

STATE OF THE CITY BEDFORD, OHIO

SPONSORED BY THE SOUTHEAST REGION
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



JANUARY 30,
2019

PRESENTED BY: MAYOR STAN KOCI &
CITY MANAGER MIKE MALLIS



Delivering on a Commitment

- 2019 Budget is balanced with all current services being maintained.
- Three additional Police Officers have officially been hired.
- A plan to address some of the aging safety forces fleet and equipment is currently being analyzed.
- Major Street Infrastructure Program returned in 2018.
 - Administration will continue to review operations in order to operate as efficiently and effectively as possible.

FIRE DEPARTMENT



Chief: Dave Nagy

Asst. Chief: Shawn Solar





FIRE DEPARTMENT CONT.

Staffing

- 27 Line Firefighters (25 Paramedics)
 - Firefighters work 24 hour shifts
- 2 Chief Officers (2 Paramedics) 27 Paramedics Total
 - 93% of Department are Certified Paramedics
- 1 Civilian Administrative Assistant



FIRE DEPARTMENT CONT.



2018 Requests for Service

- 2417 Total Requests for Service
 - 1% increase from previous year
- 1712 Requests for Advanced Life Support Rescue Squad
 - Accounted for 71% of department's calls
- 705 Fire / Specialized Rescue Calls
 - Responded to 36 structure fires



FIRE DEPARTMENT CONT.



2019 Goals & Initiatives

- Increased focus on long term Firefighter health.
- Implement a plan to address some of the aging fleet.
 - 2007 Engine - \$650,000.00
 - 2002 Rescue Squad - \$275,000.00
- Continued progress on Regional Initiatives.
 - Chagrin Valley Dispatch
- Monitor stress on resources from Regional Partners
 - Mutual Aid Rescue Squad - 104
 - Mutual Aid Received - 126

POLICE DEPARTMENT



Chief: Marty Stemple

Deputy Chief: Rick Suts





POLICE DEPARTMENT CONT.

Staffing

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



POLICE DEPARTMENT CONT.



2018 in Review

- With the help of the Bedford Automile we were able to add a second K-9 Unit.
- With a generous donation from the Broadway Cyclery, the Bicycle Unit was reinstated and will be put back on the road in 2019.
- A restructuring of our staffing and reallocating some administrative duties, more officers will be on road patrol and back into the neighborhoods.
- A major computer replacement project was just completed. This was a replacement of all in car computers, and desktop work stations.
- We faced numerous staffing changes this year. In addition to one retirement, one resignation, and two injuries, we had six new officers complete field training and one new officer start the academy.
- The Department has a strong social media presence that allows the City to engage the public on multiple platforms.

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.



2019 Goals

- Focus on Community Policing: Maintain quality of life.
- Engage the community to become involved through open and honest communication.
- Police and Fire Personnel, in partnership with Central School, are engaging the youth in monthly visits.
- 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 (450+ calls, including over 30 main breaks), sanitary and storm needs.
 - Currently maintain 50 miles of roads within the City.
 - Numerous road and curb repairs performed in house.
 - Landscape/maintain Public Square, Veteran's Park and downtown area.
 - Holiday lighting display – converted to 100% LED in 2018.



Significant Projects Completed in 2018

- ❑ Annual Road Resurfacing Program resulted in \$400,000.00 in improvements.
- ❑ Implemented a storm and sanitary sewer maintenance program in collaboration with Cuyahoga County.
 - Commenced in 2018 with an additional \$10,000.00 allocated in 2019.
- ❑ Completed and dedicated a new park at Broadway and Mitchell in 2018.
- ❑ Through a grant, areas of Columbus and Rockside Road were crack sealed as a preventative maintenance measure.
- ❑ In cooperation with the FD, Bedford Water worked to replace 50+ faulty or inoperable hydrants throughout town.
 - The City's "water loss" is currently at an 7 year low.



A Plan and Commitment to Infrastructure

- City leaders finalized a 5 year Capital Improvement Plan that will include:
 - \$2.0 million in road resurfacing
 - \$200,000 in pedestrian walks
 - \$1,000,000 water line replacement project along Union Street – 2019 (Union resurfacing to commence afterwards)
 - Started the design of a GIS Mapping System for Bedford
- The City is currently in the process of working through our EPA permit renewal for the Waste Water Treatment Facility.
 - Bedford will work to identify a plan for future plant upgrades during this process.
- City Leaders will continue to engage County and State officials regarding Solon Road, Northfield Bridge and other areas in need of improvement.



PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Director: Erin Fach
Asst. Director: Michael Callahan





PARKS & 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.
- Existing programs include youth and adult sports, summer camp, outdoor municipal pool, senior programs, and the Community Transportation Service.
 - Youth/Adult Sports & Summer Camp: 800+ participants.
 - Senior Club: 137 members.
 - Transportation Service: Nearly 1,900 scheduled trips with over 13,000 miles traveled .
- Ellenwood Center has been under construction over the past year. The project has included asbestos abatement throughout the first floor, new energy efficient lighting in the main corridor, first floor classrooms, and offices, renovation of the front office space, fresh paint, and new carpet in the main corridor, senior room, and offices.
 - Scheduled to relocate back to the center in February.



PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT CONT.

2018 Highlights

- ❑ Implemented online registration
- ❑ Improved customer communication – ability to text/email participants
- ❑ Partnership with Bedford Athletic Department and their soccer coaches
- ❑ Revised Ellenwood rental process and procedures making it more cost effective.
- ❑ Partnership with the library
- ❑ Extended use of social media; i.e. Facebook
- ❑ Use of electronic media; i.e. Peach jar
- ❑ Involvement with community organizations; i.e. Bedford Garden Club, Downtown Bedford Alliance



PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT CONT.

2019 Initiatives

- Maximize the use of Ellenwood Center
- Strengthen and increase programming with focus on increasing participation.
- Develop branding and marketing materials to include a newsletter and/or brochure that will be mailed to all Bedford residents.
- Strengthen relationships with community stakeholders; i.e. school district, Cleveland Metroparks, local businesses, etc.

“ A little progress each day adds up to big results”

BUILDING DEPARTMENT



Commissioner: Calvin Beverly

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

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





BUILDING DEPARTMENT CONT.

- 5 full time employees
- 495 Contractors registered with the City
- The Building Dept. issued commercial permits with a construction value of \$24,064,000 and residential permits with a construction value of \$850,000 for a total of \$24,145,000 in construction.
 - Increased from roughly \$12,900,000 in 2017
- 1737 apartment units & 933 rental dwellings
 - Over 2733 inspections performed in 2018
 - 300+ more than 2017



BUILDING DEPARTMENT CONT.

Maintaining our Neighborhoods

- ❑ The City of Bedford applied for and received a federal grant to demolish blighted commercial and residential properties in 2019. The grant money will be used in cooperation with the Cuyahoga County Land Reutilization Corporation (CCLRC).
 - ❑ Notice to proceed has been given to the Land Bank for numerous residential homes along Columbus and the former Moonglow property.
- ❑ 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 2019 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).
- Recipient of the Dorian Lifetime Achievement Award - GFOA

2018 YEAR END



- City concluded 2018 with under \$340k in general fund cash balance.
 - We continue to experience reductions in State revenue cuts and real estate tax collections over the last 3 years totaling \$1.9 annually!
 - \$4.4 million reserve currently in place.
- 2019 operations are balanced.





FINANCE DEPARTMENT CONT.

- 7 full time employees in tax and finance departments.
- In 2018 department received its 28th 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.
 - The significant healthcare changes implemented in 2017 delivered additional cost savings.



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 partnership continues to average of about \$425,000 annually.
- The Tax department has saved roughly \$33,000 from 2014 – 2018 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.



XELLIA CLEVELAND



- Xellia Cleveland continues to build the foundation for Xellia's future.
 - Committed to a future in Bedford (252 FTE)
 - All U.S. packaging and shipping takes place out of Bedford
 - Xellia's second phase is currently underway with major additions being planned for the facility.

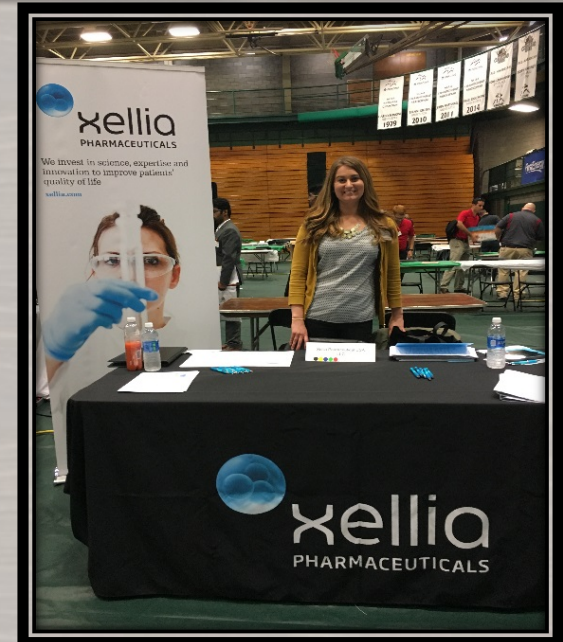


XELLIA CLEVELAND



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
- Sponsor of CWRU Chemical Engineering senior design project team
- Xellia has forged partnerships with Greater Cleve. Partnership, Jobs Ohio and others to build their talent pipeline.





ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.

Bedford Auto Mile Improvements

- Over the course of the last 4 years, the Bedford Auto Mile has invested roughly \$37 million into the City with various dealer renovations and improvements.
 - Include Acura / Volvo, Alpha Romero, Kia and Hyundai



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.



Meadowbrook Market Square

- City Leaders have analyzed a rezoning plan for the roughly 90 acres.
- Industrial Commercial Properties is actively marketing the former Walmart facility and the interest is high.
 - Will also be welcoming Simon's Supermarket, Davita Dialysis Clinic, Ohio BMV, Title Bureau and other new businesses to the area.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.



Villa of San Bernardo - 2019



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.



Redesigned City Website Launched January 2019

The screenshot displays the homepage of the Bedford, Ohio city website. At the top, a green navigation bar contains the Bedford logo and the word "Bedford" on the left, and a menu of links: Residents, Businesses, Community, Events, News, Departments, Contact, and utility icons (help, mail, warning, search) on the right. The main visual is a large photograph of a waterfall with a dark overlay. The overlay text reads "Proudly serving Bedford, Ohio" and includes a search bar with the placeholder "How can we help you?". Below the main image is a white service menu with four buttons: "Get Answers" (with a question mark icon), "My Services" (with a location pin icon), "Make a Payment" (with a credit card icon), and "Report an Issue" (with a warning triangle icon). A "Select question type" dropdown is positioned below these buttons. The footer is a blue bar with the text "Welcome to our new website!" and a "Feedback" button.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.




Projects and Initiatives

- City continues to target grants and other funding opportunities for assistance.
 - Over the last 8 years, the City has been successful in obtaining over \$24 million in grant dollars.
- Bedford Community Development Corporation.
 - Awarded \$50,000 that assisted local small businesses.
- Numerous energy improvements made possible through NOPEC grant funding.
- Camera Initiative made possible through the Automile.
 - Installation of 20 + cameras along areas of Rockside and Broadway.
- Be a resource for the Bedford School District as it develops a strategy for the former Chanel property – 30 acres.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.

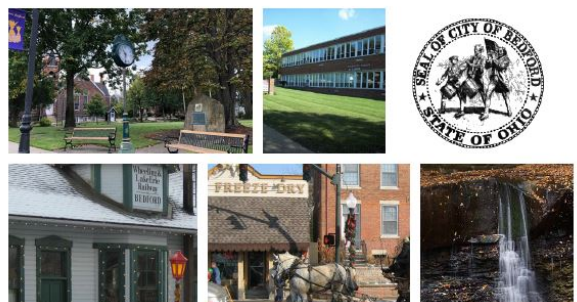


City-Wide Sign Initiative Commencing in 2019




Wayfinding Analysis Report

PREPARED FOR
City of Bedford, OH



13110 Shaker Square, Suite 101
Cleveland, OH 44120

guidestudio.com
216-921-0750



SIGN TYPE RECOMMENDATIONS


Vehicular Directionals

Vehicular signs and messages are designed to be easily read by people driving at speeds of 25 mph or more. Federal and State guidelines may dictate design, structure and messages.

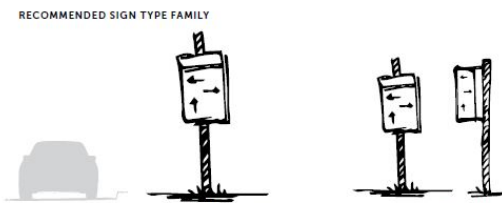
There can be multiple levels of directional signs that progress from general to specific messages, as well as different scales depending on the surrounding environment and speed of traffic. Since the final destination for vehicular traffic is typically parking many vehicular wayfinding programs include direction to destination based parking and/or public parking.

Types of Vehicular Directionals

- Primary Directionals
- Secondary Directionals



RECOMMENDED SIGN TYPE FAMILY



Primary Directional

Secondary Directional

Wayfinding Analysis - City of Bedford, OH

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.





ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.

Lights, cameras, jobs: Cleveland, Cincinnati film commissions want bigger incentives for Ohio productions.

- Cleveland Plain Dealer, January 16, 2019



“We have people who really, really want to come and do business and leave their money in Ohio and hire locals, and they’re waiting for us to create the mechanism,” – Ivan Schwarz, President of the Greater Cleveland Film Commission.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.



Dakar Studios





ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.

2019 & Beyond

- ❑ Continue to work with Xellia Representatives.
- ❑ Development of the Taylor / Willis property and the City trail-way.
- ❑ Collaborate with Hemisphere and Cuyahoga County to push Tinkers Creek Commerce Park forward.
- ❑ Art of Beauty is forging an exciting path in Bedford.
- ❑ Continue to work with Data Basics as they cement a foundation in Bedford.
- ❑ Continue to highlight the City of Bedford as a whole....housing, businesses, service and overall quality of life



QUESTIONS / COMMENTS

