

CALUMET CITY NEWSLETTER

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Photo Credit: Calumet City Photographer
Edward Steave, Stay Focused Media





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS - THURSDAY

May 9, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

May 23, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

June 13, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

June 27, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

CITY HALL CLOSED - HOLIDAYS

Monday, May 27, 2024, Memorial Day

Wednesday, June 19, 2024, Juneteenth Day

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

D.A.'s Banquets Event

757 River Oaks Dr.

Saturday, May 11, 2024,

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

SOX FOR FATHER'S DAY

Guaranteed Field

333 W. 35th Street, Chicago

Saturday, June 8, 2024

Tailgate: 1:00 p.m. Game time: 3:10 p.m.

4TH WARD JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

Calumet City Public Library, 660 Manistee

Saturday, June 22, 2024, 10:00 a.m.

NIGHT UNDER THE STARS

Calumet City Public Library, 660 Manistee

Friday, June 28, 2024, 6:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

EMERGENCY 911

(708) 891-8106 Mayor's Office
 (708) 868-2500 Police (non-emergency)
 (708) 891-8147 Fire (non-emergency)

CITY DEPARTMENTS & IMPORTANT NUMBERS

(708) 891-8199 Animal Control
 (708) 862-6220 Calumet City Library
 (708) 862-6440 Calumet Memorial Park District
 (708) 891-8116 Clerk's Office
 (708) 891-8139 Community & Economic Development
 (708) 891-8190 ESDA
 (708) 891-8120 Inspectional Services
 (708) 891-8113 Personnel
 (708) 891-8135 Purchasing
 (708) 891-8161 Public Works
 (708) 385-8252 Republic Services (Garbage)
 (708) 891-8161 Sewer Maintenance
 (708) 891-8130 Treasurer's Office
 (708) 891-8121 Water Department/Billing
 (708) 891-8155 Water Service Department

CALUMET CITY ADMINISTRATION & COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Thaddeus M. Jones
 mayorsoffice@calumetcity.org
 (708) 891-8106

Treasurer Gerald Tarka
 gtarka@calumetcity.org
 (708) 891-8130

Clerk Nyota Figs
 nfigs@calumetcity.org
 (708) 891-8116

WARD 1 - Alderman Michael Navarrete
 mnavarrete@calumetcity.org
 (708) 891-8198

WARD 2 - Alderman Monet Wilson
 mwilson@calumetcity.org
 (708) 891-8192

WARD 3 - Alderman DeAndre Tillman
 dtillman@calumetcity.org
 (708) 891-8193

WARD 4 - Alderman Ramonde Williams
 rwilliams@calumetcity.org
 (708) 891-8194

WARD 5 - Alderman DeJuan Gardner
 dgardner@calumetcity.org
 (708) 891-8195

WARD 6 - Alderman James Patton
 jpatton@calumetcity.org
 (708) 891-8196

WARD 7 - Alderman Anthony Smith
 asmith@calumetcity.org
 (708) 891-8197



FROM YOUR MAYOR

Dear Calumet City Family,

I hope this letter finds you well as we approach the summer season. As your Mayor, I am thrilled to announce the exciting lineup of events planned for our community in the coming weeks.

Upcoming Road Construction Projects:

1. **Torrence Avenue – Sibley to 170th Street** – IDOT project contractor is Iroquois Paving. Paving begins April 15th with advance work (traffic control) with heavy operations starting May 1st. This will go through August.
2. **River Oaks Drive – I 94 to Torrence Avenue** – IDOT project contractor is Dee Construction. Construction begins April 1st with advance work with road work slated for mid-April. This project will end in August, please be aware it extends west through South Holland to Harvey if you utilize this road for operations.
3. **Wilson Avenue – Paxton to Yates** – Contractor is Gallagher. This is a City project with Construction slated for late April concluding in late August
4. **157th Street – Superior to Burnham Avenue** - Contractor is Gallagher. This is a City project with Construction slated for late April concluding in late August.
5. **157th Street – Burnham Avenue to Wentworth Avenue** - Contractor is Gallagher. This is a City project with Construction slated for late April concluding in late August.

Upcoming Summer Events:

- Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 11th, 2024, as we celebrate Mother's Day with a delightful brunch from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at DA Banquets Events, located at 757 River Oaks Drive. Let's cherish and honor the wonderful mothers who have greatly impacted our lives together.
- Wednesday, May 29th, 2024, join us in commemorating National Military Appreciation Month with a special lunch from 12:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Fire & Police Training Center. It's our opportunity to express gratitude to the brave individuals who have served and currently serve our country.
- And for all the fathers out there, mark your calendars for Saturday, June 8th, 2024, for a memorable Father's Day outing. We have secured 200 tickets for a Chicago White Sox game starting at 11:00 a.m. at the Chicago White Sox Stadium.

While we celebrate the arrival of summer events, let us remember the ongoing maintenance of our infrastructure. Our spring/summer sewer jetting program remains in full swing, ensuring the cleanliness and functionality of our sewer systems.

In our efforts to keep you informed and connected, please subscribe to The City of Calumet City's YouTube Channel. If you have questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at mayorsoffice@calumetcity.org or call (708) 891-8106. Please visit our library to learn about upcoming class schedules and events for you and your family.

I look forward to hearing from you and your family soon.

Sincerely,

Thaddeus M. Jones
Mayor, Calumet City





DE SU ALCALDE

Querida familia de Calumet City,

Espero que esta carta lo encuentre bien a medida que nos acercamos a la temporada de verano. Como su alcalde, estoy encantado de anunciar la emocionante programación de eventos planeados para nuestra comunidad en las próximas semanas.

Próximos proyectos de construcción de carreteras:

1. **Torrence Avenue – Sibley hasta 170th Street** – El contratista del proyecto IDOT es Iroquois Paving. La pavimentación comienza el 15 de abril con trabajos avanzados (control de tráfico) y operaciones intensas a partir del 1 de mayo. Esto se extenderá hasta agosto.
2. **River Oaks Drive – I 94 hasta Torrence Avenue** - El contratista del proyecto IDOT es Dee Construction. La construcción comienza el 1 de abril con trabajos anticipados y las obras viales están programadas para mediados de abril. Este proyecto finalizará en agosto; tenga en cuenta que se extiende hacia el oeste a través de South Holland hasta Harvey si utiliza esta carretera para sus operaciones.
3. **Wilson Avenue – Paxton a Yates** – El contratista es Gallagher. Este es un proyecto de la ciudad cuya construcción está programada para finales de abril y concluirá a finales de agosto.
4. **157th Street – Superior a Burnham Avenue** – El contratista es Gallagher. Este es un proyecto de la ciudad cuya construcción está programada para finales de abril y concluirá a finales de agosto.
5. **157th Street – Burnham Avenue hasta Wentworth Avenue** – El contratista es Gallagher. Este es un Proyecto de la ciudad cuya construcción está programada para finales de abril y concluirá a finales de agosto.

Próximos eventos de Verano:

- Marque su calendario para el sábado 11 de mayo de 2024, mientras celebramos el Día de la Madre con un delicioso brunch de 11:00 a.m. a 2:00 p.m. en DA Banquets Events, ubicado en 757 River Oaks Drive. Apreciemos y honremos a las maravillosas madres que han impactado enormemente nuestras vidas juntas.
- El miércoles 29 de mayo de 2024, únase a nosotros en conmemoración del Mes Nacional de Apreciación Militar con una comida especial de 12:00 p.m. a 2:00 p.m. en el Centro de Capacitación de Bomberos y Policía. Es nuestra oportunidad para expresar gratitud a las personas valientes que han servido y actualmente sirven a nuestro país.
- Y para todos los padres, marque su calendario para el sábado 8 de junio de 2024, para una salida memorable de Día del Padre. Hemos conseguido 200 entradas para un partido de los Medias Blancas de Chicago que comenzará a las 11:00 a.m. en el estadio de los Medias Blancas de Chicago.

Mientras celebramos la llegada de los eventos de verano, recordemos el mantenimiento continuo de nuestra infraestructura. Nuestro programa de limpieza de alcantarillado de primavera/verano sigue en pleno apogeo, garantizando la limpieza y funcionalidad de nuestros sistemas de alcantarillado.

En nuestros esfuerzos por mantenerlo informado y conectado, suscríbase al canal de YouTube de la Ciudad de Calumet City. Si tiene preguntas o inquietudes, no dude en comunicarse conmigo al mayoroffice@calumetcity.org o llamar al (708) 891-8106. Por favor visite nuestra biblioteca para obtener los próximos horarios de clases y eventos para usted y su familia.

Espero tener noticias tuyas y de su familia pronto.

Sinceramente,

Thaddeus M. Jones
Alcalde de Calumet City



UPDATES FROM CALUMET CITY ADMINISTRATION AND COUNCIL MEMBERS



ALDERMAN RAMONDE D. WILLIAMS 4TH WARD CHAIRMAN, PUBLIC SAFETY

Greetings 4th Ward Neighbors, Family and Friends,
The summer months are upon us. Continue to call in ward irregularities, such as street lights out, abandoned homes and vehicles, potholes in streets and alleys and most importantly, suspicious and strange activity no matter how minor you believe it may be.

SENIOR CITIZEN SCHOLARSHIP

South Suburban College is offering FREE college tuition to Senior Citizens from the community that qualify for specifics programs. Please contact my office at (708) 212-2240 or email williams@calumetcity.org for more information.

JUNETEENTH CALUMET CITY DJ SHOWCASE

This year we are looking to showcase Calumet City DJ Talent at the annual Juneteenth Celebration. All contestants must be Calumet City residents, have their own DJ equipment and have the capability to send an audio file to the designated email address as a part of the individual auditions. The music criteria will be club mix caliber R&B, hip hop, dance (House Music) and DJ's choice. There will be 3 winners selected, including 1 DJ that will be the headlining DJ for the Annual Calumet City Juneteenth Celebration that is customarily done by one of the chosen few DJ's. All chosen winners will DJ 1-2 hours at the Juneteenth Celebration to be held at the Calumet City Library on June 22, 2024, starting at 10:00 a.m. The winners will also be recognized at a Calumet City Council Meeting. The winner will also receive a prize and be recognized as the Calumet City DJ of the year.

MONTHLY WARD MEETINGS

Ward meetings are every 1st Monday of the month with exception of those Mondays that are in conjunction with holidays. Meetings are at Downey Park, 300 Jeffery Ave. at 6:30 p.m. sharp.

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

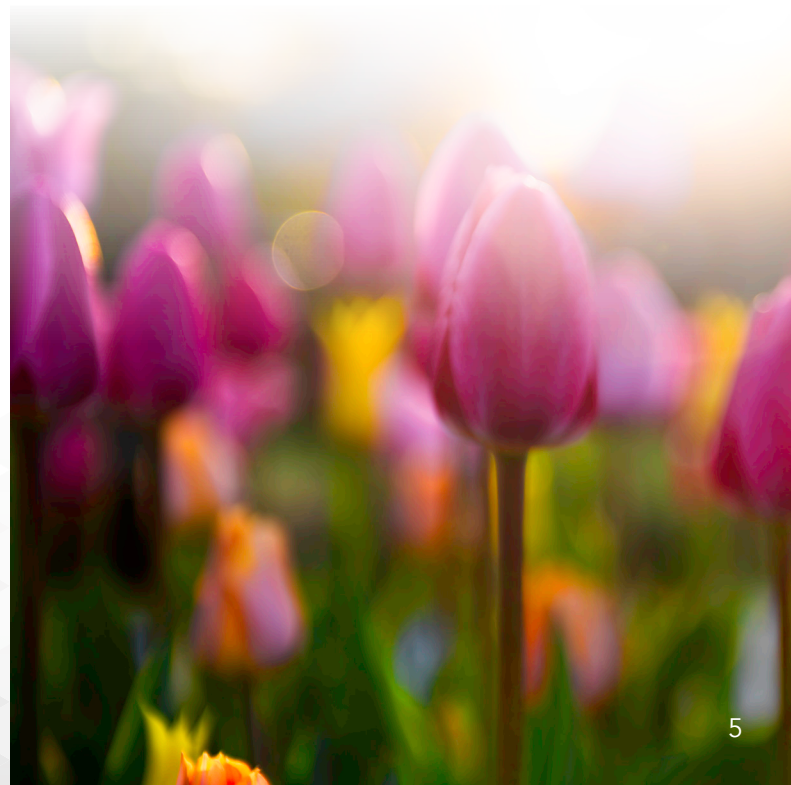
We are continuously signing up members of the 4th Ward community to volunteer to assist in initiatives and programs. To be part of the 4th Ward Team, please contact Stephanie at (708) 212-2240.

4TH WARD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The City of Calumet City is always courting businesses to join, grow, expand, and build in Calumet City. The challenges are the competitive taxing rates in our neighboring state that borders our town. This has been a challenge that has existed for years. Although the city offers many incentives that are allowable to foster new business growth, the reality of our past fast forward to the present directs inevitable change in the industry that makes up our community.

We have both lost and gained many retailers. For example; Applebee's was closed for many years and has reopened as 79th Street BBQ, a new commercial size Foot Locker occupies the space that was previously a major retailer, Tilly's is now Sunrize, a full-service restaurant birthed right here in the 4th Ward of Calumet City, Sibley Gas will be rebuilding and there's much more to come. Building or rebuilding something as significant as an entire city or portions of a city, in this case ward by ward, will take time. We have a comprehensive and strategic plan and therefore we ask for the community's patience while we bring projects to fruition.

Ald. Ramonde D. Williams





ALDERMAN DEJUAN GARDNER

5TH WARD

CHAIRMAN, FINANCE

Greeting 5th Ward Residents,

I hope you all had a wonderful Easter. As we are in full swing of Spring, I want to encourage residents to help keep our community clean by picking up loose trash and debris on the ground on your blocks and in your alleys. Quite a few residents have reached out to my office regarding several things like speed bumps, sidewalk repair, streetlights, alley grading and recycling. Speed bumps will be put down in various locations this month. The sidewalk repair program is scheduled to start soon, several streetlights throughout our Ward have been repaired and a few alley locations are on the list for grading and additional gravel. Lastly, quite a few residents reached out to my office about recycling concerns. Our city has recycling available to residents at our Public Works facility where residents can drop off recyclables daily during normal business hours. I realize how important recycling is to our environment and to our residents, that's why my office is working to identify a convenient location in our Ward for residents that don't wish to travel too far. Your request has been heard and taken into consideration. Let's all do our best to start participating in recycling! Please join me in our new recycling initiative in the 5th Ward.

In March, our Ward held a joint townhall meeting with the 1st Ward to discuss the Subarea Plan in collaboration with Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) and Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD). The Calumet City Subarea Plan is the result of a two-year collaborative effort between the City of Calumet City, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD), and the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) to develop a shared vision for a neighborhood on the eastern edge of the city with potential to support commercial development and invest in transportation improvements while addressing local flooding issues. The Calumet City Subarea Plan was developed to support the city's long-standing efforts to address these challenges and reinvest into the community. Developed between 2022 and 2023, the plan provides guidance on municipal planning and decision-making, funding sources, and policy direction for land use, economic development, housing, mobility, and stormwater management.

PLAN OBJECTIVES

The plan builds on previous citywide planning efforts and aims to create a more livable, walkable, and resilient community. The main objectives of the plan include the following:

- Enhance the transportation network, including pedestrian and bicycle improvements
- Attract and retain existing businesses along commercial corridors like Pulaski Road, Burnham Avenue, and Wentworth Avenue
- Improve local flooding and stormwater management

In addition to the projects that are pending around our city, this will provide a great benefit to our ward. Please continue to reach out to my office with any concerns, issues, or if you're interested in recycling at (708) 891-8195.

Scan the QR code with your phone to learn more about the project.



NEW INITIATIVE - THE 5TH WARD RECYCLES

Why is Recycling Important?

Protects Ecosystems and Wildlife

When we recycle, we lessen disruption to the natural world. When we cut down fewer trees and forests, we are preventing harm to animals. By reducing disruption and damage to the natural world, we help preserve ecosystems and wildlife.

Conserves Our Natural Resources

Some of the world's natural resources are in short supply, and when we recycle, we help conserve these natural resources. When we recycle paper, we save forests and trees. When we recycle plastic, it takes up a lot of solid waste and can take centuries to break down. In addition to this, most plastic comes from fossil fuel hydrocarbons. Recycling metals reduces the need to extract new metal ore while recycling glass reduces our need for certain raw materials like sand.

Saves Energy

Making products from recycled materials requires less energy than making them from new, raw materials. It takes much less energy to make products out of recycled materials than from raw materials. For example, recycling one glass bottle saves enough power to light a 100-watt light bulb for four hours.

Reduce the Need to Harvest New Materials

When we recycle, it reduces our need to harvest raw materials. Our increasing demand for these raw materials also displaces people who live near forests or around river systems. When we recycle, we reduce the possibility of damaging someone else's land or community.

Reduces Carbon Emissions

Recycling takes up less energy, which reduces our carbon footprint and emissions. Reducing our carbon footprint helps minimize methane release waste from landfill sites, which contributes to climate change.

Saves Money

Recycling waste is much cheaper than regular waste collection and disposal. The more we recycle, the more money we can save. Deposit returns can also help add financial incentives to recycle. Recycling can help protect the environment while conserving natural resources. It is critical to recycle and minimize the amount of waste we are putting into the atmosphere. Doing so can help save energy, reduce landfill waste and protect our environment.

Brings People Together

Recycling brings communities together and helps people raise money for schools, colleges, hospitals, and more. These recycling drives make towns and cities happier and cleaner.

Educates People About the Importance of Protecting the Environment

When communities come together to raise awareness about recycling, it teaches people about the importance of protecting the environment and how to do so. This can help equip future generations with the knowledge and understanding they need to reduce pollution.

Creates Jobs

Recycling creates new jobs every year. Jobs in recycling include sorters, drivers, mechanics, technicians and more.

Reduces Incineration

When we recycle, we reprocess materials to make new products, reducing the amount of waste sent for incineration.

5TH WARD PROJECTS

- Emergency Sewer Cleaning and televising – Various locations
- 157th St. Reconstruction Burnham to Wentworth
- Sidewalk Repair Program
- Forest Hill Sewer Replacement



The STOP THE BLEED project is a public/private collaboration involving a wide range of non-profit organizations, government agencies, companies and individuals working to create more public awareness of the STOP THE BLEED campaign and the importance of learning how to stop traumatic bleeding.

The STOP THE BLEED course, will teach you three quick techniques to help save a life before someone bleeds out: (1) How to use your hands to apply pressure to a wound; (2) How to pack a wound to control bleeding and; (3) How to correctly apply a tourniquet. These three techniques will empower you to assist in an emergency and potentially save a life. To learn more about certification, contact my office for information at (708) 891-8195.

CRIMEWATCH MEETINGS

The 5th Ward is in Beat 1. Beat 1 Crimewatch meetings are held every 1st Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m. at the Police Department 1200 Pulaski Rd.



Alderman, DeJuan Gardner



ALDERMAN ANTHONY SMITH

7TH WARD

CHAIRMAN, PERMITS & LICENSES

Friends and Neighbors:

The movement for improvement continues. Our 7th Ward Meetings are held every 3rd Saturday of each month at D.A.'s Banquet and Event Hall. Our next meetings are April 20, 2024 and May 18, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. The 7th Ward has KN95 masks in limited supply for distribution. If you are in need of one, please contact the office at (708) 891-8197 or email at asmith@calumetcity.org. Also, please check out the new cafe in the Calumet City Library, which is offering free coffee for a limited time.

OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO PRESENT

1. Enforcement of the Public Safety and Sign Ordinances with legislative enhancements to improve public cleanliness in business and residential areas
2. Implementing new Economic Development Initiatives to revitalize River Oaks, Torrence Ave., Sibley Blvd., 159th St., and Burnham Ave. corridors
3. Passing an increased balanced city budget for '22-'24 with additional grant funding to offer more services for residents which include after school programs, senior services, and city services without tax increases
4. Offering more city jobs to provide better city services with greater emphasis on more diversity
5. Implementing ProChamps to address ownership accountabilities of foreclosures and vacant homes along with improvements to our Crime Free Housing Office and related ordinances
6. Continuing to provide COVID relief and support to residents and businesses
7. New businesses: D.A.'s Banquet & Events Hall, Dollar General, 79th Street BBQ, Buddy Bear Car Wash, Wilder Foods, Drucker Sports Academy, River Oaks Indoor Water Park

The NRG Renewable Energy Proposal previously submitted by our office to bring affordable, renewable energy to Calumet City with infrastructure, workforce development, jobs, manufacturing, and housing is still under review and consideration by the city. More information will be provided as details develop.

CURRENT 7TH WARD PROJECTS

- Blue Water Run Canoe and Kayaking project is currently under construction. Calumet City previously received a \$1.4 million grant to fund the project.
- 79th Street BBQ Restaurant at old Applebee location – Now Open
- Wilder Foods Indoor Farm at the old Target location – TBA
- D.A.'s Banquet Hall (old Aronson location on 159th) - Now Open
- Indoor Waterpark with hospitality accommodations at River Oaks (Old Sears Location (estimated \$200 million project) – Under City Review & Consideration
- Drucker Sports Academy - Under Construction
- Footlocker in River Oaks West - Now Open

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

(Food Assistance, Energy Assistance (LIHEAP)
www.chicagosfoodbank.org/locations/thornton-township-pantry
 15340 Page St., Harvey, IL 60426, Phone: (708) 596-6040

PROPERTY TAX INFO

www.cookcountypropertyinfo.com/formsandtaxbillrequests.aspx
www.thorntontownship.com/departments/assessors-office/

2024 UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- 7th Ward Meetings: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., every 3rd Saturday. Next meetings will be April 20th, May 18th, and June 15th at D.A.'s Banquet and Events Hall (757-777 River Oaks Dr.)
- 7th Ward meetings will be onsite at Garden Houses 1 & 2, Victory Center, and Park of River Oaks: TBA
- Health, Wellness, Legal, Financial, Technology, and Business Workshops - TBA

As your Alderman, I work diligently across many areas to improve the quality of life for all residents. To get involved, please contact our office at (708) 891-8197 or email asmith@calumetcity.org with your questions, issues, concerns, and comments.

Anthony Smith
 7th Ward Alderman

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

MARCH MADNESS

The reasons for March Madness go beyond just playing games. There are life lessons to be learned while we play. In this photo Mrs. Jones (Director) is playing a game of Connect Four to challenge students to practice following rules, to be a 'good sport' – winning or losing, problem solving, and to complete basic math. Players learn to plan ahead – looking out for opportunities to connect 4 discs to win the game...things we do in everyday life.

STEAM

Students engage in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) daily. The integration of the arts into STEM learning has increased the benefits of hands-on education and collaboration in a variety of ways, promoting creativity and curiosity at the core. In the photo to the right, students are creating pop-up cards to gift to female role models in their life in celebration of Women's History Month.

PARENT ENGAGEMENT

Research shows that parent engagement is closely linked to better student behavior, higher academic achievement, and enhanced social skills. In the photos to the right, Mrs. Kim McCarter (parent) is actively involved in planning a mission to Saturn with a group of budding young scientists, while another group races against time to be the first to colonize Mars.

CULTURE AND SCIENCE MEET

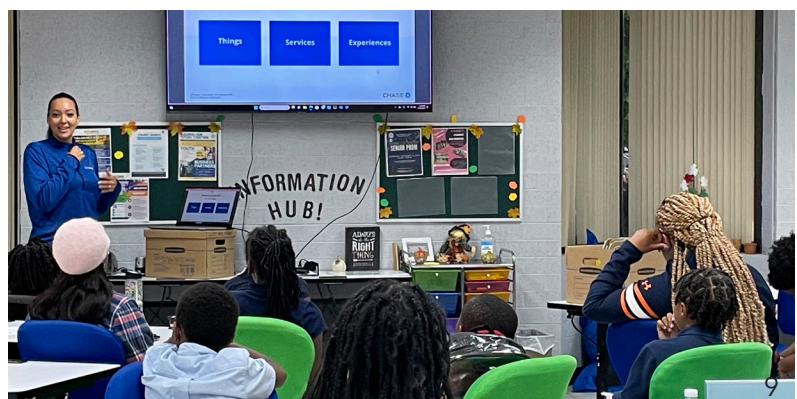
Terrarium making teaches kids about scientific observation, different types of plants, their specific needs, and how to maintain a healthy environment for them. As an added bonus, students created these decorative terrariums to give as gifts to family and friends.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Tutors are invested in helping students to understand and complete homework assignments. The increase of a student's confidence and academic success is evident.

FINANCIAL LITERACY

A strong foundation of financial literacy can help support various life goals, such as saving for education or retirement, using debt responsibly, and running a business. Mrs. Casandra Betts from Chase Bank conducts workshops to educate the youth and parents.





DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING AND ZONING

As we continue this highly anticipated season, we continue looking forward to assisting our community and working together to beautify your properties and our City of Calumet City.

GARBAGE

Please be proactive and remember to place all trash in a dedicated garbage can or container.

ROOFS

This is a good time to have your roof inspected by a license and bonded contractor to inform you if there's any leaks or need repairs.

GUTTERS AND DOWNSPOUTS

Please remember to clear them of any debris and keep them clean.

UPDATES

Please feel free to visit our office at 670 Wentworth Avenue, or the city website at www.calumetcity.org for more information and available updates.

Services of the Department of Building & Zoning include:

- Rental Inspection
- Annual Rental Code Compliance
- Contractor Registration
- Permit Applications (all trades)
- Point of Sale Inspection
- Vacant Building Registration Form
- Business Inspection Guidelines
- Flood Prevention
- Comprehensive Land Use Zoning Map
- Overhead Sewer Rebate Program Form
- Property Maintenance
- Business Inspection
- Transfer Stamp processing

PERMITS

To apply for a permit, please visit our city website at www.calumetcity.org (Building and Zoning Department) or visit our office located at 670 Wentworth Avenue.

CONTRACTORS

All contractors must be licensed with the City of Calumet City before starting work for a business or resident. To apply for a contractor registration, please visit our website at www.calumetcity.org or visit our office and our staff will be happy to assist you.

RENTALS

If you are a landlord, you are required to participate in the rental program. To apply for an annual rental inspection, please visit our website at www.calumetcity.org or visit our office and our staff will be happy to assist you.

POINT OF SALE

If you are planning to sell or purchase a home in Calumet City, you need to obtain a Point-of-Sale packet which will outline the process for completion. Please visit our website at www.calumetcity.org or visit to our office.

SCHEDULING AN INSPECTION

Permit(s), Point of Sale, Rental and Commercial

Please call us at (708) 891-8120 or visit our office located at 670 Wentworth Avenue, Monday-Friday between 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (excluding holidays).

For more information or any questions about our services, please visit our city website at www.calumetcity.org or contact us at (708) 891-8120 or dis@calumetcity.org.



CALUMET CITY CRIME FREE HOUSING

The Crime Free Housing program is a crime prevention effort that is being run across the country, and in approximately 30 Chicagoland communities. It is a program that was created back in 1992 by Officer Tim Zehring of the Mesa, Arizona Police Department. Calumet City's program was implemented in 2010 and was recently updated with the creation of the Crime Free Housing Department in 2022.

We help educate landlords mainly on managerial matters, such as background checks, Fair Housing compliance, and effective verbiage for lease agreements. Landlords are required to attend the latest in-person training (from 2022 to current) as their first matter of compliance to the City's Ordinance. Landlords needing to get the training completed should look over these upcoming dates and times, and then reserve a spot(s) by submitting a registration form. This information is available from the Crime Free Housing Department page on the City's website: www.calumetcity.org.

Saturday, May 25, 2024, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 8, 2024, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 25, 2024, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

(Each meeting is approximately 4 hours.)

Mike Banske, Director

(708) 891-8100 Ext. 8423

crimfreehousing@calumetcity.org



CALUMET CITY FAIR HOUSING

Calumet City's Fair Housing Administration works closely with the Crime Free Housing Department and the Building & Zoning Department. We strive to provide assistance to citizens currently living in Calumet City, and those wanting to call Calumet City home, in resolving any possible, or actual, discriminatory actions.

With the 2024 calendar year underway, it's very important that we remind everyone about new Fair Housing laws that are in place:

- **The Illinois Landlord and Tenant Act** has been amended to add a new section entitled, "Ban on Electronic funds Transfers as Exclusive Method of Payment" (765 ILCS

705/4). This prohibits landlords from requiring tenants to use electronic funds transfers (EFT), or similar electronic methods, as the only means of paying rent or other rent-related payments.

- **The Illinois Human Rights Act** has been amended to add "Immigration Status" to the current list of protected classes within the State. This protection still allows a landlord to request documentation for citizenship as a means of confirming a person's identification. However, the restriction is based upon any discrimination due to an individual's real or assumed citizenship or immigration status (i.e. refusing to rent to someone because they are not able to provide documentation of legal citizenship).
- **The Illinois Electric Vehicle Charging Act** (765 ILCS 1085) was created to address the emergence in popularity of vehicles that require battery charging stations at their home. The Act affects both residential and commercial properties and has information for new single-family homes and multi-unit residential buildings, but it also addresses properties that undergo renovation after January 1, 2024. The responsibility for getting code-compliant charging stations, and who pays for them, are outlined in this act.

Sharon Buford-Davis, Administrator

(708) 891 - 8100 Ext. 8434

sbuford-davis@calumetcity.org



Calumet City Ordinance #21-25 requires property owners, or responsible parties from the banking world, to register their vacant or foreclosing property. The registration process is conducted with our approved vendor, MuniReg, LLC (www.munireg.com), and the program is monitored through the Crime Free Housing Department. Vacant properties are a blight to any community and can lead to an increase of criminal opportunities and lower property values. It is the intention of Calumet City's Administration to revitalize our neighborhoods by getting these properties cleaned up, renovated to current building codes, and once again legally occupied. These efforts will directly impact the quality of life for Calumet City residents and we hope to see improvements come quickly.

Please understand that some properties require lengthy legal action before our goals can be obtained. If you have a vacant property on your block, please notify the Mayor's Office, your Alderman/woman, or any Calumet City Department to provide the exact address of the affected property.



CALUMET CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

PROMOTIONS

Congratulations to C. Lucius on his promotion to the rank of Sergeant. Sergeant C. Lucius is a 19-year veteran of the Calumet City Police Department that was recently promoted.



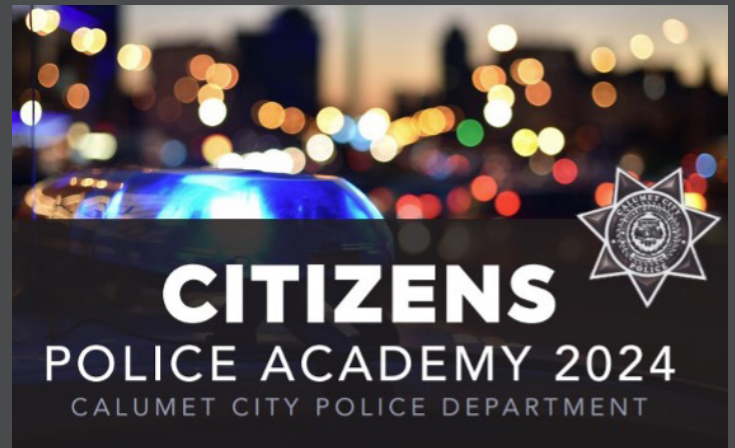
IMMEDIATE TRAUMA CARE TRAINING

The Calumet City Police Department recently received training and instruction on the preparation and application of basic and advanced trauma care. The training provides our officers with the skills and knowledge to treat and survive traumatic injuries to include severe bleeding, airway management, shock treatment, and hypothermia prevention. All the techniques taught have been implemented and practiced by emergency medical services throughout the nation and in the United States Military. In addition to the training and instruction, each police vehicle is equipped with trauma care equipment.



NEW POLICE OFFICER

Welcome Officer D. Smith who has joined the Calumet City Police Department. Officer D. Smith, a United States Marine Corp Veteran, graduated from the Police Academy and is currently in the Calumet City Police Field Training Program.



CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY 2024

The Calumet City Police Department's Citizens Police Academy, Class 24-01, started this April. The Citizens Police Academy provides insight into the inner workings of the various divisions of the Calumet City Police Department including the 911 Center, the Patrol Division, and the Investigations Division. Additional instruction includes crime scene investigation, narcotics investigation, and legal aspects of policing. Participants will learn how they can help prevent crime and become resources for improved community/police relations.

Participants of Class 24-01 are scheduled to graduate in November of 2024. Academy graduates are encouraged to take their knowledge back to their neighborhoods, where they can use it to enhance the safety of our community.



JUNETEENTH

Freedom Day

June 19th



Juneteenth commemorates an effective end of slavery in the United States. Juneteenth (short for "June Nineteenth") marks the day when federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas in 1865, to take control of the state and ensure that all enslaved people be freed from bondage. A century and a half later, people across the U.S. continue to celebrate the day, which is now a federal holiday.

JOIN MAYOR THADDEUS JONES AND THE CITY COUNCIL CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH

The day was first recognized as a federal holiday in 2021, when President Joe Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act into law (on June 17, 2021) after the efforts of Lula Briggs Galloway, Opal Lee, and others. Derrick Bryson Taylor wrote an article for the New York Times on June 20, 2022 which explains "how Juneteenth began," "how it's celebrated," "it's path to a national holiday," and "why Juneteenth became so important." The City of Calumet City is proud to share some summaries of Mr. Taylor's research and findings.

On June 19, 1865, approximately two months after Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrendered at Appomattox, Virginia; Gordon Granger, a Union General, arrived in Galveston, Texas, to inform enslaved African Americans of their freedom and that the Civil War had ended. General Granger's announcement put into effect the Emancipation Proclamation, which had been issued nearly two and a half years earlier, on January 1, 1863, by President Abraham Lincoln. This Proclamation declared "that all persons held as slaves within the rebellious states are, and henceforward shall be free." Therefore, it's very important to note that in addition to the holiday

being referred to as "Juneteenth," the holiday is also called "Juneteenth Independence Day," "Freedom Day," or "Emancipation Day."

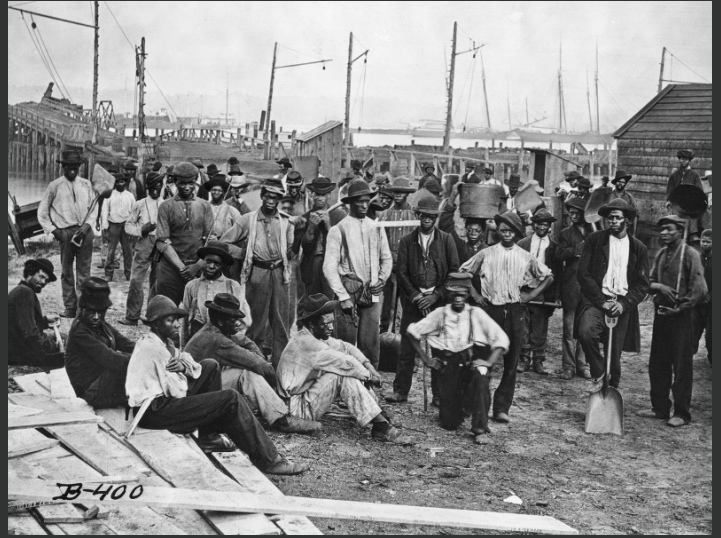
In 1872, a group of African American ministers and businessmen in Houston purchased 10 acres of land and created Emancipation Park which was intended to hold the city's annual Juneteenth celebration. Today, while some celebrations take place among families in backyards where food is an integral element; some cities like Atlanta and Washington (including Calumet City), hold larger events for its celebrations. In 1980, Texas became the first state to designate Juneteenth as a holiday. All 50 states and the District of Columbia now recognize the day in some form.

Following the killing of George Floyd, a Black man who died in the custody of the Minneapolis Police in May 2020, thousands of people around the United States poured onto the streets to protest. Mr. Floyd's name, as well as the names of Ms. Taylor, Mr. Arbery, and others - became a rallying cry for change across this country. This effectively re-energizing the Black Lives Matter movement.

However, that change came in waves. In Minneapolis, officials banned the use of chokeholds and strangleholds by the police and said officers must intervene and report any use of unauthorized force. And companies across the business spectrum voiced support for the *Black Lives Matter* movement and either suspended or fired employees who mocked Mr. Floyd's death or made racist remarks.

In April 2021, Derek Chauvin, a former Minneapolis police officer, was found guilty of two counts of murder in the death of Mr. Floyd. But two years on, many said that genuine change had been slow. Though after the guilty verdict, Juneteenth felt a little different. It became an opportunity for folks to kind of catch their breath about what had been this incredible pace of change and shifting in our country.

Juneteenth, or "Freedom Day" as many like to call it, is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States. This holiday is considered the "longest running African-American holiday" and has been called "America's second Independence Day."



This image depicts the historical legacy of Juneteenth

ALERT - DO NOT CALL THIS FAKE COMPANY!

WATER UPDATE

SORRY WE MISSED YOU

CODE: 11801

Family: _____

House Address: 912 Wentworth Ave
Calumet City IL 60409-5208

We were here on _____
 Estuvimos Aquí _____

Please call us **ASAP** between 9am - 7pm
 Favor de comunicarse lo más pronto posible entre 9am - 7pm
We are a private company not related to the Water Department.

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 U.S. Postage
PAID
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 Corona, CA

PRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



QUALITY WATER
TESTING USA, INC

877-977-8626

We are a private company not related to the Water Department.

FLOODING PREVENTION

If you are experiencing flooding the City of Calumet City and the Calumet City Public Library are here to help.

- To find out if you are in the floodplain call the Department of Inspectional Services at (708) 891-8120 or go to the Adult Services desk at the library and look at the Flood Insurance Rate Maps.
- An Elevation Certificate records the lowest floor elevation of a structure and is prepared by a licensed professional Land Surveyor or Civil Engineer. If the elevation of a structure is shown to be above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE) in the Special Flood Hazard Area, the owner may apply for a Letter of Map Revision from FEMA in order to be removed from the Special Flood Hazard Area. Elevation certificates are available to the public for review at The Department of Inspectional Services at (708) 891-8120. Please note: if any alteration to the structure has taken place such as a window or door at ground level a new Certificate of Elevation will need to be obtained.
- For advice on how to protect your home call the Dept. of Inspectional Services at (708) 891-8120 or visit the library and look at information on floodproofing and property protection. The library has the Homeowner's Guide to Retrofitting: Six Ways to Protect Your House from Flooding (FEMA publication 312). You can also download a copy from FEMA's website by searching for FEMA 312.
- For more information, visit Calumet City's website at www.calumetcity.org and select Flood Info.
- To learn more about staying safe before and during a flood, visit FloodSmart.gov.
- Contact your insurance agent and ask about getting a flood insurance policy. Flood insurance is available to everyone, and the rates are lower if you are outside of the mapped floodplain.
- Always check with the Department of Inspectional Services before you build on, fill, alter, or regrade your property. A permit is needed to ensure that such projects do not cause problems on other properties.
- If you are experiencing sewer backups or have connections of sump pumps or downspouts into the sanitary sewers you may be eligible for the City's Overhead Sewer and Sump Pump Flood Assistance Rebate Program. Applications are available at the Inspectional Services Department.
- If you have experienced flooding and would like assistance or tips to reduce future flooding the Department of Inspectional Services can provide help by visiting your property to perform a drainage assessment. For information about this service, please contact Inspectional Services at (708) 891-8120.
- Keep storm drain inlets clear of debris and leaves. If you see dumping or debris in ditches, filling or construction near property lines or filling or construction in the floodplain without a permit sign posted, contact the Department of Inspectional Services. Dumping in our ditches and stormwater basins is a violation of City Code.



CALUMET CITY PUBLIC WORKS

Dear Calumet City Residents,

We hope this letter finds you well. As we transition into the welcomed warmer months, we would like to take this opportunity to provide you with some community updates and reminders.

Catch Basin Maintenance: Catch basins play a crucial role in preventing flooding in our streets. We seek everyone's assistance in helping to keep them clear of debris. However, if you encounter any difficulties or need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact the Public Works Department. We're here to help!

Street Sweeping: To maintain the cleanliness of our streets and catch basins, we kindly ask for your cooperation with our street sweeping services. Please be mindful of street sweeping signs and moving your cars accordingly. Your immediate action ensures that our streets remain clear for our sweepers and therefore clean and safe for all residents.

Speed Bump Installation: Our crews have begun installing speed bumps in various neighborhoods to enhance safety. If you have any specific requests for speed bumps in your area, please reach out to your Alderman. Your input is valuable in making our streets safer for everyone.

Branch Piles: If you have branch piles that need to be removed, please ensure they are placed either in the parkway or alley for pickup. Additionally, please notify the Public Works Department so we can add your branch pile to our chipper list and schedule its removal promptly.

We appreciate your cooperation and understanding as we work together to maintain the beauty and functionality of our community. Should you have any questions or require assistance with any of the above, feel free to reach out to Calumet City's Department of Public Works at (708) 891-8160.



MAYOR ANNOUNCES CALUMET CITY'S 2024 SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Offering students an opportunity to work in our community!

Mayor Thaddeus M. Jones has announced Calumet City's 2024 Summer Youth Employment Program. The program offers local students an opportunity to work in their community during the summer months beginning June 3, 2024, and ending September 6, 2024.

Students interested in applying for the program must meet the following requirements:

1. Must be a Calumet City resident
2. Must be sixteen (16) to twenty-one (21) years of age
3. Must have a current valid Illinois Driver's License or Illinois State identification card with a current Calumet City address
4. Must be enrolled in high school or college for the 2023-2024 school year
5. Must be able to do physical labor outdoors (shovel, sweep, paint, etc.)

Application packets are available online at www.calumetcity.org from April 29, 2024, through June 30, 2024. Applications must be returned, accompanied with a resume, a copy of your social security card, a copy of your school identification card, and a copy of your Illinois driver's license or Illinois State identification card, to City Hall, 204 Pulaski Road, by close of business on June 30, 2024.

The Mayor's 2024 Summer Youth Employment Program begins June 3, 2024 and will last until September 6, 2024. Students will be paid \$15.00 an hour and will be required to report to the Department of Public Works Garage located at 1701 Dolton Road, Monday through Friday, for up to 20 hours a week. Work duties will include cleaning streets and alleys, painting curbs and hydrants, and other city beautification projects.

Information and application packets are available on the Calumet City website at www.calumetcity.org or please contact Personnel Director Deston Dorchack at (708) 891-8113 or ddorchack@calumetcity.org.

YOUR CALUMET CITY

BLACK HISTORY MONTH CONTEST



Photo Credit: Calumet City Photographer Edward Steave, Stay Focused Medi

BRINGING BLACK HISTORY TO LIFE

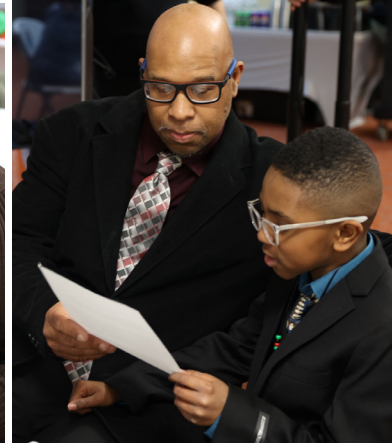


Photo Credit: Calumet City Photographer Edward Steave, Stay Focused Medi



FOOT LOCKER GRAND OPENING



Photo Credit: Calumet City Photographer Edward Steave, Stay Focused Media



WOMEN AWARDS



Photo Credit: Calumet City Photographer
Edward Steave, Stay Focused Medi



OPEN CLOSET EXTRAVAGANZA



Photo Credit: Calumet City Photographer Edward Steave, Stay Focused Media

BREAKFAST WITH THE MAYOR



Photo Credit: Calumet City Photographer Edward Steave, Stay Focused Media

POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENT



CED HEART DISEASE AWARENESS EVENT



You are invited to a

Black Tie Gala

"A NIGHT UNDER THE STARS"
for the Calumet City Public Library Foundation

FRIDAY, JUNE 28, 2024

6:30 PM - 10:00 PM
(doors open at 5:30)

CALUMET CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY
660 Manistee Ave, Calumet City, IL

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS:

DIAMOND \$10,000 • PLATINUM \$5,000
GOLD \$1,000 • SILVER \$500 • BRONZE \$100

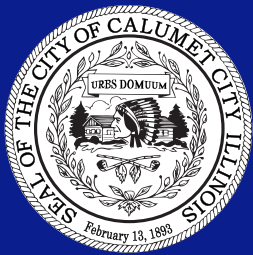


Please make your checks payable to:
Friends of the Calumet City Library

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PERMIT NO. 229

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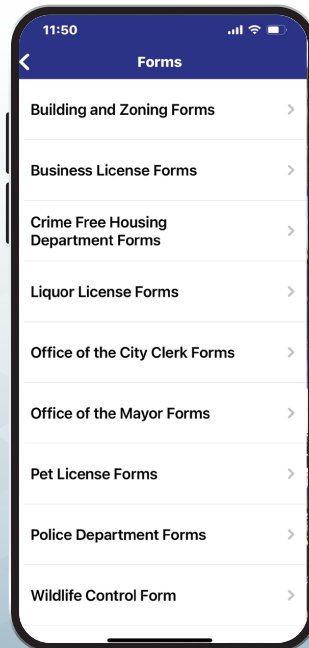
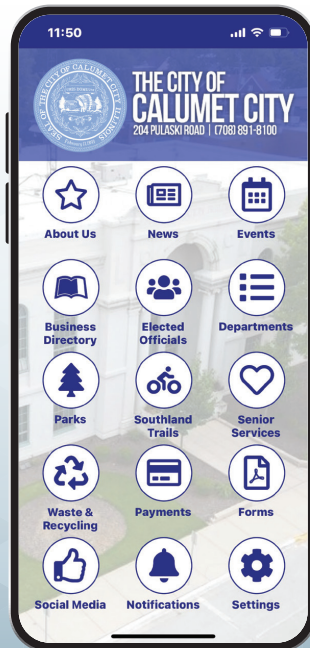
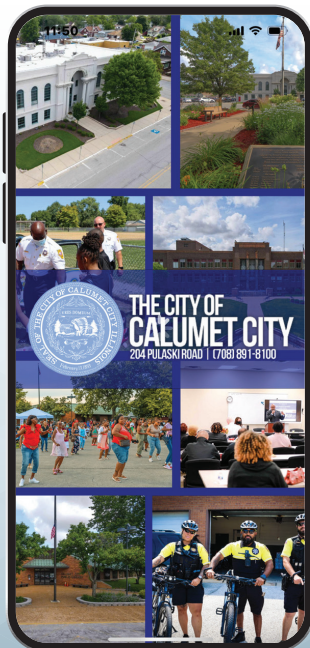
Local
Postal Customer



INTRODUCING: THE CALUMET CITY APP

YOUR GATEWAY TO COMMUNITY CONNECTION!

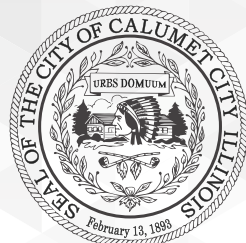
Stay seamlessly connected with all things Calumet City through our user-friendly mobile application. Whether you're a resident, visitor, or local business owner, this app is designed to enhance your experience and keep you informed. Scan the QR code for FREE download at the Apple or Google Play Store.



Download:



Download:



calumetcity.org