

2019
ANNUAL REPORT



HONORABLE MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

It is with great pleasure to have our Administrative Team present this Annual Report for the 2019 calendar year. Please remember that this report is intended only to summarize the major achievements and accomplishments of each department and division of the City during the year. It is not intended to provide a comprehensive listing of all that the City of Blue Ash has to offer to those who live, work, and play in our community.

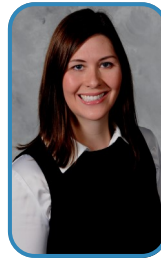
It is truly a privilege to work for the City of Blue Ash and its City Council. We look forward to continuing our efforts associated with the many exciting opportunities that face our community and its residential and corporate citizens. Thank you for your continued support and leadership.

Respectfully submitted,

BLUE ASH CITY ADMINISTRATION



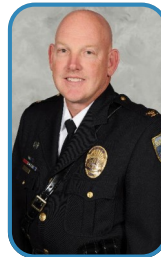
DAVID WALTZ
City Manager



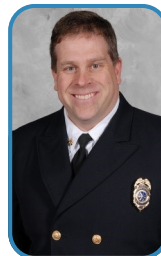
KELLY HARRINGTON
Assistant City Manager



SHERRY POPPE
Treasurer/Administrative
Services Director



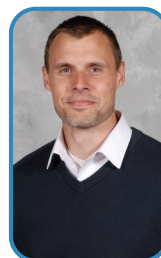
SCOTT NOEL
Police Chief



CHRIS THEDERS
Fire Chief



GORDON PERRY
Public Works Director



BRIAN KRUSE
Parks & Recreation Director

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ADMINISTRATION

NEIGHBORHOODS AT SUMMIT PARK



Construction progress on the Approach at the Neighborhoods at Summit Park in December 2019.

The mixed-use building named “The Approach” was nearing completion by the end of 2019. It is anticipated that residents will be moving in during the spring of 2020 and commercial tenants following in summer.

The senior-living development team changed and so did the design. In August, CA Senior Living Holdings received approval for a modified senior-living facility with 200 living units and varying levels of care for residents. The developer broke ground on this project at the end of the year.

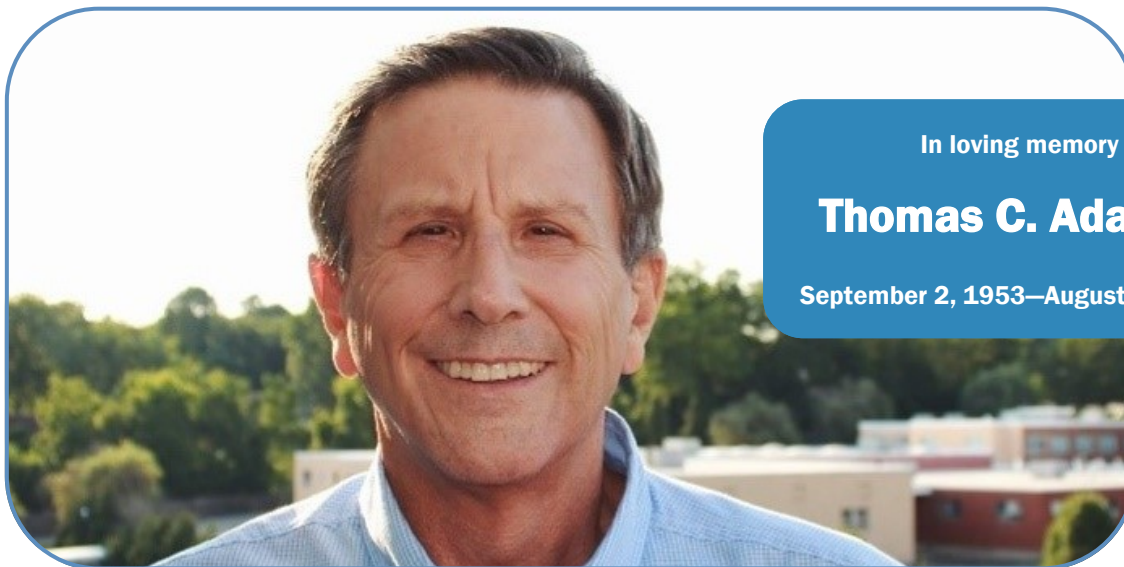
The Port closed on the first bond necessary to support the Neighborhoods at Summit Park public infrastructure in 2019. Backed by future TIF revenues derived from The Approach, the \$8.3 million bond supported the extension of Summit Place into the site, the realignment of Carver Woods Drive, portions of Summit Parkway and Gateway Place, and the roundabout at Glendale-Milford and Lake Forest/Summit Place.



The view of Summit Park will be a draw for future tenants of The Approach.

ADMINISTRATION

COUNCIL CHANGES



In loving memory

Thomas C. Adamec

September 2, 1953—August 30, 2019

The City mourned the loss of its Mayor Tom Adamec after he passed away from a lengthy battle with an auto-immune disease on August 30, 2019. Mayor Adamec had served on Blue Ash City Council since 2009 as an At-Large representative. Mayor Adamec served on the Charter Revision Committee, Civil Service Commission, Board of Site Arrangement/Zoning Appeals and Planning Commission prior to his election to Council. At the time of Mayor Adamec's passing, Vice Mayor Marc Sirkin automatically became Mayor. City Council then appointed Councilman Pramod Jhaveri to fill the vacant position of Vice Mayor on September 26, 2019.

In December 2019, City Council welcomed two new members: Katie Schneider, Ward 1 (left) and Nikki Yasbeck-Schwieter, At-Large (right).



ADMINISTRATION

CITIZEN SATISFACTION SURVEY

97.8%

Citizen Satisfaction

In 2019, the U.C. Institute for Policy Research presented the results of the Citizen Satisfaction Survey which was conducted in late 2018. Of note, 97.8% of respondents were either satisfied or very satisfied with the City of Blue Ash. Residents remain concerned about traffic flow and economic development. Parks and recreation received the highest score for City services. When asked what type of development Blue Ash should be encouraging, residents showed a preference for restaurants and single-family homes.

DUKE ENERGY PIPELINE

Duke Energy unveiled plans for the Central Corridor Pipeline project and submitted a project application to the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) in 2016. As both the proposed primary and alternate routes affected Blue Ash, City officials formally intervened in March 2017. OPSB approved the Pipeline project along the alternate route on November 21, 2019. In December, Blue Ash along with Cincinnati, Hamilton County, Reading, Evendale, and NOPE filed applications for a rehearing before the OPSB.

STAFF CHANGES



Administration welcomed Communications Coordinator Rachel Murray (left) and Executive Assistant Julie Kipper (right) in 2019. Rachel previously worked in journalism as a consumer reporter and radio personality while Julie previously served Liberty Township and the City of Montgomery.



ADMINISTRATION

ILMENAU VISITS BLUE ASH



Fourteen delegates from Blue Ash's Sister City in Ilmenau, Germany visited Blue Ash in September. The visit included tours of City facilities, Wright-Patterson Air Force Museum, and Blue Ash businesses; meetings with Cincinnati-area companies and the European-American Chamber of Commerce; and a presentation to Sycamore High School students.



CITIZENS OF BLUE ASH ACADEMY

In 2019, Blue Ash conducted its third Citizens of Blue Ash Academy. The six-class series aims to educate residents on the functions of government, promote engagement and create new connections. From February to May, the group learned about City Administration, Public Works, Police, Fire, Parks and Recreation, Community Development and Economic Development. Attendees took part in hands-on demonstrations and initiated meaningful discussions about the City's vision and future. Fourteen City of Blue Ash residents graduated from the class.



FINANCE & TAX

FINANCE OFFICE

The Finance Office is responsible for overseeing all areas of financial administration, including revenue recording, investments, expenditure tracking, financial records administration, budgeting, debt financing, auditing, payroll administration, and financial reporting.

2019 HIGHLIGHTS



The City received two awards in 2019 that show the City is financially stable and accountable to the community. Upon the completion of The 2018 audit, the City of Blue Ash received the Auditor of State Award with Distinction. This award is presented to local government and school districts who meet the criteria of a “clean” financial audit. The City also received its 32nd award of Excellence in Financial Reporting from the National Government Finance Officers Association for its 2018 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). This award represents the highest award available in governmental reporting.

The City maintained budgetary compliance throughout the year. The 2020 Tax Budget was prepared and filed with Hamilton County in July, and the 2020 Budget was presented to and approved by City Council in December.



Where does the City's money come from?

The primary source of City revenue is income tax. Because the City has a strong business base, only 4% of the income tax collected is from resident returns.

Property tax represents 5% of total revenues. The majority of the resident property tax bill is allocated to the schools.

TAX OFFICE

Collections	2018	2019	% Change
Withholdings	\$28,252,953	\$28,040,998	-0.75%
Net Profit	<u>7,945,050</u>	<u>7,769,324</u>	<u>-2.21%</u>
Gross Income Tax	\$36,198,003	\$35,810,322	-1.07%

Staff changes: Suzanne Jarman retired from the Tax Office in June. New tax clerks Wray Perry and NeCole Davis have a combined 13 years of accounting/finance experience.

2,100

accounts
processed/
reconciled

YEAR IN REVIEW:

- Tax receipts fell slightly in 2019 due to the loss of one of the City's major employers. Due to the efforts of the economic development team, the City was able to bring in various new businesses to help significantly offset the expected tax receipt decline.
- Withholding tax revenues represent approximately 78% of total tax collections, while net profit revenues represent approximately 22%.
- The Tax Office staff processed the withholding payments and annual reconciliations for over 2,100 accounts. Furthermore, the office audited over 10,250 annual individual and business tax returns.

10,250
audits

HUMAN RESOURCES

The Human Resources Department has a strong focus on providing support and guidance to employees and administration in the areas of staffing and recruitment, benefits administration, classification and compensation, workers compensation, legal compliance, employee relations, labor relations, and training and development.

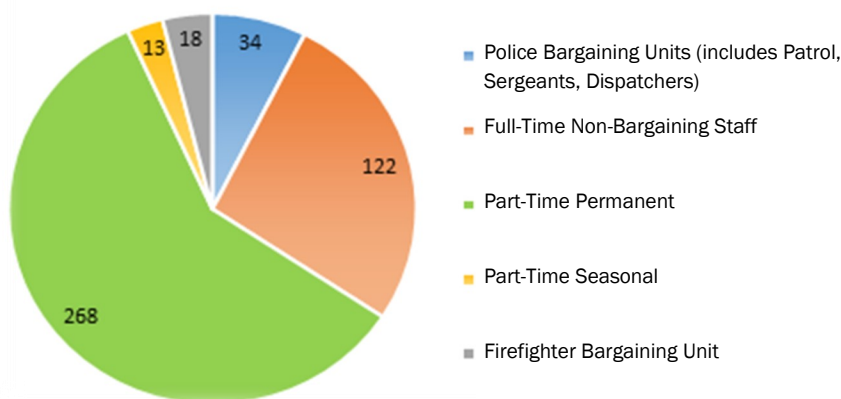
EMPLOYEES

A large portion of employees consists of part-time staff. Human Resources devotes a lot of time early in the year to hiring part-time staff to get ready for the busy summer months. Hiring full-time staff may involve facilitating a civil service test, extensive interviews, skills assessments, background checks, polygraph tests, drug screens and reference checks. H.R. is extremely motivated to recruit, hire, and retain the best candidates available.

Bargaining Agreements: The FOP Police Sergeants and Police Patrol Officer contracts were ratified in 2019.

Insurance: The Employee Health Insurance Committee reviewed medical insurance savings options for the insurance renewal again in 2019. The City was able to renew with a 3% decrease to health insurance premium cost.

City of Blue Ash Employees



2019 Hires

Police Patrol Officers Joey Berning, David Dungan, Robert Moe
 Finance Officer/Tax Commissioner Natasha Dempsey
 Tax Account Clerks NeCole Davis, Wray Perry
 Administrative Assistant Carrah LaSuer
 Executive Assistant Julie Kipper
 Communications Coordinator Rachel Murray
 Sales and events Coordinator Lauren Wolf

2019 Promotions

Parks & Recreation Director Brian Kruse
 Firefighters Brendan Arnett, David Capannari, Cormac Dixon
 Fire Lieutenants Jake Bresnan, Jim Gallo, Scott Goldschmidt, Matthew Poppe
 Fire Captains Justin Burrell, Janet Dreyer, and Louis Ernestes
 Police Sergeant Jason Swartwout
 Police Dispatcher Sarah Robers
 Mayor's Court Coordinator Ashley Newell
 Facility Maintenance Laborer Kevin Asbrock.

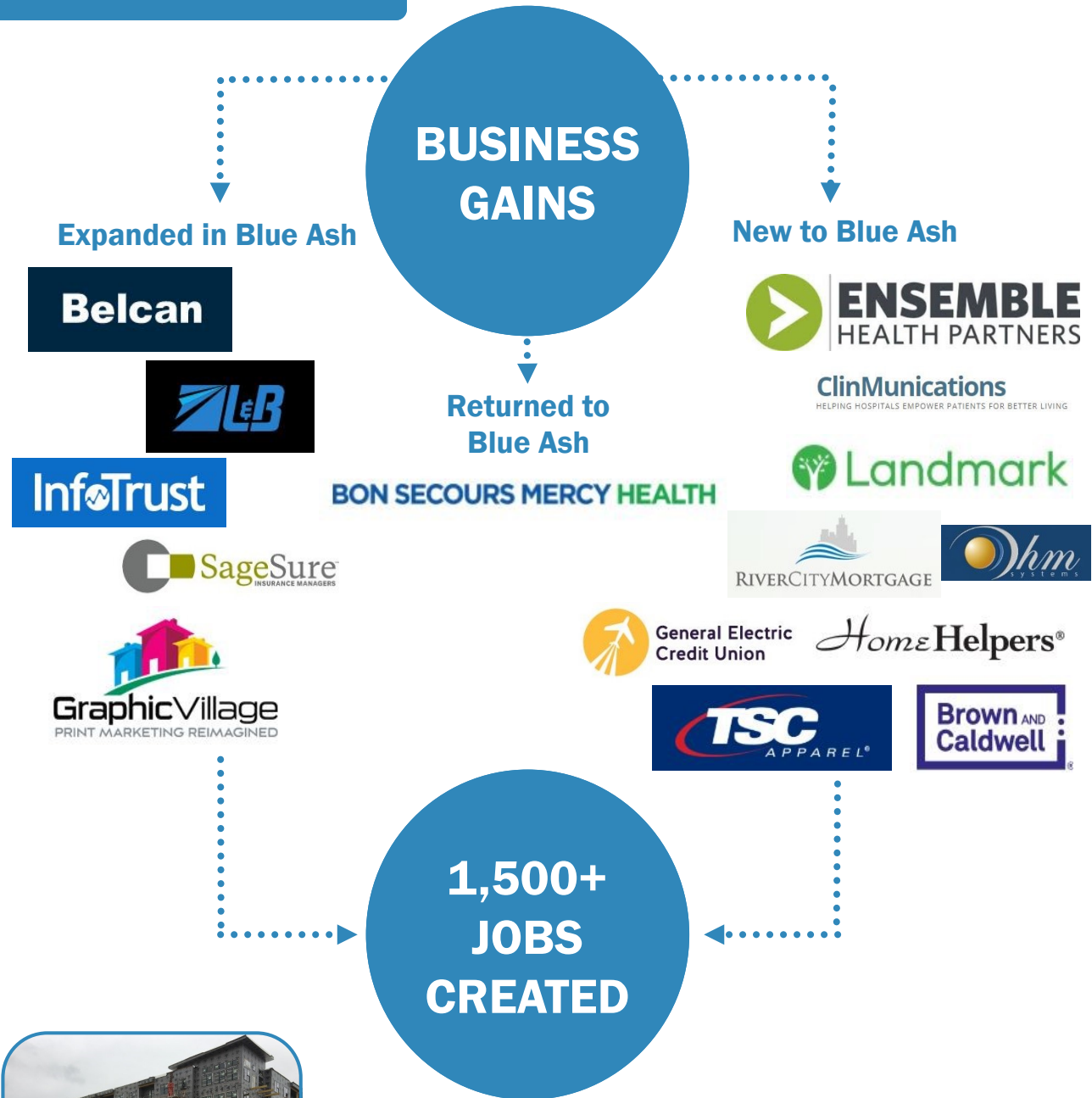


Annual Holiday Give Back: Employees raised over \$1,100 for Blue Ash organization, Matthew 25 Ministries, and donated over 200 gifts to children and families in Blue Ash through the Sycamore School District and Operation Give Back.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Blue Ash continues to be the destination for business growth and expansion in the Tri-State region. Notable activity in 2019 includes: five company expansions in the City, nine companies established a new facility in Blue Ash, and one business brought employees back to the City. These additions and expansions created more than 1,500 new jobs.

BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS



Economic Development Director Neil Hensley was interviewed by WCPO 9 News about the Neighborhoods at Summit Park and the positive impact the development will have on Blue Ash and the region.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT

Downtown Blue Ash was chosen as the first standalone location for Catch-a-Fire Pizza. The City approved final plans for a complete renovation of the former “pencil building” adjacent to Cross County Highway and the new business is expected to open in Spring 2020. To date, Catch-a-Fire Pizza has operated only as a food truck and out of shared space with Mad Tree Brewery.



72

permits for
single family
homes

New residential development continued throughout Blue Ash in 2019. In addition to continued infill development in the Community Reinvestment Area surrounding Downtown Blue Ash, there were new homes and major renovations throughout the City including along Bell Avenue, Cooper Road, Hagewa Drive, Kenridge Drive, Mohler Road, Myerdale Drive, throughout Hazelwood, and in The Retreat at Summit Park and The Daventry subdivisions during 2019.

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

In addition to the hundreds of smaller commercial building permits issued throughout 2019, there were several large projects worthy of note. Ensemble Health will begin to occupy the former P&G west campus site on Reed Hartman Highway in early 2020 after a complete renovation of the existing facility and a nearly 100,000 square foot addition. Metalex completed a long-planned addition to its high-tech manufacturing facility on Cornell Road. The Hamilton County Crime Lab took shape throughout 2019 and is expected to open later in 2020.



CODE ENFORCEMENT

BUILDING PERMITS

<i>Building Permits</i>	2019
Residential	308
Commercial	507
Est. Value of Construction	\$142 M



The property maintenance section of the Community Development office is responsible for stabilizing and maintaining the quality of the residential and commercial properties throughout the City.

115

violation notices
throughout the year

365

courtesy letters sent
to residents &
businesses

Throughout the year, the City addressed many code violations at residences and businesses. The majority of the violations fell in the category of cosmetic and minor structural issues.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Blue Ash Police Department (BAPD) consists of 33 full-time police officers (PO), with a support staff of 12 full-time and part-time employees. The BAPD mission statement is “with courage, integrity, and compassion we serve, safeguard and educate our community by providing superior services that sustain a safe environment and high quality of life.

STAFFING HIGHLIGHTS

In 2019, BAPD welcomed new officers Joseph Berning, David Dungan, and Robert Moe, and new dispatcher Barb West. Staff transitions included Brendan McKinney and Dane Baumgartner to Detectives, Jason Swartwout to Sergeant, and Erik Nelson to the Community Impact Unit and Ashley Newell as Mayor’s Court Coordinator. BAPD would like to congratulate former Mayor’s Court Coordinator Brenda Traxler and Joy Puttnam on their retirements.



BAPD is proud to welcome K9 Ruby. She and her partner Officer Erik Nelson serve in the new Community Impact Unit.

8

deployments
In 2019

YEAR IN REVIEW

The Community Impact Unit (CIU), created in 2019, responds to community concerns, including crime and crash hot spots. It is comprised of K9 Ruby, officer Erik Nelson, two more full-time officers, two officers split between CIU and patrol, and one Lieutenant.

Patrol Officers took reports for 1,951 incidents in 2019 a 4.3% increase from 2018, a majority were theft offenses. BAPD response time is nearly 3 minutes faster than the national average, according to *American Police Beat*.

The Criminal Investigations Section (CIS) is responsible for investigating crimes of a greater complexity than road patrol officers are able to handle. CIS is comprised of Lt. Rob Gerhardt, and Detectives Jeff Lewis, Dane Baumgartner, and Mark Niehaus.

↓
Theft
13.1%
from 2018

↑
Arrests up
19.7%
from 2018

215
cases
84.6%
clearance rate

63

OVI
ARRESTS

713

SUSPICIOUS
PERSON/VEHICLE

993

VACATION
CHECKS

1,081

TRAFFIC
CRASHES

1,636

EMS/FIRE
RUNS

1,688

ALARM
DROPS

5,627

TRAFFIC
STOPS

5,817

SECURITY
CHECKS

POLICE DEPARTMENT

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



311

Community outreach
hours

In addition to the new Community Impact Unit, BAPD officers spent over 300 hours meeting new people in the community in 2019. Officers organized and attended events including Coffee with a Cop, Alice Training with local businesses, the annual Bike Rodeo, Heroes and Helpers and the annual Police Department Open House. BAPD also continued partnerships with Crisis Intervention Training in Hamilton County, Special Needs and Awareness Program (SNAP), Human Trafficking Work Group of Southwest Ohio, the Blue Ash Business Association, End Slavery Cincinnati, Freedom Schools, MADD, Women Helping Women, and more. It is estimated that this public appearance outreach touched over 20,000 people of all ages.



21,888

People reached



Budget	\$6,660,329
Actual expenses	\$6,066,479

RECOGNITION

- Several police officers received special commendations from Chief Noel for above and beyond service to the community.
- Officer Michael Jackson was named Top Police Officer for 2019, an award sponsored by American Legion, NE Post 630.



In December, the City of Blue Ash received its 10th Platinum Award from the AAA Community Traffic Safety Awards Program for traffic safety programs, presentations, and safety improvements.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Blue Ash Fire Department (BAFD) consists of 29 full-time Firefighter/Paramedics, 15 part-time Firefighter/Paramedics, and one administrative assistant. BAFD operates out of two stations—the North Station (fire headquarters) at 10647 Kenwood Road and the South Station at 4343 Cooper Road. The department has four operational divisions: Administrative, Fire Prevention & Life Safety, Training, and Fire & EMS Operations.

PERSONNEL

Several promotions occurred throughout the year. Lou Ernstes, Janet Dreyer and Justin Burress were all promoted to the rank of Fire Captain in February. Jim Gallo, Jake Bresnen and Scott Goldschmidt were promoted to the rank of Fire Lieutenant in March, followed by the promotion of Matt Poppe to Fire Lieutenant in October. The fire department also swore in three new full time firefighter/paramedics Branden Arnett, David Capannari, and Cormac Dixon. Lieutenant Mike Bilkasley retired from the department on December 15th after 24 years of service.



NEW LOGO



BAFD unveiled a new logo in 2019. It features the Tower at Summit Park and the “Aspire, Achieve, Advance” motto. It was designed by staff members and implemented in May.

MEDIC BIKE TEAM



An EMS bike team was established in 2019 to help maneuver through larger crowds and provide quicker response times to emergency situations. The team will be utilized at SummitFest and Red, White & Blue Ash, as well as other events held throughout the city.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

2019 BY THE NUMBERS

14

FIRE DRILLS

14

STATION TOURS

17

FIRE
EXTINGUISHER

26

FIRE SAFETY
TALKS/
ENGINE &
MEDIC VISITS

37

PERMITS

40

CPR AND FIRST AID
CLASSES

46

SMOKE
DETECTORS

54

FIRE
PROTECTION
INSPECTIONS

111

CAR SEATS INSTALLED

663

RE-INSPECTIONS

2,501

ANNUAL INSPECTIONS

3,372

code enforcement
inspections

In October, Rob Suder was selected Top Firefighter for 2019. The award is sponsored by American Legion, NE Post 630 in Blue Ash.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In September, Blue Ash Fire Chief Chris Theders graduated from the Center for Local Government Leadership Academy. He participated in classes that take a deep dive into government operations, leadership styles and more.

To ensure a safe community, the life safety division remained busy throughout the year. Annual inspections and preplan visits were conducted for all City businesses.



4,229

EMS/Fire
training hours

Training is a high priority for the BAFD. Many hours are spent each week preparing for emergencies which could arise within the city. In 2019, the department focused on simulated fire scenarios in acquired structures. The simulations provide realistic training which help to refine strategies. BAFD also participated in training to help Dementia and Alzheimer's patients and collaborative exercises to strengthen relationships with neighboring fire departments.



BAFD held its annual Open House in October. The community learned about fire safety by touring the North Fire Station, exploring fire engine and medic units, spraying a fire hose, watching a drone demo, and seeing a live burn.



PUBLIC WORKS

The City of Blue Ash Public Works Department consists of Project Management, the Facilities Maintenance Division and the Service Division. Public Works consists of a total of 26 full-time employees and 28 part-time employees. Public Works oversees issuing permits for roadway and right-of-way work, traffic and pedestrian signal maintenance and operation, administering the residential waste and recycling collection contract and coordinating utilities.

2019 BY THE NUMBERS SERVICE

81

TONS OF ASPHALT USED

160

LANE MILES OF ROADWAY MAINTAINED

412

LINEAL FEET OF STORM PIPE REPLACED

412

LINEAL FEET OF STORM PIPE INSTALLED/ REPAIRED/MAINTAINED

429

LINEAL FEET OF CURB REPAIRED/REPLACED

2,359

TONS OF SALT APPLIED

2,428

MILES OF PAVEMENT CLEANED BY STREET SWEEPERS

7,046

GALLONS OF BEET HEAT APPLIED

9,192

MILES DRIVEN FOR SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL

The Service Division is responsible for a variety of crucial functions, including street and drainage maintenance, snow and ice removal, curbside removal of brush and leaves, support of City events, equipment maintenance and building maintenance support.

LEAF & BRUSH COLLECTION

25

WOOD CHIP LOADS DELIVERED TO RESIDENTS

2,644+

CUBIC YARDS OF BRUSH

3,100+

CUBIC YARDS OF LEAVES COLLECTED

112

CUBIC YARDS OF WOOD CHIPS DELIVERED TO RESIDENTS

609

CUBIC YARDS OF CHIPS COLLECTED

2012

HOURS SPENT COLLECTING

110

SIGNS DESIGNED & INSTALLED

179

TRAFFIC SIGNS INSTALLED OR REPAIRED

2,619

SQUARE FEET OF STREET STENCILS INSTALLED/ REPAIRED



592

tires were dropped off by residents and collected free of charge by Rumpke.

39

Freon-containing appliances (refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners) were disposed by the City.



1,820

GALLONS OF PAINT DONATED TO MATTHEW 25: MINISTRIES



The Annual Touch-A-Truck event is a big hit with families in Blue Ash.

WASTE AND RECYCLING



\$204,457

SPENT BY THE CITY ON RECYCLING PROGRAM

\$631,147

SPENT BY THE CITY ON WASTE COLLECTION

simplerecycling

In July, the City began working with Simple Recycling to recycle clothing at no cost to the city. Every month, an average of 1,500 pounds of materials, have been diverted from the landfill through this program.

PUBLIC WORKS

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Project Management is responsible for the administration of engineering services and overseeing all City construction projects including the yearly paving and sidewalk programs.



SUMMIT PARK NATURE PLAYScape

New features and upgrades to the Summit Park Nature Playscape were implemented using \$100,000 in H.B. 529 grant funds from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. The additional natural hardscapes, landscapes, plants, plugs, play equipment and other improvements were completed in late 2019.

DOWNTOWN STREETSCAPE, PHASE 6

Construction of the Downtown Streetscape began in 2014 and continued with Phase 6 in 2019 with Adleta Construction. The new additions included precast storm structures, paver removal and installation of decorative concrete walks, new streetlights, and LED Blue Ash logo signs. This phase of work took place along Cooper Road between Blue Ash Road and Kenwood Road; Cooper Road between Hunt Road and Monroe Avenue; and Towne Square Avenue.



8

NEW TREES

31

NEW
PEDESTRIAN
LEVEL LIGHTS

1,415

LINEAL FEET OF
DECORATIVE
CONCRETE WALK

2,700

LINEAL FEET OF
CONCRETE WALK

PAVING AND CURB PROGRAM

4.5 LANE MILES OF ROADWAY

12 ADA RAMPS INSTALLED

41 CATCH BASINS REPLACED

4,700 LINEAL FEET OF SIDEWALK

14,000 LINEAL FEET OF CURB

ADDITIONAL PROJECTS

- MSC Reception Desk Renovation
- BARC Partial Roof Replacement
- Culvert Repairs
- Creek Road Sidewalk
- Glendale-Milford Roundabout
- Malsbary Road Improvements
- Carver Woods Drive Re-alignment



OAKWOOD PARK RENOVATION

The renovation of Oak Park, located within the Hazelwood subdivision includes a new picnic shelter, restroom building and playground. These new features are complimented with a new asphalt driveway to additional parking, concrete pathways, storm drains, water and sanitary service, and electrical work. This project is scheduled to be completed in early 2020.

PUBLIC WORKS

FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

The Facilities Maintenance Team is responsible for the daily maintenance of all City facilities for the benefit of the City and public. Maintenance tasks include all City buildings, mechanicals and infrastructures. The team has seven full-time and 30 part-time employees. Some part-time employees work just a few hours per week or month.

1,600+

maintenance requests Citywide were completed.

400,000

square feet of area cleaned and maintained by part-time staff



Facility Maintenance staff assist with the mechanical needs for all of the City's special events, including Veteran's Day and Memorial Day. They also assist in the Fall Leaf Pickup Program, snow removal and Holiday decorating in the City.

ENERGY SAVINGS

Fine-tune and monitor systems to reduce costs and wear and tear. Converted parking lot lights to LEDs.

DESIGN ENGINEERING

Active in the mechanical design process of all new City facilities, buildings and parks.



60+

streetlights repaired in the City

ADDITIONAL PROJECTS

- new carpet, paint and lighting in training room and remodeled locker rooms in Police Department
- epoxied Summit Park restroom floors
- programmed lighting controls throughout the City
- replaced carpet at Recreation Center and North Fire Station
- partial Recreation Center roof replacement
- replaced Service Department garage doors
- repaired South Fire Station concrete apron
- painted Nature Park Amphitheater
- renovated tennis court restrooms for ADA compliance

PARKS & RECREATION

PARKS MAINTENANCE HIGHLIGHTS

The park staff modernized some of the City's irrigation systems by replacing irrigation heads with green industry conservation heads. Doing this slows the process of watering, permitting the soil to absorb more water, saving 30% of volume. Park staff also designed and installed new landscape beds at Downtown Gateway locations.



132

hanging
baskets
installed



70

Saplings
planted in the
Nature Park



SPORTS CENTER

100 HOURS DEDICATED BY VOLUNTEERS
175 GAMES ON CROSLY FIELD
2,285 GAMES PLAYED
\$73,010 REVENUE

37,562

total labor hours for park
beautification and
maintenance

SUMMIT PARK 2019 BY THE NUMBERS



5 MORE VENDORS THAN 2018
30 VENDORS TOTAL
475 VISITORS EVERY WEDNESDAY



10.5

tons of rock added to
Playscape

175

room rentals

300

yards of wood chips
placed throughout
the park

10,000

labor hours

14,029

Ice Rink visitors

PARKS & RECREATION

2019 BY THE NUMBERS

EVENTS

250

MAD CAP PUPPETS WIZARD OF OZ ATTENDEES

1,000+

HALLOWEEN WALK IN THE WOODS ATTENDEES

1,000+

FESTIVAL IN THE WOODS ATTENDEES

2,000+

PAWS IN THE PARK ATTENDEES

3,000

BEATS, ARTS & EATS ATTENDEES

3,000+

CINCINNATI COALITION EARTH DAY EVENT ATTENDEES

4,000+

CINCINNATI FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL ATTENDEES

27,425

ATTENDED SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

196,000+

TOTAL EVENT ATTENDANCE

2

MAJOR SPECIAL EVENTS



100,000+

people attended Red, White, and Blue Ash at Summit Park on July 4. Natalie Brady and the Nite Owls opened for headliner Kansas. The fireworks were once again spectacular and utilized the Observation Tower in a creative and patriotic display.

55,000

people attended SummitFest at Summit Park on June 8. Country music artists Tyler Farr and Lee Brice entertained the crowds.

The Recreation Department hosted its first **Ohio Parks and Recreation Association Regional Networking Event** at Summit Park. Staff networked with other Ohio Parks and Recreation Departments and shared all the great amenities and programs that the City of Blue Ash has to offer.



The **Summer Concert Series** runs from June through August on Tuesday Nights at the Blue Ash Nature Park and Friday Nights at Blue Ash Towne Square. In September, four additional concerts are held on Thursday evenings under the Canopy at Summit Park. Six new bands were introduced and two Craft Menagerie nights were added.

PARKS & RECREATION

RECREATION

40th
anniversary
celebrated

Staffing highlights:

- Brian Kruse promoted to Parks and Recreation Director
- Dan Guthrie promoted to Recreation Superintendent
- Erica Gorman promoted to Recreation Supervisor
- Nikki Earhart first full year as Membership Services Manager
- Keola Luckadoo first full year as Café Manager
- Bree Booz hired as Fitness Center Manager
- Andrew Falk's Facility Operations Manager role expanded to include Aquatics and Fitness
- Sarah Chaney and Callie Fisher added to Programming Team

Programming highlights:

- Playhouse in the Park - three shows were performed in February, May & October averaging 150 participants per show.
- Cincinnati Family Magazine Partnership - hosted the Cincinnati Family Magazine Summer Camp Fair which showcased 50 different camps, including camps offered at the Blue Ash Recreation Center, and brought in 1,200 attendees.
- MadCap Puppets - presented The Wizard of Oz in March of 2019 with over 250 spectators.

Quick Stats

2019

Swim lesson participants	627
Climbing wall participants	3330
Memberships sold	4558
Hours of personal training	4900
Fitness class participants	14,633
Concessions revenue	\$158,307



PARKS & RECREATION

2019 BY THE NUMBERS GOLF COURSE

24

MAJOR OUTINGS

41,044

ROUNDS OF GOLF

\$114,034

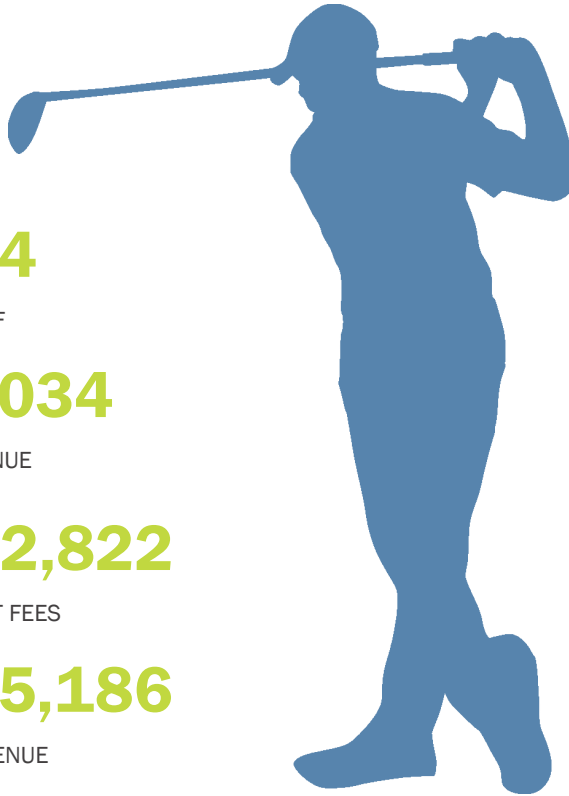
PRO SHOP REVENUE

\$1,112,822

GREEN AND CART FEES

\$1,235,186

TOTAL GOLF REVENUE



2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP RETURNED
- PGA JUNIOR LEAGUE TEAM WON CINCINNATI DISTRICT
- HOSTED GCGA PRO-AM MATCHES

GOLF MAINTENANCE

The Golf Maintenance team was focused on providing championship conditions in a season with plenty of challenges. In July, a major failure with the pump portion of the irrigation system left staff with a complex problem to solve. The lack of irrigation during this time of the year could have been costly for the course and disruptive for the customer. The Golf Maintenance team partnered with Facilities Maintenance and applied an innovative solution. The resulting effects on the course and to the customer were non-existent.

5

Bunkers added

48.81"

of rainfall

6"

more than average

13

drainage improvements on 18 approach

40

new trees planted

18 APPROACH DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

2 ON THE LEFT

3 ON THE RIGHT

8 ON THE FAIRWAY

PARKS & RECREATION

COOPER CREEK



Cooper Creek hired Lauren Wolf in January of 2019 as the new Sales and Event Coordinator with a focus on wedding ceremonies and receptions.

85

social events

120

corporate events

207

total events were held at Cooper Creek in 2019

the knot
BEST OF WEDDINGS
2020

For the 7th year in a row, Cooper Creek is a Best of Weddings Winner from the premier wedding website, The Knot. The annual award, announced in December 2019, is based on guest ratings.



Cooper Creek partnered with Cincinnati Magazine for its annual Sweet Victory event, as well as, Hubbard Radio's Mix 94.9 for its Pretty in Pink event.



Credit: Nina Grey Photography

\$368,641.62

EVENTS BEVERAGE REVENUE

\$732,454.32

EVENTS REVENUE

\$1,053,583.90

EVENTS FOOD REVENUE

\$2,154,679.84

TOTAL REVENUE

VISION STATEMENT

We will continuously improve the quality of community life for all residential and business citizens to ensure Blue Ash is always the “City of Choice” through an enlightened, efficient, and dynamic unified municipal government.





MISSION STATEMENT

To provide superior services, facilities, and activities for all citizens, utilizing key guiding principles of integrity, compassion, innovation, professionalism, and commitment.



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