

CONNECTIONS

Dayton residents' resource for news and information www.daytonohio.gov

Neighborhoods on the Rebound: Engaged communities



What can a neighborhood do to successfully participate in its own well-being and future? How can a city government best support neighborhoods in their efforts to solve problems and to thrive? The answers and possibilities are many and can vary from one community to another.

The City of Dayton is working to support neighborhoods in building the community pride, strong relationships, and quality of life required to grow. City programs designed to support healthy, self-sustaining communities are undergoing transformation and strengthening, and Dayton residents and neighborhood organizations are encouraged to participate in the transformation.

The establishment of five Priority Land Use Boards in 2014 provided a new structure for community development and planning. But the content and quality of collaboration between City government, residents, businesses and other stakeholders are also essential to building engaged and thriving neighborhoods.

To help develop a comprehensive new community engagement program, staff members of the Department of Planning and



Community Development conducted outreach to Dayton neighborhoods and community leaders. In addition to their outreach efforts, they surveyed community engagement practices in comparable and regional cities. This research involved in-person communication, online work and review of scholarly articles.

The key findings are:

1. Dayton has an advantage. The City of Dayton has staff members dedicated to community engagement and neighborhood relations. Comparable cities have eliminated programs or dramatically reduced or eliminated staff. In fact, employees of other cities indicated they look to Dayton as a community engagement model.

2. The City should help "create spaces." Dayton residents and best practices observed in other communities point to the success of opportunities to gather, collaborate and build community pride. These opportunities don't have to occur in buildings or permanent meeting spaces. Special events, outdoor activities and opportunities to get acquainted with fellow residents from across the street or across town can make a big difference

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The Longest Table Dayton brought together hundreds of local residents to break bread and barriers.

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Want to get emailed updates on snow removal and winter driving? Go to daytonohio.gov/winter.



Airport terminal work begins



Dayton International Airport's terminal modernization project began in October, with construction expected to last approximately 18 months.

A series of updates will renovate multiple sections of the terminal, including the pre-security area (from the airline ticket counters to baggage claim), the outside front drive and front entrances. The front wall of the terminal will be transformed fully to glass and steel, to bring in natural light, with a new glass canopy covering the walk to the parking garage. LED lighting, illuminated bollards, and a new front curb will improve accessibility and safety at the main terminal entrances.

"This project will completely change the front of the terminal," said Terry Slaybaugh, Dayton International Airport director. "Completing the updates in phases will ensure we provide the same excellent level of customer service to our passengers. We will continue our focus on sustainability with eco-conscious design and materials."

Additional terminal updates include new men's, women's and family restrooms featuring glass tile and water-efficient utilities, new HVAC systems, and terrazzo tile flooring. Car rental counters will be moved to a new, dedicated space at the main parking garage, and a new USO location will better serve military passengers.

Passengers and visitors will be protected from potential construction disturbance by a dust wall installed around the pre-security coffee bar and the directly adjacent baggage claim carousel. The remaining three baggage claim carousels will remain in full use throughout the renovation.

For more information about Dayton International Airport, visit flydayton.com.



Easy to and through.



City Commission

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Customer Services

Service Requests

937-333-4800

Download/use the Dayton Delivers app

Water/Utility Billing

937-333-3550

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Building Permits/Inspection

937-333-3883

Stay Connected

DaytonOhio.gov

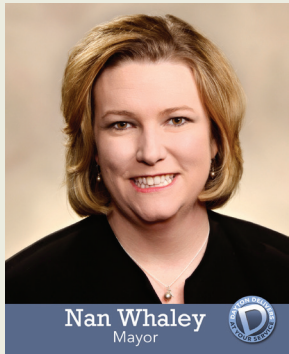
FlyDayton.com

DaytonConventionCenter.com

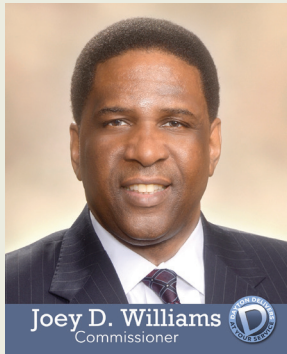
DaytonWater.org



Happy New Year from your City Commission



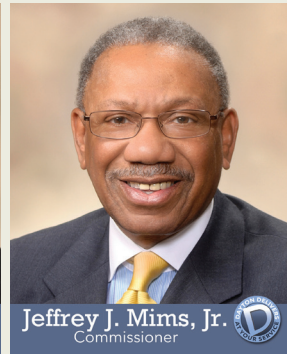
Nan Whaley
Mayor



Joey D. Williams
Commissioner



Matt Joseph
Commissioner



Jeffrey J. Mims, Jr.
Commissioner



Chris Shaw
Commissioner

The Dayton City Commission would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family the very best for 2018, with appreciation for all that Dayton residents contributed in 2017.



Over the past year, we began making good on the promises made to voters following the passages of Issue 9 in November of 2016. Thanks to your support, the City was able to commit \$8.5 million to service enhancements and new investments. This includes: vacant lot and boulevard mowing, residential street resurfacing, parks improvements, and Preschool Promise funding. We were also able to commit \$2.5 million to help ensure we are able to maintain essential public safety services.

Following are a few highlights of our accomplishments in 2017.

Street Resurfacing: In 2016, 6 out of 10 Dayton residents were unhappy with the condition of Dayton's streets. We made a commitment to voters that all



residential roads would be in good condition by the completion of 8 years. To date we have paved 129 streets and 45 alleys.



Parks: This year, there were major upgrades to Mallory Park and Walnut Hills Park, with renovated tennis and volleyball courts, new benches and other improvements. Dayton View, Welcome, and Washington Park will see upgrades in 2018.



Mowing: As part of the Issue 9 pledge, the City committed to mowing all identified vacant lots every 30 days during the mowing season. Due to weather, we were able to complete 5 ½ mowing cycles of 6,500 lots during the 2017 mowing season.

Preschool Promise: All families joining the Preschool Promise and not already receiving free preschool are eligible for tuition assistance. Assistance is based on family income, family size and the quality rating of the program chosen. Funding is directed to tuition assistance for Dayton families and to quality improvement.

To make it easy for residents to keep track of spending and improvements in neighborhoods, the City has developed a set of online dashboards that are updated in real time. Go to daytonohio.gov/yourdollarsyourneighborhood to use the dashboards.

Online dashboard tracks neighborhood improvements

A new online dashboard allows taxpayers to monitor investment in neighborhoods and community services pledged by the City of Dayton during the 2016 earned income tax campaign (Issue 9).

The Your Dollars, Your Neighborhood dashboard (at daytonohio.gov/yourdollarsyourneighborhood) displays updated City spending and completed service delivery in five reporting areas: residential street resurfacing, vacant lot mowing, park improvements, police department staffing, and the Preschool Promise program.

Dashboard users can find information in the reporting areas using maps, performance data and financial totals. Data can be filtered by address or by clicking inside charts or graphs. City spending data is updated on a realtime basis. A list

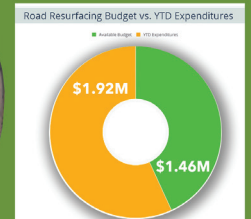
of frequently asked questions is included, to assist you in finding desired information.

For example, in the mowing area, dashboard users can view the number and locations of vacant lots mowed by the City of Dayton during each of the six mowing cycles completed yearly. The dashboard shows mowing activity at precise street addresses, as well as totals for neighborhoods and funds spent to complete the activities.

Also, the Preschool Promise area displays the star (quality) ratings of participating preschools throughout the city, in addition to program expenditures and other essential



YOUR DOLLARS, YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD



information.

The 0.25 percent earned income tax approved by Dayton voters on November 8, 2016, is estimated to generate \$11 million annually over an eight-year period.

How does Dayton prioritize snow removal?

Keeping traffic moving safely during winter weather is a top priority for the City of Dayton. City crews respond to snow and ice events with every resource available. Snow removal and street treatment occur according to the following prioritization:

1. Highways, arterials, bridges, RTA routes, and streets bordering Dayton public schools and hospitals: When snow events start, snowplow drivers apply deicer materials and plow as necessary to maintain drivable roadways. Interstate 75, State Route 35 and State Route 4 within the Dayton city limits will be plowed and deicer materials applied to maintain one clear lane at a minimum. **Downtown**

(Central Business District): Snowplow drivers apply several applications of salt treated with a deicer chemical mix. When this process is not effective, snow will be plowed to the middle of select streets and loaded in dump trucks for removal. All other streets in the CBD will be plowed to the curbs.

2. Hills and Collectors: Once first priority roadways have been treated for safe travel, snowplow drivers will transition to second priority roadways. (Collectors are streets that direct traffic from residential streets to major streets.)

3. Residential Streets: These streets are plowed and treated with salt when snow accumulation

totals are 4 inches or more. If the weather forecast indicates additional snow accumulations, plowing and salt applications will be revised.

Sign up for winter alerts: To receive emailed alerts on snow removal and winter street conditions, go to daytonohio.gov/winter.



They aim to accelerate

Entrepreneurs competing for an opportunity to access valuable business development resources (consulting, marketing and more) pitched ideas to the Accelerate Dayton committee on Dec. 13. Accelerate Dayton was launched by Commissioners Joey D. Williams and Jeffrey J. Mims as a means of supporting and encouraging neighborhood-based businesses. The winning entrepreneurs will be announced in January. For more information, go to daytonohio.gov/acceleratedayton. (Four of the seven competitors are shown here.)



Liane Wagner



Michael Bisig



Zantaye Richardson



Emily and Adam Demeter

EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT

EITC  Put extra cash in your pocket!

The earned income credit (EITC or EIC) is a refundable tax credit for low- to moderate-income working individuals and couples, particularly those with children. **You may qualify (SEE GUIDELINES BELOW)!**



EITC up to \$6,318

If you lived with **three or more children** in 2017 and your family **earned a max of \$48,340 (or a max of \$53,930 for married workers)**, then you can get up to **\$6,318**.



EITC up to \$5,616

If you lived with **two children** in 2017 and your family **earned a max of \$45,007 (or a max of \$50,597 for married workers)**, then you can get up to **\$5,616**.



EITC up to \$3,400

If you lived with **one child** in 2017 and your family **earned a max of \$39,617 (or a max of \$45,207 for married workers)**, then you can get up to **\$3,400**.



EITC up to \$510

If you had **no children** living with you in 2017 and you **earned a max of \$15,010 (or a max of \$20,600 for married workers)**, and you were between the ages 25 and 64, you can get up to **\$510**.



Put extra cash in your pocket

Dayton-area workers – did you know you may qualify for hundreds or even thousands of dollars in federal tax credits, increasing your tax refund? The earned income tax credit and child tax credit can put extra dollars in your pocket. And, you can have your tax return done by trained volunteers for free.

Visit daytonohio.gov/eitc for 14 area locations during tax season, including Super Refund Saturday on February 3 and Empowerment Saturday on March 10.

Call 225-3000 for more information and an appointment.

For more information: Call United Way of the Greater Dayton Area's HelpLink at 913-2000

Officer outreach: Public safety basics for new arrivals

Imagine packing your belongings into a backpack, crossing an ocean, and starting over in a new country where you don't speak the language, don't have a job and are not familiar with customs and culture. That's the reality for many refugees and immigrants who settle in Dayton.

Officer Dan Mamula makes sure the Dayton Police Department does its part to help make the transition to America, and Dayton in particular, a little easier and safer. Twice a year, Officer Mamula teaches 'Interacting with the Police' to refugees and immigrants in the English as a Second Language program at St. John's Church on East Third Street in downtown Dayton.

"For many of these students, this class will be the first contact with a police officer here in the U.S.," Officer Mamula said, "and first impressions are important, especially if it's a good first impression."

The class covers how and when to contact police, what information an officer will likely need in the event of a crime, and what a driver should do if pulled over by police. Officer Mamula says the class provides

a perfect time to start building a relationship and trust between the refugee and immigrant community and the police. Many times, there is a fear of police or people in uniform in these communities that stems from bad experiences, corrupt practices, or brutal wars in their home countries.

Knowing this, Officer Mamula offers the following advice to fellow officers: "Be patient, smile, and treat the refugee or immigrant with the same compassion you would want your loved one or family member to be treated if they were in the same situation."

The class is interpreted in a different language (Spanish, Arabic, Swahili, and Kinyarwanda) each day of the week, with one day in English.

One of the African language interpreters helping with the class is Rwandan refugee Ramadhan Ndayisaba, who Officer Mamula met years ago when working in the West Patrol Operations Division.



During that time, Mamula formed relationships with the immigrant community, including Ramadhan's family, in the Neal Avenue area. Fast forward to the present, Ramadhan is not only a City of Dayton employee, but also recently passed the Civil Service test to begin the process of becoming a Dayton police officer.

"Take the time to get to know the people, culture, and even the history and situation the refugees are coming from," Mamula suggests. "This will not only help the refugee or immigrant, but will also help law enforcement and the overall community as well."

Neighborhoods on the Rebound from page 1

(neighborhood festivals, movie nights, block parties, sister neighborhoods, and collaborative events such as The Longest Table Dayton are examples).

3. Residents clearly indicated that attending meetings is no longer a desirable way to conduct business ("no meetings for the sake of meetings").

In addition, research and community input indicate that high-capacity neighborhoods (those that are able to bring about meaningful and lasting change) tend to have

these attributes:

- Long-time, active involvement (active neighborhoods breed active neighbors);
- Ability to organize;
- Willingness to engage other community stakeholders;
- Actively interested in engaging with local government.

Throughout 2018, the City's community engagement program and its associated activities will undergo further development and refinement. Residents

and organizations including neighborhood associations, churches, educational institutions, businesses and others are encouraged to participate. Look for announcements of opportunities and events in this publication, at daytonohio.gov and in the City's social media channels (@cityofdayton, facebook.com/cityofdayton).

For more information and to learn about participation opportunities, email cityhall@daytonohio.gov or call Verletta Jackson at 937-333-3288.

FYI: Fire Chief Jeffrey Payne

Did you know Dayton Fire Director and Chief Jeffrey L. Payne also leads Ohio Task Force 1 (OH-TF1), one of the nation's top urban search and rescue teams?

OH-TF1 is the group of first responders, medical and rescue personnel that is deployed across the country following major hurricanes, tornadoes and other disasters. This year, OH-TF1 was deployed to save lives and help communities recover following Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria.

When an activation call comes in to the task force's program manager, Payne is asked to authorize a response (to accept the invitation, when feasible) within one hour. The task force then has four hours to assemble a 45- or 80-person team, load 50+ tons of equipment into vehicles, and depart to the incident location. There are eight OH-TF1 members who are Dayton Fire Department personnel.



While there are other Ohio search and rescue that focus on wilderness, water or urban area searches, OH-TF1 is the only team that can work in all three environments. Additionally, OH-TF1 is the only civilian-based search and rescue team that can effectively work in environments impacted by hazardous materials or weapons of mass destruction for

extended periods of time.

"It is an honor to serve people who are in crisis and in need of help that we can provide. Our members tackle the job with the same commitment that they demonstrate in their home communities, and we appreciate the support that our communities give us," Payne said.

Keep the home fires burning...safely

For most of us, the winter season represents a time for family togetherness and indoor activities. What few of us consider is that the winter season is a time when there is an increased risk of home fires. The Dayton Fire Department would like to take the opportunity to share some winter safety statistics and tips with residents.

Did you know that cooking is the leading cause of all winter home fires and fire injuries? Following the steps below will help keep your family safe!

- Stand by your pan—if you leave the kitchen, turn the burner off.
- Watch what you are cooking—fires start when the heat is too high. If you see any smoke or grease starts to boil, turn the burner off.

- Turn pot handles toward the back of the stove—then no one can bump them or pull them over.

- Keep a pan lid or baking sheet nearby—use it to cover the pan and put out a fire, if needed.

Heating equipment is involved in one in every six reported home fires and one in every five home fire deaths.

- Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents every year.

- Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container and keep it at least 10 ft. from your home or nearby buildings.

- Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet from any heat sources like fireplaces, wood stoves and

space heaters.

- Only plug one heat-producing appliance (such as a space heater) into an outlet at a time.

- Install smoke and carbon monoxide alarms and test them monthly.

By following these tips, you can greatly reduce the risk of fire at home and enjoy a safe winter season. If you are in need of a smoke or carbon monoxide alarm, the Dayton Fire Department provides them free of charge to Dayton residents (while supplies last). For details, or to request an alarm, please call 937-333-4500 or visit daytonohio.fire.com.



**News for
City of Dayton
Residents
Inside!**

Winnings are taxable:



Did you know lottery winnings, gambling proceeds, prizes, awards and other games of chance are taxable for city of Dayton residents? All lottery and other games of chance winnings sold within the corporate boundaries of Dayton are also taxable. If

you receive a federal Form W2-G, the amount is taxed at a rate of 2.5% (winnings prior to 01/01/2017 are taxed at a rate of 2.25%). Federal Schedule A deductions do not offset winnings. In addition, you are required to pay estimated taxes if winnings exceed \$8,000. For more information, call 937-333-3500.



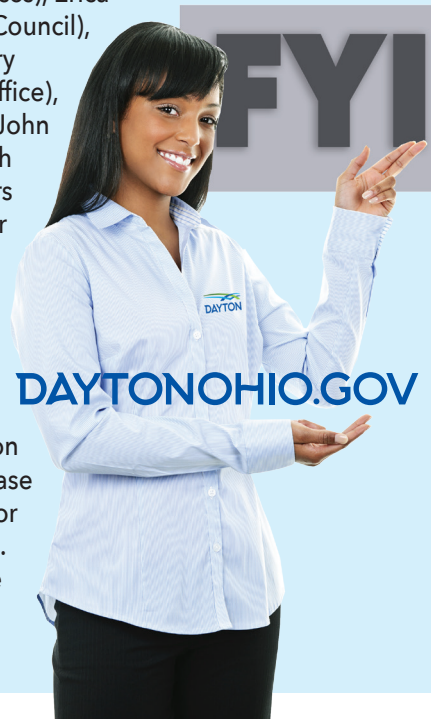
Employees honored:

Ten City of Dayton employees have received the annual Cline Award recognizing excellence in public service. The

award is named for the late community volunteer and civic leader Joseph T. Cline and is presented in cooperation with The Dayton Foundation. The honorees are: Pamela Allen (Recreation & Youth Services), Erica Fields (Human Relations Council), Bridget Findley (Law), Kery Gray (City Commission Office), David Lawrence (Water), John Parker (Recreation & Youth Services), Yolanda Sanders (Aviation), Jim Shoemaker (Water), Officer Dyan Thomas (Police), and Darlene West (Police).

Help fight arson:

If you have any information regarding arson fires, please call 937-333-TIPS (8477) or go to daytonohiofire.com. Photos and videos can be uploaded to the website. Thank you!



DAYTONOHIO.GOV