

The Shamrock

East Pittsburgh's Quarterly Newsletter



General Updates

While the world feels like it is in a COVID-19 standstill and some of you may have forgotten what day it is, the Borough staff have been hard at work all summer. We would like to take this opportunity to highlight what has been accomplished since the Shamrock came back into print last year to make the government more effective and improve the borough.

- Infrastructure—
 - Updated the Borough Code and placed it on-line for easier access.
 - Paved .665 linear miles of the roads (15%) in the borough. This does not include the re-paving of the 100 & 200 blocks of Bessemer Ave. by People's Gas.
 - Began a process to track and prioritize road resurfacing.
 - Added voluntary recycling at the Community Center.
 - Improved overall data collection for long term planning.
 - Continued trapping of vector wildlife such as skunks and groundhogs.
 - Planned repair of the steps leading from Grandview Ave to Linden Ave.
- Blight-
 - Submitted a grant to assist with marketing vacant properties to be purchased before they require demolition.
 - Demolished 7 homes that posed a danger to neighbors in 2020.
 - Received a grant to demolish approximately 3 homes (to be done in 2021).
 - Increased monitoring and enforcement of quality of life ordinances such as property maintenance.
 - Began a banner program to show pride in our borough.

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Important Contacts

State Police Emergency—911

Non Emergency/Dispatch—
(412) 299-1607

Borough Offices—(412) 823-7124

Code Enforcement -
(412) 823-5473

Tax Collector— (412) 823-3155

Garbage Pickup—
(724) 379-4331

Water— (412) 243 -6200

Electricity— (412) 393-7100
Report Power Outages—
(412) 393-7000

Gas— (800) 764-0111

Borough of East Pittsburgh
813 Linden Ave
East Pittsburgh, PA 15112
(412) 823-7124

Mayor: Louis Payne

Council:

Mary Carol Kennedy—President

Stacey Simon—Vice President

Paul Borkowski

Earnest Frazier

Jonathan Reyes

Borough Manager:

Seth Abrams

From the Manager:

This is a personal note of thanks to Council, Mayor Payne and the residents of East Pittsburgh. One year ago you hired me to be your first full time municipal manager. Over the past 12 months I have learned a lot about you and your needs as a community. My goal is to serve the needs of the community and to implement the vision that your elected officials have set forth.

I have been humbled by the conversations that I get to have with individuals and small groups. I am pleased to hear about the care and the dedication that you have for your homes and neighborhoods.

I look forward to serving you for the remainder of 2020 and into the future. As a reminder- stay safe, continue to wear masks, wash your hands and to take precautions to keep COVID-19 out of our community.

Regards,
Seth Abrams
Borough Manager

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- Financial and General-
 - Improved collections of delinquent taxes in the borough.
 - Provided for an extended tax discount due to COVID-19.
 - Continued work with the BEN comprehensive plan.
 - Serve on advisory committee to engage businesses at RIDC Keystone Commons.
 - Changed investment strategies to improve investment returns.

We know that not all of our work is visible. It is our hope that you will engage us in the office or through your elected officials to let us know what you think and how we can better serve the residents of East Pittsburgh.




The General Election is on Tuesday November 3, 2020. Allegheny County is allowing and promoting mail in ballots.

Visit <https://alleghenyvotes.com/> to apply online or download the forms.

The Borough Offices can print the forms for you as well.

If you wish to vote in person, our polls will be open at the Community Center at 506 Bessemer Ave.



View the new Code online at:
<http://eastpittsburghboro.com/ordinances/>



Please look for banners to be hung around our main roads.

Traffic Concerns

Most residents are aware of a motor vehicle accident that occurred in July where a child was struck by an oncoming car. Because of this accident and ongoing concerns the borough obtained a radar trailer to monitor speed and to begin the necessary steps that would be involved to add traffic calming measures to the road. Traffic calming is the term used for placing physical barriers on the roads or curbs to slow traffic. Among these are speed humps which cause a vehicle to “bounce” when approached at a fast enough speed.

PennDOT and State laws control traffic calming. Formal traffic studies need to be conducted and submitted to PennDOT, including any history or patterns of accidents/injury. This is not a local decision.

Over the past 3 weeks the borough has been monitoring traffic counts and speed using the radar trailer. After analyzing the data and looking at the histo-

ry of accidents, it has been determined that PennDOT would not approve any traffic calming devices for Bessemer Ave.

All of us would like for our children to be safe and comfortable playing in front of our homes where we can monitor them.

The decision to not pursue speed humps did not come easily and it does

not mean that we will not continue to seek alternative ways to effectively stop drivers from speeding on any of our roads.

In addition to seeking alternative measures, we hope that further development of Besse-

mer Avenue and the planned addition of a playground on Trax Alley will increase foot traffic which has a natural effect of slowing drivers.

Until we can all be safe; stay vigilant, stay aware, and stay active.



CENSUS 101: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The 2020 Census is closer than you think!
Here's a quick refresher of what it is and why it's essential that everyone is counted.

Everyone counts.

The census counts every person living in the U.S. once, only once, and in the right place.



It's about fair representation.

Every 10 years, the results of the census are used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets.

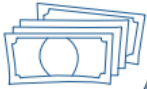


It's in the Constitution.

The U.S. Constitution requires a census every 10 years. The census covers the entire country and everyone living here. The first census was in 1790.



It means \$675 billion.

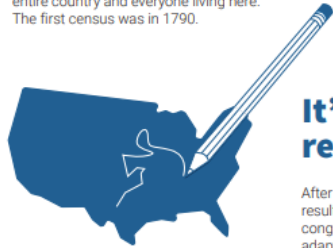


Census data determine how more than \$675 billion are spent, supporting your state, county and community's vital programs.



It's about redistricting.

After each census, state officials use the results to redraw the boundaries of their congressional and state legislative districts, adapting to population shifts.



Taking part is your civic duty.

Completing the census is required: it's a way to participate in our democracy and say "I COUNT!"



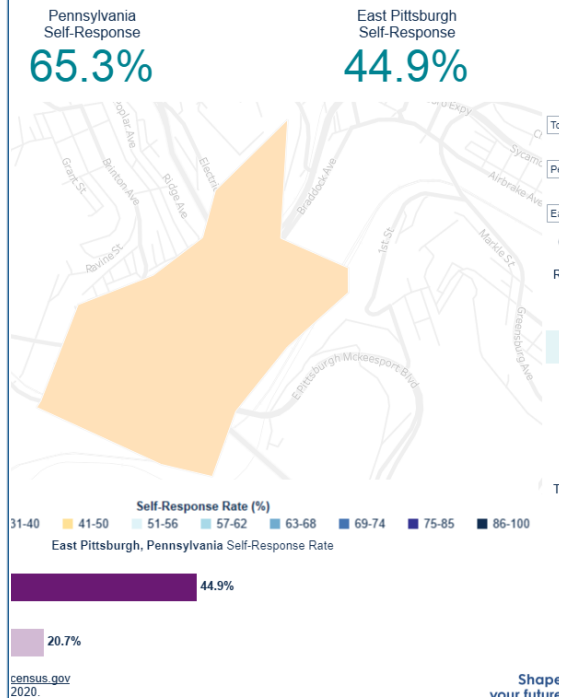
Go to:

<https://my2020census.gov/>

Or you may call :

844-330-2020 (English)

844-468-2020 (Spanish)



Construction Projects -

The following projects will be occurring in May and beyond:

- Milling and repaving Rt. 30 from Forest Hills to intersection of Rt. 48 (now through December)
- Milling and paving of Christina Alley from Grandview Ave to Main St.
- Milling and paving of Wood Alley from Western to Draper
- Milling and paving of Franklin Ave from Grandview Ave. to Main St.
- Milling and paving of the 100-200 blocks of Bessemer Ave from the gas line replacement—complete
- Urgent repairs to the steps leading from Grandview Ave, under Rt 30 and to Linden Ave.
- Urgent repairs to the steps leading from Prospect Ave to Braddock Ave.



Code Enforcement and Public Safety

Vacant Lots

Recently people have been parking vehicles on vacant lots within the borough. Many of these lots are maintained by the borough while they wait for a new owner. Parking on private property is a violation of Borough rules and inhibits our ability to maintain the land. Any vehicles found parked on borough maintained lots that are not designated for parking will be **tagged and towed at the owner’s expense.**

Trash Reminders

Section 58.2 of the Borough Code (Ord. 735, amended Ord. 826) states that all garbage and rubbish is required to be stored in an approved garbage container with a properly fitted lid. Lids are required to keep out rodents and other foraging pests away from our homes – an open trash can is an invitation for food.

No garbage or rubbish is permitted to be stored outside unless it is in the garbage containers (this will help keep down the rodent population). (Section 58.66.4.1)

No garbage containers are permitted to be placed along the roadway or alley until the night before garbage pick up, which is Wednesday evening after 6:00pm. (Section 58.1) The only time this changes is during a Holiday, which will back garbage pick up one day.

Parking Chairs and Handicap Parking

Parking on Borough streets is limited. In an effort to improve the situation we are collecting updated handicap parking information. Due to this effort we



have been able to remove some signs and free up parking for all residents.

We ask that as neighbors and residents that you **not reserve** parking spaces with chairs, buckets or any other items. Beginning in September Borough staff will be removing these items from the road. An exception will be made during significant snow if you have shoveled out a parking place.

Advertising Opportunities—reach the residents of East Pittsburgh

Beginning with the February 2020 edition of The Shamrock, we will be offering advertising space for purchase.

The pricing is per issue, and as follows:

1/2 page: \$100

1/8 page: \$40

1/4 page: \$70

1/16 page : \$25

Advertisements must be submitted in one of the following formats for publication:

MS Word, pdf or JPEG/TIFF/PNG

Please Contact Seth Abrams for more information at epabrams@eastpittsburghboro.com or 412-823-7124



813 Linden Ave
East Pittsburgh, PA 15112

East Pittsburgh Borough Property Tax Discount to End

The 2% discount on East Pittsburgh Property taxes will end on August 31, 2020. Any taxes paid on or after September 1, 2020 will be at the face value. If you have any questions, please contact the borough tax collector at 412-823-3155 or the borough offices at 412-823-7124.

Found—contact the Boro Office

Small pink change purse with the word “SUMMER” printed on it.

