

North Main: Safety is improvements focus



Sidewalk bump-outs are being installed along North Main Street to slow traffic, enhance pedestrian safety, and make space for transit pull-offs.

Anyone traveling along North Main Street in recent months has seen a variety of improvements underway along one of the region's busiest corridors.

The most visible parts of the construction work to date—replacement and repair of curbs and sidewalks—are just the beginning of a nearly total makeover to include a road diet designed to slow traffic and significantly improve safety for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians. The work follows an extensive evaluation of safety issues and road conditions.

The \$6.4 million project is funded largely by the Ohio Dept. of Transportation. In addition to remaking North Main Street in the city of Dayton from Great Miami Boulevard to the Dayton/Harrison Township border, work will continue northward in the township to the Shoup Mill/Turner Road intersection.

The year-long construction phase, launched in July, includes these

components:

- A road diet reducing the number of vehicle travel lanes to two 11-foot through lanes and an 11-foot center left-turn lane. (The northern-most stretch of the corridor—the approach to Shoup Mill/Turner Road—will retain its five-lane design).
- An 8-foot wide parking lane will be installed in selected parts of the roadway from Great Miami Boulevard to Norman Avenue.
- Improved pedestrian crossings with high visibility pavement markings and curb extensions (bump-outs) to shorten crosswalks at selected intersections.
- Increased separation between vehicle and pedestrian traffic through curb lawns, parking lanes, and marked shoulders.
- Repair or replacement of sidewalks and non-compliant curb ramps as needed.
- Bike lanes from Castlewood Avenue

to Forest Park Drive.

- Transit pull-offs for greater safety and convenience.
- Modified traffic signal phasing to improve traffic flow.

Safety enhancements along North Main Street are much-needed. The corridor is heavily used by pedestrians and has a higher than average incidence of injury and fatality crashes, including pedestrian-involved crashes. During the project's study period (2015-2017), 4% (36) of reported crashes involved pedestrians. Of the seven fatalities reported during this period, five were pedestrians. Since the study period's end, there have been frequent additional crashes involving pedestrians, including fatalities.

For more information on the North Main improvements and other infrastructure investments, go to daytonohio.gov/projectschangingdayton.



Fitness & Fun from Dayton Rec



Movie in the Pool: Shrek, Northwest Recreation Center, Feb. 6, 6 p.m. Free admission.

Aquatics: Spring Session, Northwest Recreation Center, Feb. 22-March 29 (registration opens Feb. 3); Lohrey Recreation Center,

April 15-May 10 (registration opens March 17). Inquire about fees.



Family Valentine's Dance: Feb. 7, Lohrey Recreation Center, 6-8 p.m. Free admission. Enjoy an evening of dancing, Valentine card making and delicious snacks. Show off your dance moves and have a fantastic time, perfect for kids 10 and under accompanied by a guardian.

Swerk: Join our newest fitness activity at Greater Dayton Recreation Center, 6-7 p.m., Thursdays, drop-in for \$2 or just \$3 for a monthly pass. Shake up your fitness routine with Swerk, a



high-energy workout that combines dance, cardio, and toning exercises. Designed for all fitness levels, Swerk builds strength, boosts stamina, and keeps you smiling from start to finish. Whether you're here to sweat, tone, or just have a blast, Swerk is the perfect way to let loose and burn calories.



Gem City Egg Hunt: Kettering Field Sports Complex, Saturday, April 12. Starting time and details to be announced.

For more information on events and classes, go to daytonohio.gov/rec or call 937-333-8400.

Join the Dayton Rec summer team

We're hiring for exciting seasonal positions in recreation! Dive into summer fun as a lifeguard, lead engaging activities as a summer camp counselor, or help keep our tennis courts vibrant and active. If you're passionate about outdoor recreation and working with kids, we want to hear from you! Apply now to be part of an unforgettable summer experience. Visit daytonohio.gov/rec or email rec@daytonohio.gov for more details.



Do you own a small business?

The Dayton Human Relations Council administers programs aimed at increasing competitiveness of minority-owned, woman-owned, and disadvantaged businesses. The PEP certification can help secure contracts and do business with the City of Dayton.

Are you a victim of discrimination?

HRC investigates complaints alleging discrimination in the areas of employment, public accommodations, credit transactions, and housing on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, ancestry, place of birth, age, marital status, familial status, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity. There is no cost to file a complaint.

For more information, visit daytonhrc.org or call 937-333-1403.



City Commission

937-333-3636

Mayor Jeffrey J. Mims, Jr.

Commissioners

Matt Joseph

Chris Shaw

Darryl Fairchild

Shenise Turner-Sloss

City Manager

Shelley Dickstein

937-333-3600

cityhall@daytonohio.gov

Customer Services

Service Requests

937-333-4800

Download/use the Dayton Delivers app

Water/Utility Billing

937-333-3550

PayDaytonWater.com

Building Permits/Inspection

937-333-3883

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Safety plan: Your input is wanted



The City of Dayton is creating a comprehensive Road Safety Action Plan as a key step in seeking federal Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) funding from the U.S. Dept. of Transportation.

When fully implemented, an SS4A

Plan can make a big difference in modernizing and improving local streets for all users, including drivers and passengers, commercial users, cyclists, and pedestrians.

This SS4A federal program was created by the "Bipartisan Infrastructure Law"

of 2021 and supports systematic approaches for preventing deaths and serious injuries on the nation's roadways.

Dayton's Road Safety Action Plan cannot be successful without input from those who travel Dayton's roadways. There are several ways to participate.

- Participate in the public survey at daytonohio.gov/SS4A.
- Provide input on location-specific issues through an online map at daytonohio.gov/SS4A.
- Email or call with your input: SS4ADayton@daytonohio.gov or 937-333-7233.
- Share awareness of this project with others in the community and encourage them to engage.

■ Attend public meetings (to be announced, watch daytonohio.gov and City of Dayton social media channels).

Get more information and updates daytonohio.gov/SS4A.

Public Works responds systematically to winter weather

The goal of the Department of Public Works Street Maintenance Division is to remove snow and ice from Dayton roadways as rapidly and efficiently as possible while keeping roads open and essential traffic moving.

The aim of de-icing operations is to return road surfaces to safe winter driving conditions as soon as feasible within the limitations of resources and weather conditions. With proper use of storm forecasts, personnel, equipment, and de-icing materials, the desired result can be attained, with flexibility required respond to circumstances and changing conditions during a snow or ice storm.

Snow and ice control measures are directed to achieving and maintaining

safe traffic movement on public streets within 24 hours following a storm. Dayton's 1,700 lane-miles of streets and highways are prioritized in these categories:

Priority 1 Streets: Highways and main thoroughfares, and streets bordering schools and hospitals, as well as U.S. Rt. 35 and SR 4 within the Dayton city limits. When snow events start, snowplow drivers apply de-icer materials and plow as necessary to maintain drivable roadways. **Central Business District (Downtown):** When higher snow accumulations warrant, snow may be plowed to the middle of the street where parking meters are located and loaded into dump trucks for removal.

Priority 2 Streets: Secondary arterial and collector streets. Once priority 1 roadways have been treated for safe travel, snowplow drivers will transition to these secondary and collector streets. (Collectors are streets that move traffic from less-traveled residential streets to more heavily traveled arterials.)

Priority 3 Streets: Residential streets. These streets are plowed and treated with salt when snow accumulation totals are 4 inches or more.

Follow City of Dayton social media channels or local television news broadcasts for street maintenance updates when major events are expected or underway.

Water Department: First in Ohio for PFAS lab certification

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency recently certified the City of Dayton Department of Water to test for PFAS, making Dayton the first municipal or commercial laboratory in Ohio to achieve this certification.

In 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency proposed a new PFAS regulation that introduced a maximum contaminant level what will go effect in 2029, along with a new monitoring requirement that goes into effect in 2027. Dayton's new certification complies with the new monitoring requirement.

PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substance) are a group of manmade chemicals, including PFOA and PFOS, frequently referred to as "forever chemicals." They can be found in a wide range of everyday products, such as coatings for textiles, paper products, and cookware. Across the country, the aviation/aerospace industry and military bases may have used PFAS-containing firefighting foams.

Dayton's PFAS certification benefits the community in several ways. Samples will be analyzed sooner, enabling the Department of Water to make operational adjustments more quickly. It will also help the Department save resources, as the average cost of testing one PFAS sample can range from \$600 to \$800. The Dayton



Rachel Easter, Dept. of Water Lab Technician

laboratory analyzed over 400 samples in both 2023 and 2024, with the total likely to increase once a new PFAS treatment facility is built.

Dayton can also now analyze outside samples, putting the City in a position to monetize this and continue its legacy of protecting the region's water supply.

The Department of Water shares

testing results with the Ohio EPA monthly while voluntarily and continually working with the Ohio and the U.S. EPA to address PFAS. Most importantly, the City works to prevent PFAS-contaminated groundwater from reaching monitoring and production wells in the first place.

To learn more about Dayton's PFAS response, go to daytonohio.gov/PFAS.

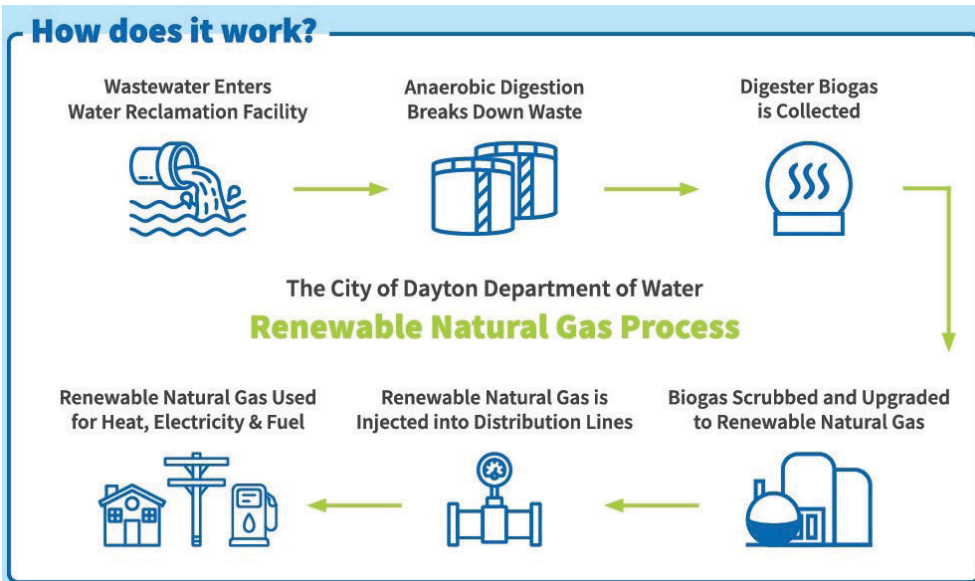
City takes steps to reduce lead hazards

Grant funding of \$2.5 million awarded to the City of Dayton Division of Community Development will be used to help local businesses be prepared to remove lead from local homes. City staff will work with contractors to train, certify, and empower businesses in lead hazard detection and abatement. Funding will also be made available to certified abatement specialists to address lead hazards in Dayton homes. This first round of funding is anticipated to support removal of lead hazards in approximately 50 homes in Dayton. During

the three-year program period, there will also be outreach to homeowners and renters on the dangers of home lead hazards. This initiative builds on ongoing efforts to address lead hazards throughout the region via the City of Dayton Department of Water and Montgomery County lead hazard programs. Participating in this opportunity allows the City of Dayton to apply for additional funds in future funding rounds. More information on training opportunities and abatement projects will be announced at daytonohio.gov/leadhazardresources.

Water project helps environment while earning revenue

How does it work?



and generate biogas (digester gas) as a by-product.

The biogas is composed of methane, carbon dioxide, and trace amounts of other gases, which were previously burned to heat the digesters and other buildings at the water reclamation campus. Excess gas was burned by a flare. With the addition of the new equipment and infrastructure, all biogas is now captured and treated by DTE for sale as natural gas. By capturing the gas instead of flaring, the renewable natural gas operation will result in a 50% reduction in carbon emissions by City of Dayton municipal facilities.

New systems now in use at the Department of Water's Guthrie Road reclamation plant will dramatically reduce the City of Dayton's carbon footprint and earn revenue through the sale of renewable natural gas.

By collaborating with a private firm, DTE Biomass Energy, the water reclamation facility is capturing processed digester gas that was previously burned, allowing production of natural gas suitable for sale. Throughout the past year, DTE installed technology and infrastructure needed

to convey the digester gas to its off-site treatment facility, where the gas is cleaned to produce pipeline-quality natural gas.

Dayton's water reclamation facility accepts millions of gallons of wastewater daily from residential, business, and industrial customers throughout Dayton and parts of Montgomery County. The water reclamation facility uses anaerobic digestion, a process that uses microbials to break down organic waste, to stabilize wastewater solids

Estimated net revenue is \$800,000 annually for the length of the 20-year contract, for a total of \$16 million (depending on market conditions).

"The City of Dayton is proud to launch a sustainability-focused innovation that will result in enhanced financial performance and reduced environmental impact," said City Manager Shelley Dickstein.

Dayton's renewable natural gas operation is one of just a handful in the country and the first in the Midwest region.

Mayor Jeffrey J. Mims, Jr., recently met with young community leaders as part of his ongoing outreach to Dayton youth. Left to right: Rashad Groves and Jarel Thomas (Thurgood Marshall High School), and Que'Mari Clemons (Dayton Leadership Academy).



#youthvoicesmatter

A Dayton success story: Thaddeus McCants



At the City of Dayton, the employee team is at the heart of what we do. We are proud to highlight the inspirational dedication of Dayton resident Thaddeus McCants, an environmental scientist at Dayton International Airport.

Moving from Michigan, Thaddeus McCants came to Ohio to attend Central State University after learning about the CSU Water Resources Management program.

"People from Central State visited my high school and sent a brochure to me afterward. I then took a trip to CSU, where I saw what the program offered and was very intrigued. There was a lot of information about different aspects of water studies and about the importance of water resource management," McCants said.

"Every year that I attended Central State (from freshman year to graduating in 2013), I learned something new every day. I was in a field that I knew would be beneficial not just to me but to any community I served."

Thaddeus also had an internship

experience with the City of Dayton in the Department of Water, working as a lab analyst and operator for the water treatment and water reclamation (wastewater treatment) plants.

"So, I would be at the water treatment plant for four hours, and for another four hours I would be at the wastewater plant," he said, recalling the full days of the internship experience.

When asked about what he took away from the internship experience and the City of Dayton, one thought came to mind.

"At the City of Dayton, the focus is on being diligent and getting the job done, but followed behind that is a very family-oriented position. They got to know who I am, and I got to know who they were, and it was a collective group effort, a team effort."

The team-oriented mindset and dedication to excellence are what caused Thaddeus to want to seek a career with the City of Dayton, even though he also served other

organizations after earning his degree.

"Every now and then I would check and see if the City of Dayton was hiring. There were some unsuccessful applications, but I would never give up, and eventually there was an opening position for an environmental scientist at the airport."

Since joining Dayton International Airport in early 2023, Thaddeus has continually learned regulations, practices, and terminology specific to aviation. He continues to be motivated by supporting the success and well-being of the Dayton community, he said.

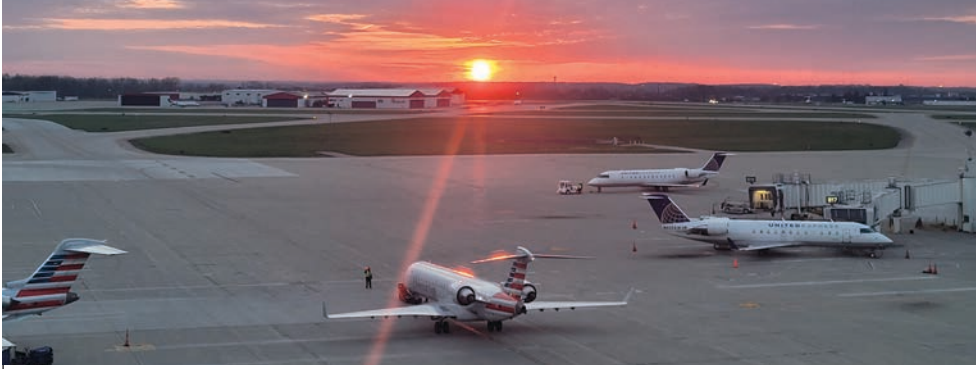
During a typical week, Thaddeus completes a number of tasks designed to ensure environmental protection and smooth airport operations. These include checking for pH neutrality in materials airlines use to spray down airplanes, before it is discharged to water reclamation. He also travels to outfalls around the airport to inspect water quality and maintains tank inventories for a number of substances stored and used. Finally, he meets with contractors or airline representatives on safety and environmental matters, including spill control.

"No matter the circumstances, I am always eager to learn and always adjusting and positioning myself to be successful. No matter what community you come from, you can position yourself to be successful."

Looking five years ahead, McCants sees himself still learning and gaining more expertise.

"Since aviation is such a large field, including environmentally, I just see myself more aware and knowledgeable in the field, wherever that takes me."

By Gabby Davis, W.S. McIntosh Intern and University of Dayton communications major.



Catching up with DAY

Your Dayton International Airport (DAY) is flying high thanks to recent groundbreakings and improvements. Here's what's new at DAY.

Sierra Nevada Corp. hangar opening & groundbreaking

Last fall, we celebrated SNC's ribbon-cutting for their second 100,000-sq.-ft. aircraft maintenance, repair, and overhaul facility within the Aviation Innovation & Technology Center campus. That same day, we took part in a groundbreaking for the third and fourth hangars to be built to accommodate a \$13 billion U. S Air Force contract to update the Survivable Airborne Operations Center airplane.

First Flight Commerce Center groundbreaking

At Dayton-Wright Brothers Airport (MGY, south of Dayton), we held a groundbreaking for the First Flight Commerce Center, a six-building industrial development. Its first tenant is Accelevation, a data center infrastructure manufacturing company that will lease the 264,000 sq. ft. of Building 1.

Airport modernization projects

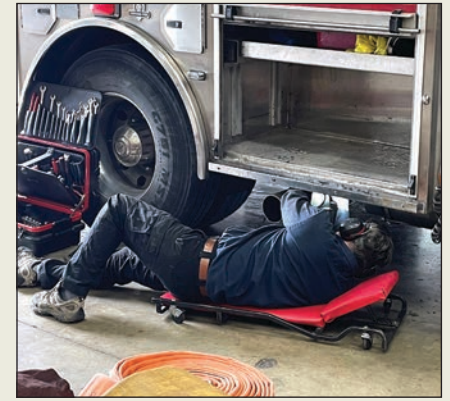
DAY received \$2 million from the State of Ohio to modernize Concourse B, including updating the common areas, infrastructure, HVAC, lighting, windows, and more.

DAY received an Airport Improvement Program grant to replace six passenger boarding bridges, which should be completed in 2025.



Terminal Drive rehabilitation - The outside lane of the terminal entrance loop was repaired in early fall. The work included resurfacing, joint sealing, and crack filling, which helps ensure safe and efficient vehicular access to the terminal.

For information on flights, parking and more, go to flydayton.com.



Fire commits to sustainability

The Dayton Fire Department is taking environmental protection to the next level with 41 new "No Smoke" systems installed on all fire and medical vehicles. This technology filters diesel exhaust, reducing emissions to a near-zero level. The initial set of "No Smoke" systems was acquired through a federal grant, and the department plans to budget for the technology on all future vehicle purchases.



GO FOR A SPIN!



Follow the City of Dayton on Instagram
[cityofdayton](https://www.instagram.com/cityofdayton)



State of the City: Feb. 12



Join Mayor Jeffrey J. Mims, Jr., for the 2025 State of the City event. He will highlight key points of progress happening in Dayton and acknowledge the work of community partners making a difference. The event takes place on Wednesday, Feb. 12, at 6 p.m. (doors open at 5:30) at the Kroc Center, 1000 N. Keowee St.

Dayton Collects

Did you know you can get text message notifications about City of Dayton waste collection service at your address? These



include schedule changes related to holidays, severe weather, etc. Just download the Dayton Collects app from Google Play Store or App Store, or go to daytonohio.gov/daytoncollects.

Pay water/waste collection bills

Online: Paydaytonwater.com.

Phone: Call 937-333-3550 anytime to pay by IVR.

Mail: Send your remittance stub and payment as indicated in your quarterly bill (do not send cash, please).

Retail locations: Most Family Dollar, Dollar General and CVS stores can process cash payments; bring the barcode found on your bill.

In-person: Visit the customer service center at 101 W. Third St. (first floor), 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Or, drop your remittance stub and payment in the secure dropboxes outside City Hall (101 W. Third St., east and west sides of the building).

