



Spring Newsletter

Construction

Pools

Community Input



City Newsletter - Spring 2023

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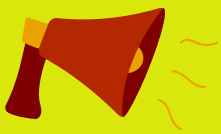


Message from the Mayor

Are you as ready for warmer weather as I am? This summer, we have many great activities for you and your family and friends to explore.

Be sure to take advantage of our many parks and pools. Main Street Wooster and the Chamber will again host many events; Ladies' Night Out, Cruise-Ins, Lemonade Day, and much more.

As my final year of being Mayor winds down, I hope to see many of you enjoying our downtown and the festivities. It's always a pleasure for me to run into you.



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330-263-5200

*Fun with
the Family*

Recreation Department

Pool Passes on Sale April 17th!

Passes are available at the Community Center, Buehler's Towne Market and Buehler's Milltown.

All of our aquatic facilities will be open by the end of May.

Hours of operation can be found at woosteroh.com/recreation/pools-sprayround.



Park Pavilions at all of our city parks are available for reservations.

You can make reservations by calling (330)263-5207 or stopping by the Wooster Community Center at 241 S Bever St.

For Family Fun, we suggest either Christmas Run or Freedlander Park. Both parks offer kid-friendly playgrounds and pools along with adult activities such as sand volleyball, tennis, pickleball and disc golf.

Reservations are available April 1st thru October 31st.



330-263-5207
Recreation

Farmer's Market



Did you know we have two different Farmer's Markets?

Saturday mornings beginning on May 13th, you can find the Main Street Wooster Farmer's Market hosted on the downtown square.

Thursday mornings beginning July 6th, Wooster Community Center will be hosting its Farmers Market.

**DIFFERENT VENDORS - DIFFERENT LOCATIONS -
GOOD STUFF!**



**BRING YOUR POLE
AND ENJOY AN AFTERNOON
OF FISHING**

Annual

TROUT DERBY



MAY 6TH 2023 1:00 PM

Freedlander Park
400 Hillside Dr
Wooster, oh

**FREE EVENT
NO PRE-REGISTRATION
AGES 1 - 15**



City of
Wooster
RECREATION





Wooster

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

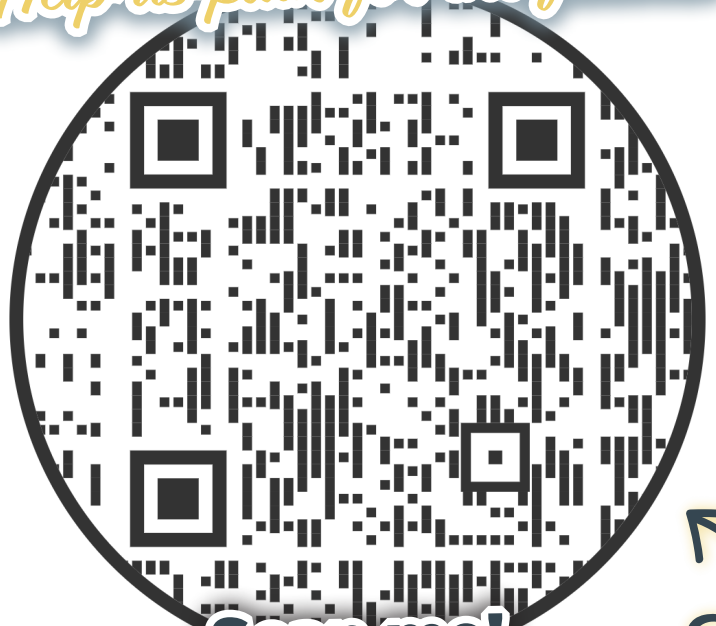
2023

The **City of Wooster** has initiated a process to update the **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**, which will continue to guide the community for years to come.

This planning process is rooted in community values and aspirations. It creates a platform to guide and align local leaders, stakeholders, and the community toward a shared future.

*Your perspective is crucial regarding **housing, development, mobility, parks and recreation, infrastructure, quality of life, and more!***

Help us plan for the future!



Scan me!

Take the COMMUNITY SURVEY and share your vision for the future of Wooster!

Scan the QR code with your smartphone camera app or visit ohmplanning.typeform.com/WoosterCompPlan to participate!

Things you should know!

Before taking the online survey, consider the following statements as you think about the future of your community!

Housing & Population



- » As household structure continues to evolve, **what housing types will be needed in Wooster?**
 - 76% of Wooster households are WITHOUT children
 - 43% of Wooster adults are married
 - 40% of housing units are renter occupied
- » The housing in Wooster is aging (*median year-built age is 1974*). **If new housing is built, what kind should it be?**
 - 66% of housing units are single-family homes

Growth & New Development



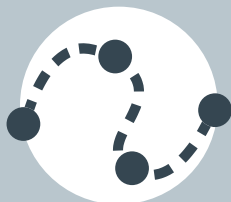
- » Wooster has grown by approx. 100+ people each year since 2000. **If this trend continues, what do you think the city could look like in the future?**
- » There is limited residentially developable land in Wooster (*less than 1% remains for marketable infill*). **Should new development be focused inside city limits? Or built on land which could be annexed into the city?**
 - Approx. 100 acres remain developable for higher-density development (*i.e. single family homes on small lots, duplexes, townhomes, apartments, etc.*)

Parks & Recreation



- » Wooster has over 700 acres of park land, which greatly exceeds the national median of acres per 1000 residents. **How should we improve those spaces in the future?**
 - Wooster has 25.9 acres per 1000 residents, while the national median is 10.6.
- » The existing Community Center is aging (*built in 1976*) and may be in need of an updated vision. **Should this center be replaced/renovated and what does the future programming look like?**

Connectivity & Mobility



- » As portions of the city continue to grow and develop, **are there missing connections today that should be explored?**
 - There are currently 7 miles of existing protected bike trails and 2 miles of painted bike lanes in Wooster.
 - There is currently 1 mile of trail being constructed, with 1.3 miles being designed.

Community Relations

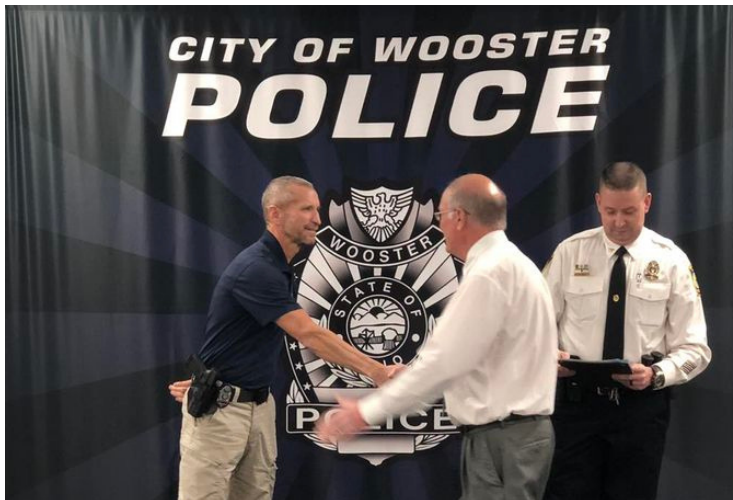
Join Us!

Our Police Officers have some great events planned.

May 13th - Old Navy Safety Day

May 18th & 19th at
Wooster High School -
Reading under the Lights

June 10th - Bike Rodeo



Congratulations Officer Hall!

Police

Wooster Police Department

THIN BLUE LINE

COMMUNITY WALK

Please join the Wooster Police Department for a **FREE** community event honoring the officers who gave the ultimate sacrifice in 2022.

NATIONWIDE WE LOST

229

OFFICERS IN THE LINE OF DUTY IN 2022



May 20th



Wooster High School Track



9AM-12PM



The wicked flee though no one pursues, but the righteous are as bold as a lion

We honor them by never forgetting.

Patrolman Don Hall was recently awarded the Wooster Police Officer of the Year for 2022.

Officer Hall acts as the force's Community Relations Officer.

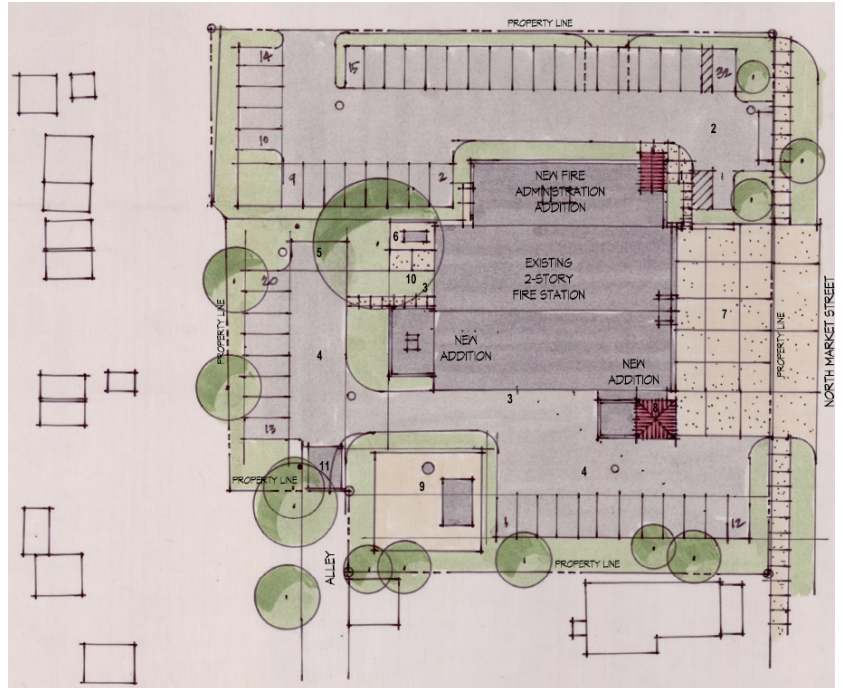
Fire

Station #1 Upgrades

Built in 1962, the Fire Station on Market Street is due for an upgrade.

The Design Phase is complete and construction is slated to start Summer 2023.

Personnel and equipment will be temporarily housed on Mechanicsburg Road.



Construction

Major Construction Projects

Phase 2 of the Dix Expressway project, managed by ODOT, includes closing the ramps at Akron Road beginning April 12th.

This will create difficulties for area businesses and residents but is necessary for the infrastructure improvements needed. The project is slated to be completed April 2024.

Melrose Drive Reconstruction continues to be closed to thru traffic. The contractor has been working throughout the winter on utility improvements. The roadway improvements will be started as the weather warms.

This project is scheduled for completion November 2023.

[Click Here for Current Project Updates](#)



330-263-5251
Engineering

Water, Sewer & Roadway Improvements

Summer 2023

The Engineering Division will once again be managing many different projects this year. These are just a few of the projects beginning this spring.

- *Waterlines:* Giffen Road, Palmer Street Bridge, Sherwood Hills Allotment
- *Sanitary Sewer:* North End Sanitary Sewer Project, W. Milltown Road Sanitary Sewer, Melrose Lift Station
- *Concrete Pavement Repairs:* Arthur Drive, Ruth Circle, Reta Circle & E. Wayne Avenue
- *Paving/Resurfacing:* E. Henry Street, E. South Street, W. Larwill Street, N. Geyers Chapel Road, Back Orrville Road, Smithville-Western Road, Winter Street

Planning for the Future

City Council recently approved over \$11M in debt service to fund upgrades to the City's wastewater plant.

The improvements include Headworks Improvements, Digester Upgrades and Feedstock Receiving.

Maintaining and upgrading this City asset ensures our citizens and business continue to receive this necessary service, now and in the future.



Bike to Work Week

National Bike to Work Week is May 15th - May 21st. On May 19th, we encourage you to Ride Your Bike to Work. With over 11 miles of finished multi-use trails and bike lanes, Wooster is striving to be a bike friendly community.

By the end of 2023, the multi-use trail along Melrose Drive up to Smithville-Western will be completed, adding another leg onto our trail system.



**IN 2024, A MULTI-USE
PATH WILL BE
CONSTRUCTED ALONG
W. MILLTOWN ROAD
CONNECTING MELROSE
TO FRIENDSVILLE ROAD.**

**+13 Miles once all
projects are
completed**

State of the City

Engagement



Mayor Breneman gave his 2022 State of the City presentation to Wooster City Council in February, followed by presentations to Rotary, Lions and Kiwanis.

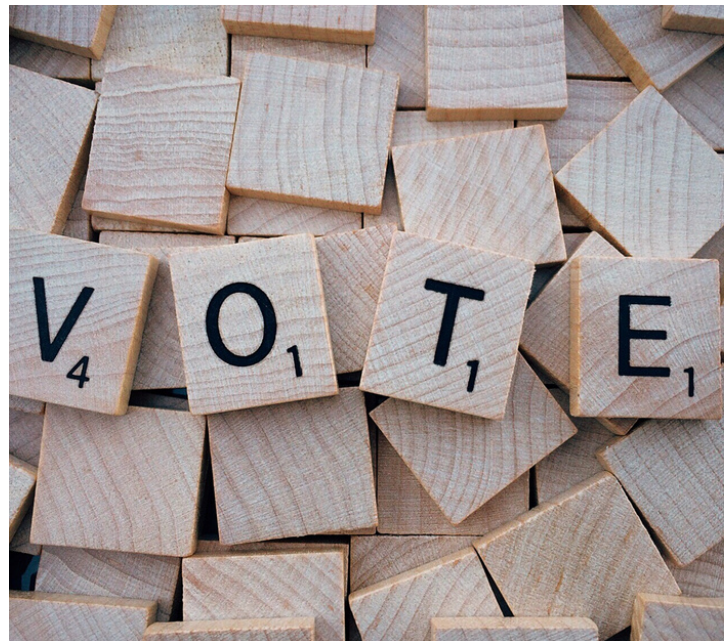
The presentation is available for viewing on the [City's YouTube Channel](#) or our [City website](#).

Vote!

The Primary Election is May 2nd. A Wooster City Schools levy and Mayoral and City Council Candidates are on the ballot. We encourage you to exercise your right to vote!



330-263-5242
Mayor's Office



Volunteers Needed



Oak Hill Park is one of our City's most used recreational areas in the park system. With over 100 acres of naturalized land, we want to create a group similar to the Friends of Wooster Memorial Park to help maintain and give ideas on improving the park.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THIS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY, PLEASE CALL OUR MAINTENANCE DIVISION AT 330-263-5275.

Referees

The Wooster Recreation Department has been offering youth and adult sports leagues within our community for over 50 years. There are many factors that go into coordinating a successful league, one major challenge is securing game officials.

All officials assigned to work games and matches for our Wooster Recreation youth and adult leagues are compensated for their time. The pay rate varies depending on the level of experience an official has and if they are certified in that specific sport.

Anyone interested in becoming an official should contact the Wooster Recreation Department. We hire non-certified people who know the game to officiate younger division games in our basketball and soccer leagues and are able to guide interested individuals on how to become certified in specific sports.

IF WE DO NOT OFFER THE SPORT YOU MAY BE INTERESTED IN OFFICIATING WE HAVE MANY CONTACTS WITH OTHER ASSOCIATIONS AND CAN CONNECT YOU WITH THEM TO BEGIN THE PROCESS OF BECOMING AN OFFICIAL.



330-263-5207
Recreation

*Trout in the Little Apple
Creek*

