



City of Loveland

City Manager's Weekly Report

August 30, 2024



LPD & City staff members joined HR Manager Joy Deardorff for lunch on her final day with the city

Administration

Wednesday, we said goodbye to HR Manager, Joy Deardorff on her final day with the city. The turnout for the luncheon speaks volumes on how much the city appreciated Joy's service to the city and the simple fact that she was a great person to work with. Now, Joy will get to enjoy all of her many hobbies, including golfing and being with her family. Thanks Joy!!

With City Council's action on Tuesday, the recently acquired Donisi Mirror factory (507 Loveland Madeira Road) has been transferred to the CIC. This is the first step of an economic development project that we hope will transform a vacant property located in the middle of the city's Loveland Madeira Road Revitalization project boundaries.

This week saw good progress on the new parking lot with curbing installed at the sidewalks near city hall, completion of the bollard lighting, and the setting of the poles for the main lot lighting. Landscaping will begin next week with the final course of paving set for mid September.



Building and Zoning

Here's an update from the building department for the week:

- Construction on the 4 new single family homes on West Loveland Avenue continues to make progress as framing began this week on one of the units.
- The permit was issued for the fire restoration at 125 Silver Fox.
- The inspector and staff have been working with insurance companies, the management company, residents and the fire inspector to start the process of clean up from the fire at 210 and 220 Carrington Pl.
- The final inspection was scheduled for the front tenant space at 113 Karl Brown. Some additional work needed to be completed, so after that was done, the re-inspection took place. Everything passed and CO was issued. This space will be used for Bike Trail Books and The Split Leaf Co.
- The final inspection took place at 15 Chimney Ridge. The CO will be issued pending IBI approval on the electrical.
- Shoppers Haven applied for a new water tap and meter for 677 Loveland Madeira. Once the plumber's bond paperwork is received the permit will be issued.



Finance

Work on the 2025 budget is in full swing as we begin to finalize revenues, general operating expenses for each department and look at prioritizing capital projects. Each department head has met with the budget team to talk about their capital needs and where potential savings can be obtained. Given the amount of capital projects that the city does in a typical year, and how many are grant funded, the CIP is a significant part of our 2025 budget preparation efforts. Also, as many grant applications are submitted throughout the summer and into the fall, the city often will not know if a capital project will receive funding during the budget process and must plan accordingly. Also, the city's budget software was upgraded during 2024, and staff is busy learning how the new components function and making sure they are being fully utilized. We have a great budget team and look forward, with the help of the Finance Commission, to submitting another award winning budget that continues to move the city forward and serves our residents and business community. We will continue to update Council on the budget process throughout the fall.

On Tuesday, the Board of Tax Review met to discuss an appeal brought forward by a Loveland taxpayer. The Board of Tax Review meets as needed when taxpayers have concerns regarding the process of income tax filing and the administering of fees and charges.

Public Works

Sunday, Public Works repaired a large water main break on Oak Street. The severity of the break, and a failure of our interconnection to the Clermont County water system, resulted in residents in the Clermont and Warren County portions of the city to be out of water service. Recognizing that internal corrections need to be made, and the need to learn from the events of the day, the city held a debriefing on Tuesday, led by Assistant City Manager, Chris Wojnicz. Changes are already in place, with more being planned, which will improve maintenance of our water interconnections and how we communicate with our residents. Future updates will follow.

In the end, the city remains extremely fortunate to have such dedicated Public Works crew members, who on a hot Sunday, responded immediately, and worked non-stop throughout the day and into the early evening to make repairs with the goal of restoring water service to our residents.



Meanwhile, our Public Works staff worked hard this week mowing and trimming the right-of-way along State Route 48.



Project Updates

Phase II of the Loveland-Miamiville sidewalk project is nearing completion, with sidewalks and driveway aprons installed from Sugar Tree Lane to Saddleback Drive. The final stage of the project will focus on restoration work, including excavation, seeding, and strawing of disturbed areas, bringing us closer to improving connectivity for residents and easing access to downtown.

The East Loveland Bridge Project is also progressing. The contractor has completed installing curbs and sidewalks on the south side of the road and has begun laying the asphalt base on one lane, which will help reduce dust. Next week, work will shift to installing curbs and sidewalks on the north side of the street.

The West Loveland Avenue Bridge project moved into the center lane as painting of the steel under the bridge was completed this week. Delays in fabrication of the railing for the south side of the bridge required painting of the wall to be delayed, although the railing will now be installed by the end of next week. When the project nears completion, traffic will be shifted again as Duke Energy will arrive to replace the lighting.

Public Safety

This week, Police Chief, Mike Gabrielson was invited by The Northeast Cincinnati Rotary Club to participate in a Law Enforcement Panel Discussion. Several area Chiefs discussed challenges facing their respective communities and approaches to keep the public safe.



The pre-bid meeting for the new Fire Station 63 was held on Tuesday. Based on the large number of attendees at the meeting, we are hopeful that the project will see numerous bid submissions.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

City Hall Offices will be closed on Monday in observance of Labor Day