



City of Loveland

## City Manager's Weekly Report

August 19, 2022



Paving of Downtown Parking Lot

### Administration

Over 45 applicants participated in an exam held at the Safety Center for two administrative positions with the police department. In addition to the strong number of applicants, this was the city's first computerized civil service exam. After many years of paper exams, Human Resources Manager, Joy Deardorff with the assistance of Assistant City Manager, Cory



Wright organized the first on-line civil service exam, a process that many other communities with a civil service process have already embraced. Although there were a few computer glitches, the process went smoothly and was fair to all applicants. I would like to add that in addition to Joy and Cory, Police Chief, Michael Gabrielson and Safety Director, Sue Madsen were in attendance for the exam, something that I felt the applicants appreciated. I'd like to also add, that watching the city's Police Chief, Safety Director, Assistant City Manager and Human Resources Manager moving tables and setting up chairs on a Monday evening, for an exam, struck me as a perfect example of just how customer service orientated our city staff is.

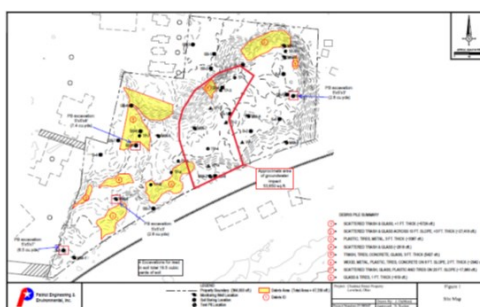
Speaking of testing, the Civil Service Commission met and approved the testing process for the police officer hiring. I want to thank the members of the commission for their flexibility in scheduling meetings as we continue to work to fill many important city positions.

The Law and Ordinance Committee met to continue their efforts towards regulating the operations of e-scooters and golf carts. A future meeting is being organized which will include Police Lieutenant, Mike Szpak to address how these vehicles impact traffic and other safety concerns.

The city received the Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination Letter (PJD) from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), confirming the findings of the recently commissioned Wetlands Delineation Study on the Chestnut Street Property. Importantly, USACE concurred with the Wetlands Delineation Report prepared and submitted by Meristem, a subconsultant for Patriot Engineering, finding that the site only contained 0.11 acres of actual wetlands on the site. This important milestone clears the way for the city to continue its work to obtain the necessary clearing and grading permits to accomplish the remediation work on the site contemplated under the Brownfield Grant award. Future work will involve the preparation and submittal of a Pre-Construction Notice package to USACE, as well as coordination of reviews by USACE with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and State Historic Preservation Office. Future mitigation efforts will also include purchase of wetland mitigation credits through a recognized mitigation bank.

City Engineer Cindy Klopfenstein and Assistant City Manager Cory Wright met with Patriot Engineering to discuss securing a proposal to conduct the required environmental testing procedures necessary to demolish the current public works building, which will be decommissioned later this year once the new building has been completed and certified for occupancy. Subsequent to that meeting, the city secured the services of Patriot Engineering to conduct the required pre-demolition asbestos testing that will be required to determine if abatement is necessary during the demolition phase. Once the study is complete, the city will secure quotes from qualified contractors to demolish the building.

Also on the Chestnut Street Property, the city has taken the important step to finalize bid documents relative to two key components of the site cleanup. Once bid documents were reviewed, the city finalized and posted the bid advertisements for the Lead Soil Remediation Site Cleanup Activities, as well as the Groundwater Remediation Injection Project, with bids due on August 31, 2022. Once bids are reviewed and contracts are awarded, work will commence later this year on the bulk of the environmental cleanup activities required to position the site for positive economic development within the city.



The city, working in partnership with the Adams County Land Bank, took possession of the former Mobil Station site after the prior owner concluded fuel center and retail operations, thus clearing the way for the property to be transferred. With the cessation of fuel center activities on the site and the associated transfer of the property to the land bank, the city can now begin the process of completing the environmental inspections required to demolish the former fuel center, remove the existing underground storage tanks, pursuing additional funding to assist in remediating current known and unknown issues associated with the past fuel center use. To date on the site, asbestos testing work has been completed, which allows demolition efforts to proceed through the State of Ohio Demolition Grant program administered through Clermont County. Once testing results are confirmed, the county will then bid the demolition out as part of the grant process. Additionally, with the transfer of the property, the City authorized testing to determine if there are existing, undocumented petroleum releases associated with any active Underground Storage Tanks on site. Also this week, the Public Works Department took important and decisive measures to secure the site from unauthorized access, eliminating potential traffic safety issues associated with “cut-through” traffic on the site or unauthorized vehicle trespass.



## Building and Zoning

On August 16, 2022, the Planning and Zoning Commission held a work session to discuss regulation of mobile food vendors within the city and potential modifications to the current regulations contained within the city’s Planning and Zoning Code. City staff provided background information and research regarding the manner in which mobile food vendors are regulated in other communities, and also documented the results of a recent Mobile Food Vendor Survey conducted by the city as part of the preparation for this meeting. More than 300 unique survey responses were received, and several stakeholders representing various interests also provided feedback at the meeting. At the conclusion of the Work Session, the Planning and Zoning Commission authorized Staff to develop an initial draft set of regulations that established both general rules for all Mobile Food Vendors, as well as district-specific regulations that recognize the unique requirements, challenges, and opportunities for accommodating Mobile Food Vendors in both residential and commercial areas of the city. Staff will now begin the process of drafting regulations responsive to the concerns and feedback obtained from this productive and informative Work Session event.



## CITY OF LOVELAND, OHIO: MOBILE FOOD VENDOR SURVEY

Thursday, August 11, 2022

Powered by SurveyMonkey

Here are some additional highlights from the Building and Zoning Department’s activities during the past week:

- Progress continues at the Chimney Ridge development. Work is occurring at a fever pitch to finish the development in time for this landmark event within the City’s newest residential community!
- Work continues at the Quilter’s Studio addition. Masonry work is now nearly complete, windows are anticipated to be installed soon, and work on the stucco portion of the building is nearly underway.
- At Blossom Hill, mechanical work and fireproofing work continued at Building #1, and underground utility service work at Building #2 is nearing completion.

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## Public Works

With the re-paving of the downtown parking lot adjacent to Jack Rabbit and the bike trail, the city decided to create a dedicated pathway from the lot onto the bike trail. By simply removing a small shrub, and eliminating one parking space, pedestrians who parking in the lot, will have easy access to the bike trail and adjacent businesses. With more retail and entertainment opportunities along the south side of West Loveland and South Karl Brown Way, this modified access point should be heavily utilized.



The brick “soldering” was added to the new sidewalks along South Karl Brown Way, completing this joint, city/property owner project.



Under the guidance of Marketing and Communications Manager, Krista Rose, City Engineer, Cindy Klopfenstein and I, participated in the creation of a video spotlighting the new public works building. We felt it was important to highlight the project especially the fact that it will be solar powered and it will allow for many pieces of city equipment to now be stored indoors thanks to its 4 garage bays. Cindy, added a tour of the new building’s various offices and an inside view of the bays. The project remains on schedule for completion this fall.

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## Public Safety

Fire Chief, Otto Huber, informed me that LSFD was awarded a federal grant for new emergency equipment and training. The award is for the following:

- \$60,000 Paramedic Training
- \$120,000 Heart Monitors for the Ladder trucks
- \$7500 Thermal Imaging Cameras



The total award is for \$202,500 with the city and Symmes Township both supplying a 10%. Chief Huber, stated, “We have been very blessed in our grants over the past several years. This allows us to keep the local milage low and stretch out our public safety levies, all while keeping service levels high.”

The process of introducing Chief Gabrielson to the community continued with Assistant City Manager, Cory Wright and I, joining the chief, Loveland City School Superintendent, Mike Broadwater, and Assistant Superintendent, Stace Orso for lunch. I was very impressed how the focus of the conversation was on student safety.



LPD officers took numerous reports from residents who reported vehicles being entered and items stolen on Brushwood Drive, Glen Lake Road, Lemontree Lane, Lindenhall Drive, Timberidge Drive, and Sinclair Court. A vehicle with the keys left inside was stolen from Timberidge Drive and a firearm from an unlocked vehicle was taken from Glen Lake Road. Officers are conducting additional patrols, however locking cars, and removing valuable items is the best way to prevent these crimes.



Numerous LPD officers assisted Miami Twp PD with an armed barricaded subject in mental health crisis. This required calling in and holding over other officers to handle calls for service within the city. After several hours, crisis negotiators were able to resolve the incident safely.

Officers responded to a business lot for a subject passed out in the vehicle. Officers made contact and found the subject was wanted on several warrants. A free air sniff by K9 Cruz located a large amount of suspected methamphetamine; more than 17 times bulk amount. Fantastic work by Officer J. Fisher, Lt. M. Szpak, and K9 team K. Bibelhausen and Cruz for investigating beyond a common call for service and removing a large amount of dangerous narcotics from the street.

Loveland Police Department School Resource Officers helped to welcome students back to school this year!



## Public Relations

Marketing & Communications Coordinator Krista Rose completed a with Officer Michael Boettger. Officer Boettger touched on the new SROs in the district and the slight changes to hours at some of the schools. More school safety videos with LPD will be released soon.

Krista and Permit Specialist Becky Noel continued planning for Homearama, which will take place in the city Sept. 3-18. Meetings were held Wednesday with the builders to finalize last-minute show details. A special events meeting was also held. City staff held a meeting on Thursday to finalize plans for Loveland Residents Day, which will be held on Sept. 9. With proof of ID, residents will receive \$3 off admission to the show.

## Upcoming Meetings & Events

City Council will meet on Tuesday, August 23, at 7:00 p.m.

