



# City of Montgomery 2006 Annual Report

# About Montgomery

Contained in a land area of 5.3 square miles, the City of Montgomery is located in northeastern Hamilton County, 12 miles from Cincinnati. The community was settled in 1795-96 by residents from two New York towns, Montgomery and Hopewell.

Since its founding, the community attracted additional residents, leading to its incorporation in 1910. Much of the community's growth has occurred in the last 30 years, as development continued its northward advance along the interstate systems of southwest Ohio. Today, Montgomery has approximately 3,800 housing units and is home to 10,163 residents.

Montgomery derives much of its operating revenue from a one percent (1%) earnings tax to help fund a full range of City services, undertaken by 65 full-time and 40 part-time employees. Services provided by the City of Montgomery include: police and fire protection, development plan review and building inspections, recreational programming, maintenance of seven parks, street maintenance and snow/ice control of 92 lane-miles of roadway, as well as a host of other City programs.

Montgomery is located in the Sycamore School District, which has drawn national recognition for academic excellence. The

district operates four elementary schools, an intermediate school, a junior high school and a high school.

Montgomery is home to a variety of commercial enterprises including: Bethesda North Hospital, Ohio National Financial Services, Century Motors, Montgomery Chevrolet, and Camargo Cadillac. In addition, the historic downtown is a thriving retail and dining area, including the famous Montgomery Inn Restaurant.

The City of Montgomery is also home to institutions serving 13 religious denominations.

## Property Tax Breakdown

**Schools**

**62%**

**County**

**23%**

**City**

**15%**



*The Universalist Church, located at the corner of Montgomery and Remington Roads, was the first National Register Building in Hamilton County (1970).*

## 2006 Top 10 Employers

1. Bethesda North Hospital
2. Sycamore Community School District
3. Ohio National Financial Services
4. Montgomery Inn
5. CEI Physicians PSC, Inc.
6. TriHealth, Inc.
7. Meadowbrook Care Center
8. American Nursing Care
9. Kroger
10. Twin Towers Retirement Organization dba Twin Lakes



# 2006 Highlights

2006 was another busy year in which the City experienced many significant changes and improvements to its operations.

Work on the City's 2001 Five-Year Strategic Plan was completed in 2006, paving the way for a new plan development in 2006. The 2006 strategic planning process used an environmental scan of issues potentially affecting the City and a team of City Council members, management, front-line staff, and members of the community to develop a plan to address critical needs of the City for the next five years. Five major goal areas were identified as the basis for the plan, including:

- Residential and business development needs of the community;
- The Montgomery Road Corridor;
- The delivery of efficient, cost effective, high quality and creative services and projects;
- Protection and sustainability of the City's financial resources; and,
- A comprehensive marketing and communication program to enhance the City's competitive edge and emphasize the unique characteristics of the community.

In 2006, the City also studied a potential project to construct an off-leash recreational area (OLRA), or "dog park". The project was researched following requests from citizens asking for the development of an OLRA. The presentation and review of the plan sparked controversy and became a polarizing issue between the opponents and proponents of the plan. City Council and the Parks and Recreation Commission conducted several public meetings, resulting in feedback from members from both sides of the issue. Following extensive debate on the issue, two initiative petitions were filed by opponents of the OLRA, and City Council agreed to discontinue discussions on the concept.

The City also undertook a comprehensive review of the City's park system in an effort to identify new park trends and identify possible future park enhancements. The timeframe for the completion of this study is October, 2007, at which time all aspects of the plan will be reviewed by staff, the Parks and Recreation Commission and City Council.

The Triangle property in downtown Montgomery saw major activity in 2006, with the construction of the underground parking garage and substantial completion of the buildings above it, which will house restaurants, retail shopping and business office space when it is completed in 2007. City Council and the Planning and Landmarks Commissions were all very involved with the oversight of this project from its inception and it is shaping up to be a true enhancement to the City's downtown.

Another major development that began construction in 2006 was the Vintage Club project, which will be showcased as the 2007 HOMEARAMA, the second such event in Montgomery in twelve years, and the first in Hamilton County since 1995. This 70-acre development will feature several types of upscale residential housing, and retail and commercial properties. The City combined innovative zoning and land use techniques with direct incentives in

the form of a Tax Increment Financing District to encourage a mixed-use urban neighborhood. A new zoning district and aesthetic design guidelines were established to ensure the final project will meet the high quality design the City expects and create a financially viable project for its developer, Great Traditions.

In addition to these community projects, the City also saw internal changes within its organization to enhance the quality services provided to our customers. One of the most significant internal changes was the creation of a new Customer Service Department. This department was developed to provide better access to, and a focus on, the services provided to the citizens and visitors. The department was developed by teaming three employees who were formerly in other departments under the new Customer Service Department with new job titles and job descriptions. This structural change to the organization also required a modification of City Hall in order to create better access to our customer service team. These improvements have greatly increased staff efficiency and resulted in the ability to provide better customer service than ever before.

The Safety Center also underwent major remodeling in 2006 to make better use of available space as well as work toward operational efficiencies and enhancements in customer service. When this project is completed in early 2007, there will be a better designed lobby, new office spaces and more efficient storage areas in the building.

In addition to the aforementioned creation of the Customer Service Department, there were also changes in the structures of the Public Works and Community Development departments, resulting in the elimination of the Code Enforcement Officer and Project Manager positions and the creation of three new positions: City Planner, Assistant Public Works Director and Construction and Compliance Inspector. This change necessitated the hiring of two new employees and the reclassification of an existing employee. These changes were implemented with the goal of maximizing staff efficiency and strengthening the delivery of services.

In addition to these new and reclassified positions, the City also filled the long-vacant position of Assistant City Manager. This position was filled by former Finance Director, Wayne Davis. The City then hired Mr. Peter Hames, formerly with Hamilton County, to fill the post of Finance Director. Both of these appointments have proved very successful and the city administration saw improved capacity in 2006.

The City Administration provided human resource services for the entire city organization, including the recruitment and hiring processes for all departments, wage adjustments, and employee evaluations and goal setting. The Administration also worked with the City's new IAFF labor union in the Fire Department throughout much of 2006 in an effort to create the first labor agreement between that union and the City.

In addition to the long-standing City events such as Sensory Sundays, the July 4th festivities, Bastille Day, Harvest Moon/Chilifest, the City developed two new events for 2006. The first of these was a classic car show held in Weller Park in August in which 65 cars entered the competition. This event is planned to continue as an annual event in the City. Another new event in 2006 was the Artist in the Park series, which showcases local artists. This event is planned to occur four times in 2007.

# City Council

## 2006 Elected Officials

Gerri Harbison, Mayor

Ken Suer, Vice Mayor

Members Of Council

Mark Combs, Councilmember

Barry Joffe, Councilmember

Bill Niehaus, Councilmember

Lynda Roesch, Councilmember

Todd Steinbrink, Councilmember

## Administration

Cheryl A. Hilvert, City Manager

Wayne Davis, Assistant City Manager

Frank Davis, Community Development Director

Robert Nikula, Public Work Director

Peter Hames, Finance Director

Don Simpson, Police Chief

Paul Wright, Fire Chief

Susan Hamm, Clerk of Council

Terrence M. Donnellon, Law Director

The City of Montgomery operates under a Council-Manager form of government with seven elected Council Members working with a City Manager as appointed by City Council. All City Council members are elected at large by a popular vote of City residents for staggered terms of four years. Once seated, Council Members select the Mayor who serves for a two-year appointment.

Montgomery City Council is responsible for establishing policies and enacting legislation necessary for municipal operations. City Council appoints the City Manager, and Law Director. By charter the City Manager serves as the City's chief executive, administrative and law enforcement officer.

City Council operates with six standing committees: Financial Planning; Government Affairs; Law and Safety; Parks and Recreation; Planning, Zoning, and Landmarks; and Public Works.

While City Council members are very busy in their roles as elected officials, their work is largely centered in determination of policy. During the 2006, City Council conducted 63 public meetings, including regular meetings, special sessions and 27 committee meetings.

As part of City Council's responsibilities for establishing policies and enacting legislation, City Council oversaw operations and administration of a cash budget of \$16,684,009.00, and adopted 65 ordinances and resolutions.

In an effort to continue to enhance communications between City Council and Boards, Commissions and civic organizations, several initiatives were undertaken including:

- Each Board/Commission Chair was invited to attend a discussion meeting to update City Council members on the activities and work of their respective Board/Commission for the previous year.
- City Council and City Administration conducted an annual new member Board and Commission orientation session. This training education session gave new Board and Commission members the tools they needed to perform their valuable work.
- A Community Leadership Forum was held and represented an opportunity for volunteers, representatives of neighborhood associations and civic groups, elected officials and City administration to discuss major issues, activities and suggested topics of interest by forum participants.

## 2006 City Council Legislative Highlights

- Adoption of revisions to the land usage code to implement Montgomery Road Corridor Design Standards
- Extension of Gateway Interim Development Control Overlay District and adoption of Gateway District Regulations
- Rezoning of property abutting Montgomery Road and Main Street from a point south of Cooper Road to Ronald Reagan Cross County Highway
- Rezoning of property fronting Montgomery Road and Kemper Road and approval of an application for a planned unit development overlay district and general development plan for such property
- Adoption of the 2006 recodification to the code of ordinances
- Establishment of the Environmental Advisory Commission
- Adoption of an Ordinance restricting the development of an off-leash recreation area in existing parks, within the City of Montgomery
- Declaration of improvements to parcels of real property

located in the City Of Montgomery, Ohio to be a public purpose under Section 5709.40 (c) of the Ohio Revised Code, exempting such improvements from real property taxation, authorization of the execution of a Tax Incentive Agreement, a Service Agreement and such other documents as may be necessary

- Adoption of the Residential Code of Ohio for one-, two-, and three-family dwellings
- Acceptance of publicly-dedicated property and certain easement rights on Main Street and Remington Road
- Creation of the Montgomery Corridor/Schoolhouse Interim Development Control Overlay District
- Establishment of a procedure for the receipt and disposition of personal property
- Adoption of the allocation of earnings tax revenues and amendment of Section 44.14 of the Montgomery Code of Ordinances
- Establishment of a Vintage Club Capital Construction Fund; creation of the Vintage Club Tax Increment Financing Fund; a Special Revenue for the maintenance and operation of the municipal swimming pool
- Appropriation for current expenses and other expenditures of the City of Montgomery, State of Ohio, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2007 and amendment of general appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the City Of Montgomery, State Of Ohio, during the fiscal year Ending December 31, 2006
- Termination of the streetlight installation program
- Acceptance of various bids and authorization of contracts for the construction of the Tollgate Lane sidewalk project; the 2006 bituminous “black mat” surfacing project; the 2006 street resurfacing program; the 2006 renovation of City Hall; the 2006 Swaim Park pond improvements; the 2006 curb replacement program; the Cooper Road and Main Street signal modifications project; the 2006 Weller Road improvements project; the 2006 Montgomery Gateway Streetscape And Access Drive Improvements; the 2006 Montgomery Gateway resurfacing project; and the Montgomery Safety Center alterations project
- Authorization of contracts for general health services by the Hamilton County General Health District for public health services during 2007; the sale of a 1993 International Saulsbury rescue pumper fire truck; to provide medical and dental coverage for full-time employees; for purchase of de-icing rock salt; lawn mowing services; purchase of Skid Steer loader and attachments; legal services; professional sServices related to general engineering and architectural services; the purchase of police cruisers; the purchase of a 2007 John Deere 310G backhoe/loader; the purchase of a medium duty dump truck; acceptance of trash service for 2009-2010 with Rumpke of Ohio, Inc.
- Approval of the update of the Solid Waste Management Plan

of the Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District.

- Adoption of a tax budget for 2007
- Adoption of a resolution supporting the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) Program and authorizing the filing and execution of a grant request to the Ohio Attorney General’s Office for the continuing efforts of the D.A.R.E. Program.
- Adoption of a five-year strategic plan for the City of Montgomery
- Adoption of the recommendation of the Montgomery Tax Incentive Review Council with respect to the compliance of all tax increment financing districts within the City of Montgomery
- Authorization to apply to Ohio Board of Building Standards to certify the building department for code enforcement
- Acceptance of the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor
- Authorization of internet auction of surplus personal property and authorizing a contract with Propertyroom.Com, Inc.
- Adoption of a five-year capital improvement program for the City of Montgomery
- Authorization to enter into a Labor Agreement with the Montgomery Firefighters IAFF Local 4391 for wages and benefits from April 1, 2006 through March 31, 2009

## 2006 MONTGOMERY CITY COUNCIL



Mayor Gerri Harbison



Vice-Mayor Ken Suer



Lynda Roesch



Bill Niehaus



Todd Steinbrink



Mark Combs



Barry Joffe



# Development & Planning

## Development & Planning

During the past year, a number of significant construction projects were started in the City. Early in the year, Montgomery Gateway Partners started work on their exciting mixed office and retail development at the southeast corner of Cooper Road and Montgomery Road. When completed, this complex will feature restaurants and retail on the first floor of the main building and offices on the second floor. A smaller second building to the south will be occupied by Peoples Bank. At the southern point, the City will be constructing a new landscaped area with a fountain. By years end, the underground parking garage was built and both buildings were under roof.

Throughout the year, work continued on Phase II of the capital improvement plan for Bethesda North Hospital. This project, approved in 2005, will add a seven-story tower with 130 new beds, a new diagnostics and support services wing, and a new parking garage. By years end, the parking structure and the shell of the bed tower were nearly complete.

The largest undeveloped tract in the City has been the seventy acres of land owned by the Archdiocese north and adjacent to the Gate of Heaven Cemetery. At the end of 2005, the City was approached by Great Traditions Land Company concerning the development of a mixed office, retail, residential 'village' on the site. During early 2006, the Planning Commission spent a number of meetings reviewing the plans for this Planned Unit Development and considering how to make this project a unique asset for the community. Work began at the end of the summer on Section I consisting of 40 'estate' homes similar to the adjoining Reserve of Montgomery on the east side of the property and 22 'courtyard homes adjacent to that. When completed, the project will include an additional 26 courtyard homes, 20 single family 'club' homes on smaller lots, and a 14-acre mixed condominium/office/retail section abutting Montgomery Road. The City was pleased that the first section of the estate homes was chosen for the 2007 Homearama showcase. Work on the 'Vintage Club' complex will continue through 2007.

In 2006, the city adopted legislation to create a new zoning district - the Old Montgomery Gateway District, which extends from the downtown Heritage District to Cross County highway. The OMG district blends elements of the Heritage District

aesthetic design guidelines with the uses/provisions of a mixed-use business district. It is anticipated the OMG guidelines will help promote quality redevelopment on the old Chevrolet site and other property that may redevelop in the future.

In the fall of 2006, the City adopted an Interim Development Control (IDC) District for the east side of Montgomery Road between Camargo Cadillac and the City Safety Center. Some of this land has existing commercial development, while the northern section remains undeveloped. Through 2007, the City will be working with consultants and property owners to develop a plan for future growth of this area.

Other projects of significance in 2006 include the substantial renovation of the Sycamore School football stadium on Cooper Road, the upgrading of the ballfields at Good Shepherd Church, and several downtown residential projects. Property at the northeast corner of Remington and Main Street is being redeveloped for townhouse condominiums (Montgomery Row) consistent with the Heritage District design guidelines, and a proposal was approved to demolish the existing apartments on Main Street north of Montgomery Row and build 14 deluxe condominiums.

There were sixteen teardowns of single family residences in 2006, a drop from twenty four in 2005. This reflected a general slowdown in the housing market. In total there were twenty one new single family residential building permits issued, which included the upcoming Homearama homes. The total estimated value of these permits totaled \$15,761,000. An additional \$3,553,000 was reported to be invested in 48 residential remodeling jobs. Both the number and investment value increased from 2005. Commercial investment remained steady, with a total of twelve new construction or expansion projects approved. Additionally, the department processed 121 other zoning and building permits, a decrease from the 156 approved in 2005. Inspectors for the City processed 150 violations of the zoning and property maintenance code, which is less than half the violations in 2005. Most of these violations were for grass and weeds.



*View of the Triangle development from the north looking south on Cooper road.*



*The Triangle development from the south looking north along Main Street. The building in the forefront is the new Peoples Bank building*

# Customer Service



*The Customer Service Desks in the front lobby of City Hall handle everything from building permit intake and processing to park and lodge reservations to recreational program registration, making the “customer experience” at City Hall a simple, positive experience..*

The Customer Service Department was created in October 2006 as a way to provide better service to the residents, businesses and visitors of Montgomery. Primary goals of the Customer Service Department include:

- Greater accessibility to City Services through expanded e-government offerings on the City web site and expanded hours.
- Creation of a one-stop-shop for common customer interactions such as lodge reservations, class/event registrations, pool memberships and building and sign permits to create more efficient service and better customer accessibility to City services.
- Co-location of key information systems and processes such as the Montgomery bulletin, web site and network data resources to improve the organization, timeliness, and accuracy of information transferred between departments and to the residents and business of Montgomery.

The City web site, [www.montgomeryohio.org](http://www.montgomeryohio.org), continues to be a popular source of City information and services. The web site underwent a major re-design during 2006 to include a more user-friendly interface and added e-government services. The new website greatly enhanced the ability for the City to conduct online transactions with residents and businesses. The cost to provide e-government services was also reduced by 70% annually, making more efficient use of tax dollars.

Features on the Montgomery website that have been enhanced or added are:

- **Action Notices** give residents and local businesses a convenient way to use the Internet to make suggestions, request information, and request action for items ranging from reporting a pothole to a question on large item pickup.
- **Public access to City Documents** has been increased and the new online document manager provides a convenient way to use the Internet to access and search for all public documents, including agendas, construction schedules, and codes or ordinances.
- **Online Payments** for lodge reservations, pool passes, and commemorative gifts are now easier to navigate, search and purchase.
- **Registration of City Classes, Recreation and Events** allows users to register for kids programming, fitness classes, camps and events online. Users can also subscribe to recreation notifications on specific program groupings so that users are aware of all the upcoming opportunities.

Additionally, a page dedicated to **language and web site translation** was added allowing a user to translate the site to many different languages making the website useable for a larger range of web site visitors.

Recognizing the needs of all visitors, the City redesigned the web site using techniques to increase accessibility to people with limited dexterity, vision limitations and other disabilities allowing the City of Montgomery to further the initiatives of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). These techniques also make the site usable on a larger range of devices such as web-enabled cell phones and Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs).

# Finance Department

## Finance Department

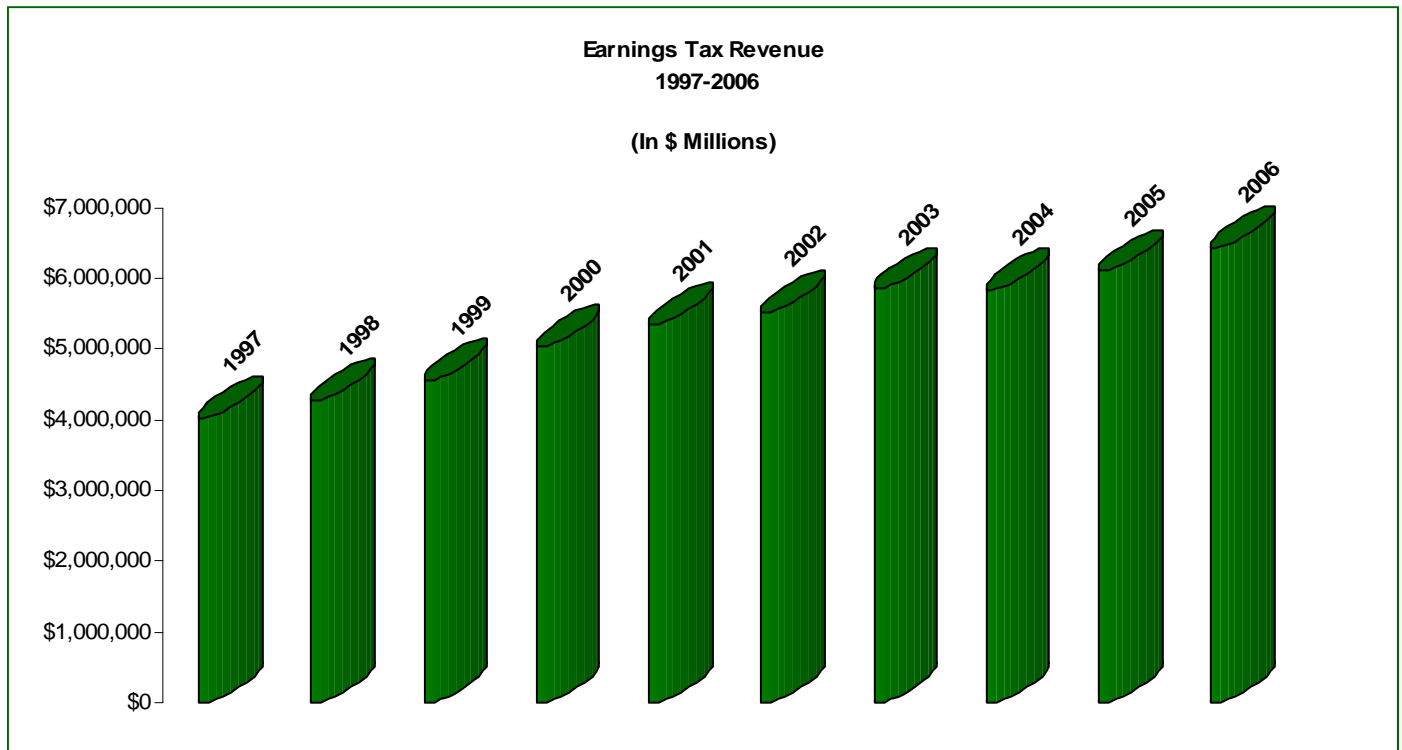
The Finance Department is responsible for preparing and maintaining the operating and capital budgets; cash management and investments; purchasing; payroll; and earnings tax collections. The Finance Department consists of two offices: Earnings Tax and Finance. The Earnings Tax Office is staffed by a full-time tax commissioner and a full-time clerk. The Finance Office is staffed by a full-time senior account clerk and a part-time payroll clerk, who also assists in the Earnings Tax Office. The department is managed by the finance director, who reports to the assistant city manager.

The Earnings Tax Office offers guidance and assistance in the preparation of the City's earnings tax returns. Taxable income includes, but is not limited to, qualifying wages, generally shown in the Medicare box of the W-2 forms, business income, rental income, and gambling winnings that are reported to the IRS. To provide superior service, the Earnings Tax Office offers extended hours on select weekends and weekday evenings during the tax season. In 2006, earnings tax collections totaled \$6.4 million, a 5.4% increase over 2005. These revenues are distributed into three funds, according to the following allocation: 67% to the general fund receives; 27% to the capital projects; and 7% to the general bond retirement fund. This distribution formula will be changed in 2007 from 63.5%, 21.5% and 15% respectively

to reflect healthy debt reserves and the need to increase investments in the City's capital assets.

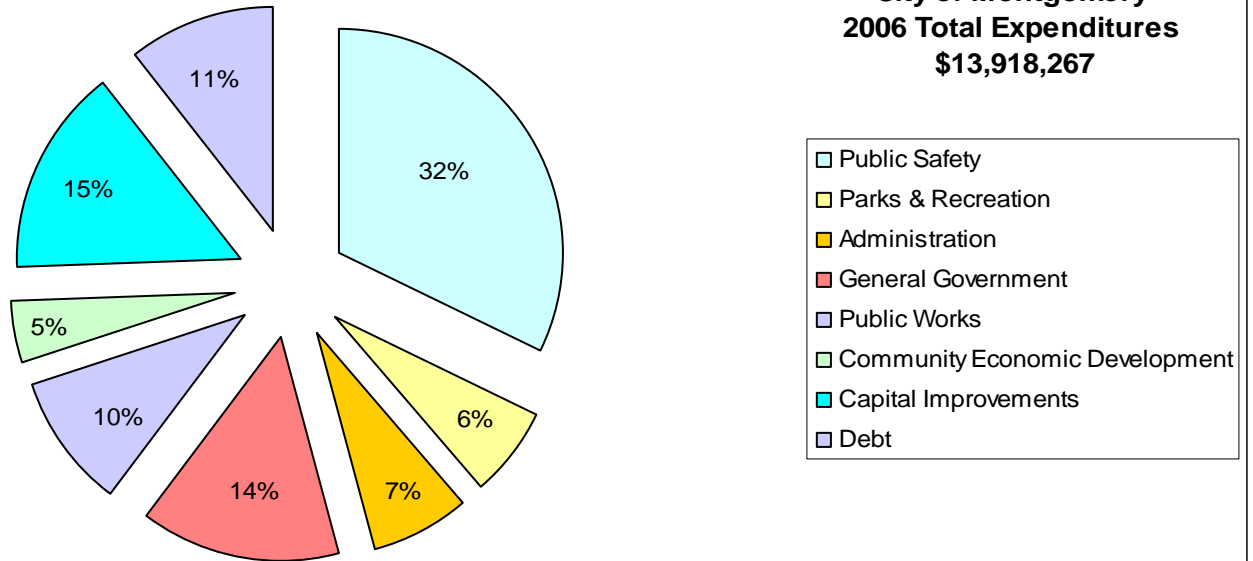
The Finance Office prepares quarterly and annual reports including the comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR), the annual tax budget and the annual operating and capital budgets with a four-year forecast. In 2006, for the eleventh consecutive year, the City was awarded the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the City's 2005 CAFR. The 2005 CAFR is the second successful year of reporting on the Government Accounting Standards Board's (GASB's) Statement 34, which is a mandated requirement for all local governments. GASB 34 requires municipalities to incorporate the value of all City infrastructure assets (e.g., streets, sidewalks and storm-water sewers) into the annual financial report. The Moody's Investor Services continues to recognize the City's credit worthiness by assigning an Aa1 credit rating to our debt. Montgomery is one of only eight communities in the State of Ohio to be rated in this category.

The Finance Department continues to seek improvements to its services, including its presence on the City's website ([www.montgomeryohio.gov](http://www.montgomeryohio.gov)). In 2006, a few of the

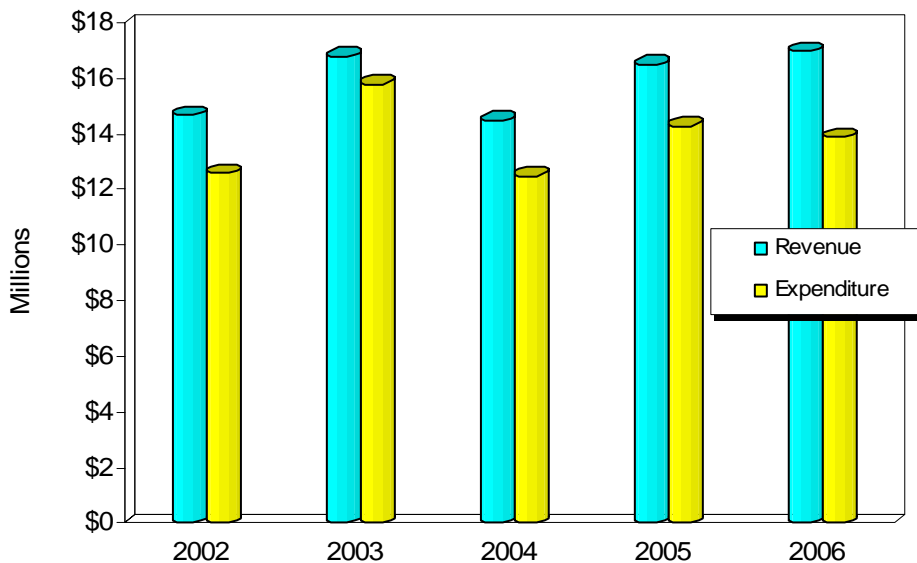




**City of Montgomery  
2006 Total Expenditures  
\$13,918,267**



**Montgomery Budget (2002-2006)  
Revenues and Expenditures**



enhancements included frequently asked tax questions (FAQs), Montgomery street listing, links to state and federal websites and easily downloadable tax forms.

In 2006, the Finance Department continued its participation in the City's performance measurement process. This effort involves tracking and collecting of performance measurement data, which will ultimately be used by the department and the City to benchmark its performance against Finance Departments in other municipalities. The department also added a new web-based budget system and redesigned the tax forms, making them easier to complete.

In 2007, the Earnings Tax Office will implement an online earnings tax calculator tool and provide for making tax payments through a secure online system.

The city charter requires that the city manager submit an annual report on the city's finances. This table, organized according to fund type, presents beginning balance, revenue, expenditure and ending balance information for each of the city's funds. It shows the unaudited actuals for 2006 and those budgeted, or planned, for 2007. More detailed information is available in the city's comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) and the annual budget, both of which are available on the city's website (www.montgomeryohio.org).

Fund Type

Governmental Funds

Total General Fund

Special Revenue Funds

Memorial  
Parks and Recreation Fundraising  
Law Enforcement  
Drug/Law Enforcement  
DUI Enforcement Education  
Mayor's Court Technology  
COPS Grant Fund  
Fire-Emergency Medical Services  
Environmental Impact Tax  
Street Maintenance and Repairs  
State Highway  
Municipal Pool (current fund)  
Arts and Amenities

Total Special Revenue

Debt Service Funds

Special Assessment Bond Retirement  
General Bond Retirement  
Reserve of Montgomery Bond Retirement  
Ohio National Financial Services Tax Increment

Total Debt Service

Capital Projects Funds

Capital Improvements  
Special Assessment Capital Projects  
Community Development Block Grant  
Urban Redevelopment  
Triangle Tax Increment Equivalent  
Vintage Club Capital Construction

Total Capital Projects

Enterprise Funds

Municipal Pool (previous fund)

Total Enterprise

Fiduciary Funds

Trust Reimbursements  
State Fees  
Historical Trust  
Cemetery Expendable Trust  
Unclaimed Moneys

Total Fiduciary

Total All Funds

	2006 Actuals (\$)			Ending Balance
	Beginning Balance	Revenues	Expenditures	
Total General Fund	10,731,715	8,715,347	6,954,733	12,492,329
Special Revenue Funds				
Memorial	2,907	25,198	4,326	23,779
Parks and Recreation Fundraising	0	0	0	0
Law Enforcement	4,730	3,910	4,005	4,635
Drug/Law Enforcement	3,807	370	0	4,177
DUI Enforcement Education	3,484	1,546	778	4,252
Mayor's Court Technology	57,695	11,420	12,778	56,337
COPS Grant Fund	33,442	98,567	106,996	25,013
Fire-Emergency Medical Services	2,784,674	2,271,428	1,795,445	3,260,657
Environmental Impact Tax	87,650	103,264	88,000	102,914
Street Maintenance and Repairs	1,272,129	1,025,918	932,152	1,365,895
State Highway	43,820	37,291	38,780	42,331
Municipal Pool (current fund)	0	0	0	0
Arts and Amenities	527,503	46,002	19,120	554,385
Total Special Revenue	4,821,841	3,624,914	3,002,380	5,444,375
Debt Service Funds				
Special Assessment Bond Retirement	72,410	81,236	61,672	91,974
General Bond Retirement	837,265	1,084,212	802,970	1,118,507
Reserve of Montgomery Bond Retirement	55,644	181,302	175,542	61,404
Ohio National Financial Services Tax Increment	2,134,790	706,161	441,476	2,399,475
Total Debt Service	3,100,109	2,052,911	1,481,660	3,671,360
Capital Projects Funds				
Capital Improvements	2,016,291	1,597,444	2,056,941	1,556,794
Special Assessment Capital Projects	98,777	0	0	98,777
Community Development Block Grant	12,390	13,000	13,000	12,390
Urban Redevelopment	106,840	92,283	2,168	196,955
Triangle Tax Increment Equivalent	514,213	525,000	106,360	932,853
Vintage Club Capital Construction	0	0	0	0
Total Capital Projects	2,748,511	2,227,727	2,178,469	2,797,769
Enterprise Funds				
Municipal Pool (previous fund)	52,717	222,033	190,911	83,839
Total Enterprise	52,717	222,033	190,911	83,839
Fiduciary Funds				
Trust Reimbursements	190,413	102,183	57,898	234,698
State Fees	5,767	2,077	2,585	5,259
Historical Trust	62,520	52,107	30,099	84,528
Cemetery Expendable Trust	163,031	41,587	19,532	185,086
Unclaimed Moneys	4,065	0	0	4,065
Total Fiduciary	425,796	197,954	110,114	513,636
Total All Funds	21,880,689	17,040,886	13,918,267	25,003,308

	2007 Planned (\$)			Ending Balance
	Beginning Balance	Revenues	Expenditures	
Total General Fund	12,492,329	7,922,479	8,540,160	11,874,648
Special Revenue Funds				
Memorial	23,779	5,000	5,200	23,579
Parks and Recreation Fundraising	0	500	500	0
Law Enforcement	4,635	1,200	1,100	4,735
Drug/Law Enforcement	4,177	300	300	4,177
DUI Enforcement Education	4,252	1,000	600	4,652
Mayor's Court Technology	56,337	14,000	20,541	49,796
COPS Grant Fund	25,013	104,047	104,047	25,013
Fire-Emergency Medical Services	3,260,657	2,018,106	2,034,425	3,244,338
Environmental Impact Tax	102,914	202,428	200,000	105,342
Street Maintenance and Repairs	1,365,895	1,177,810	1,119,825	1,423,880
State Highway	42,331	38,572	38,400	42,503
Municipal Pool (current fund)	0	230,534	212,750	17,784
Arts and Amenities	554,385	27,076	22,500	558,961
Total Special Revenue	5,444,375	3,820,573	3,760,188	5,504,760
Debt Service Funds				
Special Assessment Bond Retirement	91,974	72,568	61,833	102,709
General Bond Retirement	1,118,507	641,779	737,009	1,023,277
Reserve of Montgomery Bond Retirement	61,404	182,456	179,610	64,250
Ohio National Financial Services Tax Increment	2,399,475	705,549	453,278	2,651,746
Total Debt Service	3,671,360	1,602,352	1,431,730	3,841,982
Capital Projects Funds				
Capital Improvements	1,556,794	1,633,685	1,483,800	1,706,679
Special Assessment Capital Projects	98,777	20,836	0	119,613
Community Development Block Grant	12,390	0	0	12,390
Urban Redevelopment	196,955	82,681	202,928	76,708
Triangle Tax Increment Equivalent	932,853	0	15,000	917,853
Vintage Club Capital Construction	0	15,000,000	15,000,000	0
Total Capital Projects	2,797,769	16,737,202	16,701,728	2,833,243
Enterprise Funds				
Municipal Pool (previous fund)	83,839	0	26,334	57,505
Total Enterprise	83,839	0	26,334	57,505
Fiduciary Funds				
Trust Reimbursements	234,698	96,000	90,000	240,698
State Fees	5,259	2,500	2,500	5,259
Historical Trust	84,528	21,760	31,495	74,793
Cemetery Expendable Trust	185,086	36,545	87,005	134,626
Unclaimed Moneys	4,065	2,500	391	6,174
Total Fiduciary	513,636	159,305	211,391	461,550
Total All Funds	25,003,308	30,241,911	30,671,531	24,573,688

# Volunteers / Commissions

## Volunteers / Commissions

Members of the ten boards and commissions continue to be the backbone of Montgomery's Volunteer Program. Sharing their valuable time and diversified talents to serve in a leadership capacity, these volunteer groups include the Arts Commission, Beautification and Tree Commission, Board of Tax Review, Board of Zoning Appeals, Civil Service Commission, Environmental Advisory Commission, Landmarks Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, Planning Commission and the Sister Cities Commission. In total, sixty-two community members have made the commitment to serve a three or four year term in one of these leadership roles.

Many of these dedicated volunteers were also responsible for numerous City events and programs this past year. Their organization skills and "hands on" abilities resulted in the following successful events: Arts Commission- Fine Arts Sampler/Ansel Adams Exhibit, 19<sup>th</sup> annual Photography Competition and the resurgence of the Antiques Appraisal; Beautification & Tree Commission-Arbor Day Tree Seedling Project, Children's Marigold Project, Hanging Basket Project, Beautification Day Planting, spring and fall Plant Swaps, Median Plant Selection Project and the Beautification Awards; Sister Cities Commission-Bastille Day Celebration and the International Reception.

In 2006 these commissions added several new projects/events to their calendars. These included the quarterly "Artists in the Park" series sponsored by the Arts Commission; the Sidewalk Weed Post Card and Adopt-a-Bed projects sponsored by the Beautification & Tree Commission; the Thermometer Exchange (digital replacements for mercury), the Computer Recycling Project and the Recycled Plastic Bag Pilot Program sponsored by the Environmental Advisory Commission; and the Pen Pal Program and Mardi Gras event sponsored by the Sister Cities Commission.

In addition to these board and commission members, more than 500 episodic volunteers enhanced our community, assisting with a myriad of projects. Homemakers, retirees and senior citizens provided valuable staff support by labeling mail, serving in a receptionist role, photographing events and programs, and cultivating the Pioneer Park Butterfly Gardens.

The Service Department received much appreciated assistance with numerous physical tasks thanks to the efforts of one retired gentleman who contributed 260 hours of "hands on" time while another retiree donated 56 hours to remove 96 bags of litter from our City's roadways. In addition, numerous volunteers shared their time to decorate the Heritage District for the

holidays and then remove and store all the holiday trimmings. In the spring, a plethora of volunteers worked in assembly line fashion to plant the 225 hanging baskets that graced our down-

town's streetscape. Peg boards, utilized for our City's special events, received a fresh paint job by one of our retired community members while students shared their artistic talents to creatively paint the Safety Village building structures. Eighteen organizations (civic, business, church & school) as well as individual community members participated in Beautification Day-the annual spring planting project that resulted in colorful, flower-filled medians and parks.

The young people in our community also made their volunteer contributions in 2006. Approximately 250 children from local elementary schools participated in Beautification Week Park Planting while teens managed craft and game booths at many of the Recreation Department events that included the Harvest Moon, Halloween Party, Holiday in the Village and Breakfast with Santa. In addition, teens chaperoned younger children on the Spring Break Bash outings. Teens were also volunteer participants, serving in the capacity of teacher assistants, for the Police Department's Safety Village Program.



*Bastille Day is a big hit with kids of all ages!*

Montgomery's, traditional, July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration that evokes a "home town" atmosphere would be a formidable task without the assistance of a passel of volunteers. Thanks to the efforts of thirty-three volunteers, the July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade kicked-off promptly at 10 am. Sharing their holiday time, these volunteers managed various aspects of the event that included registration, entry line ups, judging, announcing, water and lemonade distribution, convertible driving and bell ringing. New to the event was an official Town Crier. Suited in patriotic attire, he was the "hit" of the parade! Following the parade, volunteers were on hand, once again, to continue the celebration at the Festival in Montgomery Park. Teens shared their time to manage the children's game booths while an adult volunteer was in charge of the game booth set ups, the prize purchases as well as the supervisor for this children's event feature. A local veterinarian, an adult assistant and two teens volunteered to manage the annual Pet Show. They judged the assortment of fur, feather and fin entries in the ring and announced the winners in the unique contest categories.

The annual Bastille Day Celebration, sponsored by the City and the Sister Cities Commission, continues to be the epitome of Montgomery's volunteer spirit. Members from eight City commissions participated in this unique, annual event that celebrates our City's friendship with our Sister City, Neuilly-Plaisance, France. The Bastille Day Committee met for six months prior to the event and included five volunteers



who served in the following leadership roles: Event Chair, Restaurant Recruiter, Publicity Chair, Wine Booth Manager and Diaper Derby Coordinator. In addition to this core team of volunteers, approximately 60 additional adult volunteers worked in the ticket, beer and wine booths. The “Kids Cabaret” feature would not be possible without the enthusiastic assistance provided by more than forty teen volunteers who managed the children’s game booths throughout the day. The efforts of all these volunteers contributed to the enjoyable and successful 18<sup>th</sup> annual celebration.

An extra effort was made in 2006 to promote Montgomery’s Volunteer Program with the implementation of two Volunteer Fairs. Community members had an opportunity in both January and September to stop by City Hall during a morning or evening session to personally meet current volunteer leaders, City Council Members and City staff. An extensive listing of episodic volunteer opportunities and copies of the *2006 Volunteer Opportunities* handbook were also distributed. Many of the guests signed up to attend upcoming board or commission meetings to learn more about these leadership roles or offered to lend a hand with future City programs or events.

As a small, but grateful gesture of thanks from City Council Members and City Administration, the annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner was held in November to acknowledge the numerous volunteer contributions made by our City’s board and commission members and those episodic volunteers that had contributed approximately 20 hours of service for our community. The event “*Montgomery Volunteers-Blaze the Trails*” was coordinated with a Western theme and provided an opportunity for the volunteers to share an informal evening of camaraderie in a social setting.

In total, approximately 600 episodic, community volunteers contributed approximately 3,250 hours of service to the City in 2006. This total is exclusive of the extensive time shared by citizens serving on the ten boards and commissions. Using a value of \$17.55 per hour\*, Montgomery’s volunteers provided an estimated \$57,000 in services to enhance the quality of life in our City.

The following civic, business, school and church organizations participated in Montgomery’s 2006 Volunteer Program: American Heritage Girls, Blue Ash/Montgomery Rotary, Boy Scout Troop 189, Church of the Saviour, City Council, City Employees, Design Mill, Girl Scout Troop ; Indianwoods Neighborhood Association; Lazy Daisy Garden Club, Maple Dale Elementary, Montgomery Care Center; Montgomery Elementary, Montgomery Historic Preservation Association, Montgomery Moms, Montgomery Presbyterian Church, Montgomery Woman’s Club, Mormon Youth Group; Phillip’s Law Firm; Sycamore High School- Key Club, National Honor Society, Student Council; Indian Hill H. S. Key Club; St. Barnabas Church, Symmes Elementary, Village Animal Hospital and WINDS Homeowners Association

*\*the monetary value of volunteer time based on the Independent Sector, a recognized authority in philanthropy.*

# Police Department Police Department

A successful partnership with the Sycamore Community School district continued with the assignment of officers in the Drug and Alcohol Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) and School Resource Officer (S.R.O.) programs. Officers Pat Giblin and Paul Payne worked diligently to maintain the positive working relationship between the school district and the police department. Funding for the D.A.R.E. program was supported by a state grant from the Attorney General’s Office. Costs for the SRO assignment were shared between the school district and police department.

## Educational Efforts

Safety Village, a popular program for five and six year olds, teaches children about school bus safety, animal safety, and other safety related topics. Children attend a morning or afternoon session for a period of one week. The program is offered for a two week period in the month of June.



Safety Village

# Police Dept. continued

The police department officially recorded 286 "Part 1" crimes in 2006. Part 1 crimes are defined by the U.S. Justice Department and include the following: Homicide, Rape, Robbery, Assault, Burglary, Theft and Auto Theft. Reported theft amounted to 216 of the total reported crimes in 2006. Reported "assault" was at a 5 year high with 27. The vast majority of these assaults were juvenile fights during school hours. In addition there were 11,867 calls for service and 388 arrests during 2006. (262 adult and 126 juvenile).



*Officers Tom Wagner and Paul Payne receive award for innovative "Caught in the Web" program*

During January Officers Paul Payne and Tom Wagner worked together to create a specialized internet safety program. "Caught in the Web? Don't let it happen to you!" was created to help students, parents and educators understand the pitfalls of using the internet. The dangers of popular teen web sites such as "Xanga", "Myspace" and "Facebook.com" were discussed. Cyber bullying and other topics were also covered due to their high interest among teens and their parents. After the success of their initial presentation the officers received numerous requests to present at area schools. Eventually the officers gave over 15 presentations at 9 different school districts during 2006. Several schools have already requested the presentation in 2007. The quality of the program led to these officers being recognized at the 2006 Hamilton County Police Association awards banquet.

## Mayors/Juvenile Court

The Montgomery Mayor's Court, which is held three times each month, hears most of the City's misdemeanor and traffic cases, including first offenses of driving under the influence of alcohol and driving under suspension. In 2006 the Court heard cases involving over 2140 offenses resulting in \$143,793.00 in fines,

fees and court costs. After assessing the required state fees, the City's revenue from these activities was \$115,991.00

The Montgomery Juvenile Court, with Referee Terry Donnellon presiding, heard 75 criminal cases. The disposition of these cases often resulted in community service being performed by the juvenile offender. Serious criminal cases, second offenders, and all juvenile traffic cases are sent directly to the Hamilton County Juvenile Court system and are heard by a Juvenile Court Judge.

## Special Assignments

In 2006, officers continued to participate in regional programs and teams sponsored by the Hamilton County Police Association. Two Montgomery police officers are assigned to the Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT) and both hold leadership positions within the unit. Also during 2006, an officer accepted the assignment to participate with the Hamilton County Police Association Honor Guard. This group of officers trains monthly and assists with ceremonies and deceased officer funerals throughout the area.

In October of 2006, an officer accepted an undercover assignment with the Drug Abuse Reduction Task Force (DART). This unit, comprised of officers from Hamilton County area departments, concentrates on investigating street level drug dealers.

## Training

The City of Montgomery and the police department place a high priority on training. During 2006, the police department's officers and clerks attended over 1800 hours of training. These trainings included classes not only on the technical aspects of the police function such as auto accident investigation, fingerprint classification and defensive tactics but also topics on leadership and management. These leadership and management courses included the Police Executive Leadership College sponsored by the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police; the Leading, Educating and Developing course at the University of Virginia; and Mid-Level Management taught at the Ohio Peace Officer Training



*The Hamilton County SWAT team conducting physical fitness training.*



# Fire Department

For year 2006, the department handled 482 fire incidents and 860 emergency medical service incidents for a total of 1342 incidents. Emergency medical service incidents continue to be one of the priorities of the department and represents 64% of the total incident volume. 2006 saw a total value of loss from fire in the City of \$139,500. The department attributes the low number of fire incidents to its fire prevention efforts and the inspections conducted by staff.

In a modern fire service, preventing the outbreak and serious spread of fire is considered as essential to public safety as proficiency in fighting fires. Any good inspection program must consider the benefits of educating the public about hazards and how these hazards might endanger lives and property. Fire inspections within the jurisdiction are carried out on a regular, systematic basis by three certified fire safety inspectors. The program requires all occupancies, except residential properties, to be inspected at least once per year. Total fire inspections for the year were 812. The results of the effort can be seen in the low number of incidents, which allows the department to be available for other emergencies and activities.

New equipment that was purchased as part of the Capital Improvement Program included the purchase of replacement fire hose as well as the replacement of some of the firefighter's protective coat and pants. A major Capital Improvement for the department came with the delivery of a new Rescue Pumper and a new Ambulance. Both units replaced older apparatus and both made a nice improvement to the department's response capabilities.

Public Education programs, once again, were very successful for the department. Everything from tours of the Safety Center to CPR classes to Fire Prevention Week activities kept all busy with these very worthwhile programs. A total of 72 individual pro-

grams were offered, as the department tried to prevent injuries and accidents from occurring in the community. The CPR program called "CPR for Family & Friends" continues to be successful. This program is offered quarterly and is intended to provide participants with enough information and practical skills to assist a loved one in an emergency situation until help arrives.

An Open House was held on April 29th and was a success with a large number of residents stopping by to see the different exhibits. Police and fire vehicles were available for viewing as well as units from the Police SWAT team and the University Air Care helicopter. Additionally, child car seat checks were available as well as the sale of bike helmets. Many opportunities for education occurred as people had the ability to talk with police officers and firefighters first hand and learn from their experience.

The Child Car Seat Safety Program has assisted a number of citizens in learning how to properly use and place their children in a car seat. Technicians have received their certifications through Children's Hospital. Since the beginning of this program in 1999, the department has instructed over 1471 individuals in the proper installation of child car seats. 143 installations occurred during 2006. The department continues to offer this program as another service available to citizens.

The Address Sign Program has received a number of calls for orders for the green and white reflective signs. Under this program, firefighters manufacture and install the signs at the request of the property owner for a nominal fee. This system assists personnel in finding residences quickly in emergency situations.

In October, the ninth annual Chili Festival was held at Swaim Park. This event allows the fire department to show off its equipment, talk to residents and see who makes the best chili in the community. The weather was perfect, attendance was great and additional funds were collected in an effort to purchase additional equipment for the department.

Training continued to maintain a high priority in the department. All personnel are required to document 60 hours of training per year in addition to what is required to maintain their certifications. A total of 2599 training hours were logged by the employees this year to maintain their skills.

EMS billing of non-property owners transported to the hospital collected \$91,180. This is the tenth year of this revenue-generating program. Any person transported by ambulance, who is not a property owner in Montgomery, is billed for services to assist in defraying the cost of the transport.

The South West Ohio Fire Department Benchmarking project completed the sixth year of gathering information that compares services with thirteen similar communities in the Greater Cincinnati area. This data assists in seeing how the department's services measure up to services at a local, a regional and national level. A meeting was scheduled for late January of 2007 to review the information and to see where improvements to the data collection template need to be made to assure equality in assembling the data bank.

The year 2006 has been a full year with many new challenges and changes. The fire department continues to mature into a first-rate public safety organization. Based on the department's plan for 2007, the future looks equally exciting as well as challenging.



*At the 2006 Safety Center Open House, the Fire Department demonstrated to the crowd just how quickly a fire can spread in a home. This "room" was constructed by members of the department just for this demonstration.*



# Public Works

The City of Montgomery continued to actively participate in the Hamilton County Stormwater District established to complete federally mandated National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II requirements. Work completed during 2006 focused on public education, public outreach and establishing regulations for construction site management controls. City staff prepared three articles for the Montgomery Bulletin that included suggestions for homeowners to reduce the possibility of pollutants originating from homeowner activities from being discharged into local creeks and streams. The goal of the education and outreach efforts was to protect local waterways from the introduction of harmful pollutants or pathogens that adversely impact water quality in local streams, creeks and rivers. One article published in 2006 included information about storm drain labels to be installed on, or near storm sewer drain openings. Several resident groups responded to the article and began the process in installing storm drain labels and distributing information to surrounding residents regarding the drain labeling program. Other work completed was the revision to Chapter 154 of Montgomery Codified Ordinances regarding storm water management, sediment control and flood damage prevention.

The annual street resurfacing project was completed by the Barrett Paving Materials and included work on ten city streets totaling 1.72 centerline miles of roadway. The areas of work were concentrated in 3 subdivisions: The Winds, Storybook Acres and Montgomery Woods.

The installation of a thin layer surface treatment known as micro surfacing was completed on a portion of Montgomery Road between the intersection of Perin Road and North Main Street as well as the entire portion of E. Kemper Road within City of Montgomery corporation limits. Micro surfacing has proven to be a cost effective maintenance tool with a square yard annual average life-cycle cost less than traditional hot mix asphalt pavement resurfacing. Micro surfacing is particularly effective on roadways with higher traffic volumes as there is a quicker installation process and a corresponding reduction in inconvenience and delays generally associated with resurfacing projects. The surface texture of the material is designed to provide additional friction and skid resistance and has a greater resistance to oxidation or color "fading" compared with traditional hot mix asphalt overlays.

A project to improve localized drainage and erosion problems was combined with plans to replace aging water main and fire hydrants along Weller Road between Weil Road and Bridgewater Lane. City staff worked closely with the Greater Cincinnati Water Works and the Hamilton County Engineers office during design and development phases and coordinated inspection and project management during construction of the project. Drainage improvements correcting erosion problems concentrated along the north side of Weller Road included the installation of 700 linear feet of storm sewer and 600 linear feet of concrete curb and gutter. The project was completed with new asphalt resurfacing to improve the road "profile" to direct storm runoff into the constructed drainage improvements.

The entire cost of the project was \$251,688. As a direct result of the City's partnering efforts with Cincinnati Water Works and the Hamilton County Engineer's Office through a Municipal Road Fund grant, the City of Montgomery was able to limit its financial participation in the project to a cost of \$42,321.00.



*The Butterfly Garden at Pioneer Park*

A new sidewalk was constructed along Tollgate Lane between Schoolhouse Lane and Mitchellfarm Lane. The project was approximately 1300 feet in length. This sidewalk construction project was part of a multi year sidewalk installation program established by City Council legis-

lation adopted in 2000.

Work was substantially completed on a traffic signal project adjacent to the Montgomery Gateway Partners project at the Triangle property. Work included the relocation of a traffic signal and traffic signal control cabinet at the intersection of Main Street and Cooper Road, the installation of higher efficiency LED traffic signals for all intersection approaches, battery back up for the traffic and pedestrian signals and signal pre-emption equipment to improve intersection safety for emergency vehicles. This project was financed through the Triangle Tax Increment Equivalent Fund.

Work began in late November on the Montgomery Gateway Streetscape and Access Drive Improvements adjacent to the Triangle project. The project included the installation of paver sidewalks along portions of Montgomery and Cooper Road and Main Street. The project also included the installation of the semi-circular access drive off of Main Street, street trees and fifteen historic Montgomery streetlights. This project was funded through the Triangle Tax Increment Equivalent Fund and was scheduled for completion in mid May 2007.

Two projects were approved for construction and funding through the Triangle Tax Increment Equivalent Fund in 2006,

but did not begin due to ongoing construction at the private development at the Triangle Project. The project to resurface roadway frontages immediately adjacent to the Triangle project along Main Street and Cooper and Montgomery Roads was granted an extension and was scheduled for completion by June 1, 2007. The project to develop the City of Montgomery property at the southern end of the Triangle site began is scheduled to begin in early February 2007 and is scheduled to be completed during June 2007.

Inspection and repair of all public sidewalks between Mitchellfarm Lane and Pfeiffer Road was completed in 2006. This was the sixth year of the City of Montgomery inspection and repair program, which covers one quadrant of the City each year. The 2006 City funded repair program included 1250 square feet of concrete sidewalk re-

moval and replacement at 36 separate locations. Concrete paver sidewalk repairs and realignment was completed at 102 separate locations.



*The Service Department cultivates many of the flowers used in beds and baskets throughout the City.*

The City of Montgomery received Tree City USA status for the eleventh consecutive year as well as receiving the Tree City USA Growth award for the seventh out of the last eight years. The growth award is earned by communities that not only maintain, but make significant efforts in improving the urban forest. The collaborative effort during 2006 by Montgomery City Council, the Montgomery Beautification and Tree Commission, citizen volunteers and city staff has once again allowed the City to be recognized as a community that leads the way in urban forestry.

In 2006, the former TARGET program was restructured and the teams redistributed into four "discussion groups" that meet quarterly to work on leadership skills. The task teams formed under the TARGET program continue with their respective missions, and reported their progress at monthly MVE (Most Valuable Employee) meetings. A Managers Group comprised of department heads and mid-level managers was formed late in 2005 and this group met several times through 2006 to network and hone management and leadership skills.

Montgomery continued to "spread the word" on its HPO operating philosophy in 2006, making presentations at the Innovations Group (IG) conference in Dayton on *Successful Collaboration with Labor Unions to Address Health Care Costs*. It is a great honor to be selected by IG to present at these conferences as this organization represents the "best of the best" in terms of innovative and creative local governments from around the country. Staff also taught three courses in the International City Management Association (ICMA) University Series on the City's HPO program and Human Resource System that has been developed to support HPO at the ICMA conference in San Antonio, Texas in September, 2006. The City was also asked to make a presentation to a class at Wright State University on emergency management and preparedness as well as a discussion on the impact of homeland security initiatives on smaller governments. Staff will continue to take advantage of these excellent training opportunities which benefit Montgomery by the development of its staff members and through the positive impact and impression that these presentations have on the audiences that attend them.



*Higher Performing Organization*

In 2006, the City conducted a series of in-house trainings for its staff members to enhance leadership and management skills of its employees. Additionally, the City developed a Managers' Forum in 2006 to provide training and mentoring assistance to its senior and mid-level managers.

The City of Montgomery was again honored with many awards in 2006 including the Auditor's Award for the City's 2005 Annual Financial Report presented personally by State Auditor Betty Montgomery as she visited the City. Ms. Montgomery stated that "Fewer than five percent of all the agencies that we audit are eligible for this award. That says a great deal about the City's commitment to safeguarding taxpayer dollars." The City also received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the City's 2005 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). This is the eleventh consecutive year that the City has received this award, and it is a reflection of the hard work of the Finance Department, and all City departments who work together towards the stewardship and sound financial management of the City. Two staff members, Susan Hamm and Matthew Vanderhorst, also received Public Administrator of the Year awards from the Cincinnati Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration. Finally, the City was selected by the Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District to receive an Earth Day Award based on the recycling efforts of our community. All of these prestigious recognitions help to inspire City staff to continue to strive for excellence in our day-to-day operations.



# Parks & Recreation

The Montgomery

Recreation Department offered a variety of programs throughout 2006 for toddlers, youth, teens, adults and seniors. More than 24,000 people of all ages participated in these programs and special events as participants, volunteers or spectators not including the attendance at the pool averaging around 300 people per day during this hot and dry summer (29,000 visits). Examples of such activities include adventure trips, sports lessons, art or drawing classes, fitness classes, school's out trips, specialty camps, cultural arts, festivals, concerts and many others.







This year, the recreation department went web based with all programming and event information and registrations made available on the City website. The department increased from 900 online registrations to over 3500 registrations in 2006 and this service continues to be well used for its convenience and up to date information. Over 19,000 people per month go to the City

website for information and

services and the recreation department was excited to extend these services to include full scale registration opportunities for almost all fee-based activities and programs. Revenue for recreation programming \$52,278.97, pool operations \$222,183.68 and special events \$32,130.35 totaled **\$306,593.00**. Expenditures for recreations programming \$190,405.48, pool operations \$190,910.65 and special events \$56,830.48 totaled **\$386,996.61**.

The City lodges hosted several local non-profit group activities and meetings as well as City events and functions. Also, the majority of weekend dates were rented for private weddings, receptions, retirements and other celebrations with revenue totaling **\$56,404.00**. Expenditures for the lodges totaled **\$19,472.03**. The lodge rental policies and pricing was reviewed and updated to make available new rental opportunities for parties wishing to couple events between parks and facilities and online information about the facilities and process opened the door to more potential users and revenue sources.

## List of 2006 Annual Recreation Events and Activities

-  **Concerts:** 3200 in attendance
  - Valentine's BAMSO concert at St. Barnabas Church
  - Jazz Series - Sensory Sundays at Terwilliger's Lodge
  - July 3<sup>rd</sup> Independence Day Patriotic Concert in Montgomery Park
  - Eat to the Beat Concerts at Swaim Park
-  **Pool Activities:** approximately 300 visits per day or 29,000 for the summer
  - Membership Signups (556)
  - Swim Lessons (234)
  - Swim Team (127)
  - Splashtacular at Montgomery Pool
  - Beach Party at the Pool
  - Dive-In Movie at the Pool – two of them!
-  **Kids Camps and Activities:** 887 participants
  - Schools Out Kids trip to Perfect North, Cosi and Horseback Riding (90)
  - Summer Camps -Wacky Water Camp, Archery, DinoBlast, Science Seekers (81)
  - Spring Break, Splash and Adventure Camps (164)
  - Kids Bikes on Parade (46)
  - Touch-A-Truck at Weller Park (240)
  - Holiday Coloring Contest(84)
  - Kids Garage Sale and Bike Maintenance (68)
  - Young Rembrandts Art (114)
-  **Fitness and Sports:** 400 participants
  - Karate, Golf, Tennis, Biking (179)
  - Skyhawk Sport Camps (84)
  - Adult Fitness- 20/20/20 and Tummy Tucks (137)
-  **Special Events:** approximately 7,000 in attendance
  - July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade and Montgomery Park Festival,
  - Car Show at Weller Park
  - Harvest Moon Festival at Swaim Park
  - Halloween Party at Terwilliger's Lodge
  - Hanuting Tales at Pioneer Park
  - Tree Lighting Holiday in the Village
  - Breakfast with Santa at Terwilliger's Lodge
-  **Bastille Day Celebration:** approximately 10,000 in attendance

*See graph depiction of attendance at corresponding categories of recreation events and activities.*





**Pool Activities**



**Bastille Day**



**Special Events**



**Kids Activities**



**Concerts**



**Fitness  
& Sports**



# Graph of attendance distribution in Recreation Programs and Activities

See corresponding list for details in makeup of each category and number breakout



**The City of Montgomery**

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