

BLUEASH



# 2023

## ANNUAL REPORT





# HONORABLE MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS,

With great pleasure the Administrative Team presents this 2023 Annual Report for the City of Blue Ash. Please remember that this report is intended only to summarize 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**  
March 2024



**KELLY HARRINGTON**  
Assistant City Manager



**SHERRY POPPE**  
Treasurer/Administrative  
Services Director



**SCOTT NOEL**  
Police Chief



**CHRIS THEDERS**  
Fire Chief



**DAVID WALTZ**  
City Manager



**GORDON PERRY**  
Public Works Director



**BRIAN KRUSE**  
Parks and Recreation  
Director



# REPORT CONTENTS

---

**Administration 6**

**Finance & Tax 10**

**Human Resources 11**

**Economic Development 12**

**Community Development 13**

**Police 14**

**Fire 16**

**Public Works 18**

**Parks & Recreation 21**

# ADMINISTRATION

The Administration Department includes the offices of the City Manager, Assistant City Manager, Treasurer/ Administrative Services Director, Communications, Human Resources, Tax, Finance, Information Technology, and Administration support staff.

## MADTREE PARKS AND REC

The City inked a deal with MadTree to lease the former airplane hangar at Summit Park for a new brewery concept – **MadTree Parks and Rec**. MadTree will convert the 15,000 square foot building into an indoor/outdoor recreation area featuring a tap room, private rental space, outdoor seating, games, and more. The Cincinnati Port Authority is also a partner in the project, which is expected to be open for business in the spring of 2025.



## the BLUE

**the BLUE**, a mixed-use project slated for the northwest corner of Kenwood and Cooper Roads in downtown Blue Ash received final zoning approval in February. However, in March, the owner of the development company elected to file for bankruptcy due to litigation stemming from a past business partnership in which he was a passive partner. In spite of the legal challenges, the developer continued to move forward with the detailed design of the project, as well as financing and other strategic objectives required to keep the project moving forward.

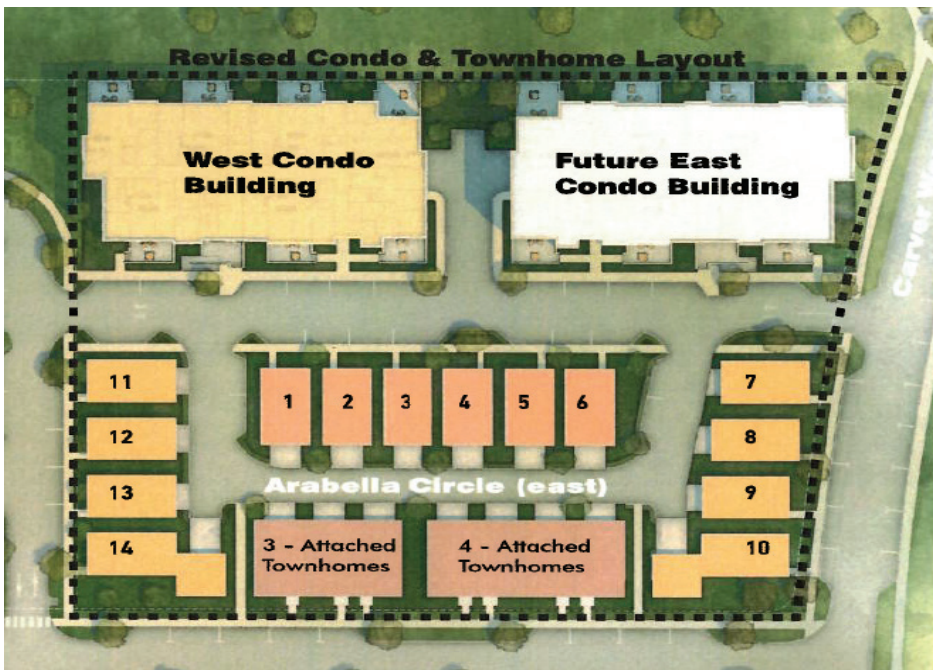
At the end of the year, the timing for the start of the project was uncertain due to a variety of factors, including market conditions and the ability to reach certain project milestones necessary to finalize the development plans. The City retained ownership of the former Hosbrook properties, which proved useful as a temporary parking lot during the Towne Square construction project.



# NEIGHBORHOODS AT SUMMIT PARK

## REHABILITATION HOSPITAL

The **Cincinnati Rehabilitation Hospital at Blue Ash**, located in the Neighborhoods at Summit Park, completed construction in December and scheduled a ribbon-cutting for February 2024.



## ARABELLA AT SUMMIT PARK

Due to the popularity of the **Arabella townhomes**, in September, the developer requested a zoning modification to reduce the number of condo units and increase the quantity of townhomes. This reduced the overall number of units in Arabella Phase II from 72 to 57.

# ADMINISTRATION

## SHARON WOODS

The owner of the former **P&G Sharon Woods** facility on the east side of Reed Hartman Highway was granted a PUD zoning designation on 9.8 acres of the site in order to gain flexibility for financing and marketing of a 165,000 square foot speculative, light industrial building.



## THE TORQUE CLUB

Neyer Properties requested a zoning change of its 11-acre property north of Glendale-Milford Road in order to construct 75 “car condos”, dubbed **The Torque Club**. Car hobbyists will use the individually-owned units to store and display their vehicles.



## COBA 101



In 2023, Blue Ash conducted its fifth **Citizens of Blue Ash Academy**. Sixteen City of Blue Ash residents graduated from the class; a series that aims to educate residents on the functions of local government, promote engagement and create new connections. From February to May, the group met six times to learn

about City Administration, Public Works, Police, Fire, Parks and Recreation, Community Development and Economic Development. Attendees took part in hands-on demonstrations and participated in meaningful discussions about the City’s vision and future.



## COUNCIL CHANGES



In December, **City Council selected Jill Cole (left) to serve as Mayor and Katie Schneider (right) to serve as Vice Mayor.** Both Councilwomen, along with Councilmen Pramod Jhaveri and Marc Sirkin were re-elected to their seats in November.

# 98%

## OF BLUE ASH RESIDENTS ARE SATISFIED WITH THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE CITY!

90% agree that the services the City provides are a good value for the property taxes they pay. These results were from the 2023 Citizen Survey conducted by the University of Cincinnati's Institute for Policy Research.

## SISTER CITY



Fifteen delegates from **Blue Ash's Sister City in Ilmenau, Germany** visited Blue Ash from April 24 through May 1. The visit included tours of City facilities and EH Greene School, visits to the Ohio Statehouse and the National Museum of the United States Air Force near Dayton, meetings with Blue Ash businesses, and an introduction to the fastest growing sport in America – pickleball.



# FINANCE & TAX


## 2023 FINANCE HIGHLIGHTS

- The City maintained budgetary compliance throughout the year.
- The 2024 Tax Budget was prepared and filed with Hamilton County in July, and the 2024 Proposed Budget was presented to and approved by City Council in December.
- The Finance and Human Resource Departments implemented a combined use Payroll and HR software that improves the efficiency of both departments and provides employees with additional access to their payroll information.

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

### Where does the City's money come from?

**PRIMARY SOURCE  
INCOME TAX**



Because the City has a strong business base, only **4.5%** of the income tax collected is from resident returns.

**SECONDARY SOURCE  
PROPERTY TAX**



Only **3.5%** of revenue is collected from property taxes; the City only receives ~6.3% of the total property tax distribution.



The City received its **36th** award of Excellence in Reporting from the National Government Finance Officers Association

## 2023 TAX HIGHLIGHTS

The Tax Office is responsible for income tax collection, reporting, and enforcement of the City's Income Tax Code.

Collections	2022	2023	% Change
Withholdings	\$29,224,898	\$29,412,412	0.64%
Net Profit	\$11,144,708	\$12,093,385	8.51%
Gross Income Tax	\$40,369,606	\$41,505,797	2.81%

**WORK FROM HOME IMPACT** Withholding income tax refunds increased 315% (\$1,029,632) from 2021 to 2022. Changes to State law and some employers moving away from work-from-home led to a decrease in refunds of 27% (\$-367,633) from 2022 to 2023. However, 2023 refunds were still 203% higher than in 2021.

**TOTAL TAX COLLECTION**

≈ **71%** withholding tax revenues

≈ **29%** net profit revenues

# HUMAN RESOURCES

The Human Resources staff has primary responsibility for managing, assisting, and dealing with employee-related matters including policy administration, benefits administration, employment and labor laws, new employee orientation, labor relations, wage and salary studies and administration, the Employee Assistance Program, and recruitment and hiring processes.

## BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION

The City continues its partnership with the Jefferson Health Plan. The Jefferson Health Plan enables eligible employers to provide individually designed benefit programs to their employees while being able to enjoy the cost-saving advantages of group purchasing through the consortium. JHP provides healthcare and related employee benefit programs to over 180 public employer member organizations throughout the States of Ohio, Michigan, and Tennessee and covers over 22,000 employees.



## FULL-TIME JOBS FILLED

- Nicholas Baur-Firefighter/EMT
- Robert Bemmes-Maintenance Technician Specialist
- Douglas Engled-Firefighter/Paramedic
- Hunter Knizner-Firefighter/Paramedic
- Kyle Lackman-Police Patrol Officer
- Tyler Martin-Firefighter/Paramedic
- Jacob Salamon-Police Patrol Officer

## PROMOTIONS

- Jacob Bresnen-Fire Lieutenant to Battalion Chief
- Natalie Crabtree-Sales & Events Assistant (PT) to Sales & Events Manager
- Cameron Gephart-Firefighter/EMT to Firefighter/Paramedic
- Debbie Hicks-Account Clerk I to Account Clerk II
- Eric Holbrook-Landscape/Irrigation Specialist I to Landscape/Irrigation Specialist II
- Erin Lagaly-Sales & Events Coordinator to Sales & Events Manager
- Scott Odley-Landscape/Irrigation Specialist I to Landscape/Irrigation Specialist II
- Scott Reed-Firefighter/Paramedic to Fire Lieutenant
- Lawrence Sanderson-Firefighter/EMT to Firefighter/Paramedic
- Julie Thompson-Account Clerk I to Account Clerk II

## RETIREMENTS

- Courtenay Brooks-Firefighter/ Paramedic
- Louis Ernstes-Battalion Chief
- Elizabeth Roach-Police Patrol Officer
- Robert Rockel-Police Patrol Officer
- Ken Schrand-Police Patrol Officer
- Steve Schueler-Police Lieutenant

## HR HIGHLIGHTS

- BARGAINING AGREEMENT - The Fraternal or of Police Dispatchers' bargaining agreement was ratified in 2023.
- BABY BOOM - 2023 was a year of babies for City employees. The baby boom welcomed eight new, little faces to the Blue Ash family.



## EMPLOYEES GIVE BACK

Employees generously contributed toy/clothing donations to Operation Give Back (OGB) and raised \$1,000 for Matthew 25: Ministries this year.



## BLUE ASH ACADEMY

Members of Class 8 graduated from Blue Ash Academy in May. Participants spend an afternoon each month with each City department and a few community partners to learn how we all serve the citizens of Blue Ash. To date, over 90 City employees have participated in the Academy.

## IN MEMORIAM

The City was sad to lose employees Jimmy Shiverski and Cindy Montag in 2023. Jimmy worked for more than 25 years in Facility Maintenance and Cindy worked 11 years in Parks and three years as a City Hall receptionist.

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## BOOMING MEDICAL INDUSTRY

In addition to many expansions and openings of new businesses in Blue Ash, 2023 saw an influx of several medical companies.

- **Standard Bariatrics** consolidated several locations into a 35,000 square foot space that is sufficient to handle future growth.
- **Preventx**, a British company, opened an office and laboratory that will support its at-home health test kit operations for the entire U.S.
- The **Cincinnati Rehabilitation Hospital at Blue Ash** is a new 3-story, 40-bed inpatient rehabilitation facility located adjacent to Summit Park.
- **CEI** expanded its Blue Ash operations by moving its Retina Clinic operations into a new 36,000 square foot space at the Landings.
- **Gastro Health** modernized an existing 29,000 square foot office building into a state-of-the-art medical office with 28 exam rooms and the capacity to provide specialized diagnostic and treatment service.

The Economic Development Department is responsible for improving the City's economy through job creation, job retention, and innovation. These efforts facilitate continued growth and provide a stable tax base, which in turn creates benefits for the entire community.



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STUDY

In 2023, the City hired Envision to conduct an independent economic development study of Blue Ash. The study incorporated data analysis of traffic patterns and office attendance and included surveys of local stakeholders to help the City understand the current status of our local economy

and aid City Council as it considers development opportunities. Council reviewed the findings in the fall and is continuing into 2024 to consider policy and code updates to address the information that was gathered.



## THE FUTURE OF OFFICE

The importance of in-office work has been widely debated since COVID; remote and hybrid work models have caused many to question the future significance of office buildings. However, a common understanding in the industry is that the highest quality office buildings are still highly coveted and can command higher rents even when there is less demand overall. In 2023, without tenants in place, VanTrust, owner of the Landings office park, completed a multi-million-dollar renovation of a vacant building to take advantage of this high-end market demand. This demonstrates the continued confidence that exists in the Blue Ash market!



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Community Development Department includes building, planning and zoning, and code enforcement. These efforts are intended to help design and maintain an attractive, safe, and orderly City with stable property values and a positive environment for all people who live and work in Blue Ash.

PERMITS  
APPLIED FOR



**56%**  
COMMERCIAL



**44%**  
RESIDENTIAL

**\$93,661,026**

**TOTAL VALUE OF PERMITTED PROJECTS**

**\$77,765,064**

**VALUE OF PERMITTED COMMERCIAL  
PROJECTS**

INVESTMENT  
VALUE



**83%**  
COMMERCIAL



**17%**  
RESIDENTIAL

**\$15,895,962**

**VALUE OF RESIDENTIAL PROJECTS**

**329**

**TOTAL CODE  
ENFORCEMENT  
NOTICES**

**81**

**HIGH  
GRASS  
NOTICES**

**85**

**VIOLATIONS**

**163**

**COURTESY  
NOTICES**

# POLICE DEPARTMENT

## OUR MISSION

*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.*

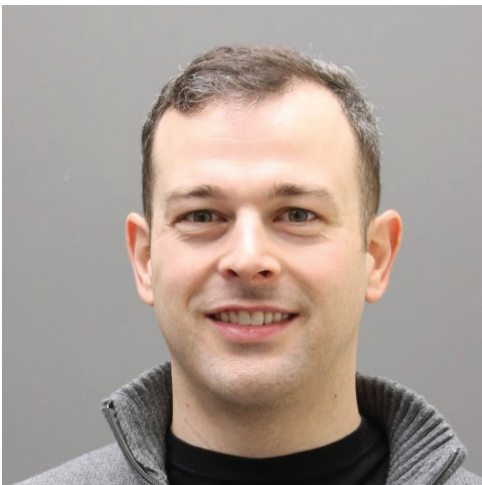
## 2023 ACHIEVEMENTS



Detective Jeff Lewis received the American Legion Post's Officer of the Year Award.

## PERSONNEL UPDATES

Three new police officers were hired in 2023. Officer Kyle Lackman (left) was sworn in on February 22, Officer Jacob Salamon (center) was sworn in on July 31, and Matt Fruchey (right) was sworn in on December 29 as an Auxiliary Officer.



The Blue Ash Police Department (BAPD) is comprised of 37 full-time Police Officers, six Auxiliary Police Officers, six Dispatchers, and three Civilian Support staff members. The majority of officers are assigned to the Patrol Bureau, which provides patrol in the City and answers calls for service around the clock. BAPD is proud to be certified by the Ohio Collaborative Community Police Advisory Board.

## COMMENDATIONS

Det. Sgt. Dane Baumgartner, Detective Abby Ballman, Detective Brendan McKinney, and Detective Chris Keuffer were awarded the Meritorious Police Service Award for Excellent Police Duty.



Det. Sgt. Dane Baumgartner, Detective Chris Keuffer, Detective Abby Ballman, Sgt. Todd Stewart, PO Brandon Taylor, and Dispatcher Becky Koligian received a Commendation for the successful investigation of a kidnapping offense.



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



1. **HEROES AND HELPERS.** The annual event in partnership with Target provided toys and clothing for local children.
2. **RIDES TO SCHOOL.** Officers gave students an unforgettable ride to school in a cruiser.
3. **YOUTH FISHING TOURNAMENT.** The 2nd annual event was a friendly competition to catch the biggest fish at Summit Park.
4. **CHIEF'S FISHING LESSONS.** Chief Scott Noel taught local children how to fish and gifted them his father's fishing poles.
5. **CRAM-A-CRUISER.** BAPD partnered with Kroger to fill a police vehicle with donations.

## BY THE NUMBERS



	Annual		
	2022	2023	% Change
<b>Arrests</b>	398	397	<b>0%</b>
<b>Warrant Arrests</b>	520	471	<b>-9%</b>
<b>OVI Arrests</b>	79	73	<b>-8%</b>
<b>Traffic Stops</b>	3504	4009	<b>14%</b>
<b>Traffic Citations</b>	1274	1356	<b>6%</b>
<b>Traffic Written Warnings</b>	2668	3379	<b>27%</b>
<b>Reports Taken</b>	1419	1506	<b>6%</b>
<b>Crash Reports</b>	510	580	<b>14%</b>
<b>Field Interviews</b>	326	376	<b>15%</b>
<b>Security Checks</b>	6427	10234	<b>59%</b>
<b>School Checks</b>	2171	2700	<b>24%</b>
<b>Hotel Checks</b>	5544	5758	<b>4%</b>
<b>Vacation House Checks</b>	1720	1571	<b>-9%</b>
<b>Preventive Patrol Reports</b>	864	559	<b>-35%</b>

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

## OUR VISION

Setting the standards of excellence; guided by principles of trust, integrity, honesty, loyalty, and respect for all.

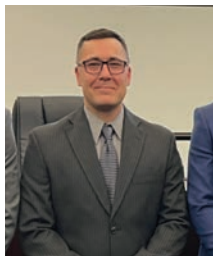
## 2023 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Ray Tobergte and Sam Mirizzi received Fire Officer I and II certifications.
- Matt Poppe and Jim Gallo completed the Loveland Symmes FD Leadership Academy in May.
- On November 9, John Anderson (left) was named Firefighter of the Year and was presented with a plaque from the American Legion Post 630.



The Blue Ash Fire Department is committed to providing excellent service to the community through fire protection and emergency medical services. The fire department operates out of two fire stations and is comprised of 32 full-time Firefighter/Paramedics and eight part-time Firefighter/Paramedics and EMTs.

## PERSONNEL UPDATES



Three additional full-time positions were added to the staff in January. Tyler Martin, Doug Engled, and Hunter Knizner were sworn in on the January 19. In November, the fire department welcomed Nick Baur (right) to the department.



In November, Scott Reed was promoted to Lieutenant and Jake Bresnen was promoted to Battalion Chief.



Two long-time employees retired in 2023. Firefighter/Paramedic Courtenay Brooks retired in January followed by the retirement of Battalion Chief Lou Ernstes in October. Brooks served the city for over 29 years and Ernstes served the city for over 34 years.

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Fire Department is continuously involved in promoting fire prevention and safety to residents and those employed within the City. The public education division offers a wide variety of classes for all ages, which include fire safety education, station tours, school visits, fire drills, CPR/AED classes, and fire extinguisher training.



87% increase from 2022!

CPR Certificates Issued	Car Seats Installed	CPR/AED Classes	Smoke Detectors Installed	Community Events & School Visits	Station Tours	Fire Extinguisher Classes
502	70	47	34	29	18	9





# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Annual Fire Department Open House was held on October 10, during Fire Prevention Week. The national theme for 2023 was "Cooking safety starts with YOU! Pay attention to fire prevention".



The 4th Annual Memorial Stair Climb was held on September 11. Funds raised were donated to Carry On USA.



## BY THE NUMBERS

- 3,986** TRAINING HOURS
- 3,921** CODE ENFORCEMENT INSPECTIONS
- 2,624** TOTAL RUNS
- 401** PLANS REVIEWED
- 307** BUILD INSPECTIONS
- 2** NEW MEDIC BIKES PURCHASED
- 1** CAR FIRE BLANKET PURCHASED

# 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.

### MADTREE PROJECT/PARK MAINTENANCE BUILDING

The Project Management Team has been working closely with Madtree Brewing on the redevelopment of the airport hangar at Summit Park, which housed the Grounds Maintenance and Events Staff. This project triggered the Blue Ash Summit Park Maintenance Building Project, which will give staff members a new work space when Madtree takes over the hangar building in April 2024.

As the City will continue to own the hangar building and lease it to Madtree, the Project Management Team will be heavily involved in the building's renovations, including the overall structure and the surrounding site.



The Blue Ash Public Works Department (BAPW) consists of Project Management, Facilities Maintenance, and the Service Division. Cross-training between these divisions allows for workforce flexibility. BAPW consists of 26 full-time and 26 part-time employees. BAPW oversees permits for roadway and right-of-way work, traffic and pedestrian signal maintenance and operation, administration of the residential waste and recycling collection contract, and utilities coordination.

### BLUE ASH GOLF COURSE BUILDING DESIGN/BUILD PROJECT

The Blue Ash Golf Course Maintenance Building reached the end of its useful life and has been slated to be replaced. After working with a criteria architect (MSP Design), the City released an RFQ/RFP for Design/Build Services to design and construct the new maintenance facility. Shook Construction was selected and worked with R.E Warner and Associates to complete the new Golf Course Facility Design in 2023. Shook broke ground in November 2023. Construction on the new Golf Course Maintenance Building is expected to be substantially completed in July 2024.



## DOWNTOWN GATEWAY PROJECT



The City of Blue Ash awarded two bids for the Downtown Gateway Project which included installation and application of electric, lighting, and paint to create a gateway feature for drivers and pedestrians who enter and exit the north and south areas of Downtown, along Kenwood Road. This project was awarded by Council in December 2022, and was substantially complete in June 2023. Service Division staff utilized their skills to layout and construct the decorative signs. They helped construct walls located at both the north and south ends of Downtown.

### TENNIS COURT RESURFACING PROJECT

The Recreation Center Tennis Courts were in need of resurfacing. After multiple bid attempts, the City ended up contracting with Schubert Tennis Company. The project mainly consisted of crack repair, resurfacing, and new striping, which included the addition of four pickle ball court lines. This project was completed in November of 2023.

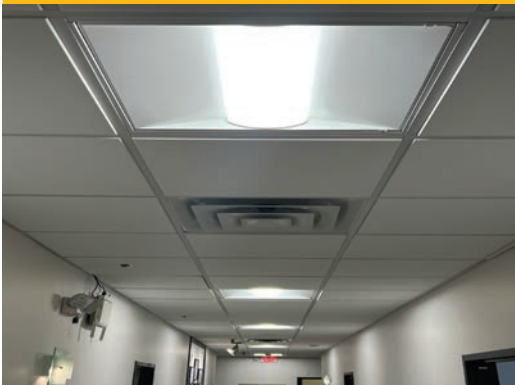


## Facilities Maintenance

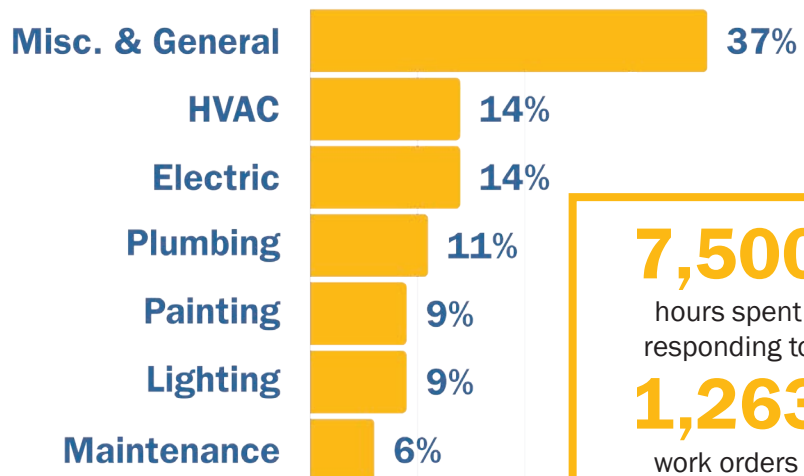
The Facilities Maintenance Division is responsible for daily maintenance of all City facilities for the benefit of City departments, as well as public use. Maintenance tasks are performed on all City buildings, mechanical systems, and infrastructure.

### MAJOR PROJECTS

- Replaced flooring at the North Fire Station
- Replaced signs on Crosley Field
- Replaced the fire sprinkler and domestic water line at City Hall
- Converted parking lot lights and City building lights to LEDs



### % OF TIME DEVOTED TO PROJECTS



**7,500**  
hours spent  
responding to  
**1,263**  
work orders

# PUBLIC WORKS

## Service Division

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

### BY THE NUMBERS

<b>6,264</b>	<b>GALLONS OF BEET HEAT APPLIED TO ROADS</b>
<b>5,264</b>	<b>CU. YDS. OF BRUSH COLLECTED</b>
<b>3,060</b>	<b>MILES OF PAVEMENT SWEEP</b>
<b>2,662</b>	<b>FEET OF SIDEWALK REPLACED</b>
<b>2,655</b>	<b>CU. YDS. OF LEAVES COLLECTED</b>
<b>2,000</b>	<b>GALLONS OF PAINT COLLECTED</b>
<b>1,409</b>	<b>TONS OF SALT APPLIED TO ROADS</b>
<b>360</b>	<b>FEET OF CURB REPAIRED/REPLACED</b>
<b>278</b>	<b>YDS. OF CONCRETE USED</b>
<b>143</b>	<b>SIGNS DESIGNED, INSTALLED OR REPAIRED</b>
<b>80</b>	<b>RESIDENTS ATTENDED NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN UP DAY</b>
<b>38</b>	<b>CATCH BASINS REPAIRED, REPLACED OR INSTALLED</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>TONS OF ASPHALT APPLIED FOR ROAD REPAIRS</b>
<b>14.25</b>	<b>INCHES OF SNOW</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>WEATHER CALL OUTS</b>

# PARKS & RECREATION

Blue Ash Parks & Recreation is comprised of four divisions: Recreation, Park Maintenance, Golf Maintenance and Cooper Creek Event Center. Each department works together to bring events, services, and beautiful park spaces to residents.

## Recreation

The Blue Ash Recreation Department, with its six full-time and over 150 part-time staff, oversees the planning and execution of a wide range of community offerings. These include, but are not limited to, fitness and pool facilities, exercise classes, swim lessons, youth camps, a climbing wall, and concession services. Additionally, the department coordinates numerous city events, such as the Summer Concert Series, Red, White & Blue Ash, and Brew Ash, as well as many other smaller events, serving residents of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds.

Trena Perrine was hired as the new Fitness Center Manager.



## RECREATION CENTER



- 3,065** Fitness classes offered
- 3,107** Facility check-ins
- 9,730** Active memberships
- 20,766** Fitness class participants
- 244,984** Facility check-ins



## EVENTS & PROGRAMS



**75K**  
ATTENDEES @  
RED, WHITE &  
BLUE ASH



**11K**  
SKATERS @  
WARM 98.5  
ICE RINK AT  
SUMMIT PARK

**3K**  
ATTENDEES @  
PAWS IN THE  
PARK



**1.5K**  
ATTENDEES @  
BREW  
ASH



**14K**  
ATTENDEES @  
CFTA FOOD  
FEST

**5K**  
ATTENDEES @  
EACH OFF  
MARKET



**3K**  
ATTENDEES @  
SUMMIT  
CINEMA

# PARKS & RECREATION

## Park Maintenance

### PERSONNEL UPDATES



#### SPORTS CENTER

Brian Connell (left) was hired as Supervisor. Henry Stephenson and Ken Blythe were hired as evening Supervisors.

### 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- Replaced netting on field at the Blue Ash Sports Center
- Implemented Task Tracker software at Summit Park
- Re-turfed the Summit Park playground
- Landscaped Summit restaurant entrances and several other areas of the park



**120** Acres of grass mowed

**150** Hanging baskets maintained

**880** Yards of mulch used

**3,368** Annuals planted/maintained

**\$103,696** Blue Ash Sports Center net revenue

### INVASIVE SPECIES REMOVAL AT SUMMIT PARK

The Ohio River Foundation (ORF) worked with Blue Ash staff members and corporate volunteers to remove thousands of invasive species from Summit Park in 2023. Volunteers and staff combed through 21.5 acres of park property. Species including Sweetclover, Canada Thistle, Poison Hemlock, and Callery Pear were removed. These invasive plants and others spread aggressively, impact soil chemistry, increase erosion, and decrease wildlife habitats.



## COOPER CREEK

### PERSONNEL UPDATES

Erin Hensler and Natalie Crabtree were promoted to Event Managers

**114** Total events

**\$288,298** Event beverage revenue

**\$592,553** Event revenue

**\$823,934** Event food revenue



# Golf Maintenance



**BLUE ASH**  
GOLF COURSE

**All-time records achieved in rounds of golf, green fees, cart fees, and pro shop revenue!**

## BY THE NUMBERS

<b>894</b>	<b>TONS OF SAND APPLIED TO COURSE</b>
<b>1,500</b>	<b>HOURS CHANGING CUPS/TEES</b>
<b>5,894</b>	<b>HOURS OF PUTTING GREEN MAINTENANCE</b>
<b>7,579</b>	<b>MOST GOLF ROUNDS IN ONE MONTH (JUNE)</b>
<b>53,196</b>	<b>MOST GOLF ROUNDS EVER PLAYED IN A YEAR</b>



### POLLINATOR PRAIRIE MANAGEMENT

Golf Course staff worked with the Ohio River Foundation to remove invasive species from the pollinator prairies. The project is an example for other golf courses in the fight to protect and create habitats for monarch butterflies.



<b>8,102</b>	<b>Hot dogs, brats, &amp; metts sold</b>
<b>18,992</b>	<b>Non-alcoholic beverages sold</b>
<b>45,048</b>	<b>Cans of beer sold</b>

# MISSION STATEMENT

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





# 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.



**Back row L to R: MARC SIRKIN (WARD 5), JEFF CAPELL (WARD 4), LEE CZERWONKA (AT-LARGE),  
BRIAN GATH (WARD 2)**

**Front row L to R: VICE MAYOR KATIE SCHNEIDER (WARD 1), MAYOR JILL COLE (AT-LARGE),  
PRAMOD JHAVERI (WARD 3)**







4343 Cooper Road | Blue Ash, Ohio | 45242-5699 | (513) 745-8500