

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
MONTHLY REPORT
(NOVEMBER 2019)**

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Staff had 9 new and separate inquiries in November for possible projects with 3 meetings related specifically to ongoing initiatives. We have ongoing Economic Development projects both in the planning stage and under way. As of last week, there were 1214 job listings in the Decatur, Illinois area on indeed.com, one of the leading national job search sites. Casey's General Store led the way with 91 jobs, ADM and DMH with 33 jobs, and McDonalds with 26 jobs. There was no IDES data available at the time.

PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY DIVISION

Staff typically process site plans, rezoning and conditional use permit requests, zoning variance applications, street and alley vacation requests, and subdivision plats submitted for compliance with local development regulations and ordinances. In November, staff in conjunction with other city departments reviewed thirteen (13) submittals which included: ten (10) site plans and three (3) Final Plats including revisions. Staff researched three (3) FOIA requests, wrote one (1) zoning verification letter, processed two (2) Plan Commission cases and one (1) Zoning Board of Appeals case. Staff also attended several meetings and performed several landscape checks.

For the Decatur Urbanized Area Transportation Study (DUATS), staff continued to work on the Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Update with the consultant.

BUILDING INSPECTIONS DIVISION

For November, we issued a total of 96 permits with a total work value of \$3,113,119. Of those, we had five (5) permits each with a value of over \$200,000 [Central Baptist Church, Scovill Zoo Aviary & pavilion, Mason Manufacturing breakroom, Crossing Outpatient Clinic addition and a single-family residence].

PERMIT TYPE	# ISSUED	WORK VALUE
Building	19	\$2,462,473
Demolition	26	295,620
Electrical	8	17,750
Mechanical	15	151,091
Other	2	109,500
Plumbing	23	47,335
Sign	3	29,350
Tent	0	0
TOTAL	96	\$3,113,119

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES DIVISION

- Staff continued to prepare special reports for loans. Collections and delinquency reports continue on various loan accounts.
- Staff qualified homeowners for the Residential Rehabilitation program.
- Staff prepared environmental reports for residential rehab and infrastructure projects.
- The Residential Rehabilitation lottery began and will continue for 6 weeks through November 22nd. Residents who live in owner occupied units applied for assistance.
- Staff continued working with the Engineering Division of the Public Works Department on the CDBG Sidewalk project.
- Staff is preparing the 2020-24 Consolidated Plan. Public meetings are required to gather input as to gaps in community services. Meetings were held with housing providers, nonprofit partners and business organizations throughout the city. Two (2) public meetings were held at the Decatur Civic Center. The Con Plan must be submitted to HUD in March of 2020.
- Staff collaborated with Decatur Public Schools (DPS61) on financial literacy events (iBudget) at local middle and high schools. An ibudget event also occurred at Robertson Charter School.
- Staff attended Section 3 training hosted by HUD-Chicago at the Decatur Public Library. Entitlement communities from Central Illinois gathered to learn best practices in attracting contractors and having them certify to assist Section 3 residents.
- Staff continues to be active in the Continuum of Care process as well as homeless meetings, and events as required by HUD.
- Staff had ongoing discussions about how to capitalize on the local Opportunity Zone initiative.
- Staff met with ND Consulting Group to assist with the Low Income Tax Credit (LITC) application to the Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA).
- Staff attended meetings with outside agencies and various committees including National Homeless Week with the Decatur Macon County Continuum of Care.

MASS TRANSIT DIVISION

- Staff attended a webinar training for the Angel Trax surveillance system that we are currently using on our buses.
- Staff attended a procurement training in Champaign, IL which was conducted by the National Transit Institute.
- MV has hired an Operations Manager with considerable experience to oversee the bus operators.
- Staff continued to work on the National Transit Data Report.
- Safety meeting was conducted with all employees.
- Staff has been working with Auditors to provide financial report to the National Transit Data System.
- Staff was sent to inspect our first bus coming off the line.
- Staff has been working with IDOT on a Federal mandated public transit agency safety plan.

NEIGHBORHOOD INSPECTIONS DIVISION

Staff continued to enforce the International Property Maintenance Code and local City Ordinances (Chapters 48, 49, 56 and 70). The Division is committed to working with the citizens of Decatur to maintain a healthy and safe environment for those living here.

Bids were accepted on fifteen (15) to-be-demolished dwellings. Fourteen dwellings were demolished and completed.

See attached for a summary of the work involved during November.

ATTACHMENT

**NEIGHBORHOOD INSPECTIONS DIVISION
MONTHLY REPORT
NOVEMBER 2019**

NEW CASES	
Health & Safety (72 Hour)	60
Direct to Legal (Repeat Offenders)	0
Housing and Unfit	7
No Garbage Service	3
Nuisance	80
Secure of Abandoned Buildings	7
Weeds	1
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TOTAL	158

RE-INSPECTION VISITS	
Code Enforcement	481
Weeds	29
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TOTAL	510

CASES SENT TO LEGAL FOR COURT	
Code Enforcement	37
Weeds	12

WEED ABATEMENT	
City Mowed - MCT lots	0
Owner Mowed	7
MCT Lots - Contractor Mowed	28
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TOTAL	35

DEMOLITIONS	
Year-to-Date	
Demolished	40
New Cases	6
Sent to Legal	0
Sent to Council	48
Out to Bid	0
Contracts Granted	15
Contract Amount	182,330.00
Permits Issued	16
Permits Finaled	14
Active Demolitions	188

GARBAGE SERVICE COMPLAINTS	
Received	0

INVOICES*	
New Invoices	42
Dollar Amount	\$18,098.72

PAYMENTS RECEIVED**	
Weeds (Year-to-date)	\$1,236.74

* includes costs incurred by the City of Decatur - Health and Safety (72 hour), Securing of Abandoned Buildings and Weed Abatement

** reimbursement for costs incurred by the City of Decatur for weed abatement.