

CITY MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 8, 2023

IMPORTANT COUNCIL DATES:

December 10, Sunday, 6:30 p.m. – Holiday of Lights (Shafor Park)
January 2, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. – Regular Session (30 Park)
January 22, Monday, 5 p.m. – Work Session (30 Park)
February 5, Monday, 6:30 p.m. – Regular Session (30 Park)
February 26, Monday, 5 p.m. – Work Session (30 Park)
March 4, Monday, 6:30 p.m. – Regular Session (30 Park)
March 18, Monday, 5 p.m. – Work Session (30 Park)

BUSINESS UPDATE:

- Holiday of Lights: Our annual holiday event begins at 6:30 p.m. this Sunday. As usual, it will include the tree lighting, music, refreshments, carriage rides along Shafor Boulevard... and Santa Claus! Enclosed are *Register* and *DDN* articles. Also enclosed is a *Register* article about the luminarias on sale.
- 2024 Personnel Ordinance: Enclosed is a memo to staff about the 2024 pay increase. On behalf of all staff, thank you.
- December 4 Council: Enclosed is a *Register* article about actions taken at our December meeting. Also enclosed is a *Register* photo of PSO Mitchell's swearing-in ceremony.
- Five Points: Enclosed are the following:
 - A press release that was distributed after Monday's council meeting.
 - An email sent to the BRC.
 - A *DDN* article.
 - A December 5 email exchange with Nick Blizzard at the *DDN*.
 - An email exchange between Mike Armstrong and Mary Hoy, P.E. Mary is the ODOT District 7 Traffic Planning Engineer.
- Finance Report: Enclosed are the October finance report and Cindy's highlights memo.
- Codification Updates: Enclosed are updated pages for our Traffic & General Offenses Codes and Streets and Public Services Code.
- 12/6 PC Meeting: The PC met on Wednesday to consider two separate lot consolidation applications... one for 349 E. Schantz Avenue and one for 810 E. Schantz Avenue. By a vote of 3 – 0, with two members (Steve Byington and Greg Lauterbach) excused absent, the consolidations were approved.
- Right-of-Way Decorations: Enclosed is a *DDN* article about the holiday light issue at 303 Wonderly Avenue.
- Far Hills Resurfacing: The 2024 Far Hills Resurfacing Project is scheduled to bid on January 25, 2024.

- ODOT Highway Safety Improvement Program: Enclosed is a *DDN* article announcing the grant awards under the latest HSIP program. It reports that 16 of the 25 projects funded are to construct roundabouts.
- TCSU Banquet: Today was the annual end of the year TCSU banquet. PSO Ross Green and PSO Josh Wells were formally recognized for their involvement in the March 31 apprehension of a subject for fraudulent postal theft.



- Solar Eclipse: The April 8, 2024 total solar eclipse is expected to have an enormous impact on the Dayton region, in terms of public interest. This was a primary topic of discussion at the annual meeting last week of the Montgomery County Emergency Management Agency. Chief Hill attended that meeting. Enclosed are two information slides about the pending eclipse.
- Aggregation: I attended the annual meeting for the MVCC aggregation program that was held on Tuesday. Enclosed is a handout provided by the folks from Palmer Energy Company. Page 2 provides enrollment numbers for the electricity aggregation agreement with Energy Harbor. Oakwood has 1,157 participating customers. We have 3,213 single-family homes in Oakwood, 191 condominiums and 557 residential units in multi-family buildings.
- Chris Epley: Enclosed are *DDN* and *Register* articles about Chris being elected as Presiding and Administrative Judge of the Second District Court of Appeals.
- Marijuana: Enclosed are two more *DDN* articles about communities enacting moratoriums and/or considering bans. Also enclosed is a *DDN* article about actions contemplated by the Ohio Senate.
- Water Service Pipes: Enclosed is another *DDN* article on this topic.

- License Plate Readers: Enclosed is a *DDN* article about the Dayton Police Department expanding the use of license plate readers. Dayton PD uses both fixed base and mobile readers. You may recall that a few years ago we were questioned about our use of mobile devices. We do not have any fixed base devices in Oakwood.
- Property Taxes: Enclosed is another *DDN* article about property taxes in Ohio.
- Dayton Income Tax Renewal: Enclosed is a *DDN* article about a 0.25% Dayton income tax renewal planned for the March 19 ballot. The measure was first approved in 2016 and has an eight-year term.

TRANSMITTALS NOTED WITHIN NEWSLETTER

DDN & Register articles re: Holiday of Lights

Personnel Ordinance Memo

Register article re: December 4 Council

Press Release, *DDN* article, & emails re: Five Points

November Finance Report & Highlights Memo

Codification Updates

DDN article re: Right-of-Way Decorations

DDN article re: ODOT Highway Safety Improvement Program

Solar Eclipse Information Slides

Aggregation Handout

DDN & Register articles re: Chris Epley

DDN article re: Marijuana

DDN article re: Water Service Pipes

DDN article re: License Plate Readers

DDN article re: Property Taxes

DDN article re: Dayton Income Tax Renewal

Holiday of Lights celebrates season Dec. 10 at Shafor Park

Oakwood will celebrate its annual Holiday of Lights festival beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 10, at Shafor Park, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Bill Duncan will welcome those attending, followed by the lighting of the holiday tree.

Entertainment will be provided by the Oakwood High School Band and Choir performing holiday songs. Santa Claus will be arriving on an Oakwood fire truck, and children will be able

to talk with Santa after his arrival in the park.

Hot cocoa and popcorn will be served. Also, this year, there will be horse drawn carriage and wagon rides for the family going throughout the community to see the beautiful display of luminarias decorating and lining the streets of the community.

The event is free and open to the public.

■ Lighting Up Oakwood

Beginning at 6 p.m., lit luminaries will line the boulevards on Far Hills Avenue, Shafor Boulevard and other prominent buildings in Oakwood. At 6:30 p.m., the illumination of the city's holiday tree will take place at Shafor Park, along with live entertainment, refreshments, visits with Santa Claus and horse-drawn carriage rides.

Where: Shafor Park, located on Shafor Boulevard and Patterson Road in Oakwood

When: 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10

More info: Website

'Lighting Up' Oakwood illuminates city for the holidays

The City of Oakwood and the Oakwood Beautification Committee are "lighting up" Oakwood on Sunday, Dec. 10, beginning at 6 p.m.

Luminarias for the event will be sold by the dozen at the OCC, 105 Patterson Road. The price is \$6 and includes white bags, sand



and 10-hour burning candles.

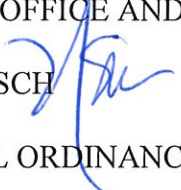
Suggested instructions for the placement of luminarias is as follows:

- If placed in the right of way areas, put a luminaria bag at every crack in the curb area, or approximately at 7-foot intervals and one foot from the curb.

- If lining the sidewalks, place at every crack in the sidewalk, or every three for placement.

THE OAKWOOD REGISTER December 6, 2023

MEMORANDUM

TO: MANAGEMENT, OFFICE AND COURT STAFF
FROM: NORBERT KLOPSCH 
SUBJECT: 2024 PERSONNEL ORDINANCE
DATE: DECEMBER 5, 2023

At the public meeting last night, Oakwood City Council unanimously approved the 2024 Personnel Ordinance.

The Ordinance includes a 2.95% pay increase for management, office and court staff. The increase will be effective the pay period beginning December 18, 2023.

City Council's approval of the pay increase reaffirms their appreciation of our work and recognition of the excellent services that we provide to our Oakwood citizens and businesses.

Thank you for all you do in service to our community and have a great holiday season.

NSK:ls

cc: Members of Council
Judge Peggy Quinn

Oakwood postpones plans for Far Hills roundabout, places 2.41-mill levy on March 2024 ballot, raises water, sewer rates

Oakwood City Council on Monday unanimously voted to abandon plans for a roundabout on Far Hills Avenue - for now. While there was overwhelming agreement among city lawmakers to retain the current traffic pattern at the Five Points intersection for now, there also appeared to be consensus that the roundabout proposal would be revisited at some point in the future.

In announcing plans to suspend the roundabout proposal, Oakwood Mayor Bill Duncan noted that the city had "spent a lot of due diligence" on the proposal, adding that "this could be a good project for the city."

"I do support suspension of the roundabout," said Council member Leigh Turben, adding that a "better and more efficient" plan for the Five Points intersection might be viable in coming years.

Councilman Rob Stephens said that he liked the idea of a roundabout, appreciated the work that city staff did on analyzing the proposal and felt the plan adequately addressed student and pedestrian safety, but raised concerns about a large roundabout being placed on uneven terrain. "I have hesitations," Stephens said, adding that most roundabouts he has encountered

or reviewed are on flat surfaces. Stephens raised concerns about how a significant winter ice event might impact the intersection if a roundabout were to be installed.

"I don't think it is the right time" for a roundabout, Stephens added.

"I agree that we've done our due diligence," said Oakwood Vice Mayor Steve Byington. "Some of the things that we still have concerns with will have to be looked at."

"I fully support what was done tonight," City Manager Norb Klopsch said after the vote to postpone the roundabout proposal. "The last 14-15 months have been a journey. I think that the work we did will pay big dividends in the future. As an engineer, I definitely see the value of a roundabout. It's a matter of timing. I do think over time the landscape may change in our community."

The decision to scuttle the roundabout proposal comes just days after a group of Oakwood residents - Karen and Michael Armstrong, Alex and Larry Drummy and Lu Ann Stanley - submitted a 42-page analysis of accidents at Five Points intersection

See Levy on page 7 ►

► **Levy from page 1**

and comparative data from existing roundabouts to the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). That white paper noted an increase in the number of accidents reported in double lane roundabouts by the Michigan Department of Transportation in an analysis of 142 roundabouts in that state from 2004 to 2019.

"We submitted a Citizen Review and Analysis of Oakwood's Highway Safety Improvement Funding Application to the Ohio Department

of Transportation. The document was prepared after a detailed and thorough analysis of the roundabout proposal, including extensive research and engagement with a number of state and national transportation officials including ODOT," said Michael Armstrong. "The next day we emailed all council members and a number of senior city employees. We have not received any formal response of our submission and the decision by council may be a coincidence but the timing is certainly suspect. Clearly council was

not transparent as to the reasoning for the decision, given they had already publicly committed to await a funding decision by ODOT before any go/no go decision. What changed?"

Council on Monday also voted to place a new 2.41-mill, five-year property levy on the March 19, 2024, ballot, replacing a 3.75-mill property tax renewal that was to have appeared on the November 2023 ballot. That levy renewal did not appear in last month's election because of a clerical error at city hall.

The new levy would raise \$1,137,224 annually in tax revenue for the city, and, if approved, cost homeowners \$84 a year for each \$100,000 in property value. The new levy is structured to generate the same amount of tax revenue as the 3.75-mill levy due to expire at the end of this year and will not raise property taxes, Byington assured residents.

Homeowners, however, will see their water and sanitary sewer rates rise after the first of the year as Council voted to increase city water and sewer

rates in 2024. Oakwood last raised residential water rates in January 2017 and sewer rates in January 2018. With Monday's vote the average Oakwood residential customer will see their water bill rise between \$7 and \$13 a month, and sewer rates rise \$7 to \$14 a month, depending on water usage.

Council voted to increase pay rates for city employees not covered by collective bargaining agreements and municipal court employees by 2.95 percent, consistent with wage increases

See Levy on page 30 ►

► **Levy from page 7**

negotiated with collective bargaining units representing other city workers.

Council approved a 2024 budget for Oakwood, allocating \$21.6 million for major operating funds in 2024, with total expenditures budgeted at \$30.6 million, or \$25 million after a transfer adjustment of \$5.6 million projected for next year.

Council also authorized an additional \$140,000 in expenditure appropriations for resurfacing State Route 48 (Far Hills Avenue).

Council originally appropriated \$220,000 to cover the city's estimated share of the project, with the Ohio Department of Transportation covering 80 percent and Oakwood paying 20 percent of the resurfacing cost. Inflation and other market factors have increased the projected cost of the project, say Council members, forcing the city to allocate additional funding.

Council members also amended the city's personnel schedule, establishing compensation rates and benefits for city employees. Annual salary rates

were established at \$172,312.65 for the city manager; \$137,105.59 for public safety director; \$134,885.29 for the public works director, finance director, leisure services director, law director, and city engineer; \$127,356.73 for public safety captains; and \$108,537.54 for refuse foreman, streets foreman, public works foreman, and water plant superintendent. The city manager, however, has authorization to grant city department heads "increases in compensation in excess of the rates established."

New Public Safety Officer



On Monday, Oakwood Mayor Bill Duncan administered the oath of office to Public Safety Officer Dustin Mitchell. Mitchell previously served as a paramedic/firefighter with the Xenia Fire Department since January 2021 and in the U.S. Army from 2013 to 2020, where he served as a Blackhawk helicopter crew chief.

THE OAKWOOD REGISTER December 6, 2023

PRESS RELEASE



The City of Oakwood
30 Park Avenue
Oakwood, Ohio 45419

Subject: Far Hills Avenue, Oakwood Avenue and Thruston Boulevard Intersection

Date: December 4, 2023

OAKWOOD, OHIO:

At the December 4 public meeting, Oakwood City Council voted unanimously to suspend work on a project that considered the conversion of the Far Hills Avenue, Oakwood Avenue and Thruston Boulevard intersection along State Route 48, often referred to as Five Points, from a traditional traffic signal to a roundabout.

Last year, the city of Oakwood commissioned a comprehensive traffic signal study with the purpose to develop a long-range plan for major capital improvements to Oakwood's traffic signal system, which consists of 17 signalized intersections. In May of this year, the primary focus of the study was directed on the Five Points intersection. The traffic study concluded that a roundabout could function well at Five Points.

Over the past six months, the city showed the citizens of Oakwood and the Dayton region how the roundabout could function and obtained extensive public input and feedback. The public reaction has been mixed. While there is support for building the roundabout, there is also opposition.

"A roundabout at Five Points would be a change to how the intersection functions", said City Manager Norbert Klopsch. "There remains enough unfamiliarity with how roundabouts operate to compel City Council to no longer advance the project at this time. For the time being, the city will continue to maintain the existing traffic signal. All of the work completed in studying the roundabout option will be very useful in the future when the city will likely reconsider this matter", Klopsch added.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

Norbert S. Klopsch, City Manager

(937) 298-0600

klopsch@oakwoodohio.gov

Klopsch, Norbert S.

From: Klopsch, Norbert S.
Sent: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 10:01 AM
To: Amanda Malusky Krauss (amanda.k.krauss@gmail.com); Beth Ritzert (baritzert@gmail.com); Bill Frapwell (frapwellw@ctt.com); Bill Meyer (bdmeyer4@juno.com); Bill Rieger (rieger.bill@gmail.com); cait.botschner@gmail.com; Chas Kidwell (kidwellc@childrensdayton.org); Dan Ferneding (danr@fernedinginsurance.com); Dickerson, Dave S. (dave.dickerson@mvg.com); doug.kinsey@artifexfinancial.com; Elizabeth Kussman (ebiffbrown@gmail.com); Ella Himes (ellahimes@yahoo.com); Ellen Fodge (esfodge@gmail.com); Erika Endsley (erika.endsley@gmail.com); Fred Dudding (dudfl@email.msn.com); Heidi Edwards (edwards.heidi@oakwoodschoools.org); Howard Boose (hboose3@gmail.com); Jeanne Boozell (cjbooze@yahoo.com); Jeff Woeste (jwoeste@fhf-cpa.com); Jim Vaughn (jim.vaughn@taylor.com); John Gray (jcg@grayamerica.com); John Jervis (john_jervis@ml.com); Kate Halpin (halpinmail@yahoo.com); kemmarcus@yahoo.com; maew1981@gmail.com; Mark Risley; Megan O'Leary (kennedmp51@gmail.com); Michael Hayes (mphayes@woh.rr.com); Michael Vanderburgh (michaelvanderburgh@yahoo.com); Mike Ruetschle (mike@ruetschle.com); Raya Whalen (raya.whelen@gmail.com); Sarah Waechter (sjwaechter@yahoo.com); Susan Elliott (Elliott@udayton.edu); Yusaku Kawai (ykawai@gmail.com)
Cc: Stacel, Lori; Anand, Sangita; Collins, Carol D.; Hill, Alan; Jacques, Robert; Kroger, Ethan; Kuzma, Chris; Spitler, Doug; Stafford, Cindy; Hilton, Anne; Turben, Leigh; Duncan, William; Stephens, Rob; Byington, Steve
Subject: Five Points Roundabout Option
Attachments: Press Release -- Five Points Intersection.docx

Greetings from City Hall!

At the public meeting last night, Oakwood City Council voted unanimously to suspend work on the project that considered converting Five Points to a roundabout.

Attached is a press release that we distributed last night explaining the decision.

We received preliminary notice that ODOT was planning to award us \$3,000,000 towards the roundabout construction costs. The total construction cost estimate for the roundabout design that we presented to the public last summer was \$4.3 million. The grand total estimated cost for the roundabout, including professional design services and right-of-way expenses, was \$5.55 million. Both of these estimates included cost estimate contingencies and inflation factors for what would have been a FY 2027 project.

At the end of the day, we came to the conclusion that the timing is just not right for such a major change to the Five Points intersection.

Norb



Oakwood has suspended a proposal for a roundabout on Ohio 48, citing a lack of data and insufficient community support for changes at the intersection known as Five Points. JIM NOELKER / STAFF

Oakwood tables talk of roundabout, cites lack of data, support

City drew up plans, held public forums, even received state funding before shelving project.

By Nick Blizzard
Staff Writer

Oakwood has suspended a proposal for a roundabout on Ohio 48, citing a lack of data and insufficient community support.

The city council voted 5-0 Monday night to put on hold the concept proposed more than a year ago. The decision came despite preliminary state notice that \$3 million – more than half of projected construction costs – was to be made available, according to the city.

Oakwood applied to the Ohio Department of Transportation earlier this year for funding for a possible roundabout at the Far Hills Avenue intersection of Oakwood Avenue and Thruston Bou-

levard, also known as Five Points.

ODOT results were “favorable. However, we believe the community support is not unanimous either pro or against,” Oakwood Mayor Bill Duncan said.

“But there (were) a lot of good comments and we think that eventually this could be a good project for the city,” he added, noting that perhaps with more data, the project may be reconsidered.

The estimated cost for the roundabout, including professional design services and right-of-way expenses, is \$5.55 million, Oakwood City Manager Norb Klopsch said.

The intersection is on a hill and carries heavy traffic on Ohio 48 between Dayton and multi-

ple south suburbs, the nearest being Kettering. Thruston and Oakwood Avenue intersect with the state route diagonally at the same spot, giving the intersection six spokes.

The number of access points makes the intersection “so tricky,” Councilwoman Anne Hilton said. That’s one of the reasons Councilman Rob Stephens said he favored the proposal’s suspension.

While noting “a lot of positives to this roundabout,” Stephens said, the intersections are known to be safer and more efficient “at four-way stops. That’s where I think they really work the best.”

The roundabout proposal stemmed from a study last year aimed at long-term traffic solutions on the state route and its

Roundabout continued on B6

Roundabout proposal

Oakwood has suspended work on a proposed roundabout on Ohio 48 (Far Hills Avenue) near the Dayton border.



Oakwood has suspended a proposal for a roundabout on Ohio 48, citing a lack of data and insufficient community support for changes at the intersection known as Five Points. JIM NOELKER / STAFF

Roundabout

continued from B1

17 signalized intersections in the city.

The Five Points intersection's signals are about 28 years old and will reach their useful end in five to 10 years, according to the city. Replacing traffic signals can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Officials said a key reason for the roundabout proposal is safety concerns.

The proposal in June and July was the focus of a series of open houses attracting both positive and negative comments. The city extended the public feedback time through September to help gain more input.

In the meantime, it applied to ODOT for funding, a move that led some residents to question if a decision to go forward with the roundabout had been made.

Klopsch said Tuesday he "would expect a decision to be made in the next 5-10

years on whether to rebuild a traditional signalized intersection or to build a roundabout. In the meantime, the city will continue to operate and maintain the existing traffic signal."

He added that "all of the work completed in studying the roundabout option will be very useful in the future when the city will likely reconsider this matter."

Contact this reporter at Nick. Blizzard@coxinc.com

Klopsch, Norbert S.

To: Blizzard, Nicholas (COP-Dayton)
Cc: Stacel, Lori
Subject: RE: Roundabout/Far Hills resurfacing proposal questions

Nick, Responses inserted below. Norb

Norbert S. Klopsch
Oakwood City Manager
(937) 298-0600

From: Blizzard, Nicholas (COP-Dayton) <Nick.Blizzard@coxinc.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 8:50 AM
To: Klopsch, Norbert S. <Klopsch@oakwood.oh.us>
Cc: Stacel, Lori <stacel@oakwood.oh.us>
Subject: Roundabout/Far Hills resurfacing proposal questions

Good morning Norb:

I saw part of the city council meeting Monday night about the roundabout proposal and saw the release sent out after the meeting. But if you could address these questions this morning I would greatly appreciate it:

-What projected cost – if any – has been estimated for the roundabout proposal Oakwood has been considering? **The total construction cost estimate for the roundabout design that we presented to the public last summer was \$4.3 million. The grand total estimated cost for the roundabout, including professional design services and right-of-way expenses, was \$5.55 million. Both of these estimates include cost estimate contingencies and inflation factors for what was anticipated as a FY 2027 project.**

-Mayor Bill Duncan said Oakwood's application for ODOT funds had "favorable" results, but did not specify any dollar amount the roundabout proposal may be in line for. What – if any - dollar estimate did ODOT to convey to Oakwood in terms of potential funding assistance? **We received preliminary notice that \$3,000,000 was to be made available towards construction costs.**

-Oakwood has cited the age of the intersection's traffic devices as one of the reasons a roundabout has been considered. Given the deteriorating traffic signals and previous concerns about pedestrian safety at the Five Points intersection, when does the city expect to make any decision about changes at the intersection? **I would expect a decision to be made in the next 5-10 years on whether to rebuild a traditional signalized intersection or to build a roundabout.**

-What influence – if any – will the Far Hills resurfacing scheduled for 2024 have on the timing of improvements at the Five Points intersection? **None. The asphalt resurfacing project will**

be completed in 2024 as planned. Any future potential change to the design of the Five Points intersection will not be impacted by the asphalt pavement resurfacing project.

Thanks,
Nick Blizzard



Nick Blizzard | Staff Writer

601 E 3rd St., Suite 600, Dayton OH 45402

p: 937-610-7438 |

Nick.Blizzard@coxinc.com

Klopsch, Norbert S.

From: Mary.Hoy@dot.ohio.gov
Sent: Thursday, December 7, 2023 8:46 AM
To: Michael Armstrong
Cc: Scott.Schmid@dot.ohio.gov; Tricia.Bishop@dot.ohio.gov; Klopsch, Norbert S.
Subject: RE: Oakwood suspends work on Ohio 48 roundabout proposal between Dayton and Kettering

Hi Mike,

The \$3 million claim is correct, and I was the one who provided that notice to the city. Since the decision has been made to suspend the project, ODOT is not currently involved, as we are no longer reviewing an application and there is not currently an active project. Therefore, the city is the appropriate contact for all further questions, comments, and concerns regarding this intersection.

Respectfully,

Mary E. Hoy, P.E.
District Traffic Planning Engineer
ODOT District 7
1001 St. Marys Avenue, Sidney, Ohio 45365
(p) 937.497.6838
transportation.ohio.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Michael Armstrong <mfarm@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 6, 2023 8:52 AM
To: Hoy, Mary <Mary.Hoy@dot.ohio.gov>
Subject: Oakwood suspends work on Ohio 48 roundabout proposal between Dayton and Kettering

FYI. Is the \$3 million claim correct Mary? If so, who at ODOT would have provided the communication?

<https://www.daytondailynews.com/local/oakwood-suspends-work-on-ohio-48-roundabout-proposal/STC4E6H6FFBCVIN745B3LE5MDM/>

Financial Reports



**thru the Month of November
Fiscal Year 2023**

Fund Balance Report Reflecting Year-to-Date Receipts and Expenditures, including Prior-Year Obligations and Encumbrances
for the period ended November 30, 2023
GENERAL CITY SERVICES FUNDS

#	Fund Name	Beginning Unencumbered Balance	Encumbrances	Beginning Cash Balance	Y-T-D Total Receipts	Available Funds	Y-T-D Total Disbursements	Ending Cash Balance	Encumbrances	Ending Unencumbered Balance	Change in Cash Balance	Change in Unencumbered Balance
General Fund												
101	General	9,305,059	80,227	9,385,286	13,942,906	23,328,192	14,193,451	9,134,741	365,273	8,769,468	(250,545)	(535,591)
Major Operating Funds												
220	Street Maintenance and Repair	500,000	54,257	554,257	1,333,705	1,887,962	1,266,804	621,158	121,158	500,000	66,901	-
228	Leisure Activity	500,000	18,680	518,680	1,084,517	1,603,197	1,000,144	603,053	103,053	500,000	84,373	-
230	Health	154,819	583	155,402	153,976	309,378	146,517	162,861	5,619	157,242	7,459	2,423
510	Sidewalk, Curb & Apron	200,000	-	200,000	217,207	417,207	225,790	191,417	-	191,417	(8,583)	(8,583)
308	Equipment Replacement	1,216,820	273,454	1,490,274	610,915	2,101,189	392,735	1,708,454	356,118	1,352,336	218,180	135,516
309	Capital Improvement	1,218,874	395,362	1,614,236	1,250,000	2,864,236	1,335,417	1,528,819	228,098	1,300,721	(85,417)	81,847
707	Service Center	100,000	14,136	114,136	745,282	859,418	672,373	187,045	87,045	100,000	72,909	-
Other Funds												
208	Bullock Endowment Trust	50,852	-	50,852	1,267	52,119	500	51,619	-	51,619	767	767
209	MLK Community Recognition	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
210	Special Improvement District Assessment	5,586	-	5,586	117,306	122,892	122,892	-	-	-	(5,586)	(5,586)
211	Smith Memorial Gardens	400,000	2,686	402,686	104,157	506,843	86,183	420,660	6,552	414,108	17,974	14,108
212	Indigent Drivers Alcohol Treatment	39,648	-	39,648	1,930	41,578	-	41,578	-	41,578	1,930	1,930
213	Enforcement and Education	9,875	-	9,875	-	9,875	-	9,875	-	9,875	-	-
214	Law Enforcement	18,272	-	18,272	-	18,272	-	18,272	-	18,272	-	-
215	Drug Law Enforcement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
216	Police Pension	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
217	Court Clerk Computerization	45,914	1,123	47,037	5,786	52,823	3,722	49,101	4,668	44,433	2,064	(1,481)
218	Court Computerization	41,425	-	41,425	2,599	44,024	2,656	41,368	2,851	38,517	(57)	(2,908)
219	Court Special Projects	50,442	-	50,442	4,518	54,960	810	54,150	2,690	51,460	3,708	1,018
221	OneOhio Fund	5,750	-	5,750	15,033	20,783	-	20,783	-	20,783	15,033	15,033
224	State Highway Improvement	149,602	18,462	168,064	43,812	211,876	29,528	182,348	25,332	157,016	14,284	7,414
240	Public Safety Endowment	193,684	-	193,684	4,518	198,202	26,274	171,928	2,785	169,143	(21,756)	(24,541)
250	Special Projects	3,522,798	-	3,522,798	1,112,147	4,634,945	-	4,634,945	-	4,634,945	1,112,147	1,112,147
310	Issue 2 Projects	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
311	Public Facilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
312	Local Coronavirus Relief	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
313	Local Fiscal Recovery Fund	939,792	-	939,792	-	939,792	-	939,792	939,792	-	-	(939,792)
414	Bond Retirement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
508	Electric Street Lighting	100,000	30,600	130,600	184,239	314,839	135,928	178,911	47,966	130,945	48,311	30,945
706	Self-Funding Insurance Trust	25,000	-	25,000	6,734	31,734	6,734	25,000	-	25,000	-	-
810	Fire Insurance Trust	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
811	Contractors Permit Fee	-	-	-	500	500	-	500	-	500	500	500
Total		18,794,212	889,570	19,683,782	20,943,054	40,626,836	19,648,458	20,978,378	2,299,000	18,679,378	1,294,596	(114,834)

Current Revenue as Compared to Annual Estimates
for the period ended November 30, 2023
GENERAL CITY SERVICES FUNDS

#	Fund Name	Budgeted Outside Receipts	YTD Outside Receipts	% of Budget	Net Difference (\$)	Budgeted Transfer Receipts	YTD Transfer Receipts	% of Budget	Budgeted Total Receipts	YTD Total Receipts	% of Budget
General Fund											
101	General	14,212,502	13,942,906	98	(269,596)	-	-	-	14,212,502	13,942,906	98
Major Operating Funds											
220	Street Maintenance and Repair	610,500	575,409	94	(35,091)	889,488	758,296	85	1,499,988	1,333,705	89
228	Leisure Activity	537,150	524,493	98	(12,657)	785,555	560,024	71	1,322,705	1,084,517	82
230	Health	161,224	153,976	96	(7,248)	23,716	-	-	184,940	153,976	83
510	Sidewalk, Curb & Apron	95,000	85,507	90	(9,493)	131,700	131,700	100	226,700	217,207	96
308	Equipment Replacement	-	10,915	-	10,915	600,000	600,000	100	600,000	610,915	102
309	Capital Improvement	-	-	-	-	1,200,000	1,250,000	104	1,200,000	1,250,000	104
707	Service Center	309,671	296,997	96	(12,674)	460,304	448,285	97	769,975	745,282	97
Other Funds											
208	Bullock Endowment Trust	300	1,267	422	967	-	-	-	300	1,267	422
209	MLK Community Recognition	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
210	Special Improvement District Assessment	117,306	117,306	100	-	-	-	-	117,306	117,306	100
211	Smith Memorial Gardens	54,600	74,291	136	19,691	87,515	29,866	34	142,115	104,157	73
212	Indigent Drivers Alcohol Treatment	2,600	1,930	74	(670)	-	-	-	2,600	1,930	74
213	Enforcement and Education	200	-	-	(200)	-	-	-	200	-	-
214	Law Enforcement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
215	Drug Law Enforcement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
216	Police Pension	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
217	Court Clerk Computerization	8,000	5,786	72	(2,214)	-	-	-	8,000	5,786	72
218	Court Computerization	4,200	2,599	62	(1,601)	-	-	-	4,200	2,599	62
219	Court Special Projects	7,000	4,518	65	(2,482)	-	-	-	7,000	4,518	65
221	OneOhio Fund	5,750	15,033	261	9,283	-	-	-	5,750	15,033	261
224	State Highway Improvement	47,250	43,812	93	(3,438)	-	-	-	47,250	43,812	93
240	Public Safety Endowment	1,300	4,518	348	3,218	-	-	-	1,300	4,518	348
250	Special Projects	4,800	112,147	2,336	107,347	1,000,000	1,000,000	100	1,004,800	1,112,147	111
310	Issue 2 Projects	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
311	Public Facilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
312	Local Coronavirus Relief	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
313	Local Fiscal Recovery Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
414	Bond Retirement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
508	Electric Street Lighting	125,000	136,839	109	11,839	47,400	47,400	100	172,400	184,239	107
706	Self-Funding Insurance Trust	-	-	-	-	17,500	6,734	38	17,500	6,734	38
810	Fire Insurance Trust	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
811	Contractors Permit Fee	2,000	500	25	(1,500)	-	-	-	2,000	500	25
Total		16,306,353	16,110,749	99	(195,604)	5,243,178	4,832,305	92	21,549,531	20,943,054	97

Current Disbursements, including Encumbrances, as Compared to Annual Estimates
for the period ended November 30, 2023
GENERAL CITY SERVICES FUNDS

#	Fund Name	Budgeted Outside Disbursements	YTD Outside Disbursements	% of Budget	Encumbrances	YTD Outside Disbursements & Encumbrances	% of Budget	Budgeted Transfer Disbursements	YTD Transfer Disbursements	% of Budget	Budgeted Total Disbursements	YTD Total Disb., Enc. & Tfrs	% of Budget
General Fund													
101	General	9,855,270	8,548,024	87	365,273	8,913,297	90	6,100,890	5,645,427	93	15,956,160	14,558,724	91
Major Operating Funds													
220	Street Maintenance and Repair	1,360,657	1,078,626	79	121,158	1,199,784	88	193,588	188,178	97	1,554,245	1,387,962	89
228	Leisure Activity	1,337,585	996,344	74	103,053	1,099,397	82	3,800	3,800	100	1,341,385	1,103,197	82
230	Health	172,948	142,717	83	5,619	148,336	86	3,800	3,800	100	176,748	152,136	86
510	Sidewalk, Curb & Apron	226,700	225,790	100	-	225,790	100	-	-	-	226,700	225,790	100
308	Equipment Replacement	946,954	392,735	41	356,118	748,853	79	-	-	-	946,954	748,853	79
309	Capital Improvement	1,881,962	1,335,417	71	228,098	1,563,515	83	-	-	-	1,881,962	1,563,515	83
707	Service Center	784,111	672,373	86	87,045	759,418	97	-	-	-	784,111	759,418	97
Other Funds													
208	Bullock Endowment Trust	500	500	100	-	500	100	-	-	-	500	500	100
209	MLK Community Recognition	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
210	Special Improvement District Assessment	122,892	122,892	100	-	122,892	100	-	-	-	122,892	122,892	100
211	Smith Memorial Gardens	144,801	86,183	60	6,552	92,735	64	-	-	-	144,801	92,735	64
212	Indigent Drivers Alcohol Treatment	1,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,500	-	-
213	Enforcement and Education	1,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,500	-	-
214	Law Enforcement	3,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,000	-	-
215	Drug Law Enforcement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
216	Police Pension	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
217	Court Clerk Computerization	9,623	3,722	39	4,668	8,390	87	-	-	-	9,623	8,390	87
218	Court Computerization	9,000	2,656	30	2,851	5,507	61	-	-	-	9,000	5,507	61
219	Court Special Projects	5,500	810	15	2,690	3,500	64	-	-	-	5,500	3,500	64
221	OneOhio Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
224	State Highway Improvement	59,062	29,528	50	25,332	54,860	93	-	-	-	59,062	54,860	93
240	Public Safety Endowment	33,000	26,274	80	2,785	29,059	88	-	-	-	33,000	29,059	88
250	Special Projects	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
310	Issue 2 Projects	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
311	Public Facilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
312	Local Coronavirus Relief	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
313	Local Fiscal Recovery Fund	939,793	-	-	939,792	939,792	100	-	-	-	939,793	939,792	100
414	Bond Retirement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
508	Electric Street Lighting	203,000	135,928	67	47,966	183,894	91	-	-	-	203,000	183,894	91
706	Self-Funding Insurance Trust	17,500	6,734	38	-	6,734	38	-	-	-	17,500	6,734	38
810	Fire Insurance Trust	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
811	Contractors Permit Fee	2,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,000	-	-
Total		18,118,858 (1)	13,807,253	76	2,299,000	16,106,253	89	6,302,078	5,841,205	93	24,420,936	21,947,458	90

GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS
5-YEAR HISTORY
YTD at November 30, 2023

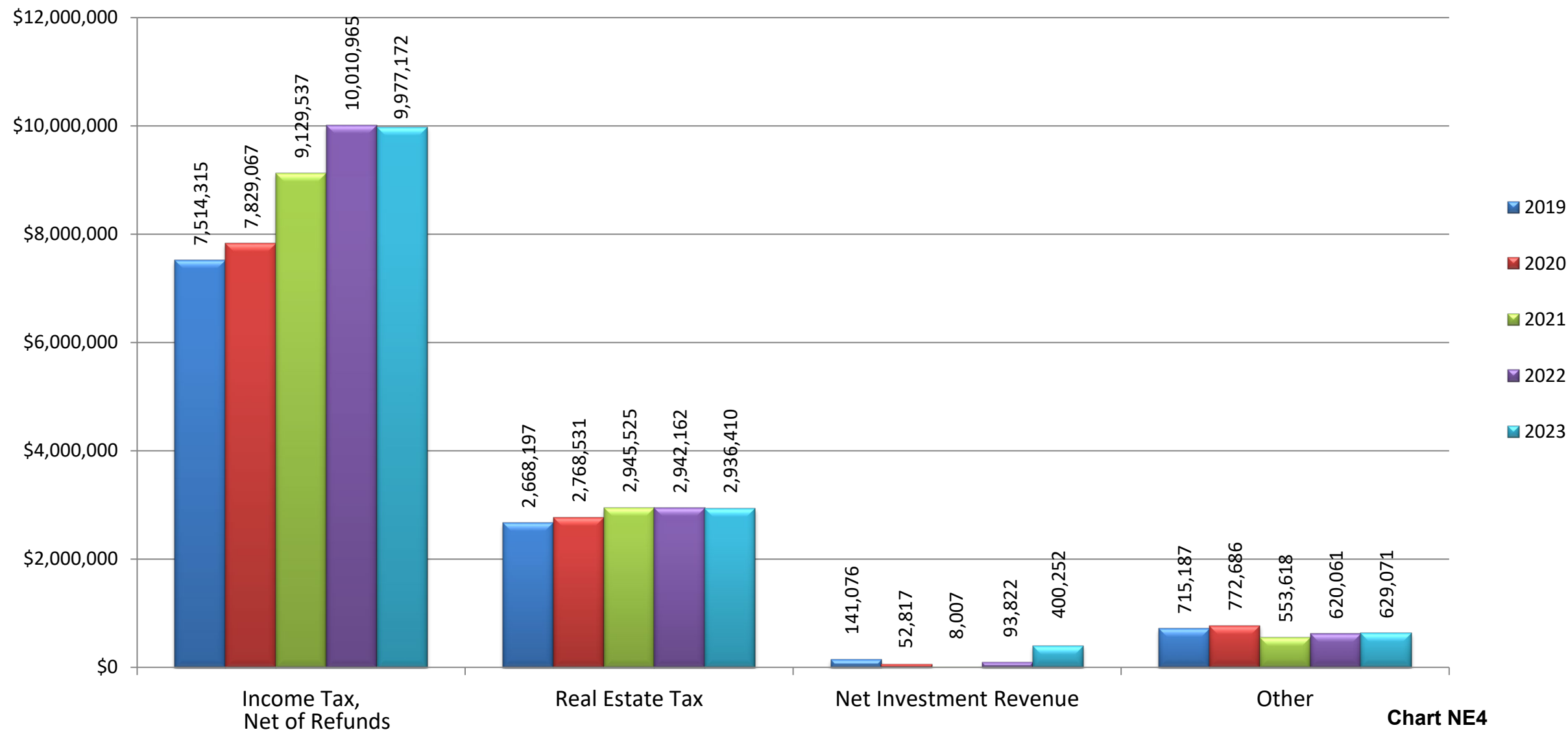
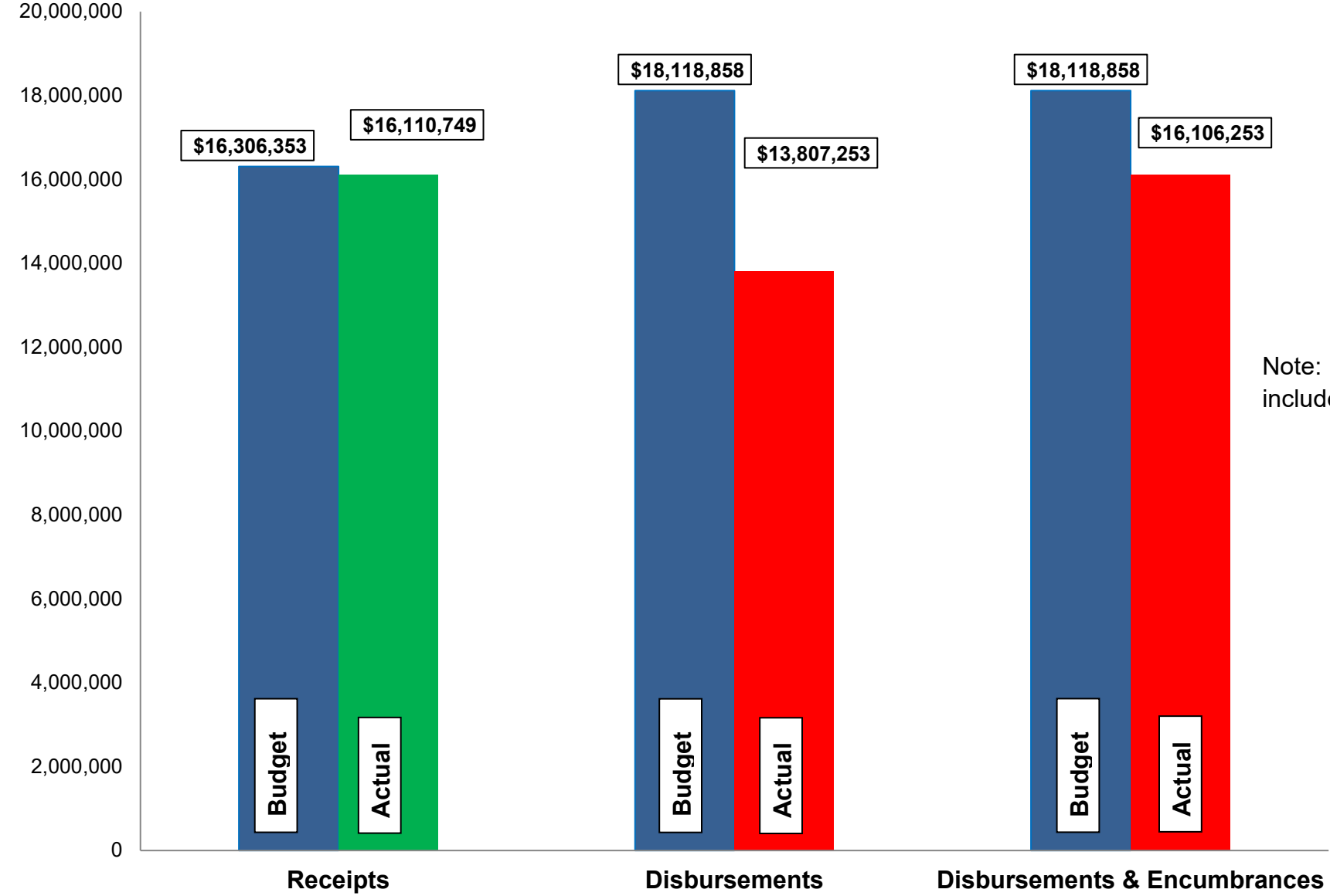


Chart NE4

**Budget, Revenues & Expenditures
as of November 30, 2023
GENERAL CITY SERVICES
(Excludes Internal Transfers)**



Note: Disbursements and Disbursements & Encumbrances bars include \$889,570 appropriated from prior year budgets.

CHART NE5

Fund Balance Report Reflecting Year-to-Date Receipts and Expenditures, including Prior-Year Obligations and Encumbrances
for the period ended November 30, 2023
REFUSE FUND

#	Fund Name	Beginning Unencumbered Balance		Encumbrances	Beginning Cash Balance	Y-T-D Total Receipts	Available Funds	Y-T-D Total Disbursements	Ending Cash Balance	Encumbrances	Ending Unencumbered Balance	Change in Cash Balance	Change in Unencumbered Balance
205	Refuse	418,683		21,587	440,270	1,274,084	1,714,354	1,301,327	413,027	78,163	334,864	(27,243)	(83,819)
206	Refuse Equipment Replacement	58,713		67,246	125,959	73,900	199,859	26,821	173,038	119,325	53,713	47,079	(5,000)
Total		477,396		88,833	566,229	1,347,984	1,914,213	1,328,148	586,065	197,488	388,577	19,836	(88,819)

Current Revenue as Compared to Annual Estimates
for the period ended November 30, 2023

#	Fund Name	Budgeted Outside Receipts		YTD Outside Receipts	% of Budget	Net Difference (\$)	Budgeted Transfer Receipts	YTD Transfer Receipts	% of Budget	Budgeted Total Receipts	YTD Total Receipts	% of Budget
205	Refuse	1,387,100		1,274,084	92	(113,016)	-	-	-	1,387,100	1,274,084	92
206	Refuse Equipment Replacement	-		-	-	-	50,000	73,900	148	50,000	73,900	148
Total		1,387,100		1,274,084	92	(113,016)	50,000	73,900	-	1,437,100	1,347,984	94

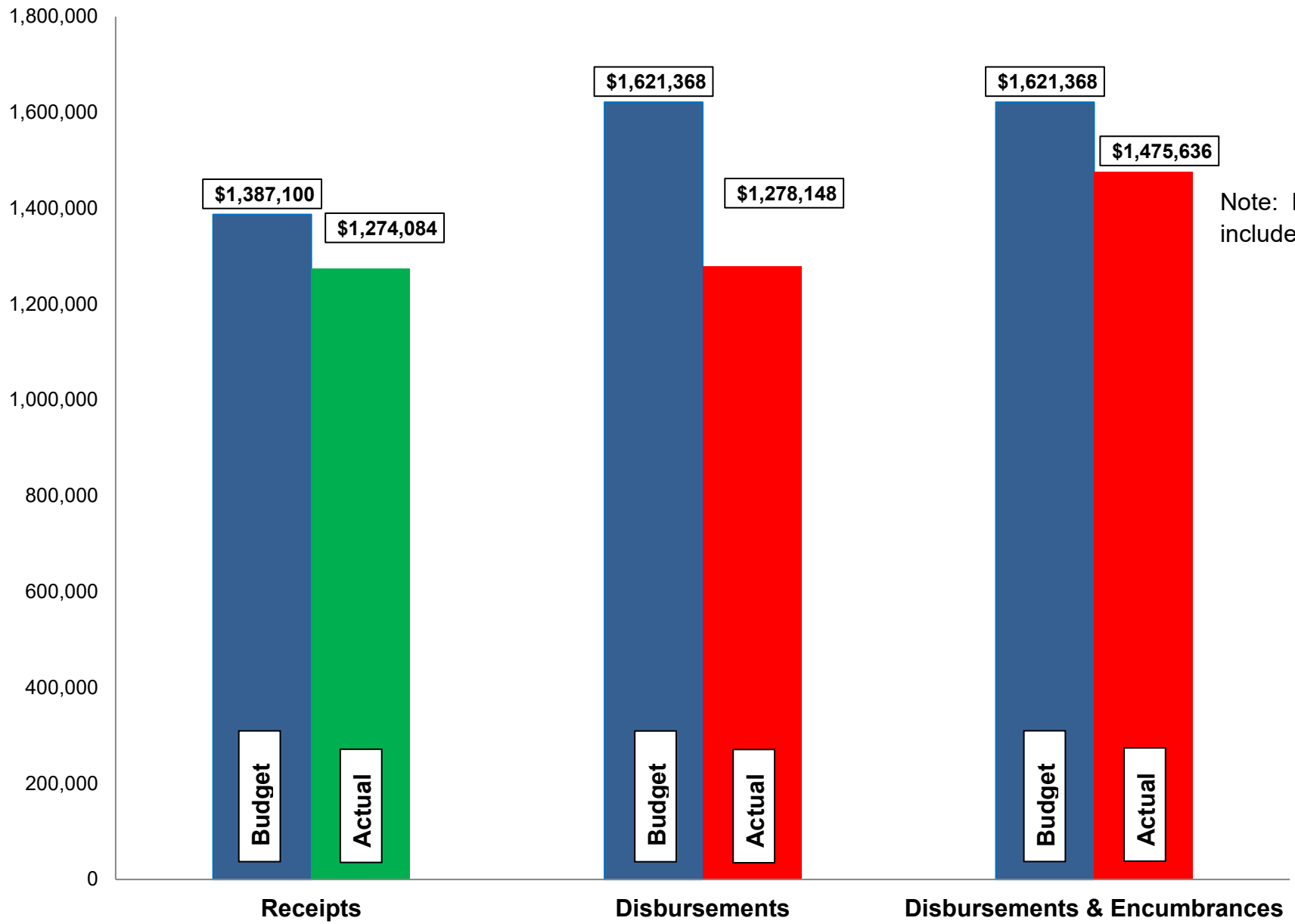
Current Disbursements, including Encumbrances, as Compared to Annual Estimates
for the period ended November 30, 2023

#	Fund Name	Budgeted Outside Disbursements		YTD Outside Disbursements	% of Budget	Encumbrances	YTD Outside Disbursements & Encumbrances	% of Budget	Budgeted Transfer Disbursements	YTD Transfer Disbursements	% of Budget	Budgeted Total Disbursements	YTD Total Disb., Enc. & Tfrs	% of Budget
205	Refuse	1,474,122		1,251,327	85	78,163	1,329,490	90	50,000	50,000	100	1,655,302	1,379,490	83
206	Refuse Equipment Replacement	147,246		26,821	18	119,325	146,146	99	-	-	-	147,246	146,146	99
Total		1,621,368	(1)	1,278,148	79	197,488	1,475,636	91	50,000	50,000	-	1,802,548	1,525,636	85

(1) Prior years encumbrances closed (money not spent) as of November 30, 2023:

\$-CHART R1

**Budget, Revenues & Expenditures
as of November 30, 2023
REFUSE FUNDS**



Note: Disbursements and Disbursements & Encumbrances bars include \$88,833 appropriated from prior year budgets.

CHART R2

Fund Balance Report Reflecting Year-to-Date Receipts and Expenditures, including Prior-Year Obligations and Encumbrances
for the period ended November 30, 2023
WATER FUNDS

#	Fund Name	Beginning Unencumbered Balance		Encumbrances	Beginning Cash Balance	Y-T-D Total Receipts	Available Funds	Y-T-D Total Disbursements	Ending Cash Balance	Encumbrances	Ending Unencumbered Balance	Change in Cash Balance	Change in Unencumbered Balance
602	Waterworks	897,792		53,863	951,655	1,121,622	2,073,277	1,226,760	846,517	139,527	706,990	(105,138)	(190,802)
603	Water Improve/Equip Replace	392,154		64,332	456,486	205,370	661,856	255,948	405,908	32,026	373,882	(50,578)	(18,272)
Total		1,289,946		118,195	1,408,141	1,326,992	2,735,133	1,482,708	1,252,425	171,553	1,080,872	(155,716)	(209,074)

Current Revenue as Compared to Annual Estimates
for the period ended November 30, 2023

#	Fund Name	Budgeted Outside Receipts		YTD Outside Receipts	% of Budget	Net Difference (\$)	Budgeted Transfer Receipts	YTD Transfer Receipts	% of Budget	Budgeted Total Receipts	YTD Total Receipts	% of Budget
602	Waterworks	1,134,600		1,121,622	99	(12,978)	-	-	-	1,134,600	1,121,622	99
603	Water Improve/Equip Replace	-		5,370	-	5,370	200,000	200,000	100	200,000	205,370	103
Total		1,134,600		1,126,992	99	(7,608)	200,000	200,000	-	1,334,600	1,326,992	99

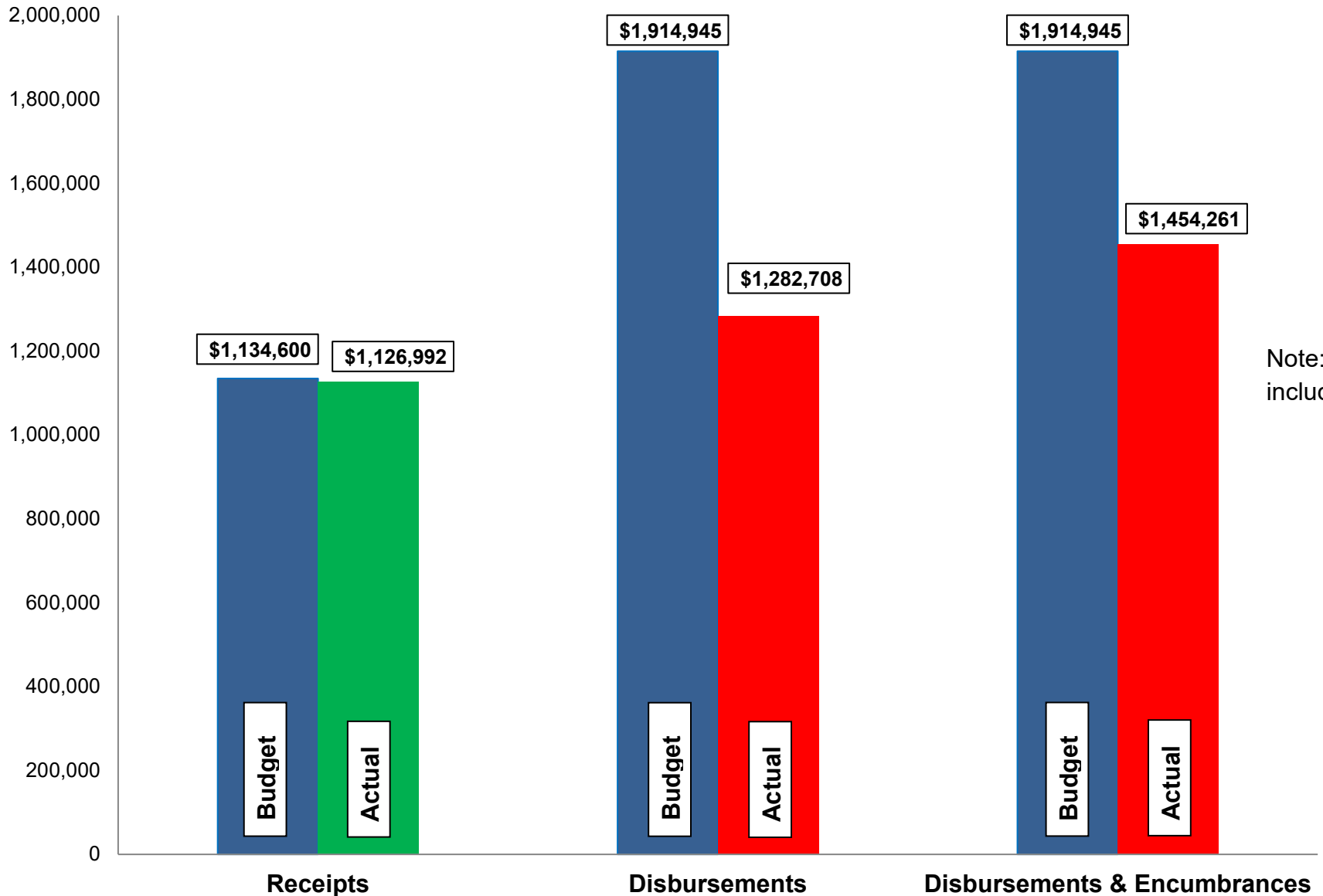
Current Disbursements, including Encumbrances, as Compared to Annual Estimates
for the period ended November 30, 2023

#	Fund Name	Budgeted Outside Disbursements		YTD Outside Disbursements	% of Budget	Encumbrances	YTD Outside Disbursements & Encumbrances	% of Budget	Budgeted Transfer Disbursements	YTD Transfer Disbursements	% of Budget	Budgeted Total Disbursements	YTD Total Disb., Enc. & Tfrs	% of Budget
602	Waterworks	1,371,113		1,026,760	75	139,527	1,166,287	85	200,000	200,000	100	1,657,869	1,366,287	82
603	Water Improve/Equip Replace	543,832		255,948	47	32,026	287,974	53	-	-	-	543,832	287,974	53
Total		1,914,945	(1)	1,282,708	67	171,553	1,454,261	76	200,000	200,000	-	2,201,701	1,654,261	75

(1) Prior years encumbrances closed (money not spent) as of November 30, 2023: \$ 10,581

CHART W1

**Budget, Revenues & Expenditures
as of November 30, 2023
WATER FUNDS
(Excludes Internal Transfers)**



Note: Disbursements and Disbursements & Encumbrances bars include \$118,195 appropriated from prior year budgets.

CHART W2

Fund Balance Report Reflecting Year-to-Date Receipts and Expenditures, including Prior-Year Obligations and Encumbrances
for the period ended November 30, 2023
SANITARY SEWER FUNDS

#	Fund Name	Beginning Unencumbered Balance	Encumbrances	Beginning Cash Balance	Y-T-D Total Receipts	Available Funds	Y-T-D Total Disbursements	Ending Cash Balance	Encumbrances	Ending Unencumbered Balance	Change in Cash Balance	Change in Unencumbered Balance
607	Sanitary Sewer Disp. and Maint.	1,586,617	161,599	1,748,216	1,741,024	3,489,240	1,976,650	1,512,590	26,271	1,486,319	(235,626)	(100,298)
608	Sewer Improve/Equip Replace	313,748	214,012	527,760	200,000	727,760	355,582	372,178	33,767	338,411	(155,582)	24,663
Total		1,900,365	375,611	2,275,976	1,941,024	4,217,000	2,332,232	1,884,768	60,038	1,824,730	(391,208)	(75,635)

Current Revenue as Compared to Annual Estimates
for the period ended November 30, 2023

#	Fund Name	Budgeted Outside Receipts	YTD Outside Receipts	% of Budget	Net Difference (\$)	Budgeted Transfer Receipts	YTD Transfer Receipts	% of Budget	Budgeted Total Receipts	YTD Total Receipts	% of Budget
607	Sanitary Sewer Disp. and Maint.	1,883,200	1,741,024	92	(142,176)	-	-	-	1,883,200	1,741,024	92
608	Sewer Improve/Equip Replace	-	-	-	-	200,000	200,000	100	200,000	200,000	100
Total		1,883,200	1,741,024	92	(142,176)	200,000	200,000	-	2,083,200	1,941,024	93

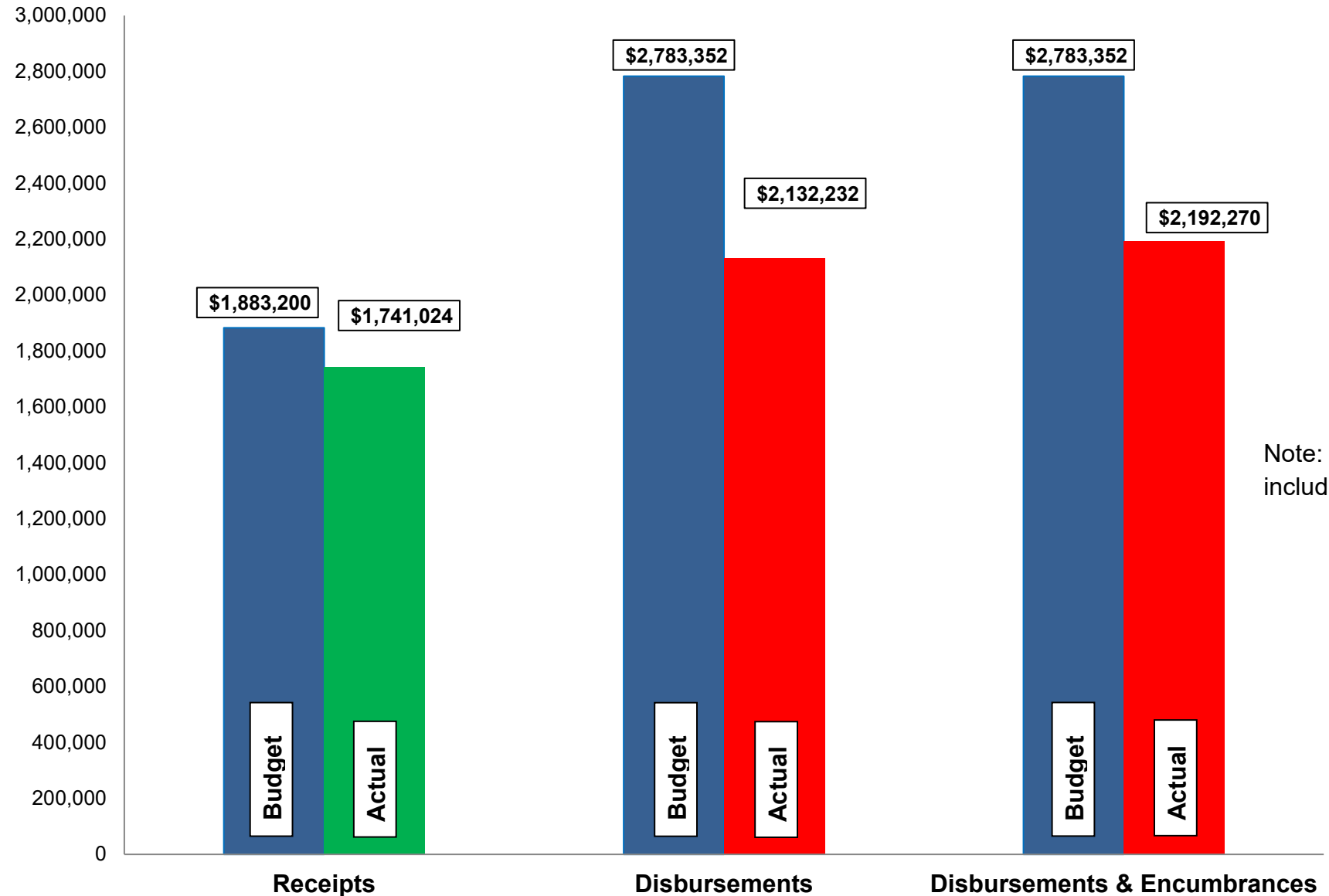
Current Disbursements, including Encumbrances, as Compared to Annual Estimates
for the period ended November 30, 2023

#	Fund Name	Budgeted Outside Disbursements	YTD Outside Disbursements	% of Budget	Encumbrances	YTD Outside Disbursements & Encumbrances	% of Budget	Budgeted Transfer Disbursements	YTD Transfer Disbursements	% of Budget	Budgeted Total Disbursements	YTD Total Disb., Enc. & Tfrs	% of Budget
607	Sanitary Sewer Disp. and Maint.	2,374,340	1,776,650	75	26,271	1,802,921	76	200,000	200,000	100	2,615,226	2,002,921	77
608	Sewer Improve/Equip Replace	409,012	355,582	87	33,767	389,349	95	-	-	-	409,012	389,349	95
Total		2,783,352	2,132,232	77	60,038	2,192,270	79	200,000	200,000	-	3,024,238	2,392,270	79

(1) Prior years encumbrances closed (money not spent) as of November 30, 2023: \$ 13

CHART S1

**Budget, Revenues & Expenditures
as of November 30, 2023
SANITARY SEWER FUNDS
(Excludes Internal Transfers)**



Note: Disbursements and Disbursements & Encumbrances bars include \$375,611 appropriated from prior year budgets.

CHART S2

Fund Balance Report Reflecting Year-to-Date Receipts and Expenditures, including Prior-Year Obligations and Encumbrances
for the period ended November 30, 2023
STORMWATER FUNDS

#	Fund Name	Beginning Unencumbered Balance	Encumbrances	Beginning Cash Balance	Y-T-D Total Receipts	Available Funds	Y-T-D Total Disbursements	Ending Cash Balance	Encumbrances	Ending Unencumbered Balance	Change in Cash Balance	Change in Unencumbered Balance
615	Stormwater Utility	404,427	4,475	408,902	484,520	893,422	423,377	470,045	46,949	423,096	61,143	18,669
616	Stormwater Improve/Equip Replace	104,390	275,000	379,390	1,185,000	1,564,390	310,410	1,253,980	1,188,191	65,789	874,590	(38,601)
Total		508,817	279,475	788,292	1,669,520	2,457,812	733,787	1,724,025	1,235,140	488,885	935,733	(19,932)

Current Revenue as Compared to Annual Estimates
for the period ended November 30, 2023

#	Fund Name	Budgeted Outside Receipts	YTD Outside Receipts	% of Budget	Net Difference (\$)	Budgeted Transfer Receipts	YTD Transfer Receipts	% of Budget	Budgeted Total Receipts	YTD Total Receipts	% of Budget
615	Stormwater Utility	466,600	484,520	104	17,920	-	-	-	466,600	484,520	104
616	Stormwater Improve/Equip Replace	985,000	985,000	100	-	200,000	200,000	100	1,185,000	1,185,000	100
Total		1,451,600	1,469,520	101	17,920	200,000	200,000	-	1,651,600	1,669,520	101

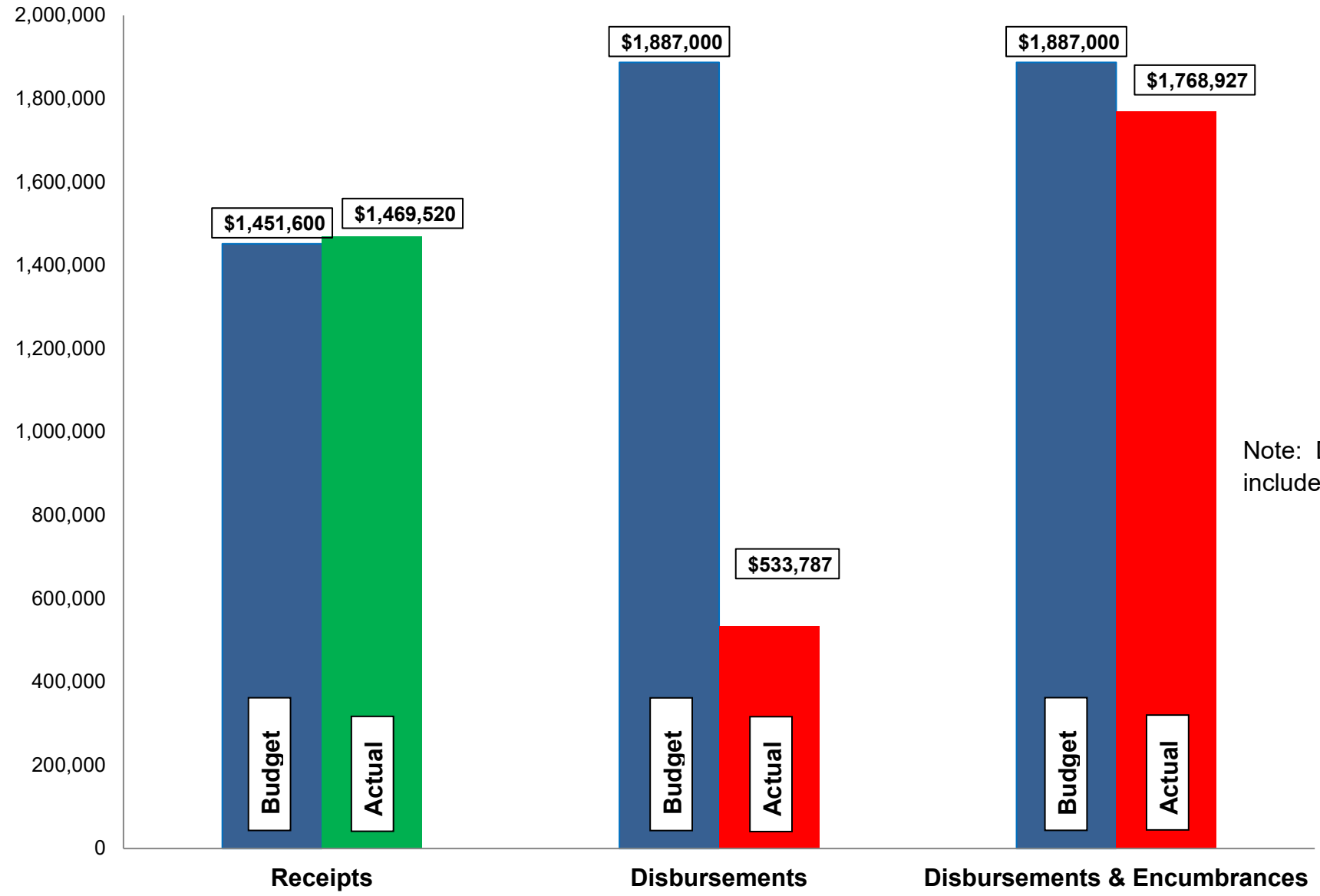
Current Disbursements, including Encumbrances, as Compared to Annual Estimates
for the period ended November 30, 2023

#	Fund Name	Budgeted Outside Disbursements	YTD Outside Disbursements	% of Budget	Encumbrances	YTD Outside Disbursements & Encumbrances	% of Budget	Budgeted Transfer Disbursements	YTD Transfer Disbursements	% of Budget	Budgeted Total Disbursements	YTD Total Disb., Enc. & Tfrs	% of Budget
615	Stormwater Utility	353,399	223,377	63	46,949	270,326	76	200,000	200,000	100	579,248	470,326	81
616	Stormwater Improve/Equip Replace	1,533,601	310,410	-	1,188,191	1,498,601	-	-	-	-	1,533,601	1,498,601	1
Total		1,887,000	533,787	28	1,235,140	1,768,927	94	200,000	200,000	-	2,112,849	1,968,927	93

(1) Prior years encumbrances closed (money not spent) as of November 30, 2023: \$ -

CHART ST1

**Budget, Revenues & Expenditures
as of November 30, 2023
STORMWATER FUNDS
(Excludes Internal Transfers)**



Note: Disbursements and Disbursements & Encumbrances bars include \$279,475 appropriated from prior year budgets.

CHART ST2

Subject: Monthly Financials – November

The following are the items to note when reviewing November's financials:

General City Services:

- Gross Income Tax collections are at 93.09% of the budgeted \$11.00M. April and May are normally our largest collection months. The gross and net 2023 collections are less than YTD November 2022 by 0.06% and 0.34%, respectively.
- Our Real Estate tax collections total \$2,936,410; 105.15% of budget.
- General Fund revenues are 98% of budget and total General City Services revenues are 99% of budget.
- General Fund expenditures, including encumbrances, are 90% of budget and total General City Services expenditures, including encumbrances, are 89% of budget.
- Budgeted disbursements for General City Services include \$17,179,288 in original appropriations plus the following supplemental appropriations:
 - \$985,000 approved May 1, 2023 to be transferred to the Stormwater Improvement / Equipment Replacement Fund for the Far Hills Storm Sewer Reconstruction project; and
 - \$50,000 approved May 1, 2023 for costs related to the continuation of a traffic study.
- No unusual items in the month of November.

Refuse Fund:

- Refuse revenues are approximately 92% of budget. Expenditures, including encumbrances, are approximately 91% of budget.
- Budgeted disbursements for Refuse include \$1,507,535 in original appropriations plus the following supplemental appropriation:
 - \$25,000 approved May 1, 2023 for the purchase of a refuse scooter.
- No unusual items in the month of November.

Enterprise Funds:

- Water revenues are approximately 99% of budget. Expenditures, including encumbrances, are approximately 76% of budget.
- Budgeted disbursements for Water include \$1,796,750 in original appropriations.
- Sewer revenues are approximately 92% of budget. Expenditures, including encumbrances, are approximately 79% of budget. 63% of our 2022 costs were a result of payments to Dayton and Montgomery County for wastewater treatment.
- Budgeted disbursements for Sanitary Sewer include \$2,407,741 in original appropriations.
- Stormwater revenues are approximately 101% of budget. Expenditures, including encumbrances, are approximately 94% of budget.
- Budgeted disbursements for Stormwater include \$1,607,525 in original appropriations.
- No unusual items in the month of November.

Cindy

MEMORANDUM

TO: MEMBERS OF COUNCIL
MR. KLOPSCH
MS. COLLINS
MRS. STAFFORD
MR. JACQUES
MR. SPITLER
MR. KUZMA
MR. KROGER
MR. SANDERS (6 COPIES)
MS. CLEVER

FROM: LORI STACEL, CLERK OF COUNCIL

SUBJECT: CODIFICATION UPDATES

DATE: DECEMBER 6, 2023

Transmitted herewith are codification updates that were adopted at the December 4, 2023 City Council meeting.

Traffic and General Offenses Codes

2023 replacement pages for the Traffic and General Offenses Codes of Oakwood.

Action Required: All new replacement pages have the footnote “2023 Replacement”. Please discard old pages and insert these new replacement pages immediately as directed on the attached Instruction Sheet.

Streets and Public Services Code

Appendix A was amended to reflect increases in the minimum use charges and the standard consumption rates for both water and sanitary sewer utilities.

Action Required: Remove and replace Appendix A (last page) from Chapter 9: Streets and Public Services Code.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

attachment

cc: Year-End File
Website
Desk Copy

Homeowner wants city to offer seasonal permit to resolve lights dispute

By Nick Blizzard
Staff Writer

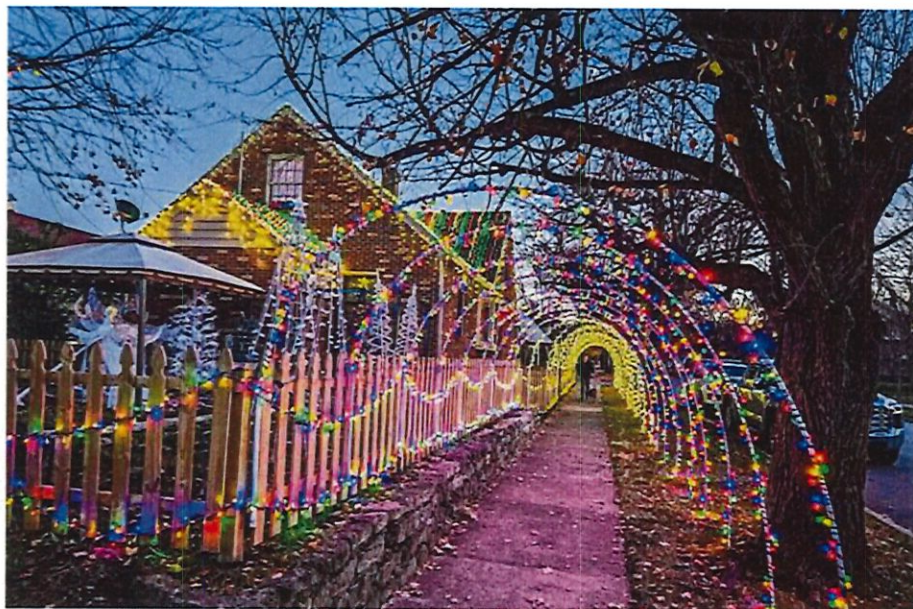
Oakwood isn't likely to endorse a resident's request to create a process for a seasonal permit allowing elaborate outdoor holiday lights displays in public right of ways.

Such a change would give residents the ability to include sidewalk archways in exhibits, which Jessica Myers said she did at her Wonderly Avenue home before Oakwood officials told her it was prohibited.

But Myers' proposal is not an issue city staff would recommend, Oakwood Law Director Robert Jacques.

"Allowing private holiday décor or other structures in the public right-of-way, particularly on sidewalks, would interfere with the public use of the right-of-way," Jacques said in an email Wednesday. "Public rights-of-way are not an open forum for this kind of activity."

Myers told city council



An Oakwood resident with an elaborate outdoor holiday lights display is asking the city to approve a process for a seasonal permit allowing such exhibits in the public right of way. CONTRIBUTED

this week a similar dispute in Boardman near Youngstown was resolved by that city requiring the homeowner

to obtain sufficient liability insurance to include the sidewalk.

"This will create a legally

available permit process that is not only (for) Holiday Lights on Wonderly, but others to create magic and joy during

this most wonderful time of the year," she said.

Myers said she was told by the city earlier this year that her plans for the display – including the sidewalk arches – were acceptable.

Having seen similar lighted sidewalk archways on the street in previous years, Myers said she was encouraged she and her boyfriend Josiah Templeton were following proper procedures.

Then, Myers said, she received notice last month from the city that the archways had to be removed.

"We are not renegade decorators," she told council. "If we were told we could not do something, we just would not have done that. Had we been told that what we proposed back in August was prohibited" she and Templeton would have worked with the city, as they've done on previous issues.

Myers' request to council came after a Nov. 22 city denial of an application to extend the holiday lights display with

archways over the sidewalk, Oakwood records show.

The project was estimated to cost \$4,800 while Myers and Templeton were prepared to obtain a \$1 million liability insurance policy, according to city records.

"We have noted that for the last two days, your clients have kept the lighted arches ... out of the public sidewalk," Jacques wrote last month in email to attorney Jacob Davis. "We thank you and them for this and consider the matter resolved."

The exhibit has been a project for about five years for Myers and her family. It started at their previous home on Shroyer Road and has expanded, she said.

Despite the city's decision, Myers said in an email Wednesday she is not too discouraged. "Our hope is that we can create positive change in this community and ensure that people in Oakwood can celebrate Christmas like others do all across our country," Myers said.

WARREN COUNTY

Roundabout at Ohio 48/Lytle Five Points planned



The Ohio Department of Transportation announced that \$3.6 million in state funding will come to Warren County in fiscal year 2028 for a single-lane roundabout at Ohio 48 and Lytle Five Points Road in Clearcreek Twp. Studies by the Federal Highway Administration show that roundabouts reduce overall crashes by 44 percent and serious injury and deadly crashes by nearly 90 percent at two-way stop intersections. ED RICHTER/STAFF

Montgomery, Clark counties also receiving project funding.

By Ed Richter
Staff Writer

Plans call for a roundabout to be constructed at Ohio 48 and Lytle-Five Points Road in Warren County near one of Springboro's

elementary buildings.

The Ohio Department of Transportation announced that Warren County will be one of 19 counties to receive a grant from the ODOT's Highway Safety Improvement Program to help pay for the project.

Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine and ODOT Director Jack Marchbanks said the state is investing \$73.8 million into 25 projects that will

reduce the risk of crashes and increase safety on Ohio roads.

ODOT said the \$3.66 million project in Clearcreek Twp. would be constructed in 2028. The intersection is currently controlled by a traffic signal.

"That would certainly be a good spot for a roundabout," said Kurt Weber, deputy

Traffic continued on B8

Traffic

continued from B1

Warren County engineer.

Kathleen Fuller, a public information officer with ODOT's District 7 office in Lebanon, said that crash trends were used to determine the need for a roundabout at that intersection. She said from 2020 through 2022, there were 23 crashes of which 30% resulted in injury crashes. Fuller said there was one serious injury crash and a fatal crash there over that time period and that the majority, 74% were rear-end collisions.

A ODOT's analysis determined that left turn only lanes on Ohio 48 would have resulted in a 1.5 crash reduction while a roundabout would have resulted in a five-crash reduction, per year, she said.

"The roundabouts work better," she said.

Matt Clark, Clearcreek Twp. administrator, said, "it's been a dangerous intersection. The township identified that intersection as a priority five years ago."

Clark said it's an important intersection for anyone traveling north, south, east and west. "We're very pleased the state and the county engineer are working on this," he said.

Funding from ODOT's Highway Safety Improvement Program will cover the various phases of project development, right of way, and construction of the projects between state fiscal years 2024 and 2029. Projects submitted for grant consideration are reviewed and selected by a team of safety experts, design engineers, and funding professionals.

ODOT said many of the projects receiving funding are focused on improving the safety of intersections, including 16 projects that will install crash-reducing roundabouts. As of October, 298 people were killed in crashes at intersections in Ohio this year. Studies by the Federal Highway Administration show that roundabouts reduce overall crashes by 44 percent and serious injury and deadly crashes by nearly 90 percent at two-way stop intersections. When roundabouts replace a traffic signal, studies show a 48 percent reduction in crashes and a nearly 80 percent drop in serious injury and deadly crashes.

"When we introduce roundabouts for the first time, folks are generally skeptical. However, as time goes by, they see the benefits of safety and improved traffic flow," Marchbanks said.

Other projects announced for the Dayton region includes:

■ Montgomery County – A \$1.07 million project planned in 2028 for turn lane, signal and pedestrian improvements at U.S. 35 and West Third Street in Dayton.

■ Clark County – A \$2.6 million project planned for 2028 to construct a single-lane roundabout at U.S. 68 and Fairfield Pike.

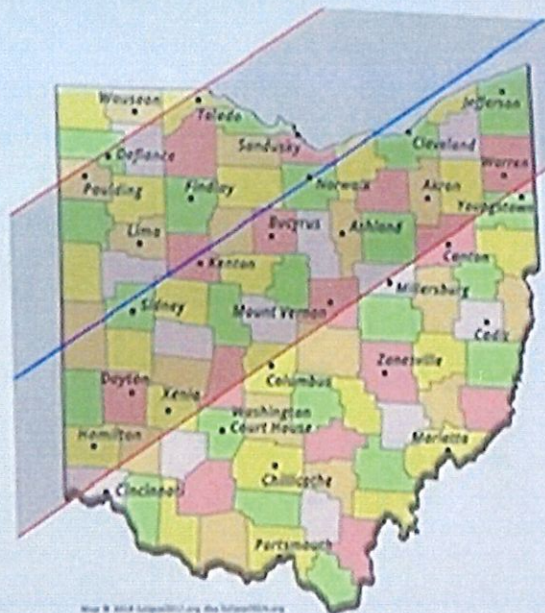
"Since 2019, we've worked to grow this program into one of the largest traffic safety programs in the country," DeWine said. "Every project that receives funding will be constructed in a manner that puts the safety of those traveling Ohio's roads at the forefront."

DDN
12/18/23

From: Hill, Alan <hill@oakwood.oh.us>
Sent: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 10:24 AM
To: Klopsch, Norbert S. <Klopsch@oakwood.oh.us>
Subject: Just info on the Solar Eclipse

Overview

- On Monday, April 8, 2024, people within a 124-mile-wide band in the state of Ohio will experience a total solar eclipse.
- Beginning at about 3:08 PM.
- Dayton will see totality for 2 minutes and 45 seconds



What is the concern?

- Major Traffic Issues
- More than 5 million people showed up for the 2017 event
- Ohio is within a one-day drive of fifty percent of North America's population
- 3 to 4 hours could be added to school bus rides



Public Health
Protecting, Promoting, & Preventing
Better & Brighter Every Day



MVCC Annual Meeting Energy Update

Electric Information

1. MVCC current agreement is at 6.57¢ per kWh and expires in Dec. 2025 billing period.
2. Electric customers participating in MVCC program is ~54,000 as of 11/28/23. Breakdown attached.
3. Participants are saving ~\$36 per month or over \$1.9 million collectively.
4. City of Troy is currently on separate agreement. Their customer participation is ~5,000.
5. Troy will have a new opt-out and participants will get MVCC pricing for May 2024 billing period.
6. AES held an SSO auction in April for a 2-year period (June 2023 - May 2025). The pricing for 40% of the market was \$90.14 per MWh.
7. AES another auction for 40% in October. Price was \$74.68/MWh.
8. 80% of the SSO starting in June 2024 is established at \$82.41 per MWh (average).
9. That would translate to ~8.8¢ per kWh retail for residential and small businesses.
10. Auction for remaining 20% scheduled for April 2024.
11. City of Monroe passed on Nov. 7th. Public hearings are scheduled for Dec. 14th.
12. Village of New Lebanon passed on Nov. 7th. Public hearings were held on Nov. 30th.
13. City of Huber Heights has expressed interest in joining the electric program. Their current agreement expires in September 2025.

Natural Gas Information

1. Pricing from last RFP was \$6.29 for 18 months and \$6.59 for 30 months.
2. Palmer recommended not to proceed with the offers and to reissue the RFP in November.
3. At that time, the upcoming winter (23/24) wtd. pricing was @ \$3.55 per MMBtu.
4. The current winter weighted pricing is ~\$2.60 per MMBtu but prices will change.
5. RFP sent out Nov. 20th.
6. Due back on December 20th.
7. Anticipating a May 2024 billing period flow if we proceed.
8. Current: Nov. 24 – Apr. 25 wtd. pricing @ \$3.88 per MMBtu.
9. Current: Nov. 25 – Apr. 26 wtd. pricing @ \$4.39 per MMBtu.
10. To ensure May 2024 gas billing period agreement has to be signed by mid-February.



MVCC Counts as of 11/28/2023					
Community	Standard Offer		Green Offer		Total
	Resi	Comm	Resi	Comm	
City of Brookville	1,142	82			1,224
City of Centerville	5,581	393	16	1	5,991
City of Clayton	2,290	140	2		2,432
City of Eaton	1,556	177	1		1,734
City of Englewood	2,546	155	3		2,704
City of Fairborn (AES & OE)	7,004	535	8		7,547
City of Germantown	1,149	117	1		1,267
City of Kettering	12,437	924	35		13,396
City of Miamisburg	3,592	308	2		3,902
City of Moraine	1,095	300	1		1,396
City of Oakwood	922	2	233		1,157
City of Trotwood	3,808	278	1		4,087
City of Union	1,271	19	1		1,291
City of Vandalia	2,814	210	9		3,033
City of West Carrollton	2,732	161	1		2,894
Total	49,939	3,801	314	1	54,055
City of Troy	4,626	408			5,034

Epley elected presiding judge on appeals court

Judge Chris Epley was elected Presiding and Administrative Judge of the Ohio Second District Court of Appeals

for 2024 by Judges Welbaum, Tucker, Lewis and Huffman. The Second District includes six counties: Montgomery, Greene, Clark, Miami, Darke and Champaign counties.

As Presiding Judge, Epley chairs general meetings of the court and presides over oral arguments in the court room. As the Administrative Judge, Epley is responsible for the administration, docket, case assignment, and calendar of the Second District Court of Appeals.

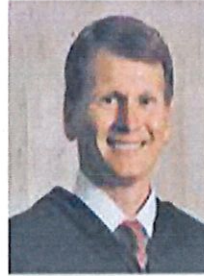
Judge Epley joined the Court of Appeals in February 2021. Before his election to the bench, he practiced law for over 20 years. During those years he was a magistrate, prosecutor, adjunct professor, school board member, city council member and private practice lawyer.

He is a member of the Lawyers Club of Dayton, Dayton Bar Association, Miami County Bar Association, Champaign County Bar Association, Greene County Bar Association, Darke County Bar Association, Ohio Bar Association and American Bar Association. He is President of the DBA Inn of Court and

immediate past President of the Rotary Club of Oakwood. He is a Life Fellow of the Dayton and Ohio Bar Associations and a Paul Harris Fellow of the Rotary Club.

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Judge Epley joined the Court of Appeals in February 2021. Before his election to the bench, he practiced law for over 20 years. During those years he was a magistrate, prosecutor, adjunct professor, a school board and city council member in Oakwood, and a private practice lawyer. He is a member

of the Lawyers Club of Dayton, Dayton Bar Association, Miami County Bar Association, Champaign County Bar Association, Greene County Bar Association, Darke County Bar Association, Ohio Bar Association and American Bar Association. He is president of the DBA Inn of Court and immediate past president of the Rotary Club of Oakwood. He is a Life Fellow of the Dayton and Ohio Bar Associations and a Paul Harris Fellow of the Rotary Club.

"I am honored to serve the Court in this role" said Judge Epley.

Judge Epley graduated from the University of Dayton School of Law and taught appellate practice and procedure as an adjunct professor there for 20 years. He holds an undergraduate degree from Denison University, where he majored in English literature and Spanish and played soccer earning all-conference honors. In 2021 he was recognized by his high school as a Distinguished Alumni Award recipient. Chris and his wife Eileen are the parents of Jack (OHS '20) and Lily (OHS '18).

KETTERING

City joins communities enacting or considering marijuana business bans

By Eric Schwartzberg
Staff Writer

Several Dayton area communities are either putting a hold on the cultivation, processing and retail sale of recreational marijuana or considering a measure to do so.

Kettering City Council voted 5-1 Tuesday to enact a 9-month moratorium on adult-use cannabis operators locating or operating in Kettering effective immediately. Also on hold will be the issuance and processing of any permits or authorizations related to adult-use cannabis operators in the city.

"The purpose of this moratorium is to allow City Council and staff time to study State Issue 2 and the potential benefits and consequences of allowing, limiting, or prohibiting adult use cannabis operators within city limits and to prepare any necessary changes to the city's codified ordinances," according to the resolution.

The moratorium also "will help ensure the public peace, health, safety, and welfare," the resolution says.



Dean Dearth (left) from Cambridge, Ohio, purchased around \$700 worth of recreational marijuana for himself and his girlfriend from Amazing Budz in Adrian, Michigan. Cambridge is a little over four hours' drive from Adrian, which made Dearth an issue 2 supporter. JIM NOELKER / STAFF

medical center, or private research and development organization.

With the new law, local governments also cannot prohibit home-grown marijuana or levy any tax, fee, or charge on adult-use operators of cannabis.

juana establishments are currently prohibited within township borders per the Miami Twp. Zoning Resolution, we are actively exploring our options as to what best serves the community in the future as the legal use of recreational marijuana is enacted," Drury said.

Council member Jyl Hall voted against the moratorium, while Bruce Duke was not present at the meeting.

Nearly three weeks ago, on Nov. 7, Ohioans voted to legalize the growing, processing, selling and use of recreational marijuana, making the Buckeye State the 24th state to do so. Nearly 57% of Ohioans approved state Issue 2, and the law takes effect on Dec. 7, which allows adults 21 and over to legally possess up to 2.5 ounces of marijuana, as well as use and grow up to six plants per person and 12 per household.

This is an expansion of Ohio's marijuana laws as the state legislature approved the use of medical marijuana in 2016.

"This piece of legislation is an emergency ordinance," said Kettering Law Director Ted Hamer said during Tuesday's meeting. "It's an emergency so that it can go into effect prior to the effective date of state Issue 2."

Issue 2 does allow Kettering City Council, or any other legislative body, to ban or limit license holders from operating, which mirrors a legislative body's options for medical marijuana. However, according to the new law, no local legislative body can prohibit laboratory research related to marijuana, including at a state university, academic

Other communities take action on pot

■ On Nov. 20, Centerville City Council voted to approve a moratorium for nine months and Washington Twp. approved a 360-day moratorium.

■ Troy City Council will be asked to approve a 180-day moratorium on granting permits allowing adult use cannabis operators from establishing within the city. Council's law and ordinance committee voted Monday to recommend city council approve the moratorium at its next meeting this Monday.

■ Emily Christian, Miamisburg's assistant city manager, said Miamisburg City Council is planning a discussion on a possible moratorium during study session for its next meeting Tuesday "and then we'll see what city council directs for any ordinance."

■ While the city of Dayton has nothing to report regarding a cannabis moratorium or ban, its law department "is still analyzing the developments from the recent election," Dayton spokeswoman Toni Bankston told this news outlet.

■ Miami Twp. is considering how to move forward since the passage of Issue 2, according to spokeswoman Jill Drury.

"While medical mari-

Staff writers Michael D. Pitman and Cornelius Frolik and contributing writer Nancy Bowman contributed to this report.

DON
12/3/23

Beavercreek puts moratorium on recreational marijuana businesses

Kettering, Washington Twp., Centerville, Troy also enacted bans.

By London Bishop
Staff Writer

Beavercreek City Council has placed a six-month moratorium on issuing any permits for adult-use cannabis operators within the city limits.

The moratorium, passed unanimously during council's meeting last week, is to give city officials time to decide whether or not to limit or outlaw any new adult-use cannabis operators in the city, according to the legislation, but also to wait for Ohio's

state lawmakers to decide how to regulate recreational marijuana.

"This is a little bit unusual," city attorney Stephen McHugh said. "Normally when we are doing a moratorium, we're putting a moratorium on accepting an application under our regulations. This is unusual because this is a statewide issue that was voted upon and was passed by the voters."

McHugh added that the moratorium may have to be extended as the state legislature considers changes to the Issue 2 law approved by voters in November. On Monday, an Ohio Senate Committee proposed several changes, including implementing a ban on homegrown marijuana,

which would be allowed by Issue 2; and increasing the tax on recreational weed and directing all of it to the state general fund, law enforcement training, substance abuse treatment and safe driver training.

Beavercreek passed both the moratorium and an ordinance changing the city's business regulations to "prohibit adult use cannabis operators" within the city.

Councilmember Pete Bales questioned the timing of the moratorium last Monday, asking whether or not council could delay the process to gain better feedback from Beavercreek residents. However, McHugh said,

Marijuana continued on B6



Ariane Kirkpatrick, with Beavercreek mayor Bob Stone, cuts the ribbon during the opening of Harvest of Beavercreek, a medical marijuana dispensary at 4370 Tonawanda Trail. STAFF

Marijuana

continued from B1

as Issue 2 goes into effect this Thursday, the state may further change Issue 2 to exclude cities from the permitting process, essentially putting cities on a deadline.

"I think it is prudent to enforce our rights under that section (of state law). The problem though, is that we don't know what the state regulations are going to be, and for that reason we're adopting a moratorium until we have a better

idea," McHugh said, adding that council may go back and amend the ordinance later based on state action.

"This is a way to get out in front, even if it needs to be tweaked down the road once the state takes their action," Mayor Bob Stone said during the council meeting. "But it's a way to at least do our due diligence to make sure something doesn't slip through the cracks."

Beavercreek has one existing medical marijuana dispensary, Harvest of Beavercreek. City officials say the legislation won't affect the

business' current operations.

Nearly 57% of Ohioans approved state Issue 2, and the law takes effect Thursday. One of the provisions of Issue 2 allows current businesses with a medical dispensary license to apply for a recreational license.

According to the newly enacted Ohio law, if the business applies for and gets a recreational marijuana license, the city has 120 days to pass an ordinance that would prohibit the business' operation as a recreational marijuana facility. The business then has 60

days to file a ballot issue with the county Board of Elections, and voters would then decide whether or not the business should be allowed to sell recreational marijuana.

Harvest of Ohio declined to comment.

Several other Dayton communities have approved moratoriums, including Kettering, Centerville, Washington Twp., Troy, Miamisburg, Miami Twp. and others.

Contact this reporter at
london.bishop@coxinc.com



A cultivation room at Pure Ohio Wellness' medical marijuana grow facility in Clark County. "(Ohio Senators' proposed changes) begin to make Issue 2 less dangerous to Ohioans and less self-serving to the industry," said Scott Milburn, spokesperson for the campaign against Issue 2. "They're unlikely to be the last." BILL LACKEY / STAFF

Senators propose ban on homegrown pot, other changes

Changes would make law 'shell of what voters passed,' opponent says.

By Lynn Hulsey
Staff Writer

Ohio Senators on Monday proposed a ban on homegrown marijuana and other changes to the state Issue 2 legal marijuana law voters approved on Election Day.

Voters had approved the legal purchase and use of recreational marijuana for adults aged 21 and up, allowed people to grow a limited amount at home, and decided how taxes from the sale would be allocated.

A Senate committee added changes to the newly approved marijuana law as part of consideration of a liquor control bill. The new measure could be voted on by the full Senate this week. Any changes would need to be approved by the House before going before the governor for his signature.

The marijuana law passed by voters goes into effect Thursday.

The proposal would 'gut Issue 2's most important provisions, including home grow and social equity, and (would propose) to put in place higher taxes that will entrench the illicit market and force Ohioans to continue to buy their cannabis products in Michigan.'

Tom Haren

Spokesman for the Coalition to Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol

The proposed changes were outlined by Ohio Sen. Rob McColley, R-Napoleon, at the senate's general government committee hearing Monday. Those changes include:

- A ban on growing marijuana at home. Voters had approved cultivation of six marijuana plants at a time, with a limit of 12 per household.

- Increasing the taxes and directing all of it to the state's general fund, law enforcement training, marijuana substance abuse treatment and prevention, and safe driver training.

- Eliminating voter approved money for jurisdictions with marijuana businesses and assistance to disadvantaged and minority marijuana business owners.

- Decreasing the potency of legal marijuana and limiting the amount people can possess to one ounce of plant material and 5 grams of extracts.

- Banning smoking marijuana in public and vehicles, limiting it to private residences and allowing landlords to ban it.

Marijuana continued on A5

Marijuana

continued from A1

■ Allowing employers to have drug free workplace policies and discharge people for violating it by using marijuana.

■ Limit the total number of dispensaries to 230, down from the 350 McColley said the voter-approved law allows.

"These changes begin to make Issue 2 less dangerous to Ohioans and less self-serving to the industry. They're unlikely to be the last," said Scott Milburn, spokesperson for the campaign against Issue 2.

The proposal would "gut Issue 2's most important provisions, including home grow and social equity, and

(would propose) to put in place higher taxes that will entrench the illicit market and force Ohioans to continue to buy their cannabis products in Michigan," said Tom Haren, spokesman for the Coalition to Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol, which supported Issue 2. "This is not what voters wanted."

The bill would increase the marijuana excise tax from 10% to 15%, which would generate \$262 million annually, and add a 15% tax on cultivators, which would bring in \$149.7 million annually.

The state sales tax would also apply to marijuana sales and bring in \$100.4 million in annual revenue, McColley said.

The state's general revenue fund would get 45% of

the estimated \$512 million generated annually from those taxes. Thirty percent would go to the law enforcement training fund, 15% to a marijuana substance abuse treatment and prevention fund and 10% to a safe driver training fund.

"From my mind the voters intent is nowhere to be found in this what I call a shell of what the voters passed," said Sen. William P. Demora, D-Columbus, the five-member committee's only Democrat and only no vote on the proposal.

He said he supports reducing the number of plants a person can grow but getting rid of home grow goes against what voters want. He also said the taxes are too high and should go to where voters chose.

DDN

12/5/23

Pot possession in Ohio legal starting today, but questions remain

DeWine: 'We do not need an expanding black market.'

**By Josh Swelgart
and Sydney Dawes**
Staff Writers

Starting today, Ohioans age 21 and older can legally possess limited amounts of marijuana as Issue 2, which voters overwhelmingly approved in November, goes into effect. But the law change comes with a haze of uncertainty about how certain provisions will be enforced, and as lawmakers wrangle over

last-minute revisions.

Gov. Mike DeWine held a press conference Wednesday evening urging the General Assembly to pass a bipartisan compromise that would speed up how soon marijuana could legally be sold, among other things.

"We do not need an expanding black market," DeWine said.

The General Assembly did not vote on the measure before press time for this publication. Visit our website or see our ePaper for the latest.

One issue with Issue 2 as passed by voters: The law start-

Marijuana continued on **A10**

Marijuana

continued from A1

ing today allows possession of up to 2.5 ounces of marijuana in plant form or up to 15 grams in extract form and grow up to six marijuana plants per adult (capped at 12 plants per household). But there's no legal way to buy it. The regulatory framework allowing recreational marijuana dispensaries as mandated by Issue 2 would not be in place until mid-2024.

The law also prohibits using it in public spaces, like at a bus stop, in a park or walking down the street. Of-age Ohioans who consume in prohibited areas run the risk of getting a minor misdemeanor, as Issue 2 currently reads.

Enforcement considerations

The Ohio Prosecuting Attorney Association recently released an analysis on the law noting some issues and enforcement challenges.

For one, it notes that the law allows growing marijuana "within a secured closet, room, greenhouse, or other enclosed area in or on the grounds of the residence that prevents access by individuals less than twenty-one years of age, and which is not visible by normal unaided vision from a public space."

The law allows up to six plants per adult and up to 12 plants per household. But a single plant can produce up to 17.5 ounces of cannabis per plant which, once processed, would far exceed the allowed limit of 2.5 ounces. Home growers are prohibited from selling marijuana, and can give it away in only limited quantities.

Another issue is traffic stops, the prosecutors memo notes. A K-9 officer trained to alert to cannabis giving a positive hit would no longer be probable cause of criminal activity by itself. An officer smelling burnt marijuana, or the dog alerting to cannabis after the driver says there is none on the car, could still be probable cause.

Local police departments tell the Dayton Daily News they have received no guidance from the state and are

hashing out policies on their own.

"Our department just met this morning regarding it and are still working on a policy/procedure. Nothing has been announced to us at this time," said Kettering Police Department Public Information Officer Cynthia James on Wednesday.

Meanwhile, Ohioans who have been recently charged with marijuana possession may have grounds to have their charges dismissed, said Joe Suhre, a defense attorney with offices in Dayton, Columbus and Cincinnati.

"My experience has been generally speaking with prosecutors' offices and with courts that have been cases pending for conduct that subsequently becomes legal... generally speaking it's able to be resolved successfully," Suhre said. "In other words, my experience has been that they'll generally dismiss it now. But that's not a guarantee."

Driving under the influence

Suhre said multiple challenges exist ahead following the law coming into effect. But these challenges aren't entirely new; legal professionals have been working on cases related to medical marijuana since the state's medical program began.

For example, the law prohibits using marijuana in a vehicle, or operating a vehicle while under the influence of cannabis. But there is no breathalyzer for weed.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has validated some field sobriety tests to detect impairment by alcohol. These tests don't translate to marijuana intoxication, Suhre said.

One NHTSA test, called the "lack of convergence" test, relies on eye movement patterns. It can be used to test motorists for marijuana use. Suhre said roughly 10% of the general population cannot perform the eye movements requested even when they're sober.

Oftentimes, police can also request a urine sample if they suspect intoxication by marijuana. But Suhre said marijuana metabolites stick to fat tissues in the body and take several days or longer to

completely leave the body.

"Any toxicologist that will testify, and I have cross examined dozens of them over the years, will say, 'I cannot tell you because of a metabolite level if someone is under the influence because the urine doesn't correlate like blood does,'" Suhre said.

An Ohioan could lawfully use marijuana on a Saturday, Suhre said, and be involved in a car crash while driving sober the following Monday. This Ohioan could face charges related to impaired driving if they consent to a urine sample and see results higher than the legal limit of 35 nanograms per milliliter for marijuana metabolites.

Other limitations on usage

Smoking marijuana is banned in indoor public places or places of employment by the state's indoor smoking ban.

Marijuana is still illegal under federal law, so possession on federal property is still a crime. This includes on Wright-Patterson Air Force Base as well as certain areas around the base such as base housing areas like Page Manor.

Federal employees are also still prohibited from using cannabis products.

Issue 2 allows any employer to establish and enforce drug-free workplaces, prohibiting employees from using marijuana and disciplining employees for doing so.

Certain renters may also not be able to use marijuana at home. The bill authorizes landlords to include a prohibition on the use of cannabis in lease agreements.

And federal law prohibits people who use marijuana from receiving, possessing or purchasing a firearm.

Every purchase from a licensed gun dealer requires someone to fill out a background check asking if the buyer is "an unlawful user of, or addicted to, marijuana or any depressant, stimulant, narcotic drug, or any other controlled substances."

The form notes that use or possession of marijuana is still illegal under federal law even if it's legalized by the state. It also notes that lying on the form is a felony under federal law.

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WHITEHOUSE

Biden administration to require removal of all lead water pipes

Coral Davenport

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The Biden administration is proposing new restrictions that would require the removal of virtually all lead water pipes across the country in an effort to prevent another public health catastrophe like the one that came to define Flint, Michigan.

The proposal Thursday from the Environmental Protection Agency would impose the strictest limits on lead in drinking water since federal standards were first set 30 years ago. It would affect about 9 million pipes that snake throughout communities across the country.

"This is the strongest lead rule that the nation has ever seen," Radhika Fox, the EPA's assistant administrator for water, said in an interview.

Digging up and replacing lead pipes from coast to coast is no small undertaking. The EPA estimates the price at \$20 billion to \$30 billion over the course of a decade. The rule would require the nation's utilities – and most likely their ratepayers – to absorb most of that cost, but \$15 billion is available from the 2021 infrastructure law to help them pay for it.

Tom Dobbins, CEO of the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, said his members would need both technical help and more financial assistance from the federal government to comply with the proposed regulations. He urged the EPA to "focus on providing drinking water systems with the resources and tools necessary to achieve this ambitious goal, and working toward eliminating the real barriers that exist for many utilities."



The Biden administration on Thursday proposed the nation's strongest limits on lead in drinking water since federal standards were first enacted over 30 years ago.

BRYAN ANSELM / THE NEW YORK TIMES

In a statement, the association said it had repeatedly called attention to a long list of obstacles that make it difficult to replace lead pipes, including rising costs, supply chain problems, labor shortages and incomplete or missing building records.

Lead is a neurotoxin that can cause irreversible damage to the nervous system and the brain. It poses a danger to infants and children and can impair their cognitive development, cause behavioral disorders and lead to lower IQs. From the nation's earliest days, lead was used to make pipes to carry water to homes and businesses. But when plumbing corrodes, lead can leach into drinking water. The problem drew national attention in 2014 in Flint, when a change in the water source and inadequate treatment and testing caused significant lead contamination.

Lead and Legionella bacteria leached into the tap water of about 100,000 residents between 2014 and 2015.

Lead levels in drinking water also soared in 2019

in Newark, New Jersey, where Yvette Jordan is a high school teacher. "Forty percent of our students are special needs," she said. "All of these effects we see in our classroom every single day."

The EPA estimates that its proposal would generate \$9.8 billion to \$34.8 billion in economic benefits each year, in the form of less cognitive impairment and fewer health disorders, especially in children.

The proposal would not eliminate the amount of lead permitted in drinking water. Instead, the Biden administration wants to lower the allowable amount to 10 parts per billion from the current 15 parts per billion.

That's disappointing to many public health advocates, who have called for a standard between zero and five parts per billion. Scientists agree there is no safe level of lead in drinking water.

"We have failed generations of children by not eliminating lead," said Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha, the Michigan pediatrician whose research helped to expose the 2014 Flint water crisis.

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Dayton considers expanding its use of license plate readers

Police say the cameras help solve crimes, locate suspects; critics say a public hearing is required.

By Cornelius Frolik
Staff Writer

Dayton is considering buying nearly three dozen new fixed-site automated license plate readers, which would nearly double the

police department's supply of the stationary devices.

Police officials say plate readers can quickly identify stolen cars and vehicles that are connected to serious crimes and many residents want this technology deployed in their neighborhoods.

"This technology has been really critical in solving some high-profile cases across the spectrum," said Dayton police Major Paul Saunders. "There's never been a time we've had a greater need for this type of technology than we have right now."

However, some community members say once again the police department has not followed its own rules for adopt-

ing and significantly expanding police surveillance technologies.

They have raised concerns about privacy implications, potential misuse of the data the devices collect and whether the technology is truly effective.

"The proposed contract is in violation of the (city's surveillance tech) ordinance which requires

Cameras continued on A8

Cameras

continued from A1

a public hearing for existing technology used in a different manner, scope or scale," said Melissa Bertolo, a member of the Coalition on Public Protection, which is a group of community members focused on oversight of police technology.

The city is considering paying a company called Flock \$825,750 to purchase and install 35 new fixed-site plate readers and maintain the 37 the city already has installed.

The contract with Flock would last through the end of 2028.

The contract was on the Dayton City Commission's agenda at its last meeting, but the item was removed after a couple of commissioners raised concerns about the proposal.

Dayton City Commissioner Shenise Turner-Sloss said the contract was pulled partly because there was no public hearing for the proposed use of new fixed-site plate readers.

She said she thinks this does not adhere with the requirements of a city ordinance that regulates the deployment of new police surveillance technology.

She also said police have not provided a report that shows the effectiveness of the technology, though this is required by city ordinance.

"I hope that information can be provided," she said.

Major Saunders said this technology is not new and has been used for a long time.

Police fairly recently installed 11 fixed-site devices in the Twin Tower neighborhood, 10 in Old North Dayton, 10 in Westwood and half a dozen downtown.

Dayton police vehicles also are equipped with automated license plate readers that scan license plates as officers drive around on patrol.

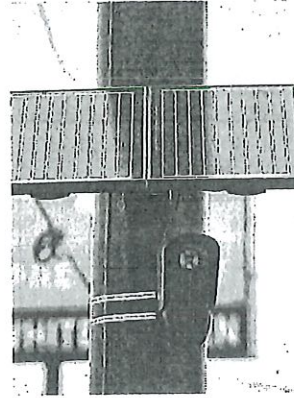
The cameras were installed in city neighborhoods at the direct requests of residents in those communities to address specific safety issues, Saunders said.

Plate readers are only installed if neighborhood residents want them and if an analysis of crime data supports their deployment, Saunders said.

Saunders described the



Dayton Police Major Paul Saunders talks about automated license plate readers at a Dayton City Commission meeting, on Nov. 29. CORNELIUS FROLIK / STAFF



An automated license plate reader on North Main Street, just north of downtown Dayton. CORNELIUS FROLIK / STAFF

technology as "exceptional" and he said without a doubt it helps solve crimes.

Saunders said more than 2,200 vehicles have been stolen in the city this year, and plate readers instantly alert officers when they scan license plates of stolen cars and trucks.

The plate readers have helped solve homicide cases, aggravated robberies and other violent crimes by quickly providing police with information about suspect vehicles, Saunders said.

"This technology gives us swift, actionable intelligence," he said. "Just a few years ago, a lot of this information would have required days of investigation and followup, and by then, who knows what other crimes may have occurred."

The Dayton Police Department lost more than 50 police officers this year to retirements and resignations, and plate readers are a big help at a time of limited resources, Saunders said.

Members of the Coalition on Public Safety said a major

expansion of the police department's license plate reader capabilities should be supported by "overwhelming, objective, data-driven evidence" that the technology reduces or deters crime.

They said the technology and the data it collects can be misused and the devices can contribute to overpolicing. Bertolo, a coalition member, said the police department does not have a policy for the plate readers that ensures community members' civil rights are protected and the data the devices collect are not improperly used.

Dayton police say the department uses the technology responsibly and there are privacy safeguards in place. But some community members say they do not believe this to be true.

Dayton City Commissioner Chris Shaw said many people want these devices in their neighborhoods and technology helps out during a time of police staffing challenges.

"In these trying times that we're in now, with the limited staff we have, I just think it's important to use all of the technology that we can," he said.

Saunders said the Huffman neighborhood has requested license plate readers, and the downtown community wants more devices in the center city.

Dayton police said they did not know at this time what other neighborhoods could get new plate readers.

Police said grant funding would be used to pay for the new devices and their operation.

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12/4/23

'COMPLICATED AND COMPLEX'

By Ohio law, property in all counties is reappraised every six years, with property values updated every third year based on recent sales. This year, some areas of Montgomery County are projected to see property value increases up to 48%, and taxes in some areas could increase up to 12%. Whether you own a home or rent, the new valuation and taxes will have significant effects for those living in the Miami Valley. To help answer your questions about these increases, the Dayton Daily News hosted a Community Conversation on the Dayton Daily News Facebook page. Community Impact Editor Nick Hrkman and reporter Sydney Dawes led a discussion with panelists from around the region, including: Greg Blatt, president of Dayton Realtors; Destiny Brown, community organizer for Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc. (ABLE); Thomas Hall, state Rep. for District 46; and Karl Keith, Montgomery County auditor.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The transcript below has been edited for brevity and clarity. You can watch the full recording on the Dayton Daily News Facebook page or on our website.

How is the value of a property determined and why is everyone talking about property taxes this year?

Karl Keith: That question is complicated and complex. Every county in Ohio is required to do a comprehensive revaluation once every six years. But depending on where you are in the cycle will affect how you do things, and every county is not on the same cycle. During the six-year update's comprehensive revaluation, we look at each individual property and look at property characteristics and do comparisons of value based upon sales of similar properties and update each individual property with a new one. Midway through that cycle, we focus exclusively on the market and what's happened to sales in the area. And we do that by looking at sales and adjust values according to what's happened in the real estate market. So this year in Montgomery County, we're doing what's called a triennial update, the market update.

Where does the money collected through property taxes go?

Karl Keith: In Montgomery County, we'll collect a billion dollars in local property taxes this year. Where's all this money going? About 60% of every dollar we collect goes to local schools, and that's pretty consistent across the state. In Montgomery County, another 15% goes to support human services. The remainder goes to support libraries and parks and cities and townships, roads and bridges. The bulk of it is going to local schools – 4% of every dollar goes to support Sinclair Community College. So it depends on what the voters have decided in determining levies. One of the things we have to ask ourselves is what's the best way to fund some of these local services? We had a number of local schools in Montgomery County this year that had big levies on the ballot, despite the value increases, they were still asking for more money. And so this is when we say, we don't have a value problem, we have a tax problem.



GREG BLATT



STATE REP. THOMAS HALL

Greg Blatt: I've had many conversations around the tax increases and schools always come up. In 1998, there was a case, *DeRolph v. Ohio*, that went all the way to the Ohio Supreme Court. And that case, the Supreme Court deemed that the way we fund schools in Ohio is unconstitutional under the Ohio Constitution. So I'm going to ask Representative Hall about how we look at the tax burdens and the tax funding of schools and things like that. Is school funding actually going to get some attention after almost 30 years of a Supreme Court ruling that says it's unconstitutional? And why hasn't either party taken this up?



DESTINY BROWN



KARL KEITH

Thomas Hall: I think that we have made progress. We addressed it in 2021 with the Cupp-Patterson fair-school funding model. We have enacted phase two of Cupp-Patterson in the recent budget, and we will enact hopefully in the next budget, the final phase-in for federal funding. This, just like property taxes, is very complex and deals with schools in different parts of the state. One of the biggest things that we focused on this recent budget was fully funding the fair-school funding plan. With phase two there

was also the EdChoice expansion where, I believe, it was around \$3 billion of our \$86 billion state operating budget on public education. In late April, early May, school districts found out about these large value increases, ran to their school boards and said, 'Hey, we need to adjust our budgets, we're getting ready to get 30% more funds than we had originally forecasted.' So now they're coming to me saying, 'Hey, you want to cut our funds?' No, we voted for fair-school funding for the second phase-in which, in Butler County, is a huge thing for a lot of the schools that are going to see an increase in funds from the state. But now they're upset because they view our bills as trying to protect the property owner, which I feel like has never been in the room in Columbus. And you see a lot of other bills getting introduced that address property tax reform. I think now more than ever, we are on the cutting edge of actual reform.

Greg Blatt: Several years ago, when John Kasich was in office, Director Blair came and spoke and this very question was asked, why is the legislature not making it a priority to abide by The Supreme Court's ruling of unconstitutionality? And his comment to me was we just don't have an appetite. I would suggest the reason the legislature doesn't have an appetite is because the constituency doesn't call their legislators and let them know of their concerns about the unconstitutionality of this process. So I might suggest, pick up the phone, call your local state representative, call your local state senator and let them know of your concerns about this, the way this is funded. Everybody wants to vote for good schools. But on the funding side, you've got people that are voting for these levies that aren't going to be subject to the tax they're voting for. So there's a little bit of the inequality. So again, I'm going to go back and say the leg-

islature needs to look at this and figure out a way to make it more equitable.

Destiny Brown: I want to reiterate Greg's point on an equitable source of funding, but from a different perspective. The other reality is a lot of these communities are still dealing with the impacts of redlining in housing policy and property value allocation and all of those things. So when we talk about equitable funding sources for schools, the impact of that widens the gap and creates more disparity and perpetuates that. So from a different lens, I wanted to reiterate the importance of an equitable funding stream.

Thomas Hall: What we've tried to do is look at solutions in the Ohio House that we thought made sense. Just yesterday, we had our first and second hearing in the Ohio Senate on our House Bill 187. What this bill is trying to do is take the value process, and instead of focusing on one year's worth of data, we want to use three years worth of data to kind of smooth out that increase. Right now, a lot of these updates focus on just tax year 2022. Auditor Keith and I have had many different conversations and he believes that it's not the valuation issue, it's more of a tax issue. And I absolutely agree with him. I'm happy to say that in our recent budget, we set up a property tax study review committee to look at the entire state of Ohio and look at the way property taxes are calculated and try to be better. We took large steps in our budget as well with the income tax in Ohio, getting Ohio's income tax down to just the two brackets, over \$3 billion back into the pockets of hardworking Ohioans. We are literally taxing people out of their own homes in some of these situations. And that's what we don't want to happen. We want people to choose Ohio, we want Ohio to be that star that everybody comes to. And right now we're just lacking in the property tax side of things.

Karl Keith: Most counties are pretty active about providing property owners an opportunity

to meet with the county and meet with officials to review their values and to bring up issues that we may not be aware of. We're all doing these as a mass appraisal. We don't go in people's homes. It's a mass appraisal technique that we use, and so people know more about their property than we do. And so we try to provide people an opportunity to meet with us before we finalize. And then even after the values are finalized, there's a formal appeal process that people can participate in. And we could encourage people to take, take advantage of those opportunities and bring issues to our attention that we may not be aware of that could impact the value of their property.

We've heard from readers that the reported increases don't align with the proposed increases they've received. Why is that?

Karl Keith: A lot of these numbers that have been tossed around can be misleading. You have the county-wide number, which reflects the aggregate increase for every property owner in the county over the previous year. And that's going to vary wildly by community by city, by area. We divide Montgomery County into 1,300 neighborhoods and we look at each one of those neighborhoods differently based upon what has happened in the real estate market. 51% of the growth we're seeing this year is occurring in the southern suburbs and Centerville, Washington Township, Kettering, that's where the most real estate activity has occurred. And so that's where the numbers are going to be higher than other places in the county.

What is the homestead exemption expansion and how does that work for disabled veterans or Ohioans who might have lower income?

Thomas Hall: Under current Ohio law, \$36,100 is the income threshold for the homestead exemption. You can claim up to \$25,000 off of your house, disabled veterans up to \$50,000. What we found in Ohio is that we are behind in regards to homestead exemptions. Other states do it much better than Ohio, including Florida and Texas. So what we're trying to do with the homestead expansion is looking at expanding the income threshold to a \$70,000 or \$75,000 mark, and make it like a grading scale. So if someone makes \$70,000, their deduction on their property taxes would be less than someone that makes \$40,000, they could claim more of a homestead exemption to get their value down to pay less taxes.

How does the rising cost and value impact the rental market differently than the homeowner market?

Destiny Brown: I think sometimes a renter may not have an interest in the conversation around property taxes at all because the assumption is that it's only for homeowners. If a landlord has an increase on the value of their property, they're likely going to make up the difference in the rent that the tenant is paying. It will directly impact what the tenant is paying monthly. Whether they are homeowners or not, it ultimately impacts what people are paying and what housing costs, whether they're renting or owning.

Greg Blatt: A lot of people think that property taxes do not affect renters. And they really do because as Destiny said, the landlords pass that on. The landlords have to, it's an investment property, they have to make their investment returns. And unfortunately, the people that get hurt the most are the people we always say we're trying to help. And that's our lower-income people, and people on fixed incomes and those type of things. And they're generally our renters. They do get hit, probably as hard as anybody else. And again, it goes back to how we're funding everything, but it clearly has an impact on the renter in terms of what they can afford and be able to stay in those properties.

Karl Keith: We hear this a lot in my office and over the years about renters. Particularly this year, when we've been out doing community forums and talking about their values, we'll hear from people complain that renters shouldn't be allowed to vote for levies, that renters shouldn't be able to shouldn't be permitted to participate in this process, because they don't own the property. And we're always trying to explain to folks, "Well, you know, those renters are really paying a portion of that tax." The landlords are passing those costs on to their renters.

Destiny Brown: These mentalities are what perpetuate these exclusionary practices. The perception that this doesn't impact renters. The impact on people is different depending on what your demographic is or what community you live in. It's a ripple effect that impacts everybody differently, but it drives up costs for everyone.

Karl Keith: We hear similar complaints: "Why should I pay taxes to support the local schools, I don't have kids in school?" or "My kids are grown" or "I don't have kids going to Sinclair Community College." And so sometimes you have to explain to people, you're supporting the community, whether your kids are in the schools, or you're driving on the roads, enjoying good libraries, having these types of amenities improves the quality of life for all of us. And so it's difficult sometimes when you start talking about excluding people from participating in the process that you lose sight of the fact that everybody benefits from this and everybody should be involved in this.

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12/3/23

DAYTON

Levy renewal will be on ballot

Income tax levy would generate about \$15 million; city officials cite "fiscal cliff" coming in 2025.

By **Cornelius Frolik**
Staff Writer

Dayton voters will decide in three months whether to renew an income tax levy that could generate about \$15 million annually to be used for universal pre-

school, public safety, road repaving, vacant lot maintenance, parks and housing.

The Dayton City Commission this week unanimously approved legislation to put a 0.25% earnings tax levy renewal on the March 19 ballot, to last another eight years.

Dayton voters first approved the temporary income tax hike in 2016. That measure increased the city's income tax rate from 2.25% to 2.5%.

Dayton city commissioners said this revenue is vital and that significant cuts from current service levels would be in order if the levy measure is not reauthorized.

"I look forward ... to doing good things with this money, but first

we have to win this election," said Dayton City Commissioner Matt Joseph.

City officials this week said the city already is facing a "fiscal cliff" in 2025 that might necessitate some budget cuts.

"I can't promise that any department won't experience cuts as we're trying to move forward with a fiscal cliff," said Dayton City Manager Shelley Dickstein.

The levy renewal is expected to generate about \$15 million annually.

The city plans to put \$4.2 million of the revenue each year toward Preschool Promise universal kindergarten for 3- and 4-year-old kids, according to a city ordinance that had a first reading Wednesday.

Levy continued on B8



At left, Dayton Mayor Jeffrey Mims Jr. and Commissioner Matt Joseph attend Wednesday's Dayton City Commission meeting. At right, Kraig Robinson, president of the Dayton International Association of Fire Fighters Local 136, speaks at the city commission meeting, in Dayton, on Wednesday. CORNELIUS FROLIK PHOTOS / STAFF

Levy

continued from B1

The ordinance says \$10 million of the annual revenue will go into the general fund to be used for road repairs, parks and vacant lot improvements, plus safety enhancements, which the mayor's office said would include police staffing and public safety equipment.

About \$650,000 of the revenue will be put toward housing investments, the ordinance says.

In 2016, about 55.7% of Dayton voters approved the income tax hike.

Until this measure was passed, Dayton had not increased its earnings tax in more than three decades (1984), said Dayton Mayor Jeffrey Mims Jr.

"This is not new money," he said.

Kraig Robinson, the president of the Dayton firefighters union, spoke at Wednesday's city commission meeting to say he supports the tax renewal, which is supposed to provide money to support the safety forces.

But Robinson said he is concerned that the city has not officially committed to providing levy dollars for fire department staffing.

"I ask you all to reconsider that funding strategy," he said.

Debate on housing funds

In recent weeks, commission members have debated adding housing to the list of funding priorities for the levy revenue. All five members supported using some funding for this purpose, but there was some disagreement about how much.

The commission has committed to using \$650,000 of the annual revenue for housing programs, supports and investments.

Commissioner Shenise Turner-Sloss said she hopes city staff will look for and be able to find additional city dollars to put toward housing investments.

She, Commissioner Darryl Fairchild and some community members pushed the city to devote more of the levy funding toward housing. As part of a compromise, the city commission is directing the city to put a separate \$450,000 of its federal funding awards toward housing.

The commission had a first reading of a resolution that says it will use some of its funding from the U.S.

Department of Housing and Urban Development for housing investments.

Commissioner Darryl Fairchild said the city is showing that housing is a priority by adding it to the list of things the levy funds.

"I think this is a significant day," he said. "Housing is a key block to neighborhood development, revitalization and, in some cases, stabilization."

"This is a pivot to our neighborhoods," he said.

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