



# ORCHARD HILLS-MAPLEWOOD HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

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

## OHMHA NEWSLETTER

## May 2025

### Join the June 4th OHMHA General Meeting

- by *Pete Mooney*

**Guest Speaker: Fire Chief Mike Kennedy**

**Wednesday, June 4 at 7:00 pm**

**In-Person at OHAC Pool**

(In case of bad weather, look for Zoom link at [www.ohmha.org](http://www.ohmha.org))

The Orchard Hills-Maplewood Homeowners Association (OHMHA) will hold its annual meeting on Wednesday, June 4, 2025 at 7 pm at the Orchard Hills Athletic Club (OHAC) pool area. Our speaker will be Ann Arbor Fire Chief Mike Kennedy. Mike is a 30-year fire service veteran. He is a Centers for Public Safety Excellence Chief Fire Officer and professional emergency manager.



Mike has served as Ann Arbor's Fire Chief since 2018. Before that, he was South Lyon's Fire Chief, and was a senior emergency management specialist with the University of Michigan's Division of Public Safety and Security.

Our speakers typically offer a 15-20 minute overview before taking questions. We hope that you can attend to learn about Ann Arbor's new \$12.4 million "net-zero" fire station, and other issues relating to the fire department and public safety in general.

Also at the June 4th meeting:

- Overview of OHMHA's activities
- Election of next year's board members and approval of OHMHA's annual budget

### Inside Read About

- OHMHA Budget, pg 2
- A2 Comprehensive Plan, pg 3
- Nixon Rd Roundabouts, pg 4
- Community Forum, pg 5
- New Council Rep., pg 6
- 2025 Election, pg 7
- Pay dues, pg 7

# OHMHA Proposed 2025-2026 Budget

	Budget	Actual	Proposed Budget
	2024-2025	2024-2025	2025-2026
Anticipated Income	\$7,700	\$8,378	\$6,700
Annual Dues & Gifts	\$5,200	\$7,288	\$5,200
Donations to Legal Fund	\$2,500	\$1,090	\$1,500
<b>Total projected General Expenses</b>	<b>\$6,450</b>	<b>\$6,860</b>	<b>\$5,705</b>
Grounds Maintenance	\$60	\$40	\$60
Neighborhood Events	\$4,000	\$3,558	\$4,000
Newsletter Expenses	\$600	\$327	\$450
Garage Sale	\$60	\$0	\$0
Organizational Fees	\$20	\$20	\$20
Website fees	\$125	\$0	\$140
Go Daddy Fees	\$75	\$0	\$75
MailChimp Fees	\$200	\$299	\$300
PayPal Fees	\$150	\$151	\$160
Park Donation	\$0	\$0	\$0
Green Rd Entrance	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$400
Nature Center Donation	\$0	\$0	\$0
Room Rental Use	\$60	\$50	\$100
Cost for Forums	\$100	\$0	\$0
Refunds	\$0	\$415	\$0
<b>Fund Balances</b>	<b>Balance 5/1/24</b>	<b>Balance 5/1/25</b>	
General Fund	\$8,747	\$9,151	
Legal Fund	\$0	\$1,090	
Comerica Sub Total	<b>\$8,109</b>	<b>\$10,241</b>	
Pay Pal	<b>\$638</b>	<b>\$24</b>	
Total Assets	\$8,747	\$10,265	
Est Income	\$5,200		
Est Expenses	\$6,450		
Est Reserves	\$7,497		

## WHY JOIN OHMHA?

Your dues and donations directly support our neighborhood by funding important projects such as rebuilding the entrance at Plymouth Rd, entryway landscaping, signage, newsletters and outreach to the neighborhood, website costs, candidate forums, legal costs, donations to the Thurston Nature Center and Parks, the Fall Festival and more.

## Vote in OHMHA Annual Election

### WHO:

You are eligible to vote if you have paid your 2024-2025 dues. Not a member but want to vote? Simply pay your 2024-2025 dues and then cast your ballot!

**DEADLINE: June 4, 2025**

### HOW:

See instructions on page 7.

### DUES:

After June 4, we will be accepting dues (\$25) for the 2025-26 fiscal year (6/1-5/31).

# Ann Arbor Comprehensive Plan

-by Wendy Carman

On April 9, 2025, the City of Ann Arbor released the first draft of the new Comprehensive Plan. You can view the plan on the city's website at [plan.a2gov.org/plan24](http://plan.a2gov.org/plan24)



The Draft Plan does not seem to be complete yet, as it still lacks some of the details required by the State enabling legislation. For example, there are few details in the implementations section to explain how these goals will be put into action. However, it does reveal its goals to:

- Grow Ann Arbor by adding another 65,000-95,000 people and 30,000-45,000 housing units.
- Add flexibility to the City's planning authority by removing the details of 5 existing Comprehensive Plan documents, deleting previous goals, and implementation plans and creating a land use map designed with intentional flexibility.
- Eliminate single-family and duplex zoning and create a Low-Rise Residential district allowing up to four stories with multiple units per lot. Required setbacks and open space will be minimized, and parking will not be mandated.

The Draft Plan envisions delivering a more affordable, equitable, sustainable and dynamic City by providing more housing and transportation options, using land more efficiently, and protecting critical natural features.

The Draft Plan has been reduced to 124 pages in very small print unless you look at it online. **Please consider downloading the draft plan and searching for details about issues that could affect you.**

You will find that there are positive generalities, but consolidating details is challenging. There are no zoning districts as we know them. While the document gives space for parks, there are hints of plans to evaluate and convert "low quality parks," "low quality natural features," and institutional lawns for housing development. There could be three residential districts (up to four stories multi-family); transition (mixed use higher density and higher height), and large (hub design with high density buildings).

- Upzoning threatens to reduce tree cover and green space, and the plan does not provide sufficient measures to manage increased infrastructure needs
- You will not be required to change the use of your property. However, the City will not prevent this from happening on your neighbors' lots.

The city reports that up to 77% of the public supports growth, densification, and eliminating single-family zoning. However, the City did not notify every home at the start of the process, leaving a large number of Ann Arbor residents unaware. Organized opposition has asked the City to pause the process to allow the real stakeholders time to understand the proposals and provide feedback. If you would like more information, reach out to Wendy Carman, Brad Pritts, or Jack Cederquist. You can find their contact information at [www.ohmha.org/board-members.html](http://www.ohmha.org/board-members.html) ■

# Roundabout Construction on Nixon Road

- by Jack Cederquist

After years of planning and waiting, the \$18.5 million City project to improve the safety and flow of automobile, bicycle and pedestrian traffic on Nixon Road, including the addition of three roundabouts, is beginning.



*The Nixon, Bluett, and Meade Court intersection will get a roundabout, along with two other intersections.*

The **first phase** of work will extend from May to August 2025. It will include a full closure of Nixon from the roundabout at Huron Parkway to the Bluett/Meade Court/Nixon intersection. It will **install new roundabouts at Sandalwood Circle and at Bluett/Meade Court.** There will clearly be some disruption of traffic along with noise and dust!

The **second phase** of work will extend from May to August 2026. It will include a full closure of Nixon from Bluett to the Argonne intersection and **installation of a roundabout at Traver Boulevard.** In separate Ann Arbor Public School projects, work is also underway at both Thurston and Clague schools, so residents can expect traffic congestion throughout the summer! For more information, visit the city's website (google "City of Ann Arbor Nixon Corridor Improvement Project). ■

## Welcome to the Neighborhood Initiative

OHMHA's "Welcome to the Neighborhood" initiative makes it easier for new families to find out information about our neighborhood and to feel at home. The way it works is that an OHMHA Board member or other neighbor stops by with a page of helpful information and website links.

If you are aware of new neighbors moving in, please contact OHMHA Board member Amy Seetoo ([amyseetoo@gmail.com](mailto:amyseetoo@gmail.com)) with a street address so that we can be sure to welcome them. ■



# Community Gathers at Traverwood Library for Annual Forum

- by Brad Pritts

OHMHA was pleased to present our most recent Community Forum on April 6, 2025 . This annual event brings together community members and representatives from many organizations who serve our community, and our neighborhood in particular. OHMHA representatives John Gaffield (President), Jack Cederquist and Brad Pritts spoke on behalf of OHMHA.

We were delighted to host representatives from other organizations including a number of local entities:

- Ann Arbor Parks and Recreation
- Ann Arbor District Library
- Bromley Neighborhoods
- OHAC and Dolfin Pools
- Thurston Community Players
- Thurston PTO

It was great to hear about the many efforts these groups were engaged in! All have supported our neighborhood and help make it a great place to live!

Thanks to all for your participation!■



*Community Forum, April 2025*

# OHMHA Gets to Know Council Rep. Jon Mallek

*-by Jack Cederquist*

On April 16, 2025, OHMHA had a zoom session (prior to an OHMHA board meeting) with our new Second Ward Council Member, Jon Mallek.

Jon has a public service background including serving in the Peace Corps in Senegal, AmeriCorps, the Office of the United States Trade Representative, the United States Department of Agriculture, and, currently, the State of Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development.



What he feels the City of Ann Arbor does well includes the effort to create a Sustainable Electric Utility, the negotiation with DTE for the new natural gas franchise, the new green fire station, and the effort currently underway to create a new Comprehensive Plan. He is worried about the effect on the City of any future loss of Federal funds. Jon likes to research City issues in depth to the extent he has time. He acknowledges and appreciates the fact that the Orchard Hills - Maplewood Homeowners Association is the most, active neighborhood in the Second Ward.

Thanks to the numerous neighbors who joined this zoom session, shared concerns and asked excellent questions.■

---

## Save the Dates:

- **Neighborhood Garage Sales: Saturday, July 26, 2025**
- **Neighborhood Fall Festival: Sunday, October 5, 2025**



*Neighborhood Garage Sales*



*Fall Festival fun*

# OHMHA 2025 Election

All residents who are paid members for the 2024-2025 fiscal year are eligible to vote, one vote per household.

**OHMHA BOARD MEMBERS:** The following candidates have been nominated for board membership, and would serve a two-year term (2025-2027). Please vote for up to six candidates.

- \_\_\_ Robin Anspach
- \_\_\_ Wendy Carman
- \_\_\_ Ali Hassani
- \_\_\_ Pete Mooney
- \_\_\_ Amy Seetoo
- \_\_\_ Susan Wyman

**We extend our appreciation  
to Jane Kingsten and  
Emily Eisbruch for their  
years of service on the  
OHMHA board.**

**PROPOSED BUDGET** for 2025-2026 (see page 2)

\_\_\_ Approve    \_\_\_ Do not approve

## HOW TO VOTE (by June 4, 2025)

-Vote online at <http://www.ohmha.org/ballot.html>

-Drop off or mail to John Gaffield, 2540 Georgetown Blvd, Ann Arbor, MI 48105

## ORCHARD HILLS - MAPLEWOOD HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR June 1, 2025 - May 31, 2026

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Amt Paid \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_  Please remove me from email list

**Dues are \$25 yearly. Additional donations are gratefully accepted. When you pay your dues, please consider a donation to help pay the legal bills recently incurred. Even an extra \$10 in addition to your membership dues would be of significant help.**

**We also welcome suggestions and/or offers to volunteer on OHMHA projects.**

**TO PAY DUES:** Mail dues to:

Joe Trulik, OHMHA Board Member, 2529 Bunker Hill, 48105

or

Pay OHMHA dues online via PayPal, see [www.ohmha.org](http://www.ohmha.org)

### **OHMHA BOARD MEMBERS**

John Gaffield	2540 Georgetown	945-0315	President
Steve Stancroff	3244 Bluett	383-2633	Vice President
Joe Trulik	2529 Bunker Hill	323-4748	Treasurer
Robyn Anspach	3115 Lexington	646-0804	Secretary
Emily Eisbruch	2561 Bunker Hill	665-0533	Newsletter (eisbruchs@gmail.com)
Amy Seetoo	3111 Cedarbrook	332-0390	Welcome to Neighborhood Coordinator
Wendy Carman	2340 Georgetown	761-8693	
Jane Klingsten	2750 Georgetown	369-2348	
Jack Cederquist	2145 Ardenne	665-2282	
Connor Concannon	3232 Bluett	630-408-1803	
Peter Mooney	3352 Yellowstone	213-0440	
Brad Pritts	3030 Lexington	834-3675	

### **ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES**

Christopher Taylor (Mayor)	794-6165	CTaylor@a2gov.org
Chris Watson (Council Member, Ward 2)	436-1504	Cwatson@a2gov.org
Jon Mallek (Council Member, Ward 2)	418-8143	JMallek@a2gov.org

How do I get on the neighborhood email list? go to [www.ohmha.org/contact](http://www.ohmha.org/contact)

How to "like" the OHMHA Facebook page? <https://www.facebook.com/ohmhaneighborhood/>

OHMHA

2540 Georgetown  
Ann Arbor, MI 48105  
[www.ohmha.org](http://www.ohmha.org)

**Thank you to everyone  
who supported us in  
2024-2025. Pay your  
2025-2026 dues today  
via the dues form in  
this newsletter or via  
PayPal ([paypal.me/  
OHMHA](https://www.paypal.me/OHMHA))**



## **NEWSLETTER**

---

---

**ORCHARD HILLS-MAPLEWOOD HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION**

---

---