

# STATE OF THE CITY BEDFORD, OHIO



FEBRUARY 13,  
2020

PRESENTED BY: MAYOR STAN KOCI &  
CITY MANAGER MIKE MALLIS



# CITY OF BEDFORD

*The achievements of  
an organization are  
the results of the  
combined effort of  
each individual.*





# FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief: Dave Nagy

Asst. Chief: Dan Dopslaf





# 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.



## *2019 Requests for Service*

- 2562 Total Requests for Service
- 2048 Requests for Advanced Life Support Rescue Squad
  - Accounted for 79% of department's calls
- 517 Fire / Specialized Rescue Calls



# FIRE DEPARTMENT CONT.



## *2019 in Review*

- Implemented technology enabling crews to receive information in a more efficient manner allowing advance evaluation of calls to which they are responding
- ALS Squads and ALS Engine equipped with up to date Cardiac Monitors and Lucas Devices
- Conducted numerous department wide training exercises
- Continued to deliver quality safety services while facing various challenges



# FIRE DEPARTMENT CONT.



## ***2020 Initiatives***

- Firefighter health and safety initiatives
- Continue exploring grant opportunities (BWC, etc.)
- Maintain operational efficiency during transition of staffing changes and assignments
- Continued regional training and operations
- Delivery of a business community CPR awareness program
- Maintain the delivery of quality services while facing increased call volume and staffing challenges

# FIRE DEPARTMENT CONT.



## *Upgrading the Fleet*

- Delivering with a plan to address the aging fleet
  - 2007 Engine - \$658,469.00
  - 2002 Rescue Squad - \$270,000.00
- Specifications and pre-build of new engine 13 and squad 18





# POLICE DEPARTMENT



Chief: Martin 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.



## *2019 in Review*

- Department faced numerous staffing changes this year. In addition to two retirements, one resignation, and five injuries, we had four new officers complete their field training programs.
- We completed a restructuring of our staffing and reallocating some administrative duties, which results in more officers on the road and patrolling the neighborhoods.
- Sadly, early in the year we experienced the untimely loss of one of our K9's. During K9 Mike's short tenure with the Bedford Police Department, he is credited with numerous arrests and saving a life. He was a great dog, and is missed by all of us.
- The Department continues with 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.



## 2020 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 (upgrade numerous radios in 2020)
- With the outstanding partnership we have with the Bedford Automobile Association, we worked to install over 20 cameras along Broadway and Rockside
- Purchase and implement a second K9 unit



# 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, tree removal (removed 64 dead or diseased trees and removed 103 stumps.) and snow plowing
  - Sewer (400+ blocked sewer calls), dug 37 sanitary laterals to make repairs in the public right of way
  - Currently maintain 50 miles of roads within the City
    - Numerous road and curb repairs performed in house, 59 roadway repairs resulting from main breaks, sinkholes, and sanitary sewer repairs. Also rebuilt 22 catch basins
  - Landscape/maintain Public Square, Veteran's Park and downtown area
  - Holiday lighting display – converted to 100% LED in 2019





## ***Significant Projects Completed in 2019***

- ❑ Annual Road Resurfacing Program resulted in \$400,000.00 in improvements
- ❑ Implemented a sidewalk replacement program
- ❑ Implemented a storm and sanitary sewer maintenance program in collaboration with Cuyahoga County
  - Commenced in 2019 with an additional \$10,000.00 allocated in 2020
- ❑ Completed a bank stabilization project at the Waste Water Treatment Facility in excess of \$600,000.00
- ❑ Bedford Water worked to replace 44+ faulty or inoperable hydrants throughout town, repaired 27 main breaks, repaired 28 main line valves, dug up 37 service line curb stops, and exercised over 100 valves
  - The City's "water loss" is currently at an 20 year low





## *Numerous Grant Awards*

- ❑ Received a \$42,000.00 grant to purchase and plant 100 trees
- ❑ Through a grant, areas of Columbus and Rockside Road were crack sealed as a preventative maintenance measure
- ❑ Through another grant, the historic cemetery archway was rebuilt





## *A Plan and Commitment to Infrastructure*

- City leaders are following a 5 year Capital Improvement Plan that includes:
  - \$2.0 million in road resurfacing
    - Nearly doubling the investment yearly for road resurfacing
    - Negotiating plans for Broadway Ave. – Fiscal year 2023
  - \$200,000 in pedestrian walks
  - Continue to build out 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, Union Street, Northfield Road, Northfield Bridge and other areas in need of improvement



# SERVICE DEPARTMENT & PUBLIC WORKS

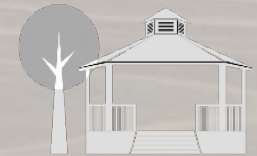






# PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Director: Erin Fach  
Asst. Director: Michael Callahan



**BEDFORD**  
PARKS & RECREATION





# 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
- Ellenwood Center is a great place for Bedford Residents to host a banquet or family event for groups of all sizes at an affordable price



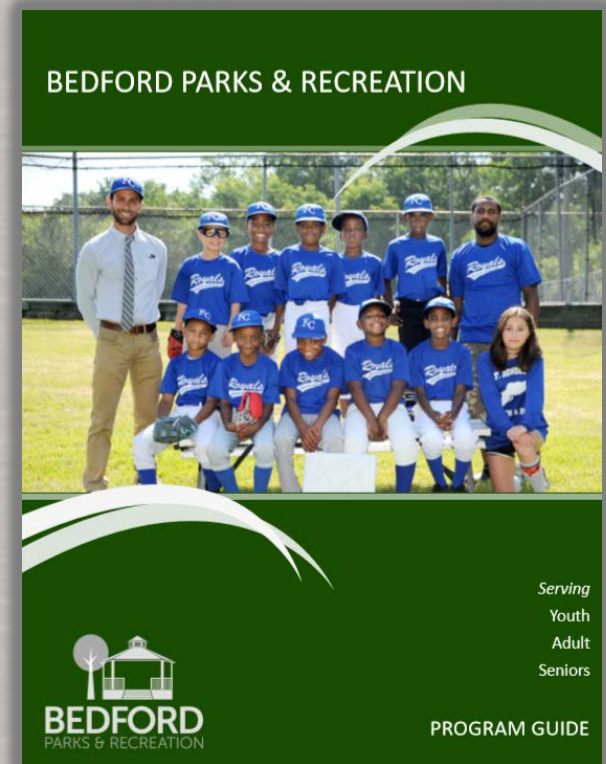




# PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT CONT.

## *Fast Facts & Activities*

- Ellenwood Center offers multiple classrooms, double classrooms, and a gymnasium to offer a wide variety of programs for youth, adults, and seniors of all ages
- Recent brochure mailed to all Bedford households
- New and updated program information on the City's website at [www.bedfordoh.gov](http://www.bedfordoh.gov)
- Bedford Senior Club – meets 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at Ellenwood Center – open to all Bedford Residents 55 years of age and older







# PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT CONT.

## *2019 Highlights*

- ❑ Moved back into Ellenwood Center after a lengthy construction project that allowed us to abate asbestos and replace first floor lighting with more cost efficient LED lighting. The Center is now more inviting for all visitors.
- ❑ Hired full-time Recreation Coordinator.
- ❑ Offered new youth programming for Pre-K and Kindergarten aged kids through our partnership with Jump Start Sports such as Little Hoop Stars, Hummingbird Soccer, T-Birds Baseball, and Flag Football (62 participants)
- ❑ Offered indoor soccer for kids ages 6-12 (49 participants)
- ❑ Improved the Summer Camp program for kids ages 5-12 (108 participants)
- ❑ Offered new Winter Break Camp for families needing child care during the holiday break (25 participants)



# PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT CONT.

## *2019 Highlights*

- Partnered with Bedford Downtown Alliance; co-hosted First Friday Movie Night on the Square in September (approximately 350 in attendance)
- Senior Programming
  - Established relationship with UH Hospital – held first Senior Health Fair on October 16
  - Established relationship with Benjamin Rose/ESOP
  - Established relationship with Alzheimer’s Association
  - Established relationship with Cuyahoga County Division of Senior and Adult Services and the CCSSN Network and attended meetings and trainings
  - Joined the Ohio Association of Senior Centers
  - Re-established the Wii bowling league



# PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT CONT.

## ***2020 Initiatives***

- ❑ Improve on-line registration system
- ❑ Continue to improve Ellenwood Center and other recreational facilities
- ❑ Increase recreational and educational opportunities for kids, adults, seniors, and families
- ❑ Continue seeking and strengthening relationships with outside groups and organizations that provide needed resources and services for the community
- ❑ Establish sponsorship opportunities for local businesses as a way to support recreational and education opportunities; as well as, gain valuable exposure within the community

**“ 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.
- ❑ Past President Ohio Chapter IAEL Board of Directors.

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





# BUILDING DEPARTMENT CONT.

- 5 full time employees
- 566 Contractors from various disciplines registered with the City
- The Building Dept. issued commercial permits with a construction value of \$24,447,674 and residential permits with a construction value of \$808,600 for a total of \$25,256,274 in construction.
- Over 2700 inspections performed in 2019
- Commercial & Residential inspections of buildings structural, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, and Fire Life Safety systems to include suppression and fire alarm, in addition to property maintenance





# 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 was used in cooperation with the Cuyahoga County Land Reutilization Corporation (CCLRC).



# 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.
- Recipient of the Dorian Lifetime Achievement Award - GFOA



# 2019 YEAR END



- City concluded 2019 with over \$500k in general fund cash balance
  - \$4.8 million reserve currently in place
- 2020 Budget is balanced with all current services being maintained
- Administration will continue to review operations in order to operate as efficiently and effectively as possible
- Participated in a Post Audit Review with the State Auditor's Office regarding the water investigation





# FINANCE DEPARTMENT CONT.

- 7 full time employees in tax and finance departments
- In 2019 department received its 29th 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 continue to deliverer 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 \$39,000 from 2014 – 2019 by not issuing tax forms to residents & businesses.

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



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





# XELLIA CLEVELAND



- Xellia Cleveland continues to build the foundation for Xellia's future
  - Committed to a future in Bedford (282 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
  - Includes the development of a state of art bag line system that hopes to be "online" by early 2021



# 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*

- Over the course of the last 6 years, the Bedford Auto Mile has invested roughly \$56 million into the City with various dealer renovations and improvements
  - Include Acura / Volvo, Alpha Romero, Mazda and Hyundai





# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.

## *Meadowbrook Mixed-Use District*

- ❑ City Leaders completed the rezoning process for roughly 90 acres
- ❑ Industrial Commercial Properties has partnered to bring Midwest Curtain Wall into the former Walmart facility
- ❑ Bedford also welcomed the Ohio BMV, Title Bureau and other new businesses to the area







# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.

## *New Construction - Investment*

- BBG, Inc.
  - Acquired the former Mr. G's Tavern in 2019
  - Estimated completion of renovations and occupancy planned for 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2020
  - Relocating Insurance Brokerage Firm



# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.



## *New Construction - Investment*

- Light of Hearts Villa Expansion
  - Renovations approved and scheduled to begin in 2020
  - Addition will allow for the expansion of the memory care unit





# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.



## Villa of San Bernardo - 2020





# 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
- Investing over \$100,000.00 on numerous energy improvements made possible through multiple NOPEC grants
- 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
- Sign initiative scheduled to be 100% complete by 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2020 – made possible through various grants



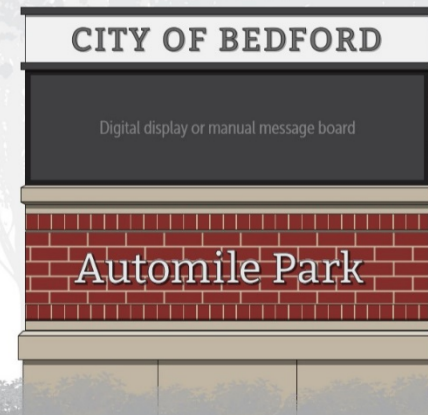
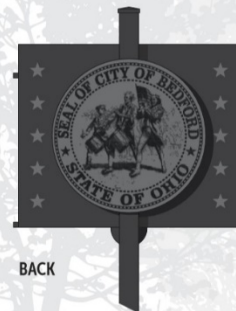
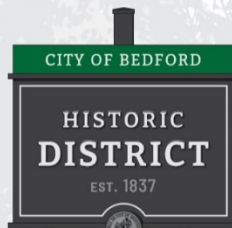
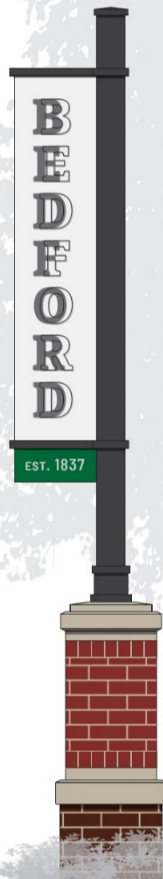


# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.

## City-Wide Sign Initiative



Stone and brick from existing buildings





# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.

## 2020 & Beyond

- ❑ Continue to work with Xellia Representatives
- ❑ Currently involved in negotiations with Hemisphere and Cuyahoga County to fuel development of Tinkers Creek Commerce Park
- ❑ Art of Beauty is forging an exciting path in Bedford
- ❑ Continue to work with Data Basics as they cement a foundation in Bedford
- ❑ Recently applied for \$1 million in funding for the Development of the Taylor / Willis City trail-way





# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.





# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.







# CITY OF BEDFORD

“ People sometimes shy away from big swings because they build a case against trying before they even step up to the plate....

**Long shots aren't usually as long as they seem.**  
With enough thoughtfulness and commitment, the boldest ideas can be executed”.

Bob Iger

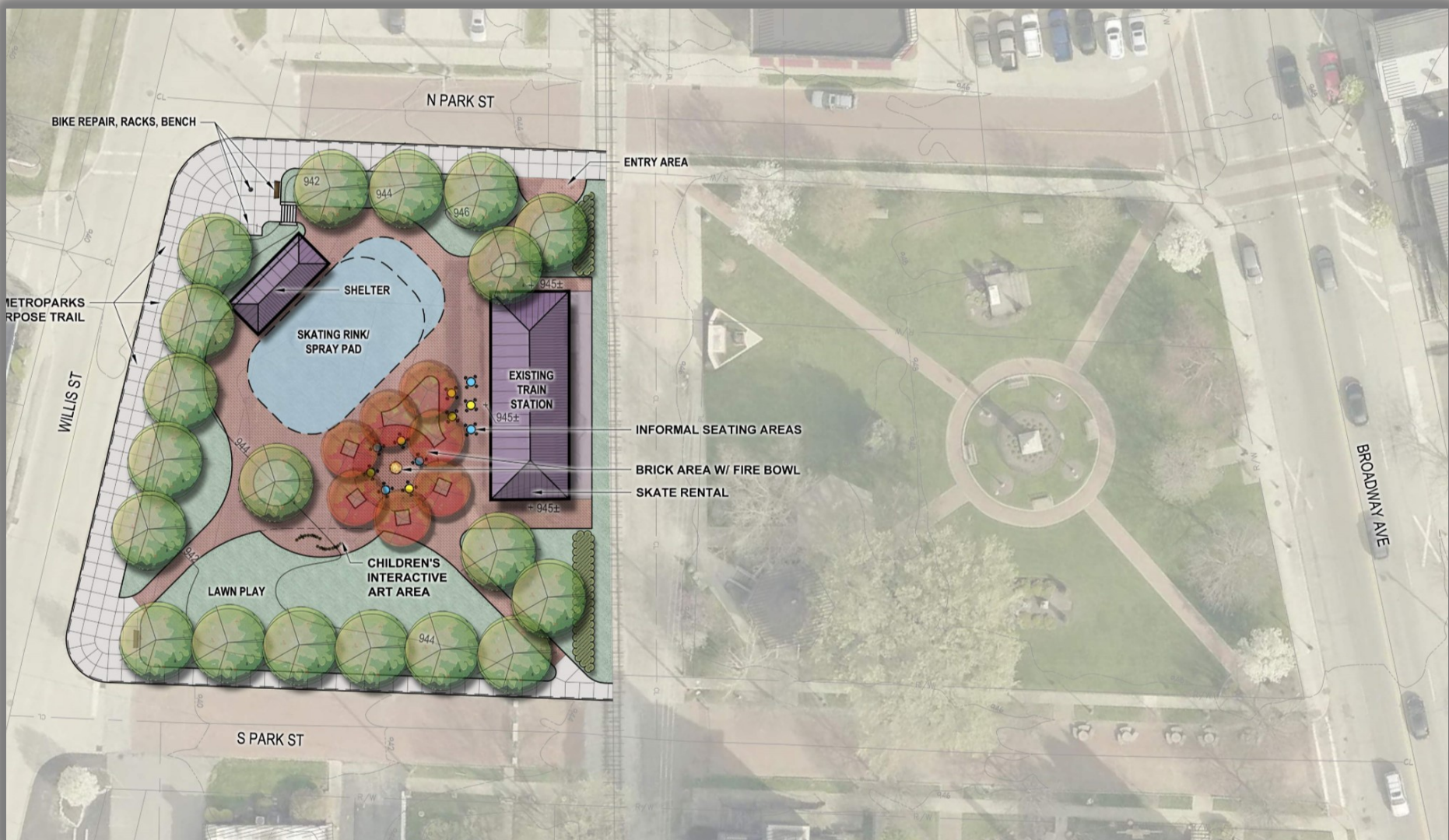
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# QUESTIONS / COMMENTS

