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## *News Brief* - **SUMMER 2018** -

### **REDEVELOPMENT OF SUNSHINE CHURCH PROPERTY**

The 72 acre site at 4 Mile and the East Beltline has been purchased by Franklin Partners. A plan has not been submitted but due to the high development cost and environmental concerns, the Township expects to see a mix of multi-family units. The density and number of units is dependent on a required open space requirement of the Grand Rapids Township zoning ordinance.

The Township Master Land Use Plan for the area, when developed, calls for compatible uses to the surrounding area; therefore a residential project is preferred rather than retail or office uses.

There may be a need to designate the site a Brownfield zone due to elevated arsenic levels (a residue of the sites prior uses as an orchard) in the surface soils in order to use new property tax receipts from the development to pay for the removal of the contaminated soils. We will share more information as it becomes available.

### **SUMMER PROJECT UPDATES**

- The residential streets in Eastmont (Cascade Rd & Forest Hill Ave) have been removed and replaced and the Castle Hills neighborhood (Cascade Rd & Kenmoor Ave) is next for rebuilding. Cascade Rd from Robinson Rd to the East Beltline was replaced along with intersection curbing. Knapp St (east of the Beltline to Pettis) is being expanded to 3 lanes.
- The Forest Hill Fire Station parking lot is being expanded and will be completed in time for the August and November Elections.
- The Fire Department accepted delivery of the new \$450,000 fire pumper in April and it is now in service.
- We welcomed Kraig Kuklewski as the Grand Rapids Township Code Enforcement Officer and he comes to us with investigation experience and the ability to work through enforcement issues.
- The Township Hall added a generator because our location is not only our command center in an emergency, but a secondary one for other agencies in Kent County.
- A watermain project for early fall on the south half of Dunnigan Ave will have an impact on through traffic for a few weeks, so be prepared for delays in that area.

### **PRIMARY ELECTION**

Our next election is August 7. This is the Primary Election, when the parties select which candidates will be on the November General Election. We changed some voting precinct boundaries last year to make room for new voters that have moved into our Township. If your precinct changed, you received a new voter ID card. Please check our polling location map on our website. You may verify where you vote, track your absentee ballot, and see where you are registered by using the State of Michigan website; <https://webapps.sos.state.mi.us/MVIC/>. We will also be using the new election equipment that the State of Michigan purchased last year. Our Township always has a great voter turnout, so we look forward to seeing you at the polls on August 7!

Grand Rapids Township remains committed to our primary responsibilities: provide essential services of Police, Fire and EMS; perform our constitutional duties of election administration, assessment of property and property tax collection; ensure that we promote appropriate land use regulations; support regional economic development; and provide for parks, open space and recreational trails.

Should you ever have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm  
P: (616) 361-7391  
F: (616) 361-6620  
1836 East Beltline Ave NE  
Grand Rapids MI 49525

Best Regards,  
Michael J. DeVries

Supervisor

**GRAND RAPIDS CHARTER TOWNSHIP**

#### **QUICK NOTES...**

STREET LIGHT NOT WORKING?  
POT HOLE IN THE STREET?  
Drainage Issues?

Report them online  
from the  
**GRT website**

[www.grandrapidstwp.org](http://www.grandrapidstwp.org)