



City of Loveland

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: David Kennedy, City Manager
RE: Weekly Update
DATE: January 7, 2022

Administration

This week, I had the privilege of meeting the new Executive Director for the Little Miami Conservancy, Jason Brownknight. Jason was introduced by former Executive Director, Eric Partee who is retiring after 40 years of service. While we look forward to working with Jason, at this time it is even more appropriate to thank Eric for his commitment to protecting one of the true amenities to the City of Loveland, the Little Miami River. Eric has been a friend to the city, participating in events, and never turning down the opportunity to supply letters of support to accompany city grant applications. In one of Eric's many support letters he wrote *"The Little Miami Conservancy has been pleased to partner with City of Loveland officials since LMC's founding in 1967 to successfully find a "win-win" approach to simultaneously preserve a natural treasure and accommodate economic growth in an effort to conserve and restore the Little Miami National Wild and Scenic River which flows through the heart of Loveland."* This statement is not only true, but also something that the city is very proud of. Thanks Eric and enjoy a well-earned retirement!

Building and Zoning

The supplemental asphalt parking project at McCluskey Chevrolet has been completed. Though relatively minor, this added space is much needed and is an indicator of their growth derived from success they have experienced with their online.cars program creating approx. 200 new jobs and a 24/7 operation.

Preparations for HOMEARAMA 2022 are underway with the establishment of an events committee that will work to feature all that the city has to offer. One of the main objectives of the committee is to plan events during HOMEARAMA that will bring people to the show. Some of the events will include special event days to showcase local businesses and promote the city's natural resources and scenic attractions. The committee will also work to address traffic and safety concerns as well as demonstrating the city's support to the builders by coordinating expedient processes to ensure the safe and successful completion of their project.

Public Works

Throughout 2021, the Miami Drive Culvert Replacement project has progressed largely unnoticed. This week, the project showed signs of coming to a completion, with all storm sewer components installed and the crews close to replacing the new waterline. This was an excellent project for the residents of Miami Drive, as not only does it eliminate any potential flooding concerns, it also finally provides them with a cul-de-sac.



Miamiview Drive Culvert – Before



Miamiview Drive Culvert - After

Over the holidays, the contractor for the Main & Chestnut project wrapped up concrete work and demobilized for the winter. Work will resume in the spring with traffic signal improvements and roadway paving.

This week, Public Works crews removed material stockpiles at the Public Works complex to make way for construction of the new office building. DER Development began work this week on the new Public Works building project, with clearing, excavation, pavement demolition, and storm sewer installation.



Finance

This week, the Finance Department worked hard to wrap up final transactions for 2021 and close the month of December. A great deal goes into finishing up financials for the year, and the whole team contributed to achieve that end.

Public Relations

Krista Rose, Marketing & Communications Coordinator, released details this week about the city's new event: [Hearts Afire Weekend](#). She has been assisting Misty Brents and Becky Noel in planning this event

with the Special Events Committee. She is preparing posters, brochures, web pages, press releases, etc. to further promote the event. Stay tuned!

Krista has also been working with the Loveland Sustainability Council and Utility Billing Clerk Lisa Craig to update the city's [Recycling/Trash web page](#). Information has been updated about items that are recyclable for curbside pickup, where non-curbside items can be recycled, and where residents can donate reusable items locally. The Sustainability Council will work with Krista in 2022 to film a short video for residents featuring recycling do's and don'ts.

The following is a summary of the city's 2021 digital activity:

- LovinLifeLoveland.com debuted in April 2021. Since then, it has gained 55,445 page views (or impressions). Approx. 29k users visited the site in 2021. The site has grown to feature 61 businesses/attractions in the Loveland area, in addition to showcasing community events.
- LovelandOH.gov earned 305,608 page views in 2021. The city calendar and utilities/billing pages were most frequently visited. Search queries also showed users were seeking the [parks homepage](#) and the [police homepage](#).
- In 2021, the city grew its social media following by 31%. The city's Facebook page is averaging approx. 62k impressions per month and has become an effective communication tool to promote city messaging. [Follow this link to join the city on social media.](#)
- The city's e-newsletter subscriber list grew by 51% in 2021. The city sends out a monthly e-newsletter, Straight From The Heart. If you would like to subscribe to the newsletter, please [click here](#).

Police

The new year brought a new challenge for LPD and a return to some of its pandemic protocols to adapt to the surge in COVID cases. LPD officers will be utilizing more remote tools to serve our community. And, the administrative team and investigators are rotating days in the office and days working remotely to limit team contact. Finally, the entire department increased PPE and cleaning protocols.

K9 Cruz will be sworn in at the City Council meeting on January 11th.

Upcoming Events and Meetings

The Valentine Lady will be introduced on Saturday, January 8, at Sweetheart Lane at 11 a.m.

The Comprehensive Master Development Plan Steering Committee will meet on Monday, January 10, at 7 p.m. at City Hall.

City Council will meet on Tuesday, January 11, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

The Tree and Environment Committee will meet on Thursday, January 13, at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall.