2022 Operations Update







Presented by:



Joel Montgomery
Director of Administration



Public Safety

Police

Chief Fisher



Our Safety Services Teams are led by seasoned veterans.

Chief Fisher has served for over 24 year while Chief Saley has 17 years of service to the city.

We are fortunate to have such dedicated Chiefs in charge.

Fire

Chief Saley





New Hires = 9 new officers hired in 2022 Only 2 vacancies at present (one will be an HRO) Two SRO's currently (Officer's Teschmer & Timko) Two HRO's currently (Officers Musslman & Miller, 3rd being hired)

Patrolman Don Hall filled the vacant Community Relations Officer position: Coordinates Honorary Junior Officer of the Month, Citizens Police Academy, Stuff a Cruiser, Downtown Business Liaison

Service calls increased $\underline{41}\%$ due being proactive in providing business security checks and traffic enforcement.

Part 1 Offenses decreased 18%, although there were two homicides.

CIU (Community Impact Unit) numbers since November 2022:

Arrests - 41
Traffic Stops - 114
Fentanyl Seized - 115.6 grams
Methamphetamine Seized - 824.14 grams
Search Warrants - 8
Two firearms seized

Community Policing Award received from Ohio Association of Chief's of Police Currently Certified by the Ohio Collaborative; Policies and data updated yearly



Highlights:

- Completed confined space and haz-mat refresher, and ice rescue specialist class
- Purchase of 100' ladder truck
- Station #1 Renovation Planning & Design (Construction to start in Summer 2023)
- New Drone Purchase with all weather capabilities and thermal detection

Calls for Service:

4988 in 2022; Fire = 954 (19%), EMS = 4034 (81%). (Total calls for 2021 = 4987)

Station 1 = 2326 47%

Station 2 = 1530 31%

Station 3 = 1062 21%

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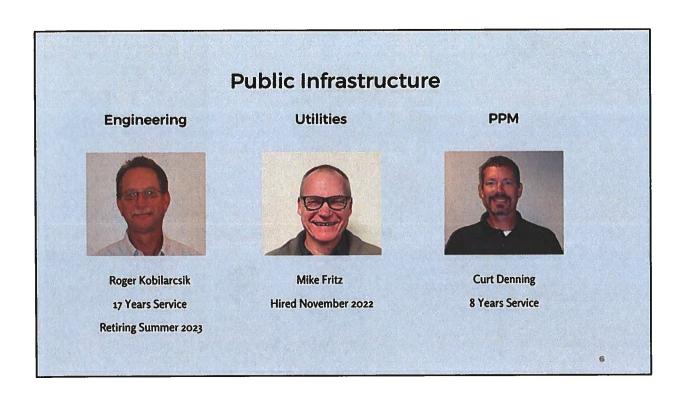
Outside = 57 1%

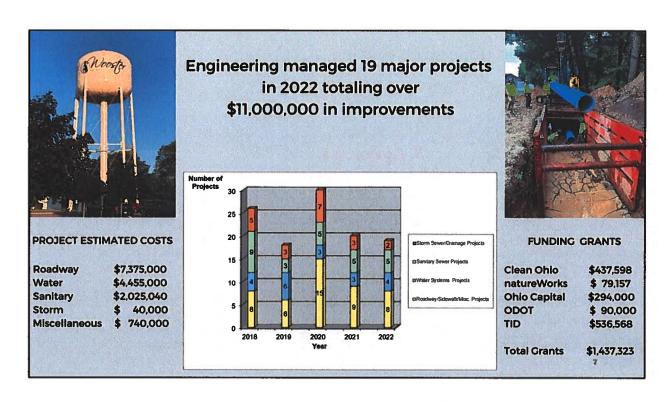
Training Hours = 5231 116 Plan Reviews, 569 Fire Prevention Activities, 502 Fire Inspections

EMS Billing = 100% Collection rate, after adjustments & write-offs = \$1MM +

Property Value Saved = \$1,230,675,630 (Over \$1 Billion)

Three incidents equaled over \$625MM (Large Industrial)

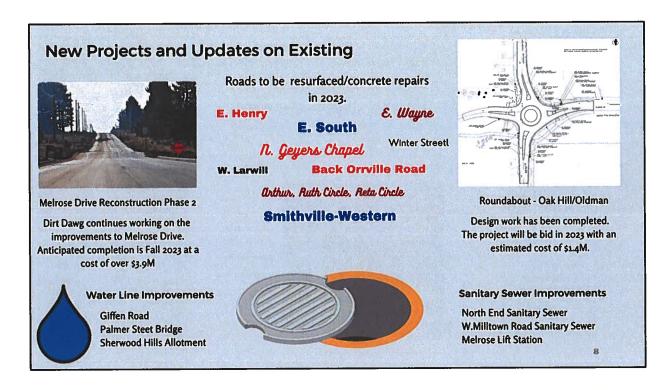




Designed 16 out of 19 projects. Value of engineering services = \$984,645

Development Permit Fees = \$220,934 (17 developments/improvements)

Other fees: \$71,130 (r/w, water, sanitary, etc.)



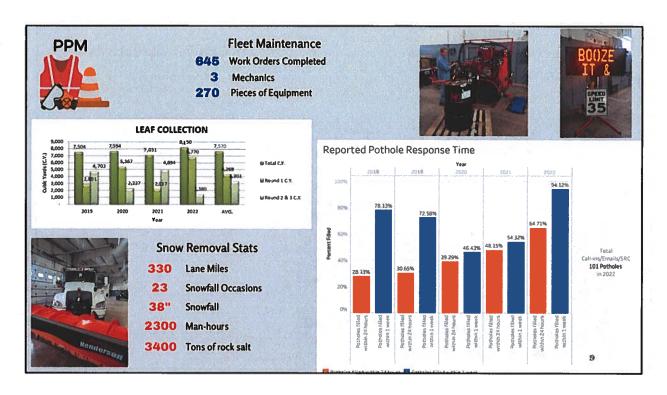
Oak Hill/Oldman Roundabout awarded for just over \$1M

North End Sewer was awarded for just under \$1.5M

Melrose Lift Station was awarded for \$330K

Street Repairs & Resurfacing awarded for \$719K

Total Projects awarded to date in 2023 = 6 for \$3.7M (15.6%, or \$690K under estimates)



Staff of 21 Employees - 3 positions unfilled.

950 Potholes filled. 101 Potholes reported by citizens, 94% fill rate within 1 week.

Signs: 736 replaced – all made in the city sign shop. 25% savings. (Total of nearly 7700 Signs)

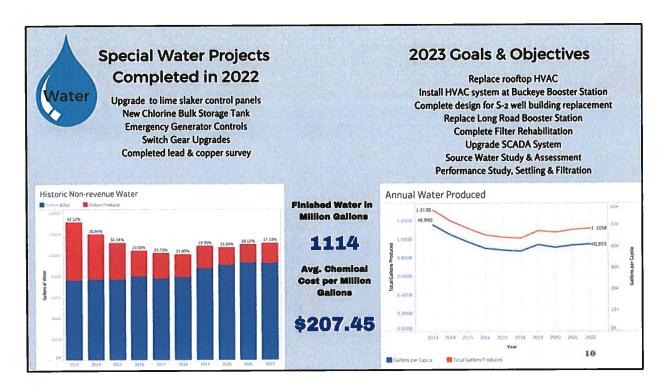
Downtown Parking – on street parking spaces were added on E. Liberty in front of Mariola Italian and Muddy's.

Garage Work Orders equaled \$531,000. (270 Pieces of Equipment)

Sold \$75,000 in Grindings

Winter Season Stats: 14 Events, 1900 Tons of Salt used

Leaf Collection = 8150 CY (16% Increase)



WPF pumped a total of 1.114 Billion Gallons - Increase of 12 Million Gallons

Chemical Usage remains level, although costs have increased.

WTP Filter Rehab: Initial testing & rehab, should provide adequate capacity for current & future demands for several years.

\$6MM avoided by not needing filter addition

Sourcewater & Well Capacity analysis – potential additional well in near future (likely near North well field).



WRRF – 2.096 Billion Gallons of wastewater treated; increase of 376 Million Gallons.

Biosolids Improvements Planned:

- 1) Safety & Regulatory Compliance
- 2) Operational Updates
 - De-packaging
 - Solids Loading
 - Digestion Process Updates
 - Dewatering
 - Gas & Electric Production
- 3) Cost Impacts:

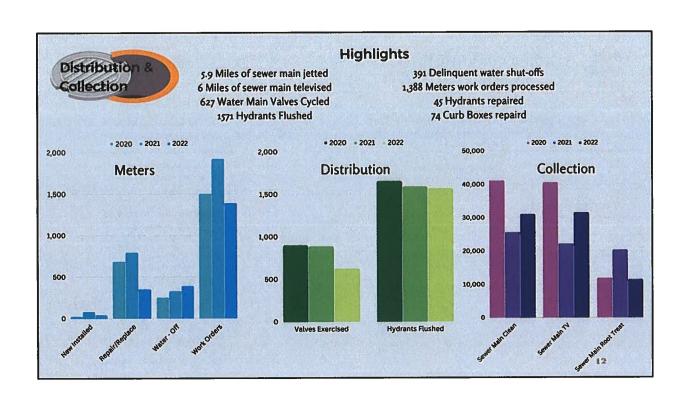
Dewatering savings = \$300,000 - \$400,000 year Feedstock Revenue = \$1,000,000 year

Biogas/Electric savings = \$100,000 year

Total \$1,500,000 year

Debt Service \$500,000 year

Net \$1,000,000 year



Quality of Life & Public Service

Recreation



Ashley Hershberger

15Years Service

Parks



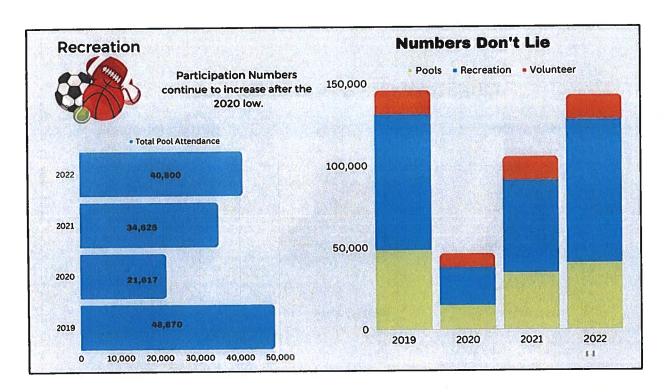
Joe Avila Hired September 2022

Human Resources



Jeanette Wagner
10 Years Service

13



Recreation is pretty much back to pre-pandemic numbers.

Highlights:

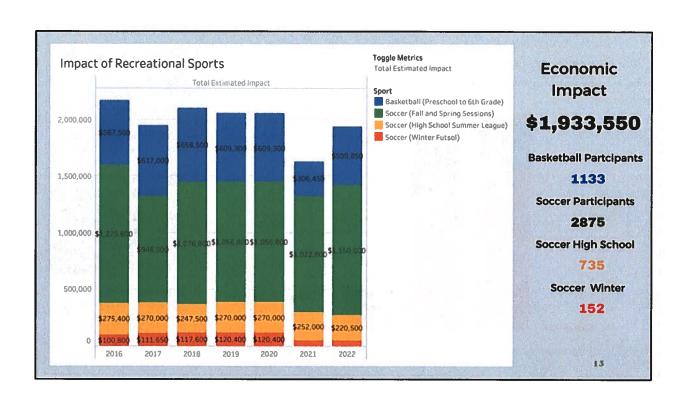
- Blood Drive held at CC
- Direction Home Improving & Expanding senior programming
- Includeability Hosted fundraiser at Freedlander Pool
- Meals on Wheels 900 meals served, new monthly drive-thru service
- Women in Business Weekly meetings held at CC
- Hosted 144 event rentals at Chalet 2023 is booked, taking 2024 reservations

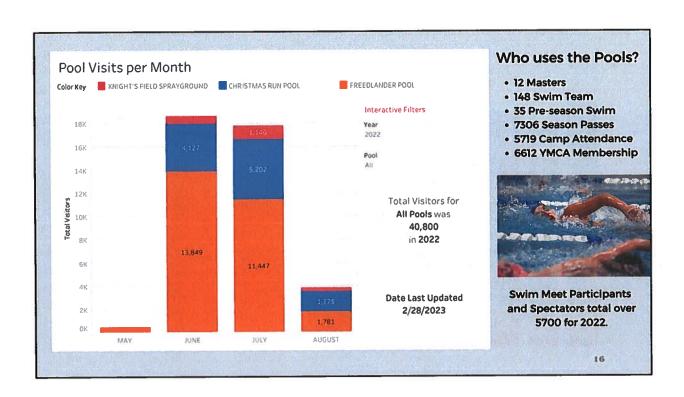
Participation Numbers

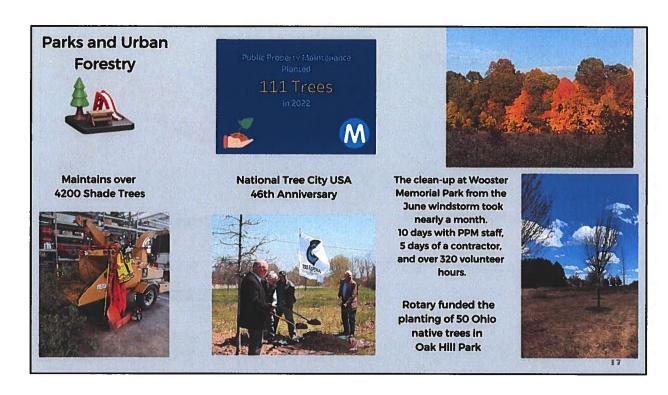
2019 vs 2022

Pools: 48,670 vs 40,800

Recreation: 82,701 vs. 87,247 Volunteers: 14,608 vs. 15,083







Responsible for over 800 acres of designated park land.

Clear Creek Park opened in April 2022.

Park upgrades:

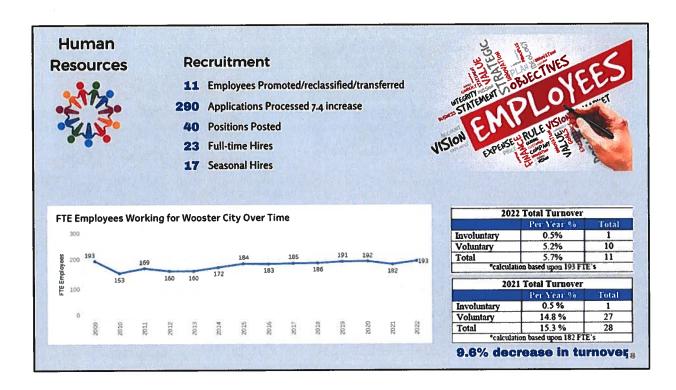
- Rotary Club = 50 Ohio Native Trees
- Parking lot & entrance drive asphalted at Oak Hill Park
- Sealed bike trails on Burbank, Oldman, Friendsville
- Disc Golf Course upgrade to tee boxes, new signs being installed

PLANNED for 2023:

- Kiddie City Surface Treatment
- Freedlander Chalet New Retaining Wall & Patio
- Burbank (south of Highland) & Beall Ave (North of Bloomington) Trails to be sealed
- Pickleball: Repairing Christmas Run Courts; Evaluation for future courts; Other community courts; Freedlander Basketball Courts?
- Clear Creek Park Playground Equipment

Community/Public Assistance

- July 4th Fireworks
- Woosterfest
- Window Wonderland
- Summer Concerts
- Parades
- Cruise-Ins
- Farmers Market



Turnover based on Tenure

- 2.1% had 6 years or less service with City
- 2.1% had 7 years to 16 years of service (1 retiree)
- 1.6% had 16+ years of service (3 retirees)

Total Full Time Employees = 193 as of 12/31/23 Total FTE's (including PT) = 207.45 (2080 hours)

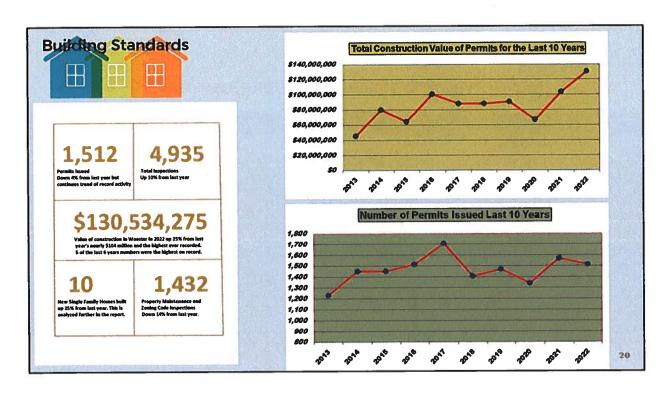
Training Provided to EE's

- Ohio Ethics
- Preventing Harassment in Industry
- Diversity in the Workplace
- Surviving and Active Shooter

WARCOG

Continues to provide HR support to WARCOG

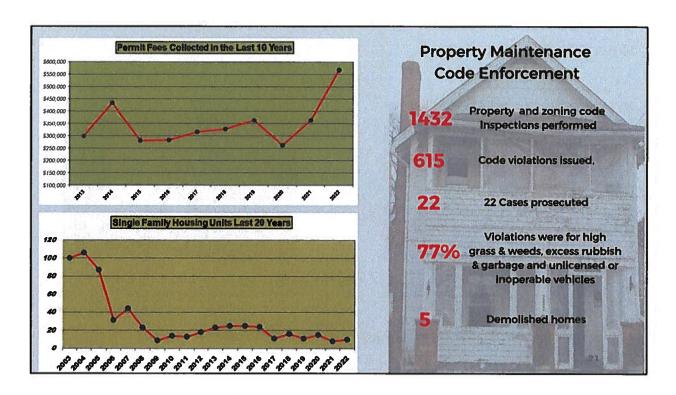




Commercial Plan Review turnaround time <u>14 days</u>.

CBO represents the City at:

- Housing Coalition and homelessness ad hoc subcommittee
- City's Housing Advisory Committee
- CAW/M
- Lyric Theatre Construction Committee



150 new single-family sites approved

Fee Collection continues upward trend

Downtown waste collection program expanded on East Liberty.

Assisted Land Bank in identifying properties

Initiatives:

Property Maintenance program evaluation

- Majority of PM violations resolved voluntarily [87% owner (398, 65%) or City abated (137, 22%)]
- Average 7 home demolition per year
- Rental Property Registry currently exists
 - Tax records, Utility records
 - Owner, Address, Tenants
 - "Problem/High Violation" Properties Identified
- Planning on targeted enforcement increase in RT zone in 2023
- Evaluating inspection programs in other cities
 - Legality: 4th Ammendment Issues, Case Law
 - Unintended consequences: Single family homes, obstructing sales, limiting multi-family housing, etc.
 - Efficacy: Goals & Results
 - Data & Benchmarking

Property Maintenance Issues

Before









The City condemned the structure for being unfit for human habitation and various property maintenance violations in August 2021. Police responded to multiple calls to the property and it was discovered that illegal rooms had been constructed in the basement for use as living quarters. The property was sold to the Land Bank for \$10,000. A contractor bought from the Land Bank for \$33,000 for renovation. The contractor invested over \$100,000 in the renovation. The property sold for \$183,000 in April 2023. A little over a year and a half after the initial violation order.

22









The property had numerous property maintenance violations beginning February 2020 with multiple neighbor complaints.

The property was condemned unsanitary unfit for human habitation. The rubbish violation was abated and the property owner given 30 days to remediate the remaining violations which expires April 28, 2023.

24

369 W. North Street

The property had multiple violations dating back to September 2020. There were multiple abatements with assessments to the property exceeding \$10,000.

One prosecution was for noncompliance of the court order and the full fines were imposed.

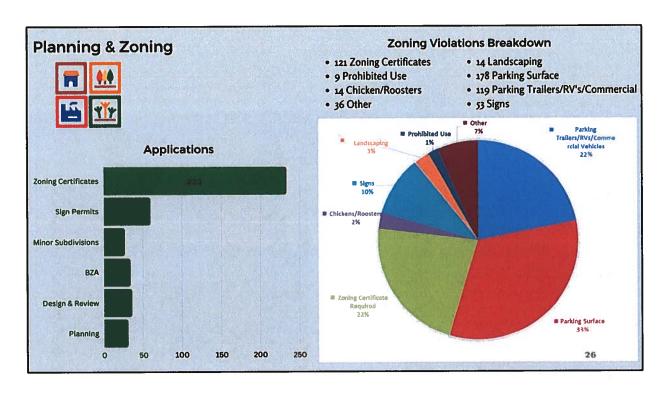


The property was written up for the same violations a second time with a deadline of April 10, 2023. It will be turned over for a second time to the prosecutor.

In March 20223, the property lost its multi-family nonconforming use status and is returned to single-family use.







Planning Commission received 30 requests, down 46 from 2021.

- 17 Development Plan Applications
- 6 Conditional Use
- 5 Zoning Code or Map Amendment
- 1 Major Subdivision

Board of BZA heard 33 requests; the Board approved 22 and denied 5.

- 21 area variance requests
- 13 use variance
- No appeals

Design & Review heard 35 requests; same as 2021

Goals & Objectives for 2023

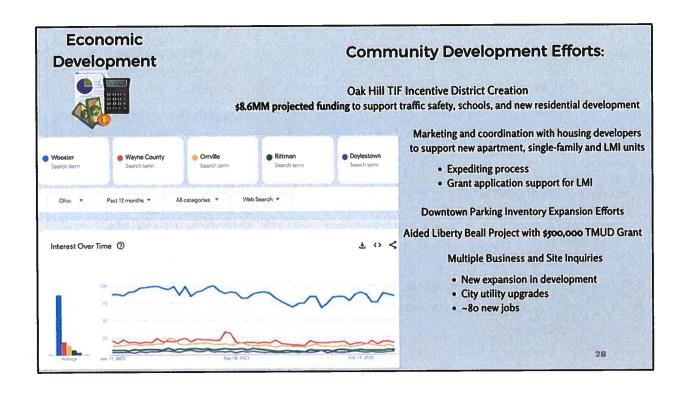
- Collaborate with County & other agencies to facilitate balanced growth, coordination, and planning
- Continue Participation and Use of Wayne County Land Bank, Wayne County Planning Dept, & Wayne Trails
- Manage & Coordinate Comprehensive Plan Update



Economic Development was strong in 2022, and appears to be continuing on an upward trend in 2023,

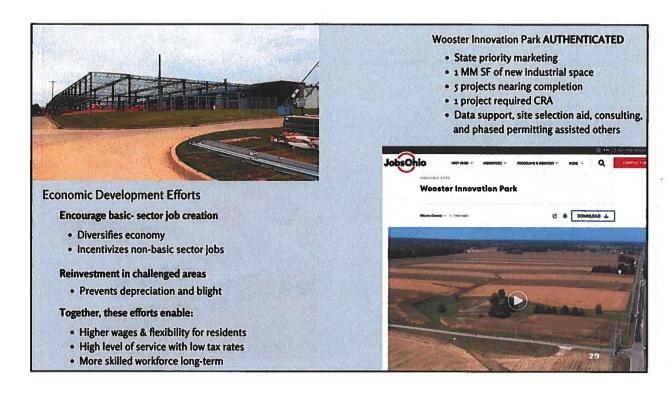
across all sectors:

- Industrial
- Commercial
- Mixed-Use
- Institutional
- Housing



Created Sites website for commercial & industrial sites in Wooster

- GIS & Utility Data
- Demographic Data
- Traffic Data
- Spending Data



Available Tools and Opportunities:

Peer vibrant communities are increasingly utilizing new programs to support infrastructure and shovel-ready space for basic-sector business:

- TIF (Tax Increment Financing)
- 629 Grant (Roadwork development to support manufacturing & business projects, job creation/retention)
- 166 Loan Program (DOD Low interest loans to businesses for Econ Dev, expansion, job creation/retention)
- NCA (New Community Authorities. Separate public body per ORC 349 for development activities & financing)
- Port Authority
- JEDD (Joint Economic Development District)
- Site Development Grants

Partnerships & Agreements:

- WEDC
- Chamber of Commerce
- Main Street Wooster
- WCCVB
- Wayne County
- Wooster City Schools
- Wooster & Wayne TWPs

Business Incentives

In 2022, 11 Agreement Amendments and one new application

Business Property Tax Exemption Incentives

Enterprise Zone and Community Reinvestment Area

- 51 unique projects leveraging \$274 MM in private investment
- 37 agreements actively exempted (+5 others committed)
 - \$982,895 RE tax exempted in 2022 (~20% paid by City)
 - \$1,049,945 CREATED RE tax from incentive programs
 - 306 jobs CREATED with \$19.2 MM in payroll
 - 3,184 existing jobs PROTECTED with \$181.4 MM in payroll

Additional Business Incentives

- L-JCTC: 1 Active project with Daisy Brand (195 jobs CREATED)
- · Recently completed:
 - ODOD 629 Grant: Schaeffler Way \$295,197
 - L-JCTC Grants: GOJO Industries and Luk USA

Grant Efforts

\$627,500 in CDBG Funding - Fire Station #1

\$350,00 Grant In-Process; City Leading CHIP Program for WC

\$775,000 Brownfield Remediation Grant for 517 E. Liberty

\$650,000 TAP Grant Under wayy

\$95,000 ODOT TID Grant

\$50,000 ODOT Jobs and Commerce Request

\$900,000 Clear Creek Park Project



Grant Efforts:

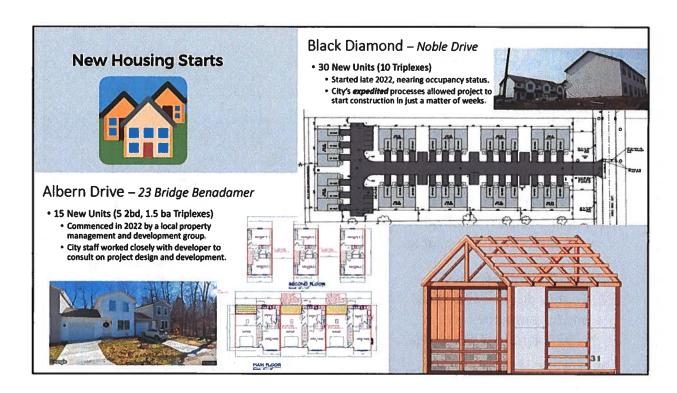
Fire Station: Wooster secured a competitive \$500,000 Critical Infrastructure Grant, combined with an annual \$150,000 Allocation Grant.

Remainder \$22,500 to Viola Startzman Clinic to support underinsured LMI families

CHIP Program for Wayne County:

- Secures \$350,000 for Wooster LMI households to attain or keep affordable housing, while keeping neighborhoods whole and secure.
- With WMHA, manages finances and grant processing for County
- Currently drafting a new \$1.1MM application for 2024-2025.

Brownfield Remediation: Secured \$775,000 in grant funding for demolition and remediation of 517 E. Liberty Street. Treatment commenced April 14th.



Current Projects:

(Coordinating with multiple developers & developments)

Oak Hill (Spring Run)
Melrose (Schlabach & Lemmon)
Albern
Milltown (Harsax)
Noble Drive (Black Diamond)
Cleveland Road (TWG Apts)

Housing Landscape

• Up to 750 new units possible in next 24-36 months. (A 7% increase).

PROPOSED

Applied for permits / plans

• 400 Units Proposed

OPPORTUNITY IF UTILITIED



Public Utilities Required

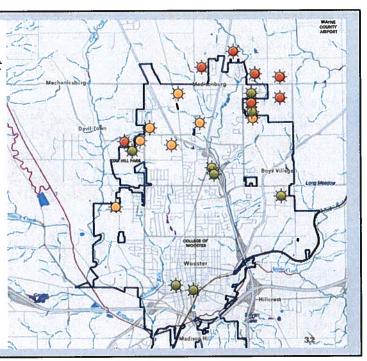
• 5 sites actually available

NOT DEVELOPABLE TODAY



- County disallows utilities and/or not annexed.

350 acres = <70 homes



Economic Development Strategic Plan



Process:

- Ecosystem Inventory.
- · 20+ interviews with key stakeholders.
- Strengths & Gaps in being a competitive place for business.

General Observations:

- Wooster is a proven itself a strong best place for business growth.
- City needs stronger connection and conduits to its business community.
- City needs to diversify and grow its business sectors for long-term economic health, workforce growth and skill diversity, and citizen prosperity.

Key Findings & Opportunities:

- 1. Increase Promotion of City as a Directly Accessible Resource for business.
- 2. Grow City's Market Position and Place Branding
- 3. Highlighting Quality of Life
- 4. Strategic Site Acquisition and / or Investment:
 - 1. Redevelopment
 - 2. Business Expansion and Attraction.
 - 3. Housing Development
- 5. Strengthening support and involvement with partner efforts

33

Business Flare - Independent Consultant Team selected based on their strong Ohio and national experience.

Key Findings & Opportunities, Expanded:

- 1. Increase Promotion of City as a Directly Accessible Resource for business:
 - 1. Lead go-to for Information
 - 2. Examples: Sites,
- 2. Grow City's Market Position and Place Branding (Marketing)
- 3. Highlighting Quality of Life as strongest Business Incentive
- 4. Strategic Site Acquisition and / or Investment:
 - 1. Redevelopment (areas struggling with disinvestment, blight)
 - 1. Examples: Land Bank, TCI Brownfield. Tools: TIF
 - 2. Business Expansion and Attraction (missing competitive sites)
 - Examples: Wooster Innovation Park. Other tools: JobsOhio, TIF, Port Authority, Direct Investment/Acquisition.
 - 3. Housing Development (missing competitive sites).
 - Examples: Oak Hill TIF. Other tools: Redevelopment TIF, NCA, PACE, Investment, Land Bank, Lending Consortium, etc.
- 5. Strengthening support and involvement with partner efforts in growing / creating:
 - Local workforce development strategy
 - 2. Local entrepreneurship ecosystem (future job pipeline)
 - 3. Promotion of City of Wooster specifically as a place for business
 - 4. Examples: Intentional Partnership Collaboration (MOUs, etc.)



City of Wooster Programs

Wooster Transit

Community Action Wayne Medina Community Services Block Grant 12-funding cycle

Transportation Coordinator Manages

County of Wayne Community Development Block Grant 18-month funding cycle

Transportation Coordinator Manages

Wayne County Transit (SARTA)

Operated by SARTA, Managed by Mobility Manager, CAW/M

Summary

City of Wooster provides about 5,500 – 6,000 monthly trips on its various programs Ridership is down on Wooster's programs

Shift of trips to WCT

Unreliable providers discourage ridership

WCT is now providing about 1,400 monthly trips

More than doubled since early 2022

WCT has strong growth potential

WCT primarily provides work trips to Wooster from the other larger communities in the county

WCT also provide a significant number of trips within Wooster for people who have used up trips on other programs

Locally Coordinated Transportation Plan

Mobility Management

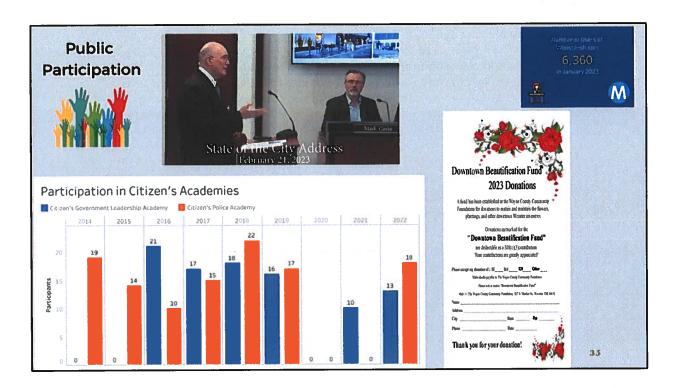
Program Goals

- 1.) Increase understanding and awareness of community transportation needs.
- 2.) Increase awareness of current community transportation options and programs
- 3.) Ensure that transportation considerations are included in the local and regional planning

- 4.) Increase capacity for transportation services
- 5.) Assist individuals with accessing all community transportation options

Sample Goals & Strategies:

- Leverage both state and local funding to offer comprehensive services for Wayne County
- Develop formal partnership with Wayne County JFS to leverage increased funding



Police Citizen's Academy

The 2020 class was suspended due to the pandemic. For 2022, those students were combined with the 2022 students. 18 Graduates for 2022.

Citizen's Academy graduated 13 members Fall 2022.

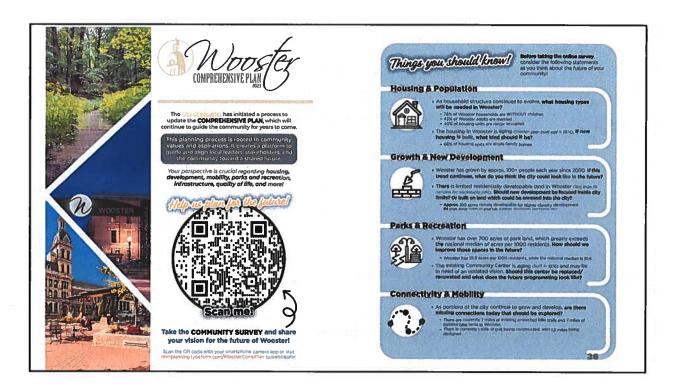
Mayor provided State of the City presentations to:

- City Council
- Lions Club
- Rotary
- Kiwanis

Social media continues to be used to reach the masses.

Newsletter online – both City newsletter and Recreation Programming Newsletter City of Wooster followers number over 6300 Recreation FB followers over 3300

Council Meetings continue to be live-streamed on YouTube.



Strategy & Planning for next 10 Years

Population Projections:

By 2040: 28,500 to 38,800 Need 600-1600 Housing Units

Need 70 to 200 acres

Housing:

Currently only 108 Acres zoned multi-family

Limited expansion areas adjacent to City due to 208 FPA boundaries and topographical restraints

76% of Households are w/o children 57% non-married 66% all housing units are single family, detached 60% owner occupied 40% renters

Community Survey Live: 1200 responses 4/14/23
Focus Groups: Multiple 1 hour sessions being scheduled
Public Meetings being scheduled (1 lunch time, 1 evening)

