

A message from Public Facilities Director Charlie Carroll



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC FACILITIES STRATEGIC MISSION

The Department of Public Facilities strategic mission is to build, maintain and service the physical infrastructure of the City as well as pro-actively maintain stewardship of the City's natural environment for current City residents and generations to come.

The City of Bridgeport has a long and vibrant history from the Industrial Revolution to the present and the historic architecture of this City bears witness to that fact. Our historic Beardsley and Seaside Parks display the historic commitment Bridgeport has to preserving public space and providing green spaces where residents can unwind. Fredrick Law Olmsted, America's premier landscape architect born in Hartford, Connecticut, designed both Seaside and Beardsley Parks. With over 45 parks and 1,300 acres of parkland, Bridgeport is understandably known as the Park City.

Public Facilities maintains the infrastructure of the City of Bridgeport, and each of our 197.5 employees are customer service providers for the City's residents, the people who have had the confidence to support and stay the course in our City.

A brief overview of all of the divisions of the Public Facilities Department will give an idea of the breadth and challenge of our overarching mission:

ROADWAY DIVISION

Responsible for maintenance of the most valuable land in the City, our roadway system consisting of 272 miles of road network and includes everything from snowplowing to paving repairs, brush removal, street sweeping, and leaf pickup. The division divides the City into 4 primary sectors, each assigned to one foreman for control.

SANITATION & RECYCLING DIVISION

This division covers 12 solid waste routes and 4 recycling routes throughout the City year round and includes the operation of our Transfer Station. We service over 41,000 sanitation accounts and collect over 59,000 tons of garbage annually. We recycle approximately 10% of this waste, and have initiated recycling in municipal offices as well.

LINES & SIGNS DIVISION

Installing and maintaining in excess of 50,000 street signs and way-finding devices throughout the City speaks to the tenacity of a small but agile crew that is always installing or repairing our signage throughout the city in our 16 square mile area.

MAINTENANCE DIVISION

The maintenance of over 50 public buildings (over 1.6 million square feet) is a constant challenge. This effort includes everything from the City Hall at 45 Lyon Terrace to the City Hall Annex at 999 Broad Street, to historic buildings such as the Barnum Museum and Cleve Hall. While we might forget it, their responsibilities include the restroom facilities and bathhouses at our city parks. They are also responsible for the maintenance of traffic lights, park lights, and decorative streetlights. This division also has a Utilities Manager who works to reduce Bridgeport's energy use on the municipal level.

PARKS & RECREATION DIVISION

Maintaining over 45 parks, esplanades, traffic islands and streetscapes throughout the city is a constant effort. These parks include the tree-filled treasures designed by the famous landscape architect Frederick Law Olmstead—Seaside Park and Beardsley Park—as well as our renowned 36 hole Fairchild Wheeler Golf Course. In addition, they offer ever-expanding recreation programs for children, adults and seniors in the City.

ENGINEERING DIVISION

This division maintains the historic data for all the City's maps of roadways and drainage structures, as well as overseeing all of the traffic signalization for the City. In addition, this division processes over 125 applications per month for drainage-related permits relative to Planning and Zoning and Building Permits.

LICENSES AND PERMITS DIVISION

This is the Department's license and permit center for such documents as Street licenses, Sidewalk licenses, dump licenses, as well as street excavation permits, and sidewalk permits. Additionally this division is our quality control arm for the city, reviewing on an as-needed basis work that takes place within the City's jurisdiction.

HARBOR MASTER

Protecting the City's two major harbors, 12 miles of shoreline and surrounding waters is the mission of the City's Harbor Master. With his flotilla of vessels he manages the City's port commerce, maintains port security, and provides safety for the City's navigable waters.

SIKORSKY AIRPORT

Located partly in Stratford, the City's airport (in excess of 500 acres) exceeds the size of New York's LaGuardia and has built a significant corporate following in the last several years.

CONNECTICUT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY (BEARDSLEY ZOO)

The City's Connecticut Beardsley Zoo boasts over 54 acres of zoo property and is the only zoo in the State of Connecticut. Nestled in the renowned Fredereick Law Olmstead designed Beardsley Park., it welcomes visitors from throughout the state and the region. Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo is open year-round and exhibits primarily North and South American animals, including many endangered and threatened species. The Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo is dedicated to acquainting a diverse public to the delicate balance that exists between living things and their environment.

Service is our Business and the Stewardship of our City's physical infrastructure and natural environment is our mission. Thank you for visiting our website. We, the Public Facilities Department of the City of Bridgeport, Connecticut take great pride in providing our residents and neighbors with the best service possible. We strive to help make this City a very special place to live.