

# CONNECTIONS

> News and information for Dayton residents from the City of Dayton > [daytonohio.gov](http://daytonohio.gov)

## Mayor Whaley: Resilient Dayton is on the right path

### Highlights of the 2021 State of the City Address

**W**hen I delivered my state of the city speech one year ago, I said that 2019 had been the most challenging year I had faced as the mayor of Dayton. While I still believe that is true, little did I know what 2020 had in store for our community and our country.

In 2019 we faced down tornadoes, a hate group rally, a mass shooting, and the murder of one of our police officers. Through it all, we were united in our pain - and in our resilience.

But then came 2020 and a new type of disaster. The twin crises we've faced over the last year are both about disconnection - one caused by a pandemic that forces us to be away from our lives and loved ones, and the other a disconnection between people who look different, driven by our history of racism.

All of these problems are big, and structural - beyond any of our individual control. But I do believe - still - that we as a community have the power to make change. And I do still believe, that as a community, we can get through anything.

The pandemic has been a period of incredible pain and suffering. Hundreds of lives in our community have been cut short by COVID-19. Thousands more continue to struggle with the awful virus. And even more have been faced with immense economic hardship and uncertainty as measures to stop the spread of the disease shut down

our economy.

But this crisis has also brought out the best in people. People in Dayton stepped up, just like they always do. Our healthcare workers took on the Herculean task of healing us when we were sick. Our frontline workers - like our first responders and grocery and food service workers - risked their lives to keep the rest of us safe. We owe them all an immeasurable debt of gratitude.

Across the country and here in Dayton, African-Americans were disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 and the ensuing economic crisis. I am proud of our community's willingness to not only acknowledge this reality but act on it. Early in the pandemic, I began hosting weekly Zoom meetings with Public Health and clergy, many of whom pastor congregations in West Dayton.

It is not enough to simply go back to the way things were. We must build something better. We must ensure that unlike the recovery from the Great Recession, this COVID recovery makes our city more just and more equitable.

I convened an Eviction Task Force in 2019, long before the present crisis. Over the last year, that group has met frequently to focus on keeping people housed. Members of this task force have stepped up to protect tenants from unnecessary evictions, and to make sure our

neighborhoods are not destabilized by a wave of evictions when the COVID crisis is over.

We are in a pivotal moment. I believe half of our city has begun to wake up to the reality that the other half faces on a daily basis. This process is painful, and long overdue, but it is critical to us building a more just city that works for everyone.

Issues of policing are some of the most complex I've ever encountered. Police have incredibly difficult jobs. And as we in Dayton know better than most, they are willing

to put their lives on the line to save others. Most police officers I know were drawn to the job because of a sense of duty and a desire to serve others. Most are good and decent people.

Yet our criminal justice system is broken. And the racism that pervades ALL of our systems in America is present there as well. Policing itself is not the problem - its bad outcomes are symptoms of a much larger one.

The police reform process has already led to a number of major policy changes that I believe will make Dayton safer for police and residents alike: a new de-escalation policy and emphasis on de-escalating situations, rather than responding with force.



Continued State of the City on page 7 ⇒

INSIDE

Page 2 Survey Returns • Page 3 Accessibility to improve at City Hall • Page 4 When It Rains, Dayton Drains • Page 9 Small Businesses Get Creative • Page 7 Recycling Right

## Staff, cameras, law fight illegal dumping

The City of Dayton Department of Public Works actively monitors and uses surveillance cameras to watch locations where illegal dumping occurs, joining forces with the Montgomery County Environmental Crimes Task Force to protect public health, the environment and Dayton neighborhoods.

Dumped materials and litter pollute the soil, water and air. Dump sites and scrap tires also attract pests such as rodents and mosquitoes, which can carry and spread diseases. Scrap tires can also release harmful chemicals if they catch fire. Illegal dumpsites and other litter encourage more people to dump trash in the same place, potentially creating significant quality of life issues.

Dayton actively prosecutes illegal dumping to the fullest extent of the law. To report a dumper, use the Dayton Delivers App on your smartphone, call 937-333-4800, or go to [daytonohio.gov/reportadumper](http://daytonohio.gov/reportadumper). In 2020, there were 13 convictions for illegal dumping in the city of Dayton.



## Watch your mailbox for the Dayton Survey



The Dayton Survey returns in spring 2021, with survey packets arriving in selected homes starting in late March. Your opinion matters to the City of Dayton.

This is an opportunity to make your voice heard about local issues that matter most to you, your family and your community: recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, racial equity, fair policing, customer service, infrastructure and more. In 2019, nearly 2,000 Dayton residents completed the survey by mail, phone or online.

Survey responses contribute to important decisions that directly impact Dayton taxpayers. Responses to earlier surveys influenced the City's decision to restore a valued neighborhood service, loose leaf pick-up.

The survey is anonymous. You are welcome to provide contact information, however, it is not required.

If you receive a survey by mail, simply complete it and return in the provided postage-paid envelope by May 15, 2021. Or, complete the survey online at [daytonsurvey.org](http://daytonsurvey.org) using the PIN code on your packet.

If you do not get a survey in the mail, don't worry. Make your voice heard by taking the survey online at [daytonsurvey.org](http://daytonsurvey.org), starting in late April.

### Choose your news!

You can personalize your City of Dayton news and information with the Dayton Extra email newsletter. Choose the topics that interest you most and the frequency of the emailed newsletter. Go to [daytonohio.gov/daytonextra](http://daytonohio.gov/daytonextra) to sign up.



### City Commission

937-333-3636

Mayor Nan Whaley

Matt Joseph

Jeffrey J. Mims

Chris Shaw

Darryl Fairchild

### City Manager

Shelley Dickstein

937-333-3600

[cityhall@daytonohio.gov](mailto:cityhall@daytonohio.gov)

### Customer Services

Service Requests

937-333-4800

Download/use the Dayton Delivers app

### Water/Utility Billing

937-333-3550

[PayDaytonWater.com](http://PayDaytonWater.com)

### Building Permits/Inspection

937-333-3883

### Stay Connected

[DaytonOhio.gov](http://DaytonOhio.gov)

[FlyDayton.com](http://FlyDayton.com)

[DaytonWater.org](http://DaytonWater.org)



## City Hall: Accessibility to improve

The City of Dayton will improve access to City Hall (101 W. Third St.) with construction of a new ADA-compliant entrance on the building's Ludlow Street side. Currently, ADA access to City Hall is available only on the third floor, via the Municipal Parking Garage at 123 W. Third St.

The two-phase project got underway in early March, with completion expected by Oct. 1. It will create an exterior ramp and reconstructed steps at the Ludlow entrance and modifications to the entrance's interior area, including a lift. The existing sidewalk/slab along Ludlow, which also serves as a roof for a portion of City Hall's lower-level offices, will be fully replaced.

Parking spaces and parking meters



along the east (Ludlow) side of City Hall are not in use during construction. Metered spaces are available on West Third Street (north side, between Main and Ludlow; and south side, across from City Hall). The 24-hour utility payment drop-box is temporarily

moved to the west side of the building, between City Hall and the Municipal Garage. During construction, City Hall's main public entrance will be on West Third Street, and ADA access will continue to be available via the third floor.

## Water continues investment in Dayton's tomorrow

On January 12, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency invited the Dayton Department of Water to apply for a \$73 million low-interest loan through the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act program. If awarded, the loan will be used for digester

and biosolids improvements at the water reclamation facility in southwest Dayton.

The WIFIA loan is just one of many grants and low-interest loans Dayton Water is aggressively seeking for improvement and infrastructure

projects. These special funds, when successfully acquired, help reduce future rate increases.

In 2008, the sanitary sewer master plan was adopted, under the management of the Division of Water Engineering. This plan ranks the needed improvements in the wastewater collection system, and the parallel interceptor sewer project was identified as a high priority project.

An interceptor sewer collects wastewater from smaller sewers and carries it to the treatment plant. The new interceptor provides redundancy for the existing interceptor, additional capacity and improved reliability. The project's first two phases are essentially complete, on schedule and under budget.



The parallel interceptor sewer project, a major infrastructure improvement, is under construction along the Great Miami River.



# When It Rains, Dayton Drains

In the past year, many of us have had more opportunities to explore the great outdoors. The Dayton region has an extensive recreation trail network (America's largest) that often follows the beautiful rivers of the area.

You may, however, have noticed litter along the river or floating downstream. You might wonder, where does this stuff come from? Are people throwing it directly in the river? Are others trail users leaving empty bottles and wrappers behind? Did an animal with an attitude carry trash from a dumpster and drop it off here?

What is the source of this litter by the rivers? In Dayton, a separate storm sewer system collects rainwater and snow melt from rooftops, yards, driveways and roads, directing this stormwater into storm drains located at street curbs.

The stormwater then flows through the stormwater system directly to the rivers. Materials on the ground or in the street, such as fertilizer, pesticides, oil leaking from vehicles, heavy metals from brake pads, dog waste, litter, road salt, leaves, etc., can be picked up by the stormwater runoff and end up in nature's waterways.

While this presents a problem, having a separate storm sewer system is actually a better option for Dayton. Stormwater discharge does not have to be treated at the water reclamation facility, saving the Department of Water (and water bill payers) the cost of treating millions of gallons of stormwater each year. Keeping the storm and sanitary sewer systems separate also helps prevent sewage from entering rivers and streams during and after heavy rainfalls.

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency regulations call for only clean water entering storm

drains, and that is the goal and commitment of the Dayton Department of Water.

By now you're wondering "What can I do to help?". Here is a list of simple things you can do to help protect Dayton's rivers and streams:

- Pick up after your pet
- Take household hazardous waste to the Montgomery County Solid Waste District (937-225-4999) for proper disposal
- Use lawn chemicals sparingly or not at all
- Recycle! Call 937-333-4800 to join Dayton's program
- Put trash in bins with lids
- Keep leaves out of storm drains
- Sweep your driveway instead of using a hose
- Fix vehicle leaks promptly or capture the leak
- Wash your car on the grass or go to a car wash
- Bike, ride share, or take public transportation
- Recycle used oil



The Great Miami River after a rain event

- Get involved: Host a river or neighborhood clean-up (call Dayton Water Environmental to get supplies), participate in a storm drain marking event, or adopt a storm drain or two on your street
- Report all spills and pollution to the Division of Environmental Management at 937-333-3725.

Everyone can make at least a small difference. It adds up to a cleaner environment for all.



Storm drain with medallion

## COVID support: Small businesses get creative



Mudlick Tap House

During an unprecedented time of crisis, staff members across several City of Dayton departments worked with community partners to support small businesses.

Three new programs launched in 2020 to create flexibility in City regulations and provide alternatives for small businesses during the COVID-19 health crisis. Over 50 businesses participated in the Pop-Up Patio program, the Out on Fifth events (with DORA, the Oregon District's Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area), and the CARES Act Small Business Capital Grant program (funded by federal dollars).

The Pop-Up Patio program streamlines reviews and approvals for temporary outdoor seating and customer areas placed in the public right-of-way and in private parking lots. Businesses in Wright-Dunbar, St. Anne's Hill, Huffman, South Park, downtown, and Rubicon Park created new patios and retail areas allowing them to serve more customers while meeting social distancing requirements. About 30 businesses received temporary permits, with a handful continuing through the winter, including Mudlick Tap House's igloos and St.

Anne the Tart's greenhouse.

Dayton's CARES Act Small Business Capital Grant program built off the pop-up program and provided direct funds for businesses building new or altering existing spaces to meet new health and safety guidelines. Thirty-one businesses received a total of \$309,000, with grants ranging from just over \$1,000 to \$15,000. Funds supported the construction of new patios, installation of interior barriers, and the purchase of new equipment such as air filtration systems and outdoor heaters. Businesses from across the city received support, and 61% were able to bring back or retain staff members during the crisis due to the grant funding.

Out on Fifth and the Oregon District's DORA took advantage of the fall patio season before a slower winter. Because of the tight street and limited sidewalk capacity, many Oregon District businesses were not able to take advantage of the Pop-Up Patio program. Closing the street for the weekends during September and October allowed businesses to provide additional seating or retail space for customers.



**WE ARE  
STILL  
HERE!**



SCAN ME

Scan the QR code to stay up to date on openings, programs and schedules.

**We hope to see you soon!**

**Contact your recreation center for additional information:**

Northwest Recreation Ctr.  
1600 Princeton Dr.  
937-333-3322

Greater Dayton Recreation Ctr.  
2021 W. Third St.  
927-333-4732

Lohrey Recreation Ctr.  
2366 Glenarm Ave.  
937-333-3131



**No matter where your travels take you, your vacation should be a breeze.** Plan your 2021 getaway starting at the airport known for being easy to and through.



**When you fly DAYton, you can:**

- > Save time driving to the airport
- > Park closer to the terminal for less
- > Enjoy shorter wait times through security
- > Arrive at your gate in no time

[flydayton.com](http://flydayton.com)

**Can't wait to get away?**

DAY continues to ensure the safety of passengers by adhering to all state and federal public health guidelines.



## City of Dayton Waste Collection Guidelines

- ✓ Container should be at street or alley curb line by 6:30 a.m. on your collection day
- ✓ Lid must be closed
- ✓ There should be at least 3 feet between carts and at least 3 feet from other items such as trees, parked cars, fences and mailboxes
- ✓ Container handles should face your home
- ✓ Do not leave container at curb or alley after collection day

**Improperly placed containers may not be emptied.**

**For more information please visit [daytonohio.gov/wastecollection](http://daytonohio.gov/wastecollection) or call 937-333-4800.**

Residents can dispose of green debris (leaves, branches, grass clippings, tree limbs, etc.) by taking it to 2670 Wagner Ford Road, Dayton, OH 45414. Drop-off of green debris at this location is a free service for city of Dayton residents.



### Waste Container Guidelines-

- No** loose trash (All trash must be bagged)
- No** other trash or bags piled on top or around container
- No** construction materials – lumber, concrete or drywall
- No** hazardous materials – batteries, automotive fluids (fuel, antifreeze, oils), paint, lacquer, stain, thinner, varnish, wood preservatives, and chemicals of any kind (i.e. pool chemicals, pesticides and weed killer), fluorescent light tubes
- No** electronic waste – televisions, computers, monitors, printers, VCRs, cell phones, telephones, radios and microwave ovens
- No** compressed cylinders, oxygen or propane tanks
- No** biological/medical items. No needles or sharps. Animal and human waste: Must be double bagged (a bag within a bag). **Thank you!**

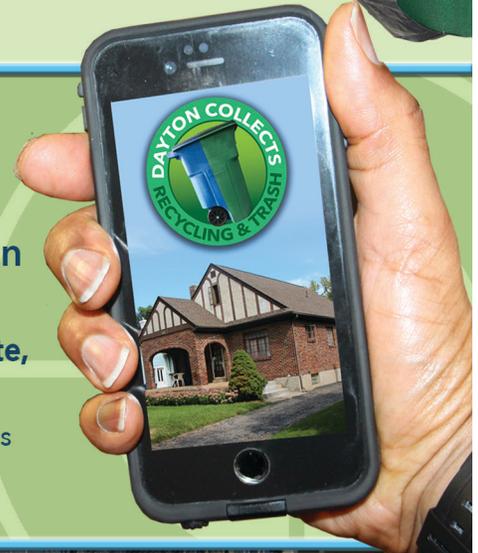


## Get notifications about waste/ recycling pickups!

Dayton Collects is an app that lets you view collection schedules on mobile devices and computers.

**Weekly reminders via email or phone • Keep track of scheduled waste, recycling and bulk waste pick ups. • Fast, easy and convenient!**

The app is available for free download on the Apple and Google Play app stores and is also embedded in the City website at [daytonohio.gov/daytoncollects](http://daytonohio.gov/daytoncollects).



**18'** Minimum 18 feet clearance above containers

**5'**

**3'**

**5'**

Please place containers at least 3 feet apart and 5 feet away from any object (cars, mailboxes, trees, etc.). Containers must be placed at curb with handles facing house (handles facing away from the street).

## Recycle Right: Why it matters



The City of Dayton and the Dept. of Public Works have three goals for the curbside recycling program in 2021.

- To divert recyclable materials from the landfill (after collection, recyclables are sent to a recovery facility to be sorted, cleaned and processed into materials that can be used in manufacturing).
- To raise awareness about the importance of recycling and to help residents "Recycle Right."
- To help customers reduce contamination (mixing garbage with recyclable materials) in Dayton's single recycling stream.

In 2020, we rolled out the **Recycle Right** campaign with the intention of reducing contamination and increasing the volume of recyclable materials.

Dayton's recycling cost varies, based on the market value for recyclable materials. Currently, this rate is lower than the \$38.25 per ton cost for trash disposal. Contaminated recyclables taken to a recovery facility will increase the City's cost, reducing or eliminating possible savings for disposal of recyclables.

Recycle Right uses informational stickers and letters to inform residents who have in error put non-recyclable materials in their blue recycling bins. Repeated non-compliance with the City's Recycle Right standards may result in suspended recycling service for one year.

We understand that this direct communication is a change in the way you normally hear from us, but we believe a successful and efficient recycling program is something that the entire community can support and be proud of.

We thank you for your willingness to Recycle Right in the city of Dayton. For additional details and informational materials, please go to [daytonohio.gov/recycle](http://daytonohio.gov/recycle).

## State of the City cont'd from page 1

A new auditor position will ensure internal investigations are done appropriately. All DPD officers will be issued and required to use body worn cameras when responding to any citizen call. We will begin to divert non-violent crisis calls to a non-police responder so that police will not be forced to act as social workers and people experiencing mental health crises or addiction get the help they need.

And, we will place a new emphasis on recruiting officers that reflect our community - not just in terms of race and gender, but also in terms of background and experience. This change in particular will be up to the voters: the recruitment working group is recommending a change to the city charter that will allow us to take these kinds of characteristics into consideration when hiring new police officers.

Nearly the entire City organization has devoted resources to this effort, from the Dayton Mediation Center who facilitates the meetings, to the Budget office who is working to track policing data. This has truly

been a giant effort, at a time when capacity and resources are already stretched.

But that's the thing about being resilient. You don't get to turn it off - it doesn't go away. It does not break. You don't stop being resilient because the crises pile up. And that is what I know to be true about Dayton. Our grit and perseverance will overcome any challenge and we will come out stronger than before. I have no doubt in that.

This is my final state of the city address. Being the mayor of Dayton is the best job I've ever had. But being truly committed to a community also means knowing when you need to make space for new leaders and new ideas.

The resiliency I have seen in our city over the last two years has shown me that those new leaders and ideas are here in Dayton and ready to step up. I can't wait to see what they have in store.

*For the complete text of the state of the city address, go to [daytonohio.gov/stateofthecity](http://daytonohio.gov/stateofthecity).*

## Commission approves police cams, reform steps

The City Commission approved the purchase of body-worn cameras for use by Dayton Police Department officers on Jan. 20. The camera system will improve transparency while providing evidence for potential investigations or prosecutions. DPD will also install license plate readers throughout the cruiser fleet and at a number of fixed locations. Data/information collection standards will be developed with community input before the camera or plate reader systems are in use.



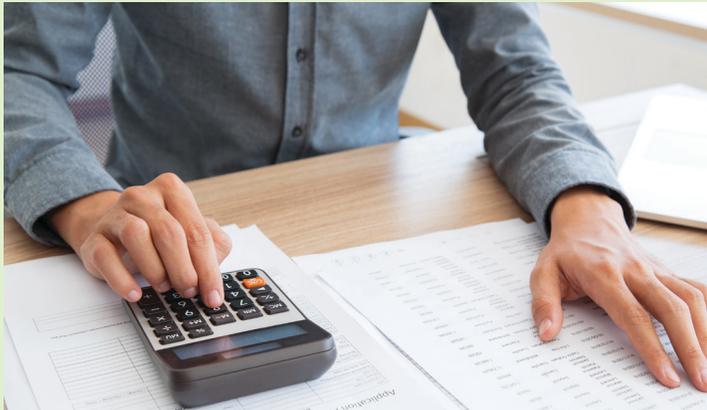
A camera system was one of the recommendations emerging from the police reform initiative launched in mid-2020, in addition to recommendations on recruitment, oversight, use of force/de-escalation and community engagement. For details on the reform process and the recommendations approved by the City Commission, go to [daytonohio.gov/police reform](http://daytonohio.gov/police reform).



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

### **Appointments available for tax customers**

In-person assistance is available for City of Dayton income tax customers who file tax returns with the City. Appointments are available Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. To schedule an appointment call 937-333-3500 or go to [daytonincometax.setmore.com](http://daytonincometax.setmore.com). Customers needing to drop off income tax documents and/or payments can use the secure drop boxes located inside and outside City Hall. Customers may also make income tax payments and submit supporting tax documents online at [daytonohio.gov/paytax](http://daytonohio.gov/paytax).



### **Water/waste collection bills and service**

Billing questions, payment arrangements, new accounts or move-outs: Call 937-333-3550 (8 a.m. - 5 p.m.) or email [paydaytonwater@daytonohio.gov](mailto:paydaytonwater@daytonohio.gov) (include your name, the service address and a preferred phone number).

#### **Options for making payments:**

Go to [paydaytonwater.com](http://paydaytonwater.com); call 937-333-3550 to pay with a credit card; cash payments at Family Dollar and CVS stores (present barcode found with your bill); or mail to City of Dayton, PO Box 630575, Cincinnati, OH 45263-0575. The customer service center at City Hall (main floor) is open to serve you Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



**FYI**

**DAYTONOHIO.GOV**