

April 26, 2017

TO: City Manager, Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: All Department Heads  
Connie Gaylor, Administrative Coordinator

SUBJECT: Thursday Update

The following information is provided to you as a summary of activities for the week of April 24, 2017 and as an announcement of activities in the coming weeks:

1. As a reminder, the Law and Safety, Financial Planning and Planning, Zoning and Landmarks Committees of City Council have cancelled their meetings for the month of May.
2. As a reminder, City Council is scheduled to meet in Business Session on Wednesday, May 3, at 7:00 p.m. Prior to the meeting, City Council is scheduled to hear Board and Commission Chair presentations from Kristy Felss (Parks and Recreation) 6:00 p.m.; Gary Blomberg (Board of Tax Review) 6:15 p.m.; Mary Jo Byrnes (Board of Zoning Appeals) 6:30 p.m.; and Christine Genovese (Arts Commission) 6:45 p.m.
3. At 9:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 22, the fire department was dispatched to a structure fire at 9737 Bunker Hill Lane. A passerby observed a fire through the window of the condominium. Upon arrival, the fire crew found the kitchen on fire and quickly extinguished the flames. No residents were home at the time of the fire. Damage to the kitchen was extensive and the unit sustained heavy smoke damage on all floors. Smoke extended to adjacent units but no extension of the fire occurred. The unfortunate situation in the incident involved the death of two dogs and one cat. Four other cats were resuscitated by the fire crews and were recovering at the vet hospital. The fire is under investigation by the Hamilton County Fire Investigation Unit. Units from Blue Ash, Sycamore Township, Deer Park-Silverton, and Madeira-Indian Hill assisted with the fire.
4. On Monday, 425 senior students participated in Sycamore High School's Senior Service Day, volunteering and giving back to their community. The City provided volunteer opportunities for approximately 65 students to pick up branches and litter on the grounds of Weller, Pioneer, Dulle, Swaim and Montgomery Parks, including City Hall, as well as to bag and tag tree seedlings for Arbor Day distribution in conjunction with the Beautification and Tree Commission. The City is grateful for the efforts of the Sycamore High School Senior Service Day project volunteers, and for supporting our partnership with the Sycamore School District.
5. On Monday afternoon, Wayne Davis and Matt Davis from DSD Advisors attended the Hamilton County Transportation Improvement District (TID) meeting at the County Administration Building. The TID Board heard from the City of Cincinnati (Western Hills Viaduct), Deer Park (Blue Ash Road) and from Wayne regarding plans to submit applications for \$250,000 in funding for these three projects. We are in the final stages of completing the application for the TID funding, and plan to have the application submitted to the County by May 1, although the application is not due until the end of the month.

6. On Tuesday morning, Tracy Roblero presented on housing trends and the Annual Housing Report to the realtors at the Montgomery Sibcy Cline office. There were approximately 35 realtors in attendance who provided valuable feedback that will be shared with Planning Commission and City Council to create a housing strategy as called for as part of the 2016 – 2021 Strategic Plan. Tracy also gave the group an update on economic development projects within the City, including the Gateway Redevelopment Area, Twin Lakes, Orchard Trail and the Vintage Club.
7. On Tuesday afternoon, Katie Smiddy attended the Greater Cincinnati Finance Officers' Association meeting which took place in Kenwood. The group was hosted by Hamilton County Heroin Task Force Commander Lieutenant Tom Fallon. Mr. Fallon spoke about the establishment of the task force and their purpose of encouraging and promoting cooperation and coordination between the agencies of Hamilton County engaged in the investigation of heroin offenses.
8. On Tuesday afternoon, Wayne Davis, Katie Smiddy and Terry Donnellon met to review a follow-up proposal form the City for the financing of the Gateway Redevelopment Area (GRA). The meeting included a comprehensive review of the Gateway Partners proforma and will result in a follow-up meeting with Gateway Partners in the next week.
9. On Tuesday evening, the Board of Zoning Appeals met to hear two requests for a variance. The first case was for a new sign for the medical office building at 10615 Montgomery Road. After deliberation, the Board of Zoning Appeals approved a variance to allow for the sign to be 6.5 feet in height and have an illuminated side bar, which is like other TriHealth signs along Montgomery Road. The Board denied the request to allow for the sign to have non-opaque panels. The other variance request for side yard setback variances for a new home on Cooper Road was approved.
10. On Wednesday morning, the Health Care Benefits Committee (James Martin, Patrick Morgan, Julie Prickett, Mike Rogers, Katie Smiddy, Sharon Savitt and Julie Tople) met to hear a presentation from Brendan Nugent, a representative from the Jefferson Health Plan, to learn more about how this self-funded group health insurance consortium works.
11. On Wednesday afternoon, the finance staff (Cindy Abner, Sharon Savitt, Robbin Mueller, and Taryn Radford) attended a Creative Microsystems Incorporated (CMI) demo on the Authority Tax product. As part of Goal 5 in the City's Strategic Plan, the finance task team is preparing to review and evaluate potential software upgrades to our current system.
12. On Wednesday, Wayne Davis was in Columbus with Matt Davis of DSD Advisors and his fellow OCMA Board Members, to meet with multiple State Legislators to discuss municipal matters ranging from medical marijuana to prevailing wage legislation. On the day's calendar were meetings with staff from the Ohio Municipal League, Speaker of the House Cliff Rosenberger, Representatives Steve Huffman and Jeff Rezabek, Senators Matt Huffman and Steve Wilson, Senate President Larry Obhof and Senator Joe Uecker.
13. On Wednesday, public works staff conducted a pre-construction meeting for the Public Works Building Addition and Renovation Project. Perkins/Carmack was recently awarded the project and anticipate beginning construction on Monday, May 1. The project is scheduled for completion November 3, 2017.
14. On Wednesday, Public Works staff conducted a pre-construction meeting for the 2017 Street Resurfacing Program. John R. Jurgensen was recently awarded the contract which includes asphalt resurfacing on all or portions of Main Street, Mitchell Farm Lane, Deerfield Road and Cornell Road. The project is anticipated to begin in May with a scheduled completion date of August 11, 2017.

15. Brian Riblet returned to the office on Wednesday after attending the American Public Works Association (APWA) North American Snow Conference in Des Moines, Iowa where he accepted the "Excellence in Snow and Ice Control Award" on behalf of the City. Below you will see Brian with President Ron Calkins, president of APWA.



16. As a follow-up to the previous item, Local 12's Scott Dimmich interviewed Brian Riblet last week about the Public Works Department winning the American Public Works Excellence in Snow and Ice Control Award. Following is the link to the story. <http://local12.com/weather/weather-articles/montgomery-wins-national-award-for-snow-and-ice-removal>.
17. On Wednesday, 58 individuals attended the 2017 Volunteer Recognition Dinner. Guests included: Board and Commission members, staff liaisons, event and project volunteers, Mayor Chris Dobrozsi, City Council members: Michael Cappel, Gerri Harbison, Craig Margolis, Lynda Roesch, Ken Suer, Laith Alfaqih and City Manager, Wayne Davis. This annual event emphasizes the City's appreciation of our many selfless volunteers and their service and commitment to the City of Montgomery.
18. On Thursday morning, Tracey Roblero and Katie Smiddy will attend the 2017 Frost, Brown, Todd Labor and Employment law seminar in West Chester. The conference focused on understanding employment issues in a constantly changing economy. The seminar included topics on employment based immigration, trending topics and employment law, common wage/hour mistakes and FLSA updates and how to create and implement an effective supervisor training program.
19. On Thursday, Connie Gaylor will attend a seminar conducted by Mark Weaver on Ohio Public Records Law held at the Symmes Township Safety Center. This seminar will cover topics such as Ohio's Public Records/Sunshine Laws, privacy laws and best practices for employees at all levels of municipal government.
20. Public Works staff continue their shared service efforts with Blue Ash this week as we are providing "One-Arm" mowing for identified areas within Blue Ash and in turn they will be providing various street sweeping tasks for the City of Montgomery.
21. Public Works staff have been revitalizing all the baseball fields within our City parks to have them in pristine condition for all our users throughout the spring and summer months.
22. The annual Spring Plant Swap is scheduled for this Saturday from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the City Hall parking lot. This semi-annual event is sponsored by the Beautification and Tree Commission and is a great opportunity to swap plants and engage with other garden enthusiasts.

23. The application for the Montgomery Citizens' Leadership Academy Class of 2018 is online, <https://www.montgomeryohio.org/mcla-application/>. We currently have four applications! Community and Information Services staff is preparing an MCLA recruitment letter for next week. If you have any names and contact information for those you would like to see participate in MCLA 2018, please share that information with Faith Lynch.

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

C: Wayne Davis, City Manager  
Department Heads  
Terry Donnellon, Law Director