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## **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **City Installs 5 Lifesaving AED Devices in City Hall and Public Works Building**

**June 5, 2019 SAGINAW, MI** – The City of Saginaw’s Fire Department is partnering with the Public Services Facilities Division to complete the latest upgrade at City Hall and in the Public Works building. The newest enhancement could save a life.

The City has installed five new Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) in City Hall and the Public Works Building. The new locations include the main floor lobby area in Public Works, the Motor Pool Garage, and Engineering Corridor; and outside of Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall and near the public restrooms in the basement corridor. Along with the installation of the AED devices, the Saginaw Fire Department will offer training to city employees on the proper use of the devices.

When there is a cardiac arrest call, an AED is a lightweight, portable device that delivers an electric shock through the chest to the heart. When trained personnel use an AED and administer CPR within the first few minutes of a victim’s collapse, the

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victim's chances of survival increase dramatically. For each minute that a victim is unconscious and the heart is not restored to a normal rhythm, his or her chance of being resuscitated decreases by 7% to 10%. After 10 minutes, there is virtually no chance of survival.

“The Fire Department worked closely with the Facilities Division to ensure the AED’s are located in key locations in City Hall and the Public Works building. Our goal throughout this project is to guarantee that someone who witnesses a sudden cardiac arrest can quickly respond to the victim and deliver a shock within minutes,” said Saginaw Fire Chief, Chris Van Loo. “The installation of these devices and the training offered by the Fire Department could literally be the difference between life and death for someone.”

Phil Karwat, Director of Public Works, stated, “We believe strongly in the lifesaving power of public-accessible AEDs. The installation of five additional AEDs is another step in our continuing effort to be prepared when an emergency situation arises.”

For more information, please call the Saginaw Fire Department at 989 759-1393.

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