



CITY OF WOOSTER

Spring/Summer 2016

NEWSLETTER

Wooster Citizen's Government Leadership Academy—WCGLA

"The mission of the City of Wooster is to partner with our community to deliver services, conserve resources, protect quality of life, and plan for the future. We endeavor to accomplish this mission in the most efficient and fiscally responsible manner possible.

Our core values include Communication, Stewardship and Trust. Our desire is to share information about the City's operations and receive feedback on the services we provide. We understand our responsibility to use your funds wisely and deliver services that meet our citizen's needs. In this newsletter, we have attempted to share just a few highlights of our efforts to accomplish those goals over the last year and offer an opportunity for additional engagement in the form of a Citizen's Government Leadership Academy.

We hope you will partner with us to establish relationships and create dialog between citizens and government officials.

Joel Montgomery, PE, MSIM, Director of Administration

What is WCGLA?

A Strategic Education and Engagement program.

What are its goals?

- Citizen empowerment to contribute to the governing process and delivery of services.
- City staff leadership and customer awareness development.

Why is Citizen Engagement Important to the City?

- Government resources are limited.
- Public service needs are numerous.
- Decisions and priorities are required.

The academy is designed to let citizens behind the scenes of municipal government to learn what we do and why. Our goal is to

provide an environment where people will learn about the departments within Wooster City Government and discover its purpose, areas of responsibility, and how each impacts citizens.

We want their engagement and feedback to assist us in our mission to deliver cost effective and timely services to all residents of Wooster. Interested in learning more? Please call 330-263-5242.

"Engagement communicates and encourages ethical stewardship of public funds and public trust"

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www.WoosterOH.com

FINANCE AND OPERATIONS OVERVIEW

First Quarter Financials

GENERAL FUND

REVENUES

Total revenues were 5.56% or \$1.25 million over budget:

Primarily due to the 1st half receipt of property taxes in March.

EXPENDITURES

Total expenditures were 2.7% or \$622,000 under budget.

Personal services were 2.1% or \$319,000 under budget.

Operations & Maintenance were 2.6% or \$122,000 under budget.

DAYS-IN-CASH	<u>12/31/2015</u>	<u>3/31/2016</u>
Cash	\$13,932,401	\$15,272,760
Encumbrances	\$ 2,700,000	\$ 4,438,000
Unencumbered Cash	\$11,232,401	\$10,834,760
Cost Per Day	\$ 59,191	\$ 55,626
Days-in-Cash	190	195

INCOME TAX

Total net receipts were 4.0% or \$650,000 over budget.

City Employment:

Total Fulltime Equivalents

2009 = 193
2010 = 153
2011 = 169
2012 = 160
2013 = 160
2014 = 172
2015 = 184
2016 = 183

How Does Wooster Compare to Other Cities?

City	Population	FTE's
Wooster	26,540	183
Kent	29,639	186
Ashland	20,648	194
Wadsworth	21,500	198
Medina	26,200	255



City
staffing is
5.1%
lower
today
than in
2009



Emphasizing Financial Stewardship

SAFETY FORCES: POLICE AND FIRE

POLICE "Working to Engage the Community"



2nd Annual Big Blue B-Ball Bash

Over \$1500 was generated to support the+ Nick Amster Workshop and the Special Olympics



Fire Arms Training Simulator

The PD was awarded the Edward Byne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant of \$26,943.87 to purchase a FATS Simulator for firearm training.



3rd Annual Citizens Police Academy Graduates

The Wooster PD would like to thank the participants of the Citizens Police Academy.



2016 Kids Bike Rodeo

Officers taught bike safety to over 100 children and all participants received a free bike helmet. This was a huge success due to partnerships with local area businesses.

FIRE DEPARTMENT



From a vacant building....

....to the new Fire Station #3



New Safety Center coming soon!

Improvements to serve a growing City!





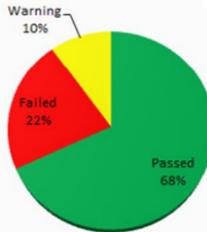
BUILDING AND PLANNING DIVISIONS

"What motivates our department is the realization that building safety is something vital to all who work in them, send their kids to school or shop at the local grocery store, we often just take building safety for granted." **Tim Monea**, Chief Building Official

Property Maintenance Code Inspections for Existing Housing and Buildings:

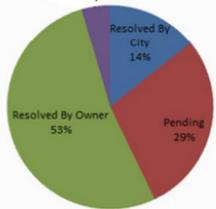
The Building Standards Division helps maintain and improve housing quality through property maintenance code enforcement. Inspectors annually perform 1,700 housing inspections throughout the City to help maintain and improve the housing conditions. Over the last two years the entire district (1,762 units) was inspected.

Initial Inspection Results



Resolution

Sent to Prosecutor



Continued Growth

Wooster continues to experience growth in building and construction projects.

2015 Construction activity was up 60% over 2014 with over \$64 million of construction value.

For 2016, the City will see permits issued for many large projects including the Wooster Community Hospital expansion, two Nursing Home/ Assisted Living facilities (Smithville Wester Rd. and Portage Rd.), a new City Safety

Center, and College of Wooster Science Center.

Plan Reviews, Permits and Inspections during 2015

- 350 commercial and residential plan reviews.
- 1,450 permits issued – building, plumbing, electric, HVAC, fire alarm, fire sprinkler, home improvement.
- 3,000 inspections made for \$64 million of construction.

Year	Construction Value
2011	\$19,126,273
2012	\$34,933,255
2013	\$45,484,208
2014	\$80,020,000
	*Daisy Brand \$40 m
2015	\$63,948,625



RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Christmas Run Park Kiwanis Playground



After two years of planning and fundraising, the New Christmas Run Playground finally opened for play May 22nd. Please come to our grand opening ceremony at 8pm on June 14th in conjunction with the Kiwanis Strawberry Social being held from 4:30pm to 8:30pm at the main pavilion. Thank you Kiwanis Club & volunteers for making this all inclusive, student inspired, playground a reality.

Transportation Program Improvements

City is Partnering with Community Action of Wayne/Medina to Provide Transportation Services.

- Subsidized Passes for Low Income Residents - \$4.00 for qualified citizens and Social Service Agencies
- Wheelchair-Accessible Transportation Passes
- Weekly Employment Passes
- General Public Passes
- To qualify for subsidized transportation, participants must meet these guidelines:
 - Must live within the city limits of Wooster
 - Must provide photo ID - proving identity and home address
 - Must provide proof of low income status (or proof of being confined to a wheelchair)
- Taxi Company Grants - up to \$900.00 from the City fund for qualified providers



Did You Know?

Our Community Center has been updated:

- New flooring in lobby/ramp/upper level
- Stainless steel trash cans added
- New counters w/stone facade
- New vending machines
- Furniture-chairs/end tables
- Restrooms updated
 - Stainless steel Partitions
 - Flooring
 - Sinks and faucets
- Fitness center improved
 - Free weight area
 - Flooring

*Come See Us at
241 S. Bever Street*



ECONOMIC and COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Committed to
Promoting

Quality of
Life &
Economic
Development
through
Partnerships

with:

Wooster Growth Corp.

Wayne Metro Housing

Wayne Economic
Development Council

Chamber of Commerce

Main Street Wooster

Ohio Development
Services Agency

NEFCO

Programs at Work: Providing Opportunities in 2015



Community Development Block Grants (CDBG):

\$77,000 Supported traffic signal project and expanded medical services.

\$300,000 Supplemented traffic signaling.

Residential Community Reinvestment Area (CRA)

\$1,258,996 in improvements for 31 homes since 2004.

Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP)

\$450,000 grant that will aid in 21 home projects.



Business CRA:

27 Projects, \$28.2 M Invested & 261 Jobs supported to date.

CDBG Economic Grants:

\$500,000 Secured for infrastructure improvements supporting Daisy Brand .

Enterprise Zone Abatements:

16 Projects, \$101 M Invested & 2,492 Jobs supported in 2015.



Wooster
OHIO



2015 MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Roadway & Paving Projects

- ◆ Asphalt Resurfacing/Reconstruction—7 projects
- ◆ Asphalt Patching with 10' avg. width—22 Different Streets
- ◆ Akron Road Reconstruction (2014 & 2015)
- ◆ E. Bowman & Long Road Resurfacing
- ◆ E. Pine Street Reconstruction (2015 & 2016)
- ◆ Edgewood Allotment Concrete Repair (2014 & 2015)
- ◆ 16,450 feet of Sidewalk Replacement
- ◆ Total Length (Mileage) of Repairs/Maintenance— 12
- ◆ Total Cost of Repairs/Maintenance = \$5,776,000



The total value of projects completed or under construction in 2015 was over **\$22,000,000**, representing over 37 projects.

SafeRoutes



Grant Funding Received in 2015:

- ◆ SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS
- ◆ CDBG (Community Development Block Grant)
- ◆ ODOT (Ohio Department of Transportation)
- ◆ JOBS OHIO
- ◆ Total = \$4,900,000



Waterline

- ◆ Melrose Booster Station
- ◆ North High Water Tank
- ◆ Industrial Park Waterline
- ◆ Secondary Transmission Line
- ◆ \$5,000,000 in construction Costs

Sanitary Sewer

- ◆ WRRF Improvements
- ◆ Melrose Sanitary Sewer
- ◆ Industrial Park Sanitary
- ◆ \$4,500,000 in construction costs



2016 INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Fabric Roof Option

- LEGEND
- ① PAVED SIDE
 - ② ASPHALT DRIVEWAY
 - ③ ASPHALT DRIVEWAY
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INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

Wooster's Infrastructure Strategic Plan indicates the following construction needs:

- ✦ 60 projects planned for construction from 2016-2020
- ✦ \$18,279,000 in Roadway
- ✦ \$10,645,000 in Water
- ✦ \$4,000,000 in Sewer
- ✦ \$4,613,000 in Storm

2016 Pavement Repairs: Roadways recently resurfaced include Mechanicsburg Road, N. Market Street, Madison Avenue, and Spruce Street.

2016 Concrete Repairs: The concrete streets in the Kieffer, Renwood and McNutt area are all slated for concrete repairs this summer. Work began in June.

SR83—Smithville Western Roundabout: Work began in June on creating a new roundabout to address the increased volume and severity of accidents at this intersection. For additional information, see <http://www.dot.state.oh.us/districts/D03/PlanningEngineering/TrafficPlanning/Pages/Roundabouts-in-District-3.aspx>

Several projects are currently in the design phase. These include the **Wooster Bike Loop** (partially funded by ODOT); **Downtown Streetscape** which is an upgrade and beautification project in the city square area and **Burbank Road Reconstruction** which will include sidewalks, a bike trail, and widening of the roadway between Highland and Kinney.

Follow us on Facebook or the City's webpage to keep abreast of all road closings and current construction.

PUBLIC PROPERTIES & MAINTENANCE

Tree City Wooster

On April 26, 2016 Wooster hosted the annual regional Tree City USA conference.

Wooster celebrated its 40th anniversary as Tree City and is one of the oldest designated cities in Ohio.

Wooster has a long tradition of distributing dogwood and magnolia saplings to elementary school students that dates back to the 1950's or earlier.

Wooster Noon Lions and Junior Woman's Club, in

conjunction with Wooster City Schools and the Wooster Shade Tree Commission, send 650-700 saplings home with 1st and 5th grade students to be planted in the yards of Wooster's students.

Not only do trees beautify the City, but they also increase home value and rentability.



A big thanks goes out to the Wooster Shade Tree Commission, Beau Mastrine, COW Dir. Of Grounds/ Campus Grounds, Deb Jenkins, and the Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce for helping organize and celebrate Tree City USA in Wooster!



Significant Accomplishments

- Filled over 10,000 potholes
- Spent 1500 man-hours clearing snow/ice off 270 lane miles of roadways, using 6500 tons of salt
- Replaced 188 downtown light fixtures with energy efficient LED fixtures
- Dedicated 4500 man-hours collecting 177 loads of leaves (11,655 cubic yards)
- Resurfaced over 3 miles of alleys



Did You Know?

The Property Maintenance Division maintains:

- 6726 roadway signs
- 22 miles of guardrail
- 133 miles of roads
- 121 miles of storm sewer
- 280 vehicles & equipment
- 650 acres in 16 parks



CITY OF WOOSTER



Giving Back

Prior to demolishing the buildings at the future safety center site, the facilities were made available to Habitat for Humanity for the salvaging and repurposing of materials. The estimated value of the items salvaged were over \$4,400.

Beth Weaver, President, writes, "Thank you so much for the opportunity you have given to Habitat for Humanity to salvage materials from the house [and building] on Burbank Road.

The ReStore has reported that the items removed and brought to the store have been very popular with customers and the inventory we've been able to save from 3365 Burbank Road are already turning into a profit for our Housing Ministry.

Thank you for thinking of us and making a difference in the lives of our Partner Families."



JULY 4TH FIREWORKS

Come join us on July 4th at 10pm on the Kinney Property at Oldman and Burbank Roads for the Wooster Fireworks and Independence Day celebration. Enjoy activities including:

- ◆ Fire & Police Equipment Displays
- ◆ Akron Children's Hospital Airborne Helicopter
- ◆ Ohio National Guard Equipment Display
- ◆ Concessions

*A special **THANK YOU!** to Gil Ning, President of the Wooster Fireworks Foundation, for his dedication in coordinating this event for 14 years and to the Exchange Club for funding the fireworks for over 17 years.*





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

City Council Meetings

1st & 3rd Mondays of the month. Except for July & August (no meetings)

Meetings start at 7:30pm at City Hall.

Planning Commission Meetings

4th Wednesday of every month.

Meetings start at 5:30pm at City Hall.

Traffic Commission Meetings

2nd Thursday of every month, except for July and August (no meetings).

Meetings start at 5:30pm at City Hall.

For more information please visit:
www.WoosterOH.com/
your-government

June 2016

June 13th	Public Utilities Committee Meeting, 6pm, City Hall Special Council Meeting, 7pm, City Hall
June 14th	Strawberry Social and Kiwanis Christmas Run Playground Grand Opening. 4:30pm & 8pm.
June 17th	Main Street Wooster Concert & Cruise In, 7pm, Downtown
June 18th	Urban Adventure, All Day Main Street Wooster Farmer's Market, 8am, Downtown
June 24th	Sounds of Downtown, 6pm, Downtown
June 28th	Main Street Wooster 122nd Army Band Concert, 7pm, Downtown

July 2016

July 2nd	Main Street Wooster Farmer's Market, 8am, Downtown
July 4th	Fireworks, 10pm, Kinney Property
July 9th	Main Street Wooster Farmer's Market, 8am, Downtown
July 12th	Design & Review Board, 5:30pm, City Hall
July 16th	Main Street Wooster Farmer's Market, 8am, Downtown
July 21st	WC Historical Society Summer Band Concert, 7pm, Downtown
July 23rd	Main Street Wooster Farmer's Market, 8am, Downtown
July 25th	Parks & Recs Commission Meeting, 6:30pm, Wooster Community Center
July 28th	Main Street Wooster Taste of Downtown, 6pm, Downtown
July 30th	Main Street Wooster Farmer's Market, 8am, Downtown

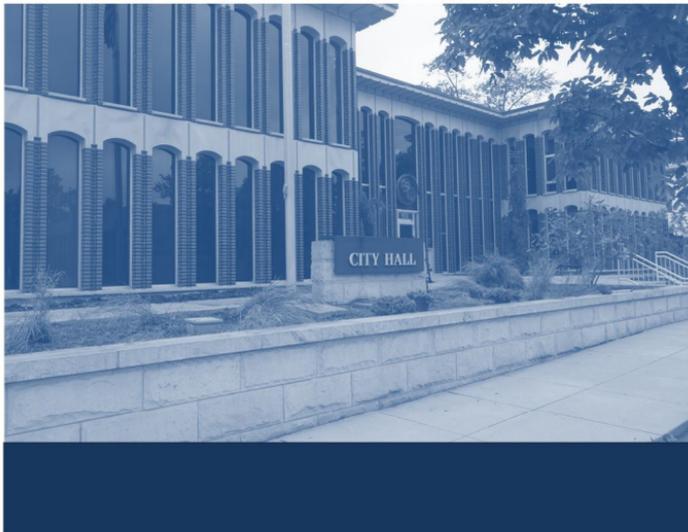
August 2016

August 4th	Board of Building & Zoning Appeals, 5:30pm, City Hall
August 6th	Main Street Wooster Farmer's Market, 8am, Downtown
August 12th	Sounds of Downtown, 6pm, Downtown
August 13th	Festa Italiana, All Day, Downtown Main Street Wooster Farmer's Market, 8am, Downtown
August 19th	Main Street Wooster Concert & Cruise In, Downtown
August 20th	Main Street Wooster Farmer's Market, 8am, Downtown
August 26th	Sounds of Downtown, 6pm, Downtown
August 27th	Main Street Wooster Farmer's Market, 8am, Downtown



All Events Open to the Public
Call, 330-263-5242, for Updates and Cancellations

CITY OF WOOSTER



Wooster City Hall
538 N. Market Street
Wooster, Ohio 44691



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