

[Click here](#) to watch Mayor Breneman's Address

## State of the City:

Woo-22



It is always an Honor and a Pleasure to share our Administrative Plan for the current 2022 year and to share with City Council and the Public our Goals and Objectives in keeping Wooster moving forward! Pictures are:

- Weiner Dog Races @ Woosterfest
- Outpatient Pavilion at WCH
- Downtown NE Quad at night.
- Car Show put on by Main Street Wooster.
- Scot's Pipers performing under the Pavilion on the Square
- Christmas Tree decorating w/ the help of AEP
- Leveling the new Wooster Brush site in the Wooster Innovation Park.
- Quinby Bldg & the new Home of E & H Ace Hardware on SW Quad.
- Birds eye view of Woosterfest.

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## City of Wooster 2022 Goals:

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1. Oak Hill TIF District & New Infrastructure – *Support Schools & Housing*
2. Renovate & Modernize Fire Station #1 – *Enhancing Safety*
3. Major Road Improvements – *Starting 2022: Melrose & Dix Expressway*
4. Wooster Bike Trail – *Connecting points West & South*
5. “Woo for You” Group – *Helping to Build our Community Team*
6. Business Attraction to Wooster – *Charting Pathways to Prosperity*
7. Help Community Return to a Normal Existence – *Embracing Tomorrow*
8. Status Report: Milltown | Community Center | Christmas Run Pool

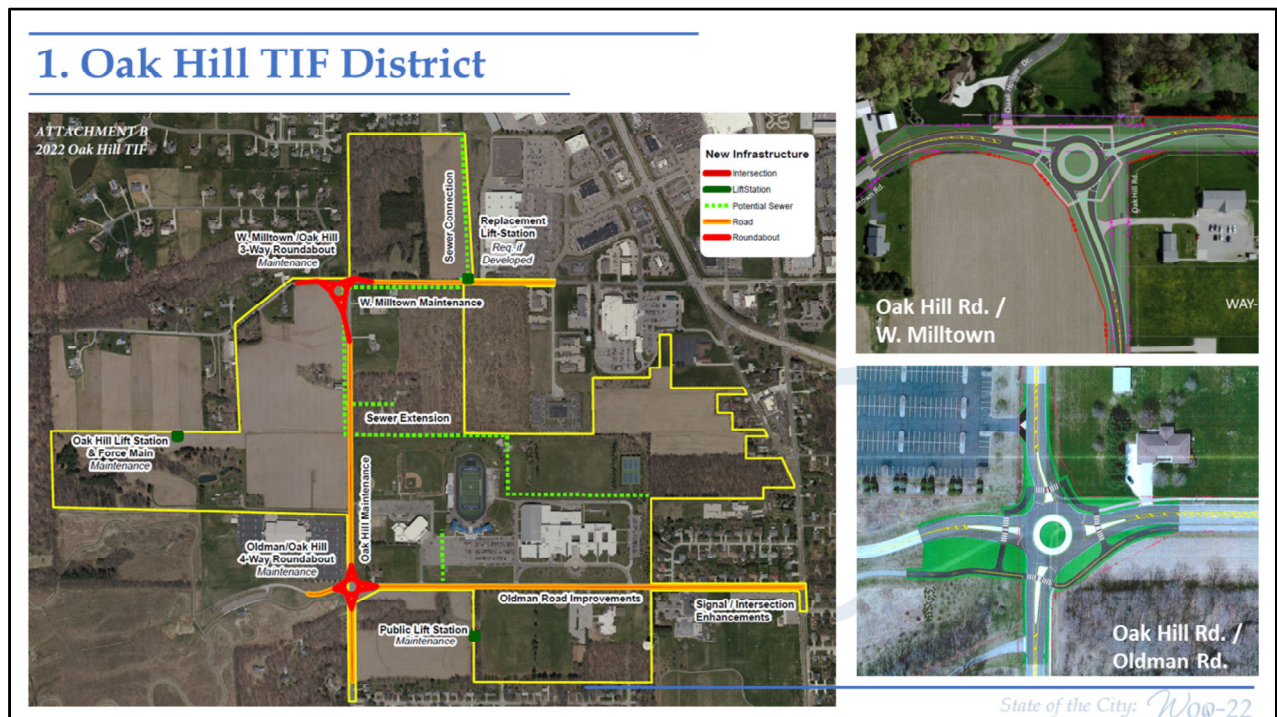
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State of the City: *Woo-22*

There are 7 Goals that I’ve challenged our Administration to achieve or keep moving forward in the 2022 year. The 8<sup>th</sup> is a Status Report on and plans for Goals mentioned in previous years that are still in process.

- I’ll go through them 1 at a time and explain.

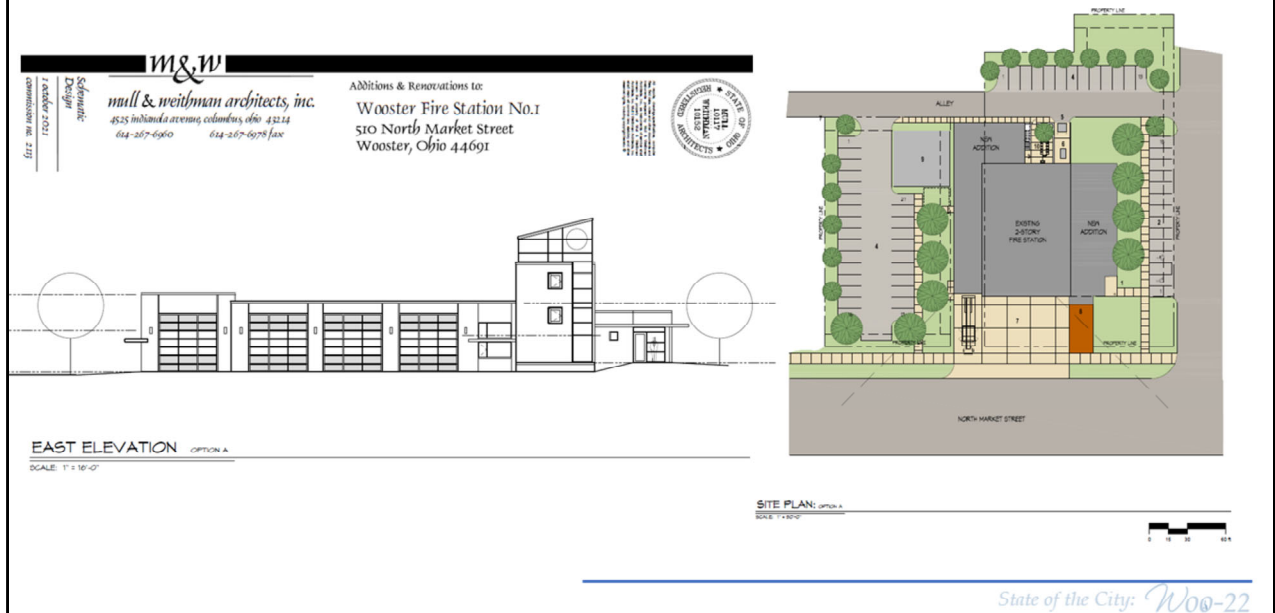
# 1. Oak Hill TIF District



The First Goal we are working to accomplish this year is the establishment of a TIF District to help housing develop in our City.

- This has not been easy, we've been at it for over 2 years on this project.
- TIF's can be used to build infrastructure that benefits the district.
- This slide shows what is presently in front of City Council.
- The yellow lines show the boundary of the planned district.
- The red lines show road improvements paid by the TIF.
- The green lines show sewer improvements making housing possible.
- As the area develops, land inside the TIF can expand the infrastructure
- The City, Schools, County, Township all benefit over a TIF's 30 yr. plan
- Our City Admin. team believes that this is the best way to stimulate housing starts in our City.

## 2. Fire Station One Upgrades

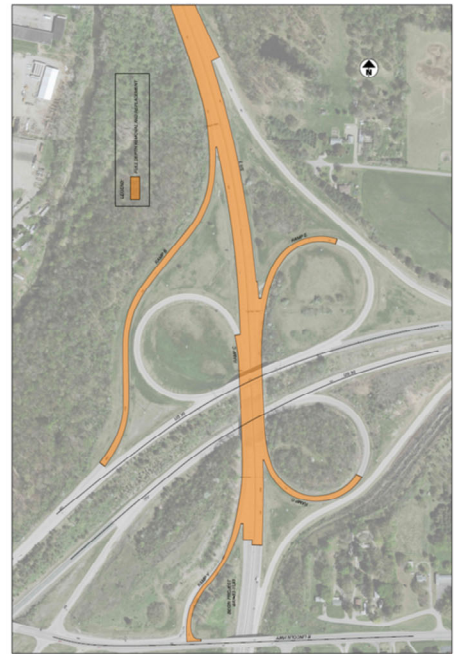
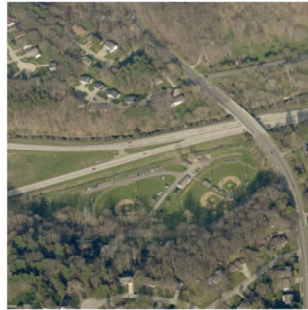
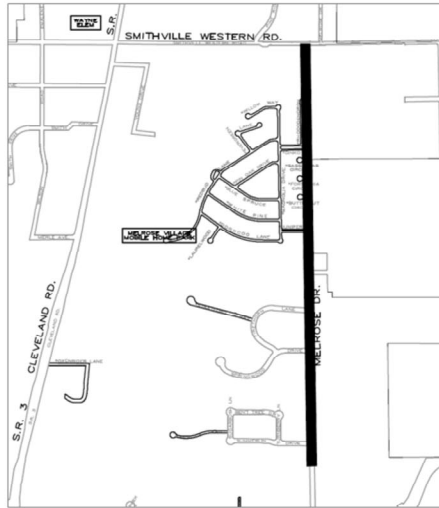


This 2<sup>nd</sup> Goal is to Renovate & Modernize Fire Station #1 next to City Hall.

- This is the continuation of one of last years Goals. I said it would take many years.
- We started the Architecture & Engineering Plans in 2021.
- In 2022 we Budgeted over \$3 M, and Council approved to start construction.
- We are finalizing lay-out and costs now and hope to start construction by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of this year, and finish in 2023.
- Like all construction lately, costs of materials have gone up & supply's are difficult.
- We are exploring any Grant opportunities that will help keep costs in line.
- This is our final improvements to our City's Fire Infrastructure. Station #2 & #3 have both been improved or built within the last 6 years.
- Station #1 was built in 1961 and has had some improvements over the years, but is in need of renewal and expansion. (61 years & still going)
- Station #3 building was purchased in 2015, remodeled and opened in May, 2016
- Safety Center started in April, 2016 and put into service in Summer of 2017.
- The Fire Safety net of 3 station locations should serve our City well for many years.



### 3. Major Road Improvements

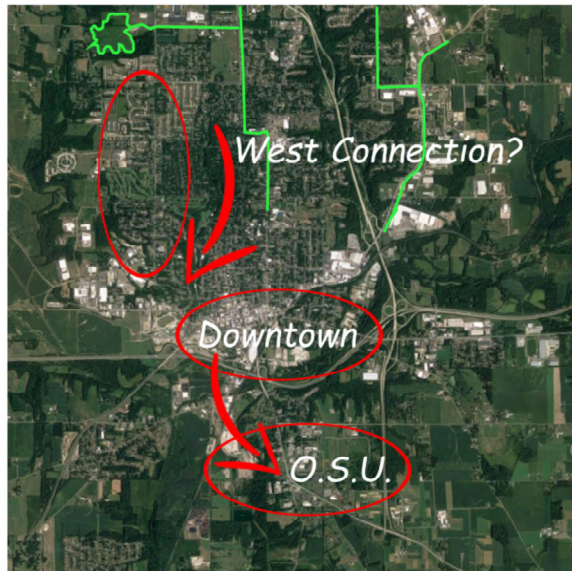


State of the City: *Nov-22*

Goal #3 – Start 2 Major Road Improvement Projects in 2022.

- Melrose Drive road improvement – City Council just approved at the 2-7-22 meeting the notice to proceed to bid. Construction should start early to mid summer. Was a County chip & seal road w/ ditches that will be improved to a City Street with curb & gutters, storm sewers, sidewalk & Bike trial and Street lights. Project should start early summer this year. (\$3.8 M project)
- The Dix Expressway – This project is an ODOT project that the City was able to get for Wooster. This project will start around April 1<sup>st</sup>. (\$35 M of State dollars)
- These are 2 heavily used roads that will benefit from these improvements. Both projects will start in 2022 and won't finish until 2023.

## 4. Wooster Bike Trail



State of the City: Woo-22

Our 4<sup>th</sup> Goal is an expansion of one of last years Goals, with tasks to accomplish.

- Goal 8 last year was a Trail Connector – Planning for west side neighborhoods and Parks. I've expanded this goal and added to it. It's now Establish routes and Funding Plans for a Westside Wooster trial and a South Connector trail to Secrest Road and the OSU/OARDC Wooster Campus. These 2 additions would pretty much complete a City wide Multi-purpose Trail system.
- Partners in achieving this Goal would be: City of Wooster, Wayne Trails, OSU/OARDC, Businesses, Biking/Walking/Running groups, etc.
-

## 5. “Woo for You” Social Group

Enjoy, Engage, Network, Impact

### GET ACTIVE

Young Adults



### Activities Survey

The City of Wooster Recreation Department is looking to expand the opportunities for individuals in the 18 - 32 year old age group. Ways we are looking to do this include drop in activities, drop in fitness classes (sessions), sport leagues and special events.

If you are a local young adult between the ages of 18-32 years old looking to get active, please complete the questions below.

If you have any questions or would like to speak to someone about a potential program, please call the City of Wooster Recreation Department at (330)263-5207 or email [pbess@woosteroh.com](mailto:pbess@woosteroh.com).



ENJOY your community  
Stay **ENGAGED**  
Grow your **NETWORKS**  
Make an **IMPACT**



<https://www.woosteroh.com/recreation>

State of the City: Woo-22

Goal 5 is to Establish a “Woo Social” group, nested in and guided by the City of Wooster Recreation Division. Ashley Hershberger & her team will help coordinate.

- This groups Purpose is to help people (especially the 18 to 33 year olds) find activities in Wooster where they can form “Friend Networks” and connect with people and activities of their own age and interest.
- I believe more High School and College age young adults are returning or staying around their hometowns. (Job availability, COVID, young people like what we’ve become, etc.) I hear from this age group that it’s hard to meet people of their ages and interests, so they start thinking about moving to the “Big Cities” or Florida, etc.
- I know the Chamber has the Young Professional group, Churches work to help this group get connected, we have some intermural sports teams, etc. but I think we need to more actively address this issue as a city to keep our own families feeling that they have many opportunities to meet new people and enjoy life right here.
- The Families & Businesses would love to keep these people right here in Wooster.

## 6. Business Attraction to Wooster

### Wooster Tops the State

2022 Micropolitan Economic  
Strength Rankings

**POLICOM** CORPORATION  
*Economic Analysis  
Everyone Understands*

#### Ohio's Top Ten

1. **Wooster**
2. Sydney
3. Mt. Vernon
4. Celina
5. Norwalk
6. Wapakoneta
7. Zanesville
8. Bellefontaine
9. Ashland
10. New Philadelphia-Dover

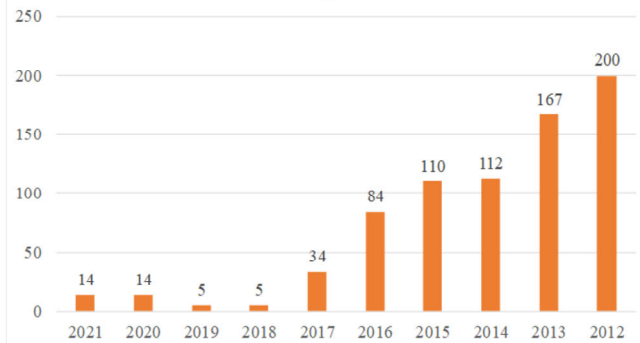
#### National Ranking

- #14**
- #43
- #61
- #67
- #109
- #117
- #149
- #152
- #153
- #158

Wooster  
maintained  
the number  
**14th** spot  
nationally for  
the second  
year.

**UNIQUELY**  
**WOOSTER**  
ENJOY DOWNTOWN

Wooster Rankings over the Years



Source: Policom

State of the City: Woo-22

### Goal #6 – Continue to attract Businesses to Wooster

- On Feb. 4, 2022 Policom Corp. released its 2022 Micropolitan Rankings which has the Wooster Micropolitan Area ranked at #14 for strongest performing micropolitan economy in the nation among 543 micropolitan areas.
- Policom's ranking also shows the Wooster Micropolitan Area as #1 in the State.
- The Bar Graph to the right shows the Wooster Micropolitan rankings through the years. It's like a golf score – the lower the number the better with #1 the best. The 2021 ranking is on the left side of the graph.
- The WEDC arranged for Bill Furth, President of Policom Corp. to come to Wooster in August of 2018 to talk about how he uses public metrics to derive how his company ranks Metro and Micro politans throughout the United States. Mr. Furth told me at that meeting that Wooster's ranking started getting better in 2013 & 14 because they recognized that the City was reinvesting in itself, and that the voters approved the tax levy from 1 – 1.5% to keep Wooster moving forward.
- Site Selection Magazine also does Metro and Micropolitan rankings, but their annual results don't come out until the end of March. In 2021 for the 2020 year, Wooster was tied with Fremont, OH with a ranking of 7<sup>th</sup> in the State.
- Which ever ranking you use, Wooster is in a great place to attract businesses.



## 7. Returning to Normality



State of the City: Woo-22

### Goal 7 - Help Community return to normalcy.

- This is a vague Goal in describing exactly how the City carries this out, and what metrics we use to see if we are accomplishing our Goal.
- Life for everyone is different because of the Pandemic. Things we based normal life on have been shaken, and some don't even exist today. But it is important that we get our critical Community Partners stable and moving forward. These include:
  - Hospital & Medical Community
  - Educational components of our City (Public, Colleges, Vocational, etc)
  - Downtown Businesses & Restaurants
  - Religious, Cultural, and Entertainment components
  - Manufacturing and job creating sector
- This is essential in getting our City back to what we were doing and achieving before any of us heard of COVID-19. The City doesn't run or dictate how these Community Partners operate, but we need to make sure to help them, however possible for a governmental entity, to ease things back to how things operated before March, 2020.

## 8. Status Update



*Milltown Road Bike Trail*



*Community Center*



*Christmas Run Pool Planning*

*State of the City: Woo-22*

Report – Status of Previous Goals from the 2021 State of the City Report:

- Milltown Road Bike Trail Connector – from Melrose Drive to Friendsville Road
  - This is a Connector piece to loop the East side trails of Wooster with the Central, and potential Western Trails of our City.
  - This is a Critical piece to our Multi-purpose Trail Network for Wooster.
  - Tried for a Transportation Alternatives Grant (TAP) in 2020, but did not rank for a State grant. So we tried again in 2021.
  - We were successful being awarded a \$436K TAP grant and also a \$400K Safety Program grant (\$836 K). These funds aren't available till 7-1-2023. Thanks to Jonathan M. & Roger K. and Team for putting grant requests in.

### Community Center Status

- We've been working on planning for what services & features our Community Center should have and acquiring adjacent land.
- We've also been looking to State or Federal Funding that might be available to help with the expansion costs.
- With rough estimates in the \$3-5 M range the Admin Team decided it wasn't feasible to fund along with the Fire Station #1 remodel which takes a front burner spot for the City. So we've pushed the timeline out.

### Christmas Run Pool Planning

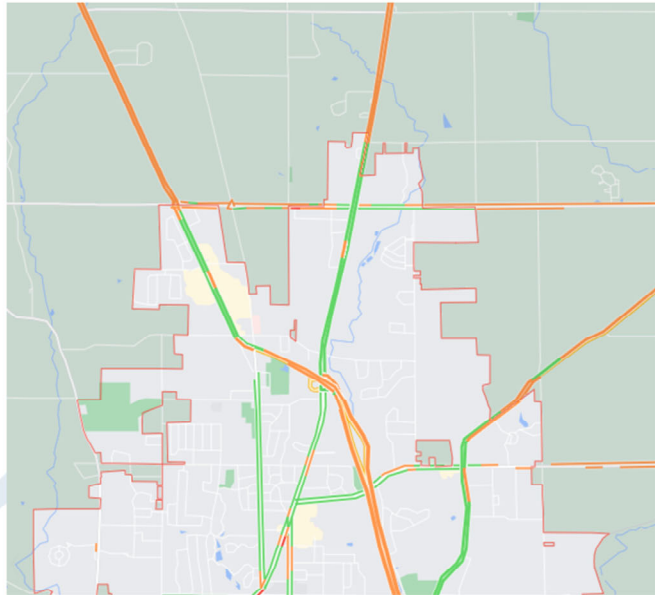
- Still in the works. Need still there. We've patched the worst points of bracing which will buy us some more usage time. Decision time on hold.

## Always Prepared

Wooster streets are the FIRST to be moving thanks to the quality services of our PPM Division.



Google Maps Traffic as of 8:23 am, February 4, 2022



State of the City: Woo-22

Fun technology Slide – This years Big Snow on February 4<sup>th</sup>.

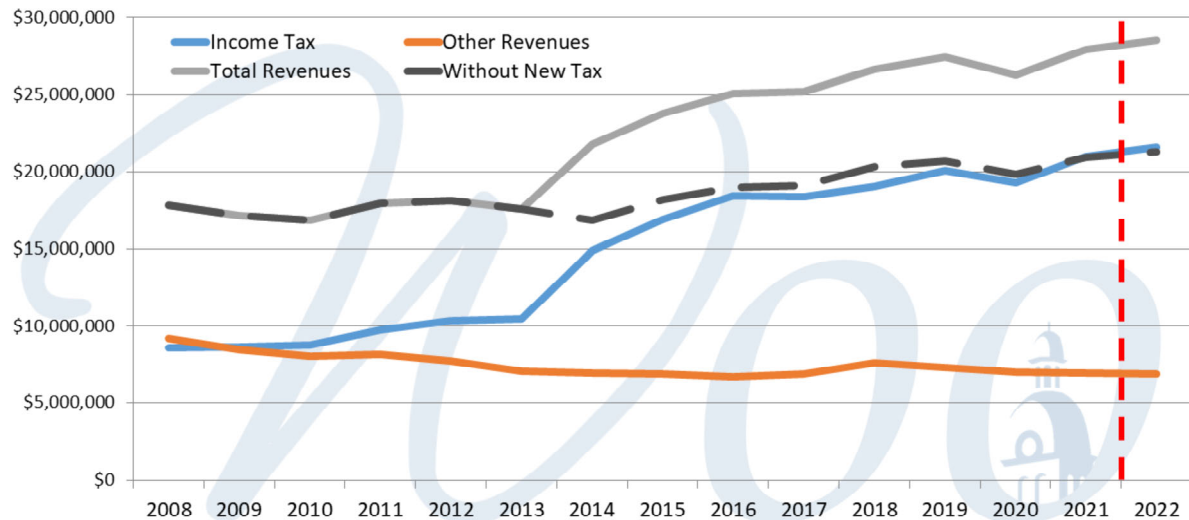
- Any guesses as to what the map shows?
- It shows in real time how clear the City Streets were @ 8:23 am after an 8-10" snow storm the night before.
- Using Google maps which measure the speed of traffic it shows:
  - Wooster streets were running at normal speeds (green) clear of snow
  - State Routes 83, 3 and 585 were running slow (orange) snow covered
  - And Smithville-Western & Back Orrville Rd slow (orange) snow covered

The wonders of current technology!

- 720 tons of Salt
- 431 man hours
- Costs - \$ 80,000. total
- 2 day storm clean up – 1843 miles (Woo – Daytona Beach & back)
- City has 330 lane miles & 100 cul-de-sacs to plow & treat normally.



## Revenues For Services

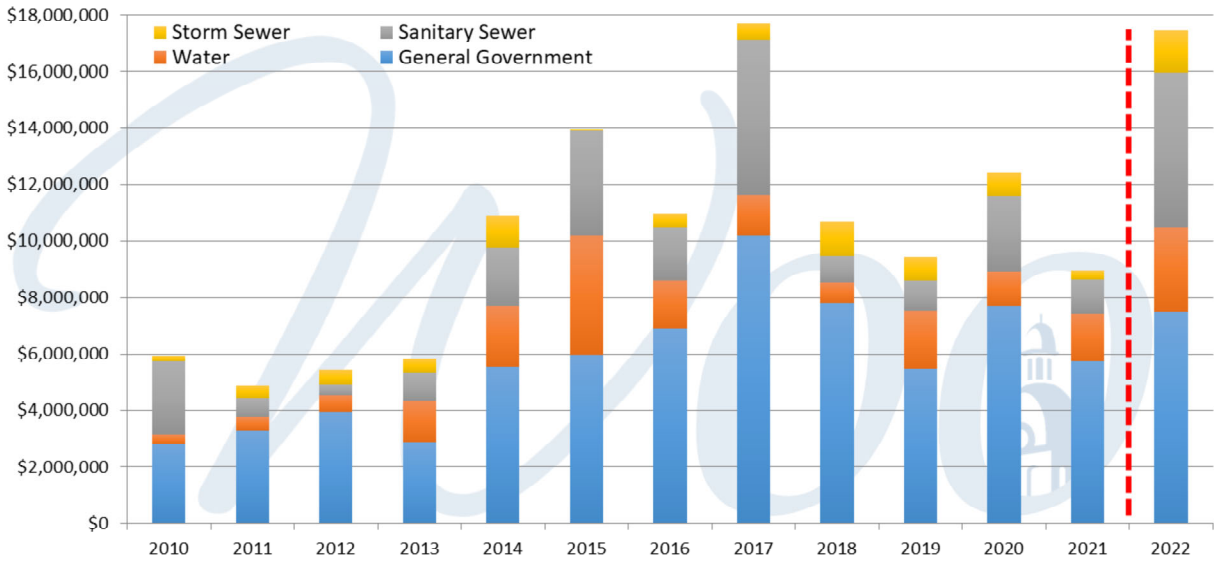


State of the City: Nov-22

Finance Slides – always comes down to the Dollars!

- Remember the “Great Recession” from Dec. 2007 to June 2009.
- Governor Kasich State funding cuts in 2010 & 2011
- City Income Tax Levy raised Income tax from 1 – 1.5% passed effective 1-1-2014
- Notice at red dashed line – the without new tax line intersects the income tax line.
  - Income Tax increase was essential. Saved our Community.

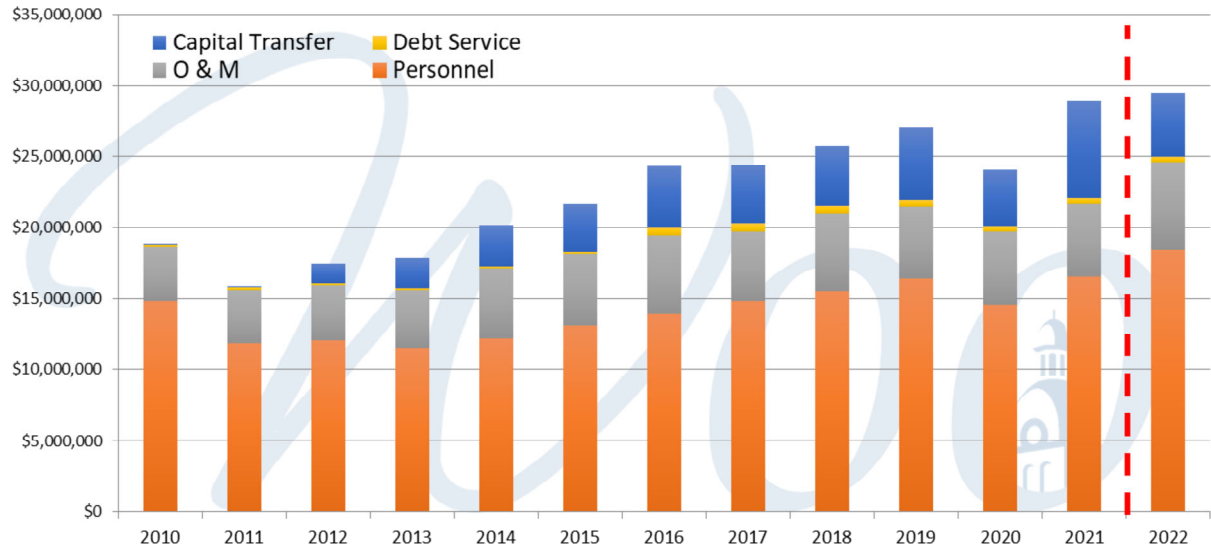
## City Investment



State of the City: Nov-22

How your Capital Dollars are spent.

## City 2021-2022 Finances



State of the City: Nov-22

This graph shows how our City Dollars were spent or are budgeted to be spent.

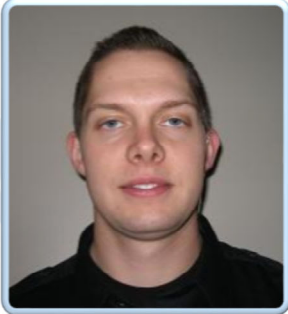
## Sludge Tank



- This \$2 M steel tank is finished and put into use at Wooster's Waste Water plant in the Summer of 2021. This contains the sludge removed from the Waste Water stream before the cleaned and sanitized water is put back into the environment.
- This nutrient rich sludge is then given to farmers who want it for their fields.
- This has solved the unwanted smells that were coming off our open air lagoons that have been used for many decades.



## Police Department Highlights



*Ptl. Daniel Whitmore*  
*By: 2021 Officer of the Year*



### **2021 Officer of the Year Awards** *Excellence in Service*



*Ptl. Christopher Hartzler*  
*By: Children Services Board*

*State of the City: Woo-22*

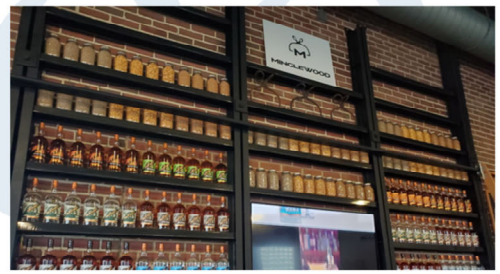
### Officer of the Year – May, 2021

- Patrolman Daniel Whitmore – Nominated by his Wooster PD peers and chosen by the Police Chiefs, Mayor, and Director of Administration as Officer of the year.
- Patrolman Chris Hartzler – selected by the Wayne County Children Services Board as the 2021 Officer of the Year.



On May 17<sup>th</sup> GOJO Industries informed us that on May 19<sup>th</sup> that Lester Holt of NBC Nightly News would be doing a feature story on GOJO and their Purell product which has been a big factor world wide in helping stop the spread of COVID. The segment will showcase an interview and tour of the GOJO Wooster Campus (the largest producer of Purell in the world) on NBC's "Across America Series".

## Minglewood



State of the City: Nov-22

Mark, Deb and Andrew Morrison's re-creation of the Old Minglewood Ice House into Wooster's only Distillery.

- They have done an amazing job of saving an old building that our Building Standards team thought would have to be torn down.
- Expanding the business with an indoor event space and an outdoor patio area, along with enlarging the production and bottling areas.
- They are the only Distillery on the Ohio Bourbon Trail between Clev. & Columbus
- Helps our City become a destination spot for that group traveling between.
- Coupled with JFAB Brewery, Muddy's, and the new Mariola's Italian Restaurant & Liberty-Beall Apartments our Entertainment District is starting to come alive.



## Melrose Housing Development



State of the City: Nov-22

Lemmon Development moved forward with a Housing Planned Development (PD) off of Melrose Drive.

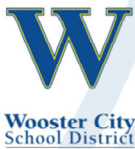
- Had to rezone the land to a Planned Development from R-1 to do the Housing Development they envisioned.
- Preliminary plans are for a 141 unit development w/ apartments, duplexes, and single family homes
- Plan received a unanimous vote of approval from Planning Commission.
- Council approved the rezoning to PD at their May 3, 2021 meeting.
- Latest word is they are planning to start building this Spring.
- Lemmon Development did the Danbury facility at the base of Portage Road.



## Thank You & Welcome!



*Thank You!*  
Michael Tefs



*Welcome!*  
Gabe Tudor



*Thank You!*  
Tom Pukys



*Welcome!*  
Maribeth Burns



*Thank You!*  
Sally Patton



*Welcome!*  
Melanie Garcia

State of the City: *Nov-22*

Changes to a few of our City Partners in 2021:

- Michael Tefs goes to Revere Schools & Gabe Tudor comes to Wooster City.
- Tom Pukys goes to Louisville City Director & Maribeth Burns to WEDC
- Sally Patton retires from WC Community Found. & Melanie Garcia fills role.
- Thank you to those who left for your leadership & guidance and welcome to those filling these important roles for our community.

## Excellence Continues With Handoff



Jeff Battig Retires  
29 years of service



City of  
**Wooster**  
RECREATION



Ashley Hershberger

State of the City: Woo-22

- City Manager of the Recreation Division Jeff Battig retires after 29 years.
- Ashley Hershberger agrees to become Manager of this important “Quality of Life” Division of our City.
- I have asked Ashley and the Rec. Team to spearhead Goal #5 – the “To Do in Woo” project for Wooster. “Woo Social” Group”
- I think Ashley and the Rec Division are the right City group to lead this important friend/activity networks with other community partners such as: Wooster Chamber of Commerce & Young Prof. (YP), Art Center, Intermural sports and activities, business like Vertical Runner, Ride On biking, and Friends of Wooster Memorial Park, etc.
- Thank You Jeff and Ashley for leading the charge for us.

## WCH Business of the Year



- Congratulations to Wooster Community Hospital for being chosen as a Fortune/IBM Watson Top 100 hospital for a 7<sup>th</sup> time in 2021. Very high honor that is based on Public metrics of hospitals across the nation.
- The WCH was also recognized with the 2021 Baldrige Silver Award of Excellence and the Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year.
- Congratulations and Thank You to all employees of WCH for your hard work and caring manner, especially through the COVID pandemic. We are so Thankful to have such a Quality Healthcare facility and staff in our City!



## Wayne County Land Bank



City Council approved legislation joining a Land Bank which was being formed by Wayne County on August 17, 2020. So far it has been very helpful in bringing properties that were underwater and not being maintained to where the Land Bank could acquire them, get the tax liens released, and then sell them to people who will fix them up. In 2021 Wooster was able to buy 2 houses through the Land Bank and re-sell them to New Owners who have fixed them up as rentals or re-sold on the open market.

Our Building Standards team check out each property to make sure it's worth keeping.

- Much better than having to spend City dollars to demo and turn into vacant lots.
- 2 houses were 329 College Ave. & 358 W. Larwill St.

## Clear Creek Park Open



State of the City: Woo-22

Clear Creek Park opened to the public in the fall of 2021.

- Trails and parking area are paved.
- Restrooms are open
- Waiting on Pavilion which is in transit
- Small playground to be put in this spring.
- Thank You to Dick & Judy Seaman Foundation for this very nice addition to Wooster's Park System!



## Liberty Beall to Ring In A Vibrant E. Liberty!



Here is what is planned and in the works beside Muddy's on E. Liberty.  
Mike Mariola is planning an Italian Restaurant for the lower level of this building.

Matt Long representing Liberty Beall Ltd. will be building 8 apartments on the 2<sup>nd</sup> level of the building.

Plans are in process and I believe they plan to start construction sometime this summer. Ground Breaking planned for mid-March.

## Grigio Wine Shop



State of the City: Nov-22

Grigio's Wine Shop opened on 6-22-2021.

It's located just S. of the St. Paul Hotel.

Congratulations to Natalie Gray on opening this new business in our Downtown.

## General David Wooster



State of the City: *Woo-22*

Jason Anderson took on the quest for his Master's Thesis of learning and teaching others about the man for whom our City is named after – General David Wooster.

His quest turned into an admiration of this Commander in Chief of the Provincial Army against Quebec.

This journey then became a belief that this American **general** who served in the French and Indian War and in the American Revolutionary War deserved to be recognized and remembered.

Jason started a campaign to raise enough funds to build and erect a statue to the man which was erected and dedicated on 7-24-2021 on the Wayne Co. public library campus on W. Liberty Street in our Downtown.

Thanks to Jason Anderson and General David Wooster for roles in our city's history.



## E&H Ace Hardware Growing at Quinby



*State of the City: Nov-22*

On August 2, 2021 – E & H Ace Hardware announced that they had bought the Quinby Building on the SW Quadrant of our Square. (Old Everything Rubbermaid Store)

They are planning on using the 1<sup>st</sup> 3 floors for retail sales of hardware goods., and the top floor will be the Corporate Offices of E & H Ace Hardware Stores.

We are So.o.o.o. Thankful to Christopher Buehler and Rich Fishburn for their investment in our Downtown, especially for one of the main Buildings on our Square.

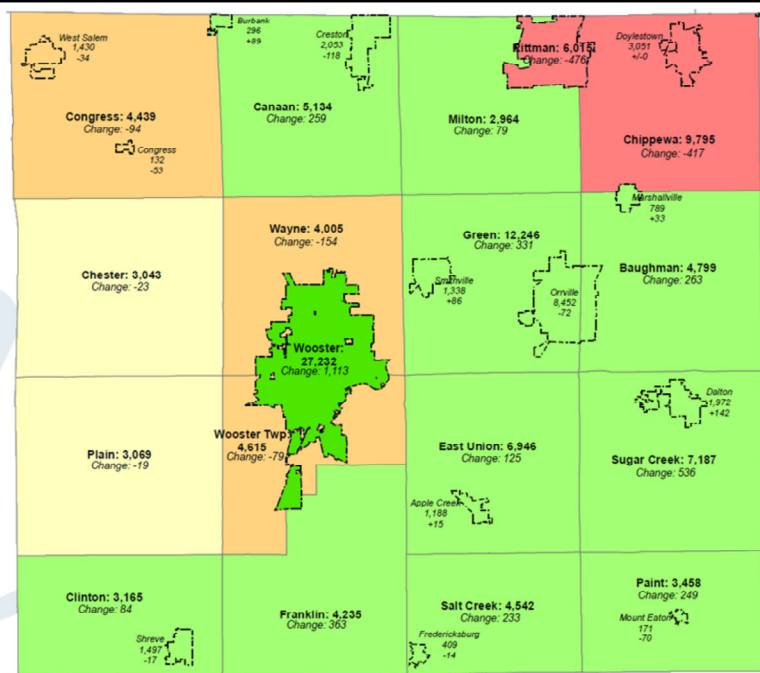
Thank You for believing and investing in our City!

## 27,232 Residents

### Census 2020 Results Unveiled in September:

#### Wooster proves itself a center for growth and prosperity

- Wooster grew **4.6% (+1,113)**
  - All four wards grew
- Wayne County **1.02% remainder**
- Northeast Ohio **(-18,828) TeamNeo**
- Ohio Overall **2.3%**



State of the City: Woo-22

Wooster grows in 2020 Census to 27,232 residents from 26,119 in 2010 Census

This is a 4.6 % or 1,113 people growth rate. This is a healthy growth for a community, but not an excessive growth which could be harmful.

This is positive for our community, for much of NE Ohio lost population.

The old saying applies – if you're not growing, you're dying. We just want planned steady growth and not exponential growth that we've seen in some cities to the north.



## Wooster Brush Doubling in Size



Definitely the Biggest News of 2021 in our City – all 600 K sq ft of it!

- So Thankful that Wooster Brush, one of our city's oldest Mfg. 171 yrs, chose to expand and grow in our City (largest single bldg. project ever in Wooster)
- This is under Construction in our Wooster Innovation Park off Daisy Way.
- They held a Ground Breaking Ceremony on 10-20-21.
- Moved a "mountain" of dirt to get a level site, and got the foundation floor stoned in before winter set in.
- The building will be starting to go up this spring with a hope to be finished by the end of 2022.

## SW Quad Complete!



It's Finished! The 3 quadrants of our City Square space have all been improved and updated.

I believe we created people spaces on our square without losing any existing parking.

We hope that the tables and seating, with the help of the DORA (Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area) district, and the musical entertainment provided by Main Street Wooster will encourage people to use and enjoy our Downtown space.

With the opening of the ACE Hardware store in March, 2022 I think other Downtown merchants will find more people in the evenings out and about which will be helpful to the whole Downtown.

## Scannell Properties



Scannell Properties was the first kid on the block in our Wooster Innovation Park. This is a picture of the walls being erected in late summer of 2021.

Fascinating to watch this happen – pour cement walls on the ground, use a BIG crane to set them in place and brace with a pole, get all walls up, put roof rafters in, then put in the doors, windows, wiring & plumbing.

This 200,000 sq ft facility is a distribution center for one of Wooster's manufacturers, so it is important support for a local industry.

## Comings and Goings - City Council

### New & Returning



Barb Knapic



Bob Reynolds



Scott Myers



Jen Warden

### Thank You For Your Service



Jon Ansel



Bill Bostancic

State of the City: *Woo-22*

City Council changes at the end of 2021 year.

Jon Ansel (16 years) and Bill Bostancic (4 Years) retired from Council. They both served our city well and with honor. We will miss their common sense input.

Returning for another term are Scott Myers and Jennifer Warden. They will be joined by previous Council woman Barb Knapic and Bob Reynolds. We are enjoying our new and renewed Council members, and working with all of our City Council members for the good of Wooster.

Thanks to all of them for their time, wisdom, and Service to our Community!



## Lowry Center Expanding



State of the City: Woo-22

College of Wooster – Renewing an old favorite – Lowry Center!

This project started last year with all the planning and drawings and logistics of temporarily losing use of one of the College's main buildings.

Actual Construction started in the Spring of 2021 after the Students left. Local contractor Bogner Construction is doing the job for the College. Completion should be done by this summer, I believe.

Thanks to the COW for renewing itself and using a local contractor which helps everyone.



## Rotary Flag Takes Flight



State of the City: Woo-22

When Rotary Celebrates – they go BIG! Wooster Rotary Club celebrated it's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2021. They celebrated in 2 ways in our community.

1<sup>st</sup> and most recognizable is the enormous American Flag, and pole to fly it on in front of the Wayne County Fair Board Event Center. This flag was raised for the 1<sup>st</sup> time to open the 2021 Fair and in honor of those lost in the 9-11 attack remembrance ceremony.

2<sup>nd</sup> and probably most enduring was the planting of "Founders Grove" trees at Oak Hill Park in honor of the 24 Founding Members of Rotary.

Thanks to the Wooster Rotary Club for a century of "Service above Self" to our community.

## National Award 2021



State of the City: Woo-22

Congratulations to the Wooster Area Chamber of Commerce – winning the 2021 National Chamber of the Year Award.

- Pretty impressive for a Chamber serving a City/area of our size to win this National recognition.
- Nice recognition for a local organization to bring home the Gold!
- Congratulations and Thank You for serving our Community.

## WARCOG



Rhodes Walter - Retires



Andy Baillis - Takes over



State of the City: Woo-22

- Rhodes Walter retires after 1 ½ years of service to WARCOG, after retiring from our City of Wooster Fire Department after 28 years of service. Thank You!
- Andy Baillis accepts the Directors job and is running the Dispatch Service by the end of 2021.

## Rea & Associates Counts on Wooster



State of the City: *Nov-22*

Just a short move down the street – Welcome to Rea & Associates new Building.

- Beautiful new building where old Horns Nursing Home had been.
- Rea's Building and Weaver Condo's really beautify this block of the Downtown.
- Thank You Rea & Weaver for helping Wooster be a better place!



## Weaver Custom Homes Grows Downtown



WEAVERCUSTOMHOMES



State of the City: Woo-22

### Surrounded by Weaver Custom Homes

- Here is a picture of the first set of Condo's by Weaver on N. Market Street.
- Awesome street view, and beautiful interior space w/ 2 car garages.
- Right in the Center of our amazing Downtown.
- Doesn't get much better than this!
- Or does it? How about double the Condo's on the backside - Walnut Street. This is exactly what Weaver is in the process of doing.
- Congratulations and Thanks to Weaver Custom Homes for helping our city by creating new Housing in our Downtown with Beautiful Custom homes.
- Thank You Weaver & Rea & Assoc. for helping Wooster be a better place!

## Nutcrackers on the Square



State of the City: Woo-22

### Roll out the Holley . . . Christmas in our Community

- New this past year were the Nutcrackers by the Statue on the Square. These came from a donation from Sandra Hull's Charitable Trust and the City of Wooster.
- Also Main Street held a Window decorating contest again this past year for the Window Wonderland event. Here are some of the top decorated pieces of our Downtown.
- Nothing better than Celebrating the Holidays in Downtown Wooster!

## Five L. Farm Brings New Jobs & Investment



- It's Working!! Our City's 5L Farm purchase in 2020 is doing exactly what we had hoped.
- We have sold off pieces of this property to Scannell Properties, LLC and to The Wooster Brush Company.
- We still have 2 large lots available for purchase.
  - One that fronts on Geyers Chapel Rd. and Daisy Way (about 61 acres)
  - One that is one W side of the property (56 acres) off Old Airport Rd.
  - Total of 117 acres still available for Industrial Development
  - Also other land available in other parts of the City. Please give us a call if you are looking for space.



## Dominion Gas Line



Dominion to the rescue!

- We've been working with Dominion Energy to increase the natural gas supply to Wooster. We found out that the supply to our city had become very limiting.
- We reached out to Dominion for help and didn't realize the BIG lift that meant.
- My Compliments to Dominion for pulling out all the stops. Our city is heading to a much better place because of the "Betterment" project we got started.
- Here is the new line being installed on Friendsville Rd. across from Graystone.



## Salvation Army Projects

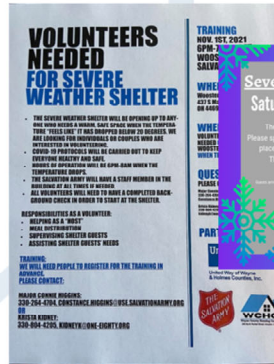


*The Living Room Project*



DOING THE  
MOST GOOD

### *Severe Weather Shelter*



*State of the City: Nov-22*

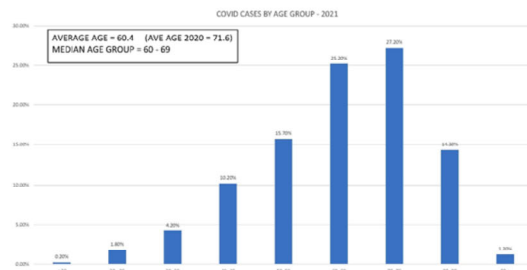
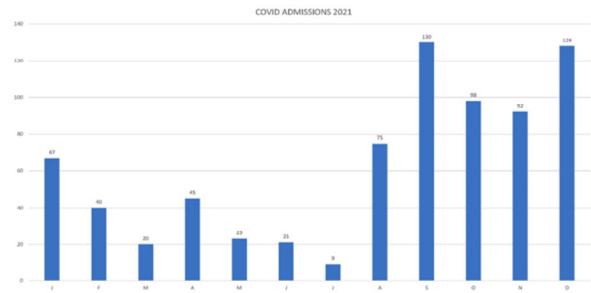
### The Living Room Project

- Opened in 2020
- Provides services such as laundry, showers, computer use and phone charging stations.
- Monthly estimates:
  - Serve ~ 205 meals and day users
  - Over 60 referral's to other Agencies for help & services.
- Severe Weather Shelter
- Good Winter to have this Shelter available to those in need.
- Volunteers needed to help man the shelter

## COVID 2021

We've Had Four Spikes

- ▶ Current one 12/21 - present
- ▶ September 2021
- ▶ Late 2020 into 2021
- ▶ April/May 2020



State of the City: Nov-22

Information about COVID-19 impact on our Hospital in 2021:

- Had four Spikes of the virus from 2020 – 2021.
  - April/May 2020 – at the start in our area.
  - Late 2020 and into 2021 year
  - Around September 2021
  - Latest spike was 12/21 to about mid- Feb, 2022
  - Seeing single digit numbers the last few weeks.
- Things seem to be calming down.
- Hope it stays that way.

## City Management Team



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Thanks to Our City Managers, Supervisors & all City employee's.  
People kept focused on their jobs, but had to take precautions to avoid virus.  
Admin & HR were the rule makers in how we protected ourselves & public.  
Managers & Supervisors were given the tasks of implementing those rules within their own Divisions and personnel.

This is to recognize the group that worked hard to keep us focused on the needs of our community, but also kept our people safe.

Thank You to all for keeping us moving safely forward!

## Authenticated Sites

### Ohio Certified Sites are Ready

Welcome to SiteOhio, a site program that goes beyond the common certified sites process. SiteOhio puts properties within industrial zoning through a more stringent and comprehensive review and analysis than any other state site certification process in the U.S.

**SiteOhio Authenticated**  
**Construction Ready Day One**



Finally it's here – like manna from heaven (well not quite that good)

- We've been trying to get our City as an Authenticated Site by Jobs Ohio and Ohio Dept. of Development for over 2 years.
- It's finally happened.
- This is a BIG thing for Development because any Business looking to relocate, expand or start up will look at the State site to see what is available.
- This site has all of the information on each site listed that Developers want to know
- We can now say that Wooster Innovation Park now has Site Ohio Authentication Designation as of January 28, 2022.
- Congratulations to our City!



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**THANK YOU!**  
**&**  
**Questions?**



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*State of the City: Woo-22*

Thanks to Jonathan Millea and Lynne DePaulo for all their assistance and hard work in helping pull this presentation together!