

STATE OF THE CITY BEDFORD, OHIO

SPONSORED BY THE SOUTHEAST REGION
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



JANUARY 25,
2018

PRESENTED BY: MAYOR STAN KOCI &
CITY MANAGER MIKE MALLIS



A Plan for the Future

- A successful income tax ballot issue – 81% approval
 - Balance operations and maintain current services
 - Provide three additional police officers
 - Reinstate major infrastructure program
 - Previously cut in 2007
- Continuing to operate at minimal levels City-wide while continuing to provide quality services
 - Changes as to how services are delivered

XELLIA CLEVELAND



- ❑ Xellia Cleveland is on a quest to build the foundation for Xellia's future.
 - ❑ Committed to a future in Bedford (152 FTE)
 - ❑ All U.S. packaging and shipping takes place out of Bedford
 - ❑ 100 additional positions in 2018
 - ❑ Professional, Scientific and production roles
 - ❑ Attracting people to move to the Cleveland area to join the Xellia team
 - ❑ Xellia has forged partnerships with Greater Cleve. Partnership, Jobs Ohio and others to build their talent pipeline.



XELLIA CLEVELAND



Campus Partnerships

- Attracting people to move to the Cleveland area to join the Xellia team
- Xellia has forged partnerships with Greater Cleve. Partnership, Jobs Ohio and local universities.
- Facilitate GMP course at Cleveland State University for College of Engineering
- 8 Co-Ops/ Interns currently employed
- Sponsor of CWRU Chemical Engineering senior design project team



FIRE DEPARTMENT



Chief: Dave Nagy

Asst. Chief: Shawn Solar



FIRE DEPARTMENT CONT.



Staffing

- 25 Line Firefighters (26 Paramedics)
 - ▣ Firefighters work 24 hour shifts
- 2 Chief Officers (2 Paramedics) 28 Paramedics Total
 - ▣ 96% of Department are Certified Paramedics
- 1 Civilian Administrative Assistant



FIRE DEPARTMENT CONT.



2017 Request for Service

- 2681 Total Requests for Service
 - ▣ 5% increase from previous year
 - ▣ HIGHEST TOTAL IN DEPT. HISTORY
- 1961 Requests for Advanced Life Support Rescue Squad
 - ▣ Accounted for 79% of department's calls (5% increase)
- 720 Fire / Specialized Rescue Calls
 - ▣ Responded to 38 structure fires
 - ▣ Total fire dollar loss decreased by 43% from previous year



FIRE DEPARTMENT CONT.



2018 Goals & Initiatives

- Increased focus on long term Firefighter health.
- Continued progress on Regional Initiatives
- Monitor stress on resources from Regional Partners
 - Mutual Aid Rescue Squad - 132
 - Mutual Aid Received - 166
- Decrease fire dollar loss



POLICE DEPARTMENT



Chief: Marty Stemple

Deputy Chief: Rick Suts



POLICE DEPARTMENT CONT.



Staffing

- 33 Officers
- 1 F/T – 6 P/T Correction Officers
- 4 F/T – 2 P/T Support Staff
- 25 Auxiliaries
- 3 P/T Animal Control
- 3 P/T School Crossing Guards



POLICE DEPARTMENT CONT.



2017 in Review

- Overall, the department traffic and parking enforcement increased significantly from previous years, resulting in safer roads for the motoring public. This was in large part, due to our Motorcycle Unit enforcing traffic violations in problem areas.
- Continuing to align with the University Hospital's O.V.I. Task Force objectives, the department dramatically increased OVI arrests from previous years. There were 66 arrests in 2016, and 89 OVI arrests in 2017.

POLICE DEPARTMENT CONT.



Safe Passages

- Partnering with Berea, Olmsted Twp., and Newburg Hts. P.D.'s, we launched the Safe Passages Program. Safe Passages is a revolutionary new policing program aimed at getting people suffering from addiction the help they need, instead of putting them in handcuffs. The Police Department acts as a liaison between the addicts and the treatment centers, helping to facilitate a quicker placement.

As a community - region

“We cannot arrest our way out of this problem”

POLICE DEPARTMENT CONT.



2018 Goals

- Focus on Community Policing: Maintain quality of life
- With the hiring of three additional officers, made possible due to the tax increase, we will be able to get more “boots on the ground” and officers into the neighborhoods and businesses more frequently.
- Adding a second K9 Officer. This will result in a K9 working virtually everyday.
- Engage the community to become involved through open and honest communication – has resulted in apprehensions in the past.
- Continue the deer management program.
- Continue to seek grant opportunities to assist with department programs and operations.



SERVICE DEPARTMENT & PUBLIC WORKS



Director: Clint Bellar

Superintendent of Public Works: Shawn Francis

SERVICE DEPARTMENT & PUBLIC WORKS

- 37 employees in the service, water, waste water and cemetery
- Consistently provide multiple services such as:
 - Operation and maintenance of Bedford Water Dept., Waste Water Treatment Plant & Bedford Cemetery
 - Leaf pick-up, chipper service, snow plowing
 - Water, sewer (465 calls, including 20 main breaks), sanitary and storm needs
 - Currently maintain 50 miles of roads within the City
 - Resulting in 35 road repairs from utilities and 14 other asphalt repairs
 - Landscape/maintain Public Square, Veteran's Park and downtown area
 - Christmas lighting display improvements

SERVICE DEPARTMENT & PUBLIC WORKS

- Major infrastructure improvements completed in 2017
 - Installation of 4,500 residential water meters
 - Complete roof replacement at the Service Garage (\$149,000.00)
 - Installation of a new park at Broadway and Mitchell.
- Waste Water Treatment Plant Improvements
 - Upgraded lighting, interior and exterior.
 - Purchased a tow motor.
 - Replaced some roofing, windows and door throughout the plant
 - Finished the digester improvements.
 - Landscaping improvements, including a new staircase.

SERVICE DEPARTMENT & PUBLIC WORKS

A Plan and Commitment to Infrastructure

- City leaders are finalizing a 5 year Capital Improvement Plan that will include:
 - \$1.7 million in road resurfacing
 - \$250,000 in pedestrian walks
 - OPWC – Center Road
 - Will begin a GIS Mapping project
 - Sanitary sewer maintenance and repair program being discussed
- City Leaders will continue to engage County and State officials regarding Union Street, Solon Road, Northfield Bridge and other areas in need of improvement.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT



Director: Erin Fach
Asst. Director: Michael Callahan



RECREATION DEPARTMENT CONT.



Fast Facts & Activities

- The City of Bedford has over 27 acres of park lands and facilities including Ellenwood Center and the outdoor municipal pool and skate park
- 7 full-time employees and 50+ part-time/seasonal employees
- Existing programs include youth and adult sports, summer camp, outdoor municipal pool, seniors, and the Community Transportation Service
 - Youth/Adult Sports & Summer Camp: 787 participants
 - Senior Club: 137 members
 - Transportation Service: Nearly 3,400 scheduled trips with over 15,000 miles traveled



RECREATION DEPARTMENT CONT.

2018 initiatives

- Review overall operations of department
- Implement new registration software to include online registration
- Develop branding and marketing materials – to include newsletter and/or brochure to be mailed to all residents
- Strengthen and increase programming with focus on increasing participation
- Build relationships with community stakeholders; i.e. School District, Cleveland Metroparks, local businesses, etc.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT



Commissioner: Calvin Beverly

- ❑ Certified by the State of Ohio in all Commercial and Residential building disciplines.
- ❑ President Ohio Chapter IAEL Board of Directors.

*Beautiful Bedford, Ohio
Less than 5 ½ square miles*



BUILDING DEPARTMENT CONT.



- 5 full time employees
- 454 Contractors registered with the City
- The Building Dept. issued permits for over \$11,700,000 in commercial renovations and 1,200,000 in residential renovations, alterations and new construction.
- 1737 apartment units & 906 rental dwellings
 - Over 2500 inspections performed in 2017
 - 200 more than 2016 and 800 more than 2014
 - The focus on exterior maintenance will continue into 2018

BUILDING DEPARTMENT CONT.



Maintaining our Neighborhoods

- ❑ The City of Bedford separately and in cooperation with the County Cuyahoga Land Reutilization Corporation (Cuyahoga County Land Bank) demolished a total of 15 blighted properties in 2017.
- ❑ Currently there are 1737 apartments & 935 residential dwellings rental units within the City subject to compliance by ordinance.
- ❑ The number of vacant homes, which includes bank owned, government owned, and estate owned has continued to decline to approximately 250 units.
- ❑ The Building Department will continue to enforce our exterior maintenance and property maintenance programs in 2018 as prescribed by ordinance.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT



Finance Director:

Frank Gambosi

- Frank has served as chairman of twelve members of the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada's Special Review Executive Committee (SREC). Responsible for overseeing the operations of the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Program, as well as establishing program policy, subject to review by the GFOA Executive Board.
- Frank was also appointed as 3 year term trustee in 2012 of the Municipal Finance Officers Association of Ohio representing Municipal Finance Directors of District 8 (Cuyahoga County).
- In 2017 Frank received the Dorian Lifetime Achievement Award - GFOA



2017 YEAR END



- City concluded 2017 with under \$700k in general fund cash balance.
 - These funds were a result of the reduction in city income tax collections throughout 2017.
 - We have experienced additional State revenue cuts and real estate tax collections over the last 4 years totaling \$1.9 annually!
 - \$4.8 million reserve currently in place.



FINANCE DEPARTMENT CONT.



- ❑ 7 full time employees in tax and finance departments
- ❑ In 2017 department received its 27th consecutive International Award from the Government Finance Officers Association
- ❑ The City maintains an investment board consisting of the City Manager, Law Director and Director of Finance.
- ❑ The City currently holds a A1 & AA- bond rating with Moody's and S&P.
- ❑ The City has been self-insured regarding Health Insurance costs for our employees for the past 25 years.
 - ❑ Significant healthcare changes were implemented and 2017 delivered additional cost savings through these changes.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT CONT.



- Monitor throughout the year fund balances, construction projects and grants and report upon them to Council, the State of Ohio and Federal Government Agencies.
- The City has been working with a private collections company in an effort to collect back taxes. The result of this was a record amount of collections on average of about \$430,000 annually.
- The Tax department has saved \$28,000 from 2014 – 2017 by not issuing tax forms to residents & businesses.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



Jennifer Kuzma: Business Development Liaison
Executive Director, NE Ohio First Suburbs

Mission: The City of Bedford is committed to retaining and attracting businesses to our community. The City works in partnership with public and private organizations to enhance local capacity and provides resources that support economic development activities.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.



Bedford Auto Mile Improvements

- Over the course of the last 5 years, the Bedford Auto Mile has invested roughly \$42 million into the City with various dealer renovations and improvements.
 - Include Bedford Audi, Alpha Romero, Kia and others.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.



Meadowbrook Market Square

- City Leaders will soon begin analyzing a comprehensive plan for the roughly 90 acres.
- Industrial Commercial Properties recently acquired the former Walmart facility and will soon begin redevelopment.
 - Will also be welcoming Simon's Supermarket, Davita Dialysis Clinic and other new businesses to the area.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.



Villa of San Bernardo - 2018



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.



Upcoming Projects and Initiatives

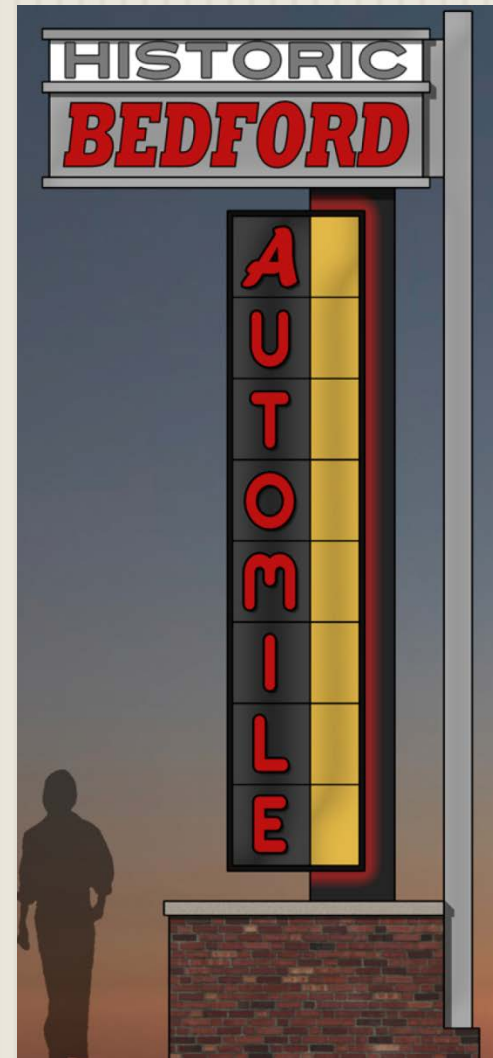
- City continues to target grants and other funding opportunities for assistance.
 - ▣ Over the last 9 years, the City has been successful in obtaining over \$28 million in grant dollars
- Bedford Community Development Corporation
 - ▣ Pending \$50,000 funding request
- Embark on a comprehensive, City-wide master plan
 - ▣ Seeking funding through County Planning



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.

2018 & Beyond

- Continue to work with Xellia Representatives
- Continue to market the City of Bedford as a whole....housing, businesses, service and overall quality of life
- Development of the Taylor / Willis property and the City trail-way.
- Collaborate with Hemisphere to market Tinkers Creek Commerce Park
- St. Peter Chanel redevelopment – 30 acres



QUESTIONS / COMMENTS

