicle, however the driver failed to yield and attempted to flee at a high rate of speed. The driver eventually lost control of the vehicle in the first block of South Potomac Street and struck a pedestrian. The driver and occupants fled the scene but were apprehended a short distance away from the accident. The driver was taken into custody without incident and charged accordingly. The driver's identity is not being released due to being a juvenile. Two of the occupants, also juveniles, were found to have active warrants for their arrest. Their warrants were not related to the stolen vehicle. Their identities are likewise not being released. The pedestrian was transported and released from Meritus Medical Center with minor injuries.

## PUBLIC WORKS

### PARKING SYSTEM DATA

		Current Week	Previous Week
<b>Number of Permit Holders</b>	A & E Deck	19	198
	University District Deck	388	325
	Downtown Parking Lots	388	387
<b>Number of Patrons Using Decks</b>	A & E Deck	1,633	2,215
	University District Deck	1,611	2,695
<b>Sales of Discount Coupons</b>		50	300
<b>Number of Citations Issued</b>	(Includes Warnings)	178	193
<b>Number of Late Payment Notifications</b>		51	59
<b>Number of Cars Booted</b>		0	0

### CENTRAL MAINTENANCE GARAGE REPAIR DATA

	Current Week	Previous Week
<b>DCED</b>	0	0
<b>Fire</b>	2	1
<b>Human Resources</b>	0	0
<b>Light</b>	2	2
<b>Parks &amp; Engineering</b>	0	2
<b>Police</b>	10	6
<b>Public Works</b>	5	6
<b>Wastewater</b>	0	1
<b>Water</b>	2	1
<b>Weekly Totals</b>	21	19

CMG data represents completed work orders for any size repair. The repairs can include smaller items such as windshield wiper and headlight replacements to larger items such as hydraulic system rebuilds or transmission replacements. Repairs in progress will only be reported when complete.

## UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

### ELECTRIC DIVISION

**Problem Areas.** Recent call-outs included:

Mon. 9/01 - 120 West Magnolia Avenue- limb removed from wire and service reattached. Time Out: 18.8-19.8

Tues. 9/02 - Various locations- total outages, lines down, arcing wires, etc. due to storms passing through the area. Time Out: 17.2-21.5

**Distribution:** Recent activity included:

- Metering staff received one high bill complaint this week; upon testing, meter was found to have met all Public Service Commission requirements.
- Line crews continue trimming trees in various residential locations.

Lamps Replaced	New Fixtures Added	Changeouts	Fixtures Removed
5	0	1	0

**Engineering** Staff worked on the following projects:

- Engineering staff completed multiple permit reviews and service upgrade requests.
- Staff performed vegetation management along HLD subtransmission lines and HLD substations to control vertical growth.
- The Staff Engineer continued the lengthy process to provide mobile HLD Electric GIS information to HLD field personnel. Coordination with City IT is ongoing.
- Engineering staff reviewed underground street lighting installations prior to acceptance by the City in portions of Collegiate Acres Development. One year after City acceptance, HLD will begin ownership and maintenance of the street light facilities.
- The Staff Engineer updated plans for a reliable SCADA communications network to HLD substations from the HLD office.
- The Staff Engineer generated maps from the HLD GIS system for distribution to HLD's Vegetation Management Contractor, Pittman Tree Inc., for coordination and action to maintain HLD electric rights-of-way. This work will begin within a few weeks.

**Administration**

- A bid for a new bucket truck was released this week. The new truck is designed to be compact with a high lift capacity material handler and provide a safer platform for lineworkers to maintain and operate HLD's high voltage electrical network.

**WASTEWATER DIVISION**

**Wastewater Treatment Plant at Frederick Street**

Date	Flow (mgd)	Rainfall (inches)
Wednesday, August 27, 2014	6.40	0.00
Thursday, August 28, 2014	6.29	0.00
Friday, August 29, 2014	6.06	0.00
Saturday, August 30, 2014	5.76	0.00
Sunday, August 31, 2014	5.71	0.01
Monday, September 1, 2014	5.91	0.00
Tuesday, September 2, 2014	6.02	0..29
Weekly – Avg. Flow / Total Rainfall	6.02	0.30
Aug – Avg. Flow /Total Rainfall	6.29	3.80
Sept – Avg. Flow/Total Rainfall	5.97	0..29

**Miscellaneous**

- Pulled new signal wiring to Milltronics level sensor at bar screen.
- Replaced electric motor and pulled gear reducer on primary clarifier.
- Installed rebuilt motor on vent fan at OAB.
- Pulled defective mixer from BNR and took to AR&E for repair.
- Routine maintenance (MP2 Program) and Corrective Work Orders.

**Wastewater Collection**

**SSES Weekly Progress**

Activity	Districts	L. F. main	Feet of lateral	# inspected
CCTV Inspections	7	435	137	9
Flushing	6	9,167		
Point Repairs		# of Repairs	Reason	L.F. of Repairs
Main Line Only	22	1	Belly in pipe	8.9
Manholes	2, 22	3	I&I Lower for overlay	

**Collection System Maintenance Task**

- Grouted influent line in manhole 02018 for large leak.
- Grouted and placed epoxy on bench and around influent and effluent openings in manhole 02017.
- Posted for dig at Mulberry Street and Ray Street. Picked up four sheets of 3/4" plywood, sealed with two coats polyurethane and installed rope handles to use for shoring between manhole and waterline on Mulberry excavation.
- Excavated 8.9 feet of 10 inch main upstream from manhole 22087 in reach 22087-22174 for a 75% sag.
- South Mulberry Street; excavated manhole 22087 and lowered 4" for 2014 overlay.
- Removed silt fence and rocks from drainage swale, filled in ruts where silt fence was then spread straw and seeded around old pump station # 12. (Was unable to get inside storm water management pond to remove silt fence due to construction material from First Data roof replacement project blocking entry gate.)
- Dropped Bio-Bags in Manholes to control FOG.
- Hauled three loads CR 6 from Boonsboro Quarry to stock pile.
- Replaced grinder pumps at 11248 Eastwood Drive and 11411 Eastwood Court
- Grinder pump call at 1627, 1629 Woodlands Run, replaced both pumps.
- Installed new flow meter at hospital site.

**Administration**

Wastewater Division – Customer Call Log Summary 2014							
Type	Blockages	Grinder Pumps	Odor Complaints	Flushing	WW Pump Station	Other	Totals
Weekly	0	5	3	0	0	1	9
YTD	40	74	12	1	2	60	189

\* Other - consist of calls that may be directed to other City Departments or the County Department of Water Quality

**Engineering**

- Staff attended a design progress meeting for the sludge pellet plant upgrade project.
- Staff attended a pre-construction meeting for the Quest Fiber Optic link on Wilson Boulevard.

**Wastewater Laboratory**

- Collected monthly recoverable cyanide for plant effluent.

- Prepared reagents for Lachat operation.
- Process and regulatory testing was routine for the week.

**WATER DIVISION**

**Plant Flows - System Demand (MGD)**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Willson</u>	<u>Breichner</u>	<u>Total</u>
8/20/14	11.78		11.78
8/21/14	11.51		11.51
8/22/14	11.45		11.45
8/23/14	10.92		10.92
8/24/14	10.35		10.35
8/25/14	11.33		11.33
8/26/14	11.42		11.42
8/27/14	11.52		11.52
8/28/14	11.57		11.57
8/29/14	11.46		11.46
8/30/14	11.11		11.11
8/31/14	10.80		10.80
9/01/14	11.42		11.42
9/02/14	11.53		11.53
9/03/14	11.51		11.51
Average			11.31

**Water Production at RC Willson**

*- Operations*

- Routine cleaning
- Routine PMs.

*- Maintenance*

- R C Willson – Routine PMs
- R C Willson – Installed new del-pac insertion probes

*- Instrumentation*

- R C Willson – Installed a new actuator on the trac-vacs
- R C Willson – Working on the new PACL feed system
- Pump Stations – Investigated a problem with pump #2 at P.S. #3
- Pump Stations – Installed a new insertion probe at P.S. #4

**Water Production at Breichner**

- The Edgemont Reservoir is currently at -10.08'; the bypass is closed and the hydrant is closed.

**Water Distribution**

- Distribution crews are working throughout the system performing customer service as needed. We are installing new meters throughout and are working with the City, County and State on overlay projects. We finished replacing a section of 2" line on Wise Street and are working on the demolition of the house near the water plant. We also installed new services on Sapphire Lane.

**Laboratory**

- Instructed new laboratory personnel on how to set up PT samples and how to carry out the analyses of those samples for the presence/absence of coliform bacteria and Escherichia coli.
- Sampled for Mn at the Breichner Plant.
- Called remaining two customers to check on status of Pb/Cu sample collection.
- Contacted alternate customers for Pb/Cu sample collection.
- 30 of 30 Lead and Copper samples have been returned. Once results are received, lead and copper report will be put together and submitted to state. Deadline is October 10<sup>th</sup>.

- Contacted Regional Maintenance Department Administrator for the Hagerstown Prison Complex with regard to water quality and our 2013 Consumer Confidence Report.
- Collected a line sample for a new water main on Sapphire Drive.
- Collected weekly THM/TOC sample.
- Process and regulatory testing was routine for the week.

**Engineering**

<u>Reviews:</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>County</u>
Building Permit	24	

- Staff attended a Phase IV Willson Treatment Plant progress meeting.
- Staff attended a pre-construction meeting for the Quest Fiber Optic link on Wilson Boulevard.
- Staff met with a consultant on a commercial site plan final approval.

Respectfully submitted,



John Lestitian  
Director of Community & Economic Development