

July 23, 2015

TO: Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Wayne S. Davis, City Manager *WSD*
Department Heads

SUBJECT: Thursday Update

The following information is provided to you as a summary of activities for the week of July 20, 2015 and as an announcement of activities in the coming weeks:

1. On Thursday, July 16, Jim Hanson and Kelly Beach held a conference call with Spencer Gross of Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel's office and Rob Huber of OpenGov, to view how Montgomery's financial data would be displayed on OhioCheckbook.com. OpenGov is a new website launched by the State of Ohio Treasurer's office to promote an added level of transparency for governments. The application will be offered at no cost to the City and would allow anyone to go to the website and see how their tax dollars are being spent. The program also provides analytical data including how many visits there have been to Montgomery's site.
2. Ben Shapiro and Cindy Abner represented the Wellness Team on Friday, July 17, at the Tri-State Workplace Wellness Collaborative held at the United Way building downtown. A panel consisting of representatives from some of the 2015 Healthiest Employers were asked to share information about their wellness programs and answer questions related to their successes and experiences. As one of the winners of the Healthiest Employer award, Montgomery was asked to participate. Other panelists included: TriHealth, Cincinnati Public Schools, The Urology Group, the City of Cincinnati and McGohan Brabender. Thank you Ben and Cindy for representing the City and networking with the other panelists to improve our program.
3. Tracy and I met on Friday, July 17, with Twin Lakes to discuss proposed plans for the property they own on Montgomery Road, south of the Safety Center. Future plans for the main campus and the former Honda dealership were also discussed.
4. Tracy and I also met with BrandiCorp and Great Traditions on Friday, to discuss the latest designs on the north side of the Vintage Club development. They plan to reach back out to us in a few weeks with a more developed plan and pro-foruma for consideration.
5. Detectives are currently following up on leads established from the robbery at CVS Pharmacy on Saturday, July 18, during the Bastille Day Celebration. Officers have been in contact with the Blue Ash and Norwood police departments, and CVS Loss Prevention as they have experienced similar incidents recently. We are happy to report that there were no incidents to report from the actual Bastille Day Celebration.
6. Chief Paul Wright and Lieutenant John Crowell attended a SOSINK meeting on Monday at the Regional Operations Center in Cincinnati. SOSINK (Southwestern Ohio, Southeastern Indiana, Northern Kentucky) is a regional collaborative which provides financial assistance to address the unique planning, equipment, training, and exercise needs of high-threat, high-

density urban areas. This regional initiative also assists us in building an enhanced and sustainable capacity to prevent, respond to, and recover from threats or acts of terrorism. The focus of the meeting was upcoming grant opportunities which would be utilized for regional terrorism threats. Thanks to Paul and John for their leadership and participation in this important event!

7. One of the two vacant patrol officer positions was filled this week with David Mulcahy starting employment with the City on Monday. David is a graduate of Xavier University and received his Ohio Peace Officer certification through the Great Oaks Police Academy. Please join me in welcoming David to our team!
8. Tracy Roblero, Jim Hanson, Brian Riblet, Terry Donnellon, Kelly Beach and I met on Wednesday to do an initial review of two of the submissions for the Request for Proposals (RFPs) for the Gateway Redevelopment Area (GRA). The team will meet next week to review the final two submissions in preparation for the CIC GRA Ad-Hoc Committee meetings beginning in August.
9. Bethesda North Hospital will be hosting the Lima Company Memorial Panels "Eyes on Freedom" October 26 through 30. These panels depict the members of the Ohio-based Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment who lost 22 Marines and a Navy Corpsman in 2005 in Iraq to Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) and enemy fire. The memorial will be on display daily to the public and depicts the experience of all those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. Opening ceremonies will take place at 6:00 p.m. Monday, October 26, and the City will help publicize this event in the October Montgomery Bulletin. More information will be shared when available and is also available at <http://www.limacompanymemorial.org/>.
10. This afternoon, Tracy attended a 'sneak peek' of Liberty Center, a 64-acre mixed use development in Liberty Township developed by Steiner + Associates. The program was hosted by the Urban Land Institute and several of the companies who submitted work to the RFPs for the Gateway Redevelopment Area were in attendance.
11. The fire department has been down one ambulance for the last 10 days due to a mechanical issue. The unit had to have the turbocharger replaced which is labor intensive. The fire service industry is experiencing a number of these types of issues with the same make and model of the chassis. While the unit was at the repair shop, a few EMS calls were handled by our mutual aid partners. It's good to have the vehicle back and all units in service.
12. Interviews for the position of Finance Director are being conducted this week. The hiring team consisting of Jim Hanson, Brian Riblet, Julie Prickett and me are interviewing a total of four candidates with Kelly Beach being one of the four candidates under consideration.
13. Astrid Cabello, a student from Sycamore High School, will join the City for a brief internship at City Hall. She will begin on Monday, July 24 and will be here through the end of July. She will be helping with the performance benchmarking program, working with Matthew and with the Center for Local Government.
14. Please find attached Montgomery-related news articles that appeared in the local media since our last update.

Should you have questions or concerns regarding this information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

C: Connie Gaylor, Administrative Coordinator
Department Heads
Terry Donnellon, Law Director

A Message from OFCA's President



Chief Paul Wright, OFC
OFCA President

Whether you are involved with your department's public relations event or going to the kids' baseball or soccer game, summertime is a great time to spend quality time with members of the community and your family!

Check out
ohiofirechiefs.org
for Upcoming Events
and follow us on Facebook.

It's nice that summer is upon us with the many activities that captivate our time, both professionally and personally. Whether you are involved with your department's public relations event or going to the kids' baseball or soccer game, summertime is a great time to spend quality time with members of the community and your family. Make the most of each and every one of these events and activities.

In this edition, we will look at data and the benefits of collecting good, quality data. My department has been involved in data collection for 15 years in cooperation with a number of similar fire departments in the region. Early on, it was painful to determine what data to collect and how to collect identical statistics in each community. It was imperative that each group was reporting accurately and that we were truly comparing "apples to apples". After months of work establishing guidelines, followed by a few years of trials and retooling, data collection continues today. It delivers information that is not only readily available, but more importantly, useful. Not a month goes by when I don't turn to the data report to find a statistic or look for a trend in the department's day-to-day operations. By regularly collecting meaningful data with this group, I have saved countless hours of repetitive research and tapped into data that I would be unable to assemble on my own.

I believe it is very beneficial to spend the time at the beginning of a data collection process to really consider what data will be meaningful and worth collecting as opposed to just assembling a number of inconsequential statistics and data points. There needs to be a reason why you are investing the time and energy on data collection.

Many of my peers do not collect data; they are concerned about sharing such a report with their city council or township trustees. However, I have always viewed the data collection report as an internal document. I only utilize information gleaned from the reports in piecemeal fashion as the dialogue dictates. For example, when the law and safety committee of city council asks, "When our paramedics defibrillate a patient, how many times do they successfully resuscitate them and how does that compare with neighboring departments?", I can quickly refer to the data report and provide a quick and accurate response. Without this report, I would spend weeks researching the question or worse, I'd have to say to city council, "I don't know". Good data that is readily available makes your job easier. It allows you to look for trends and make necessary adjustments to your operations. And, it really makes you look good at your job. As you can see, good data shared across similar departments is a good management tool. I'm a firm believer in that.

On a separate note, as my term nears an end, I would like to thank the membership for allowing me the opportunity to serve as your president this past year. It has been a tremendous growing opportunity for me. I believe that we, as a board of directors, have made a positive impact on fire and emergency services in Ohio. Personally, I would like to thank our office staff, Erica and Mary Pat, for the excellent service they provide and our executive director, Michelle, for her leadership and management of our day-to-day operations. In addition, I am thankful for our great board members. I appreciate their professionalism and dedication to the association. Thanks also to all the committee chairs and committee members. Committees are at the heart of the organization's success. Your work is very much appreciated as we work to move our association forward.

In closing, please remember to care for one another and try to make a difference each day in serving your communities. ♦