



MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Mayor and Commissioners

FROM: Clai Brown, City Manager

DATE: January 30, 2015

SUBJECT: **WEEKLY REPORT**

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

- The coveted, state-of-the-art Google Fiber broadband network announced they would be bringing their services to the City of Avondale Estates, along with eight other cities in metro Atlanta. Being chosen by Google for their extremely fast Internet and TV service represents the culmination of City efforts to meet the requirements for the new, gigabit-speed network in the City. City staff attended meetings and conference calls with Google to ensure the requirements were met during their exploration process. The City worked hard to submit all requested information on Google's extensive checklist by their deadline, and often on short notice, as Google's specific needs were subject to change. This new network will lay the foundation for a wave of innovation and economic growth that has endless potential for the City.
- The consultant for the proposed US 278 Road Diet (Feasibility Study) has been busy working on a proposed concept plan for the project. Staff reviewed a very preliminary plan, made comments and asked questions. The consultant will further revise the concept for the public to review. The project's main focus continues to be making the corridor safer, more pedestrian- and bike-friendly and more aesthetically pleasing. As discussed at various public meetings, the proposed road diet will most likely include reducing the roadway from five to three lanes, adding bike lanes, providing more crossings with additional safety measures such as refuge islands and Rapid Flashing Beacons, and creating a safer, more pleasant intersection at Clarendon Avenue and US 278.
- The City of Avondale Estates has been designated a Classic Main Street community. The City was recognized at an annual luncheon as one of 17 communities that graduated from the Georgia Main Street Start-up Program in 2015 to receive the national designation of a Classic Main Street Community. The

prestigious designation gives the City access to various benefits for downtown, including low- or no-cost design services such as architectural renderings, and very low-interest loans for businesses and building rehabilitation.

- Attended a meeting with the DeKalb Municipal Association (DMA) Policy Committee, which is comprised of mayors and city managers. After a briefing by the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) legislative staff, the Policy Committee went to the capitol to visit with members of the DeKalb Legislative Delegation.
- City Communications Manager attended a one-day training conference in Atlanta hosted by the Georgia Municipal Association. Topics included “Facebook for Government,” led by Facebook’s associate manager of state political outreach; a “Meet the Media” panel (with journalists from WABE, CBS46, AJC and Morris News Service) which discussed how government communicators can more effectively work with reporters; an ethics panel discussion; and a crisis communications workshop.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- AEPD Officers provided security and traffic control during the filming/production of “Finding Carter.” Filming and base camp locations included Lakeshore Drive and the American Legion (parking lot area) on Covington Road.
- Cpl. Conroy attended a Hazard Mitigation Planning Session. DeKalb County Emergency Management Agency (DEMA) and participating communities in the county reviewed possible changes to the county plan to include new municipalities that are being added. The meeting also reviewed changes that might be needed from the 2001 plan. The Hazard Mitigation Plan addresses identifying realistic hazards (violent storms, snow/ice, earthquakes, etc.) which may occur, and plans for appropriate action to each event.

PUBLIC WORKS

- Contacted DeKalb Traffic Engineering regarding exposed wiring from the base of a light pole at the intersection of South Avondale Plaza and Clarendon Avenue.
- Replaced damaged storm drain at the 1200 block on Berkeley Road.
- Backfilled a sink hole on Fairfield Drive.
- Added seed and straw to the right of way on Kensington Road where new curbing was poured.
- Added dirt and wood chips to a Willis Park area that was eroding.
- Repaired damaged street signs and/or posts in five locations in the City.

- Repaired potholes on Stratford Road, North Clarendon Avenue and Clarendon Avenue.
- Contacted Georgia Power to repair three light fixtures in the City.
- Site Visits-22
- Sign Violations-50
- Household Waste Removed-22 tons
- Yard Waste Removed-12 tons
- Special pick-ups-5