

March 23, 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 March 20, 2017 and as an announcement of activities in the coming weeks:

1. On Monday, the Civil Service Commission met to elect officers and discuss upcoming business for 2017. Staff members in attendance included Chief Simpson, Chief Wright, Assistant Chief Shapiro and Human Resources Manager Julie Prickett.
2. On Monday, members of the Strategic Plan Goal One Team (Wayne Davis, Kevin Gruber, Greg Harris, Julie Prickett, Brian Riblet and Matthew Vanderhorst) met to review progress on Goal One implementation steps and to determine how to proceed with completing upcoming tasks with pending due dates. Thank you to Matthew for assimilating service inventory data and for keeping our team on track.
3. On Monday morning, John Crowell and Katie Smiddy attended the quarterly Miami Valley Risk Management Association (MVRMA) board meeting. The members reviewed the Risk Management and Finance Committee Reports and listened to an insurance market update provided by Seth Cole from Alliant Insurance. The next regularly scheduled quarterly board meeting is scheduled for June 19, 2017.
4. On Tuesday afternoon, Terry Donnellon, Wayne Davis, Katie Smiddy, Brian Seedhouse, of Fifth Third Securities and Brenda Wehmer, from Dinsmore met with representatives from Brandicorp and Traditions to discuss the Gateway Redevelopment Area (GRA). The team discussed several key areas including the interchange modification, project design finances and cost estimates for the public improvements. The team discussed important issues and upcoming deadlines to keep the project moving forward.
5. Tracy Roblero and Gary Heitkamp met with representatives from Twin Lakes on Wednesday afternoon to discuss some questions they had in regards to the proposed villa homes just south of the safety center. Twin Lakes would like to apply to the Planning Commission for a Final Development Site plan in April.
6. This link will take you to Local 12 meteorologist Scott Dimmich's story about the stormwater runoff system at Public Works. Mr. Dimmich interviewed Gary Heitkamp on March 12 for this story. Thanks to Gary for his preparation and willingness to participate in this story. <http://local12.com/weather/weather-articles/city-of-montgomery-converting-stormwater-into-taxpayer-savings>

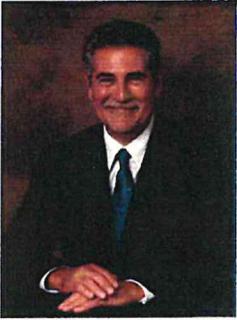
7. The fire department paramedics participated in Advance Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) testing this week. Each medic completed an eight hour on-line instructional class which concluded with practical examination by an instructor. The practical exam includes the demonstration of handling a cardiac arrest and performing the necessary steps such as proper cardiac defibrillation, administering the proper drugs and doses, as well as performing CPR. The ACLS certification is required by the Academy of Medicine of Cincinnati and is effective for two years. Most of the expense is covered by an Ohio Division of EMS grant in the amount of \$2,750 that the department was successful in securing earlier in the year.
8. Thursday morning, Jordan Hall, Patrick Morgan, Mike Nelson, Julie Prickett, Ben Shapiro and Paul Wright met for a labor-management meeting. The meeting was requested by the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) to discuss a variety of topics regarding the fire department.
9. The City will be awarded the Frank F. Ferris Planning Award by the Hamilton County Planning Partnership on Friday afternoon at their annual luncheon. The City is being honored for the work to date on the Gateway Redevelopment Area.
10. Please see the attached 'Thank You' notes received by Faith Lynch from Doug Taylor, Denny Reidmiller and Robert Miller, all 2017 Montgomery Citizen Leadership Academy (MCLA) graduates, in recognition of her efforts in this year's MCLA program.
11. The Montgomery Citizens' Leadership Academy (MCLA) Alumni have been invited to attend an upcoming MCLA 2.0 session on Wednesday, March 29. This conversation will concentrate on commercial development along the Montgomery Road Commercial Corridor and will be led by Community Development Director Tracy Roblero, with special guest speaker Terry Donnellon. This MCLA 2.0 session will be held at Montgomery Inn, and the meal will be available at 5:45 p.m. with the presentation starting at 6:00 p.m. Please let Faith Lynch know if you plan to attend. Seats are going fast. As of March 21, 63 Alumni, City Council members and staff have reserved their seats.
12. The Neighborhood Leaders Forum will be held on Tuesday, May 9, starting at 7:00 p.m. at Terwilliger Lodge. The Montgomery Police Department will address recent traffic improvements, as well as traffic related challenges that face Montgomery now and into the future. Staff will also present recent crime trends in the Montgomery area and reveal some of the latest crime prevention tips. A representative from the Public Works Department will address recent traffic flow issues and the new traffic management system. Invitations will be sent on March 24. All MCLA alumni, neighborhood leaders and those who have attended in the past will be invited. Please let Faith Lynch know if you would like to attend.
13. 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



RIEDMILLER
& Associates



MARCH 18.2017

FAITH.

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR INVITING WENDY AND
I TO THE MCLA EVENT. AND YES, YOUR
EFFORTS IN MAKING MONTGOMERY FOOD
SHARE A REAL SUCCESS!!!

R. WELL,

DENNY

Robert V. Miller
4 Hickory Hollow
Cincinnati OH 45241-3241
513-404-5881
robertvmiller@gmail.com
Rotary Club of Northeast Cincinnati

March 20, 2017

The Honorable Chris Dobrozsi
Mayor of Montgomery
Montgomery City Hall
10101 Montgomery Road
Montgomery OH 45242

RE: **MCLA 2017**

Dear Chris:

A hardy "thank you" to you, other members of Council, former Mayors, the City Manager, and the entire staff of the City of Montgomery for MCLA 2017.

What I experienced over the 10 sessions was far better than anything I could have envisioned. In fact, you and all of the City officials and staff were simply incredible. I was astonished at the planning that went into MCLA, the work involved in making it happen, the coordination between agencies (both inside and outside of government), the staff time, and the financial commitment associated with this endeavor. You and your team could write the definitive book on how to do this right!

I have never spent \$99 and received so much! I am now an enthusiastic endorser of this program and will strongly recommend it to anyone who lives in or is associated with the City of Montgomery. The learning was fantastic, the relationship building was incredible, and the warmth shown by all associated with the City of Montgomery was beyond all expectations.

Thank you all for the generosity of your time, your talents, your expertise, and your good will. Please express my appreciation to ALL who were involved in MCLA 2017. Montgomery is truly a special place with special people!

All the best,



Robert V. Miller
MCLA Class of 2017

cc: Council Members Cappel, Harbison, Margolis, Suer; City Manager Wayne Davis; Former Mayor Ray Kingsbury; Ms. Faith Lynch, and Mr. Matthew Vanderhorst

*Dear Faith,
You are the "engine" that
makes this program so successful!
Thank you for your hard work and
dedication to the City of
Montgomery!
Robt*

HI FAITH,

I'VE WRITTEN + SCRATCHED OUT THOUGHTS FOR THIS NOTE SO MANY TIMES, THAT IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR ME TO SHAVE AGAIN.

I JUST COULDN'T SEEM TO PUT TOGETHER THE MOST SUITABLE COMBINATION OF WORDS THAT BEST DESCRIBED HOW THANKFUL I AM FOR ALL YOU DO FOR MCLA AND HOW GRATEFUL I AM FOR HAVING BEEN INCLUDED.

I THOUGHT ABOUT SAYING SOMETHING LIKE "YOU ARE THE BACKBONE OF MCLA + IT COULDN'T POSSIBLY BE THE SUCCESS IT IS WITHOUT YOUR INPUT."

EVEN THOUGH THAT MAY BE TRUE, IT JUST DIDN'T SOUND LIKE SOMETHING I'D SAY.

SO, I THINK I'M JUST GOING TO GIVE UP ON THIS THING AND GO WITH A BORING, BUT HEARTFELT ... THANKS!

DOUG

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

15,000 people

15,000 people is how many customers Madtree Brewery had on opening day. When the brewery opened about a month ago in Oakley, Madison Road was lined with traffic, the sidewalks were packed and the other bars and restaurants were full with spillover crowds.

Wouldn't that scene have been great for Montgomery? We could've had an influx of college students and young professionals in our town. The people of the future to revitalize Montgomery.

A few years ago city council was looking for ideas for the gateway to town. Some one I know called and suggested a possible brewery opening on the old Williams Ford property. Just imagine that old glass building lite up for business with 15,000 people. The excitement would have been electrifying. It would have been Bastille Day times 10.

But wait, about 10 years into the largest parking lot in Hamilton County, we are going to be the proud owners of upscale condos, a boutique hotel and some retail shops. I know I can't wait. One of the councilman said have patience. I think that's a great name for the area, Patience Park. I'll start the collection for a sign, "Welcome to Patience Park."

Let's summarize, now we will have upscale condos on one end of town, assisted living on the other end, followed by a hospital and cemetery. In Montgomery we got you covered.

John Dawson
Montgomery

Exposure: Montgomery! Photo competition celebrates 30th year

Exposure: Montgomery!, the area's longest-running amateur photo competition and awards presentation – now in its 30th year – takes place at 1 p.m. Sunday, April 9, at the historic Universalist Church, on the corner of Montgomery and Remington roads.

The competition is presented by the Montgomery Arts Commission and is open to beginners and serious amateurs alike.

This year, the competition features three prominent judges with varied and impressive backgrounds in photography, art, and photojournalism.

The judges are Emily Bauman, assistant curator of photography for the Cincinnati Art Museum; David Rosenthal, Northern Kentucky University professor and executive director of Prairie Inc., and Liz Dufour, visual journalist for the Cincinnati Enquirer.

"Having three judges of this caliber who bring such differing perspectives makes this competition a special opportunity for photographers of all ages and levels of ability," Christine Genovese, chair of the Montgomery Arts Commission, said. "Their participation speaks to the prestige of the competition in Montgomery and surrounding communities, and offers entrants an exceptionally high level of professional scrutiny of their work."

Judging is based on photos which capture technical brilliance, originality, or a unique point of view, and are chosen from both adult and student (high school or below) categories. Up to 10 winners in each category will be awarded \$100 each, and winning photos will be publically displayed at a location in the area yet to be determined.

In addition to the exhibit and awards presentation April 9, the public is invited to a preview reception from 2-4 p.m. Saturday, April 8, at the Universalist Church.

Photographers may submit up to three photos through March 29. Entry details, including deadlines and instructions for submitting photos, along with information on how to mount photos for display, can be found on the City's website, montgomeryohio.org.

The Montgomery Arts Commission is a group of citizen volunteers who support and foster an appreciation of the visual and performing arts by producing community-wide arts events offered year-round for all ages – most of which are free of charge.

For additional information, call 513-891-2424.

Faith Lynch, City of Montgomery

Column: Does Montgomery have a traffic problem brewing?

11:13 a.m. ET March 21, 2017



Montgomery is in the midst of some big developments. These will be game changers for the city in terms of land use, amount of people, traveling to and from Montgomery, tax revenue and especially traffic.

I have watching these projects in the development phase and am very concerned about the design. It does not improve the traffic flow up and down Montgomery Road. Yes, there is the round-about coming, at this point not a game changer. For the actual amount of cars that will be traveling through Montgomery.

The big worry is that cars that already stack up at the Montgomery-Cooper Road intersection will get a lot worse. If we do not have some ways to divert some of the cars in either a parallel street or enter Cooper Road in some other intersection other than Montgomery-Cooper (the heart of downtown Montgomery).

I talked to the city manager a year ago to voice my concern and talked to the traffic engineer at the open houses for the Gateway District project (former Ford/Chevy project). Best shot at future estimates of traffic are

the real time cameras on the lights to manage traffic, otherwise no improvement in the traffic. Anyone who has traveled Montgomery Road in rush hour or when the school buses are moving knows that Montgomery has big time traffic backups. Add another 1,500 cars (just for the Gateway District) let alone all the other projects and we have, a traffic nightmare. The tentative plans for the southern end of the city also show another traffic light.

I am learning that one-person discussions get nowhere. I am treated like a lost stepchild. I also am on planning commission, but this is too late to ask to improve the traffic. We generally have very little input at this point because all the site plans and designs are done. If we want big changes the time to ask city council is now. Planning commission is supposed to have the first look at plans. However the Montgomery Bulletin shows the mayor has already approved the Twin Lakes North subdivision, without planning commission even seeing the plans. So as you see assuming that planning commission can have major impact is not correct.

On social media the last couple of weeks the Montgomery buzz has been the sadness to see the "woods" torn down (soon to be the Twin Lakes Memory Care Unit and ??). Several years ago, I was part of the group that got the issue on the ballot to make the area north of First Financial into a park. We lost, but now people are complaining that nothing was done. Same with the traffic flow. No letters to the mayor means you are fine with increased traffic. You decide.

I have done all that I can do as an individual to affect traffic changes. Now it is your turn. If you agree with my assessment then email Mayor Dobrozsi with your concerns or address city council now as a non-agenda item.

Barbara White is a resident of Montgomery and a member of the Montgomery Planning Commission.