

# MAYOR'S MEMO

*News of Interest to Southfield Residents from Mayor Ken Siver*



*Flanked by City Attorney Dawn King, Emergency Preparedness Director Justin Beck, Fire Chief Johnnie Menifee, Human Resources Director James Meadows, Police Chief Elvin Barren and City Administrator Fred Zorn, Mayor Ken Siver signs city state of emergency declaration due to the coronavirus health crisis on March 13.*

***Residents, visitors may access city services online or by telephone; Face-to-face contact restricted***

**CANCELED:** Boards & Commissions meetings through April 5. Southfield Census 2020 Complete Count Committee meeting on March 24 and CROP Hunger Walk on March 28. Any large group activities.

**TO BE RESCHEDULED:** 2020 State of the City Southfield Chamber of Commerce Luncheon and the State of the City evening address that was to take place on March 19. The Groundbreaking Ceremony for the new Northwestern Highway Service Drive Pathway on March 18.

**STAY TUNED FOR UPDATES:** Check the city website, City Cable 15 and U-Tube. [www.cityofsouthfield.com](http://www.cityofsouthfield.com)

## Mayor Siver signs State of Emergency Declaration for city

### *Opens door for relief aide*

Mayor Ken Siver declared a State of Emergency on Friday, March 13 in the City of Southfield in an effort to slow the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus. Effective immediately, all city events and activities will be postponed or canceled until April 6, 2020 or until further notice.

City Hall remains open; however, the City Clerk's and City Treasurer's offices are currently closed to the public. Residents can still conduct business online, via phone and through the City's drop box.

"This is the time for everyone to take the coronavirus and social distancing very seriously," commented Mayor Ken Siver. "We think it's prudent to limit face-to-face contact and public interaction during this present outbreak. In addition to washing your hands, covering coughs and sneezes and avoiding handshakes, we encourage all Southfield residents who feel ill to stay home and to avoid crowds of any size."

The Southfield Public Library is closed but the drive-up window is open to serve patrons.

Southfield Parks & Recreation classes and services are postponed or canceled, including at Beech Woods Rec Center. However, city parks remain open and TOSS (Transportation of Southfield Seniors) will continue to operate Monday through Friday from 8am to 4pm.

The 46th District Court has adjourned all but emergency motions. Felony cases remain as scheduled. The Probation Department will only deal with new intake clients. For complete details on the court's restricted schedule check the city website or call 248.796.5800.

# Marelli selects Southfield for North American headquarters

Leading global automotive parts supplier Marelli has consolidated operations in Metro Detroit to create its North American headquarters in Southfield.

The company has leased the former Federal Mogul building at Northwestern Highway and Lahser and will spend \$17 million on capital improvements to the 325,000 sq. ft. facility.

Last May leading automotive suppliers Calsonic Kansei of Japan and Magneti Marelli of Italy united under one worldwide brand—Marelli. Its move to a single brand name was an important step in the integration of the two companies and positions Marelli to compete even more effectively on a global scale.

Marelli operates 170 facilities and R&D centers across Europe, North America, South America and Asia Pacific and employs 62,000 people worldwide. As Marelli, the unified company is even better positioned to serve customers around the world, by building and diversifying its position in the automotive sector.



**Former Federal Mogul World Headquarters at the corner of Northwestern Highway and Lahser Road is to become the North American Headquarters for global automotive supplier Marelli. This classic Mid-Century Modern office building had been vacant for five years.**

By coming together under one name, the company has leveraged its unique skills to boost competitiveness through an ongoing focus on innovation, upon which Magneti Marelli has built its reputation, and “Monozukuri”—the excellence in product, process and quality—which Calsonic Kansei was known for.

Marelli produces automotive lighting, cabin comfort products, electronics, electric power-trains, auto interiors, ride dynamics, green

technology systems and thermal solutions—virtually everything from rear view mirrors to brake pads to door handles.

The company will relocate 458 staff to Southfield and expects to hire 100 more.

A Mid-Century Modern classic, the original building opened in 1965 as the world headquarters for Federal Mogul Corporation. As the company grew several additions were constructed to the facility including a large south wing in 1989.

Federal Mogul faced increased competition and declining sales, forcing it to downsize five years ago. The company moved to the former Blue Cross Center at Eleven Mile and Inkster Road. It has since been taken over by Tenneco.

Great concern was expressed over the future of this iconic building. The city is greatly relieved that it has a new life.

## **Southfield among Top 50 Best Smaller Cities to Start Small Business**

For the second consecutive year, Go.Verizon.com has listed Southfield among the top 50 best places in the US to start a small business.

### **RANKING BASED ON:**

- Education level of local work force
- In-city commute times
- Income per capita
- Broadband access
- Availability of SBA loans
- Overall tax friendliness



# Public Safety — City’s First Priority

## City Council expected to approve body cameras for Police Department

The City Council is expected to approve this evening the purchase of 131 body-worn cameras and 52 in-car fleet cameras for the Police Department.

This action comes after nearly a year of study. The cameras and the system that supports them syncs the devices within Bluetooth range. The body worn cameras have a 12-hour battery life. The system includes GPS tracking and comes with a lens view of 143 degrees.

In addition, the cameras have automatic activation when a Taser is deployed and gunshot detection software.

The Axon Body 3 is the latest generation camera with reduced motion blur during recording and improved low light recording. The

system includes four microphones that work together to capture clear audio.

This purchase, in the amount of \$1.5 million, will be spread over five years. The vendor is Axon Enterprises, Inc. of Scottsdale, AZ. The Police Department will apply for a grant from the Michigan Municipal Risk Authority to help defray the cost.

Advanced auto redaction software, which is part of the system, will assist the department in facilitation of evidence gathering.



*The Axon Body 3 camera*

## City Council approved purchase of 5 new EMS units last fall

Last fall the Southfield City Council approved the purchase of five new Emergency Medical Service vehicles and related equipment including seven Life Pack cardiac heart monitors, ten Lucas CPR devices and five Stryker Power Stretchers.

Lucas CPR Device is an auto chest compression unit that provides CPR compressions. This device has proven to increase patient survival during a cardiac arrest event.

The Stryker Power Stretchers have greatly reduced first responder back injuries, workman compensation claims and allows personnel to work more safely and efficiently during rescue operations. The Stryker Power Stretchers have battery-operated hydraulic systems.

The new EMS units will be equip-

ped with the power stretchers.

The total expenditure for the EMS units and related equipment was \$1.4 million.

The city purchased this equipment at a savings through the Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Program, via Emergency Vehicle Plus of Madison Heights, MI.

These purchases follow the 2018 purchase of five new fire trucks at a cost of \$3 million. As it takes over a year for delivery, the new fire trucks—four pumpers and one ladder truck—are expected to arrive this spring.

Southfield is committed to ensuring that its first responders are well trained, respond promptly and come to assist with quality equipment that is in excellent condition.



*The Southfield Fire Department is one of the busiest fire departments in Oakland County. The vast majority of its service calls are for medical emergencies. The department’s vehicles get a great deal of use.*

# City begins 6th year of decade-long infrastructure renewal program

Orange barrel season hardly left us and has begun yet again.

Southfield’s ten-year infrastructure repair/replacement program has officially entered its 6th season.

In 2020 the city has budgeted \$32.7 million for road resurfacing, water main replacement, storm and sanitary sewer projects and new sidewalks.

The inconvenience of road construction is balanced by fewer potholes and rough roads. Over \$200 million will have been spent by fall on infrastructure improvements since 2015 in Southfield.



***Work continues on the water main replacement and street paving project in Washington Village neighborhood in the vicinity of Northwestern Highway and Nine Mile. Due to mild weather, work continued on this two-year project throughout most of the winter. The result will be an earlier completion date in 2020.***

**Annual funding committed to Southfield streets & infrastructure from local, county, state & federal sources:**

2015	~ \$34.7 million
2016	~ \$40.0 million
2017	~ \$22.3 million
2018	~ \$30.3 million
2019	~ \$40.7 million
2020	~ \$32.7 million

## 2020 Southfield Infrastructure Projects

- 13 Mile Road resurfacing — Southfield to Evergreen
- 12 Mile Road resurfacing — Lahser to Telegraph\*
- Franklin Road resurfacing — Northwestern Hwy to City Limits
- 9 Mile Road resurfacing — Beech to Inkster
- Civic Center Drive resurfacing — Northwestern to Lahser
- Northwestern Service Drive resurfacing — South Bound from Evergreen Road to 9 Mile Road
- Northwestern Service Drive new pathway installation — Civic Center Drive to Nine Mile Road
- Washington Village subdivision water main replacement & street resurfacing — Phase II
- Ravines subdivision
- Southwest of Ten Mile & Greenfield — Sewer separation & street paving
- Northeast of Ten Mile & Greenfield — Sewer separation & street paving completion from 2019

\* Road Commission of Oakland County project



**Another piece of the Northland Art Collection has been restored and placed. The model of the Mackinac Bridge that graced an outdoor courtyard at Northland Center for many years is on display on the third floor of the Southfield Public Library.**

**Art Commission, Friends of Southfield Public Arts plan 7 installations for 2020**

Members of the Southfield Public Arts Commission and Friends of Southfield Public Arts continue to raise funds for the restoration and placement of art in the city as well as purchasing new art pieces.

Restoration is near complete on two additional pieces from Northland Center. Lilian Saarinen’s Great Lakes and Clifton Perry’s Motown Mural are being readied for new homes.

Additionally, the Friends has purchased David Barr’s YinYang, which is currently undergoing restoration. Detroit artist Hubert Massey has been commissioned to create two pieces for the city. *The City of Southfield* sculpture will be restored this year and relocated to a more prominent location. Placements are waiting City Council approval later this spring.

**MAYOR’S MEMO**

The Mayor’s Memo is an occasional newsletter produced by Mayor Ken Siver and not done at city expense. The Memo provides city news & updates to residents. To subscribe, send an email to [srosenbergh@cityofsouthfield.com](mailto:srosenbergh@cityofsouthfield.com) Feel free to pass this newsletter on to others.

**EVERYONE COUNTS!  
IN SOUTHFIELD**

Remember to respond by April 1!  
[www.2020Census.gov](http://www.2020Census.gov)



**CENSUS 2020**

**2020 Census forms have arrived**

The United States Census is mandated by the Constitution to count the populations of states and territories every ten years.

The 22nd US Census will be held on April 1, 2020. Census data is the basis for apportionment of the House of Representatives and state and county legislative districts. Most importantly, it guides state and federal revenue sharing for roads and public infrastructure, public safety, schools, hospitals, social services and a myriad of other programs. Medicaid alone accounts for 58 percent of census-guided funding.

Residents are reminded that the Census count impacts revenues the city receives not for one year but for ten. For Southfield that equates to millions of dollars over the next decade.

Residents will begin receiving notices in the mail to complete the 2020 Census in mid-March. This mailing will include all of the information that every resident needs to respond to the Census online, by phone or in the mail by April 1, 2020. It is vitally important that every Southfield resident participates. College students are counted in the community where they reside while attending school. Southfielders who have vacation homes or travel frequently are counted in Southfield as that is their principal residence.

Census workers will never ask for bank or social security information. All information collected in the Census, including addresses, are confidential and protected by law. The Census Bureau cannot share respondents’ answers with the FBI, IRS, CIA, Welfare, Immigration, or any other government agency. No court of law or law enforcement agency can find out respondents’ answers.

Anyone needing assistance with filling out the Census may contact the Mayor’s Office at 249.796.5100. The Southfield Complete Count Committee has volunteers on the ready to assist with language difficulties or lack of computer or Internet access.