

SPRING 2018 NEWSLETTER

Downtown Streetscape Project Celebrates 50% Completion *A look back at the changes over the years*

Blue Ash City Council voted April 12th to approve a bid for Phase 5 of the Downtown Streetscape Project, an ongoing plan to enhance downtown Blue Ash for residents, businesses and visitors. By the end of 2018, more than \$4.5 million dollars will have been invested in downtown Blue Ash through the project.

Over the past 8 years, downtown Blue Ash has undergone a transformation to create a more pedestrian-friendly environment, enhance aesthetics, and support outdoor entertainment and activities. The Downtown Streetscape Project began in 2010 with a focus on improving sidewalks, crosswalks, lighting, trees, landscaping and other elements. Phase 5 includes Kenwood Road from Cooper Road, south to Ronald Reagan Highway. If budget allows, this phase may also include a decorative wall at the southwest corner of Kenwood and Cooper Roads. There are three additional phases anticipated.



Downtown sidewalks in 2011 versus today



Downtown traffic signals in 2011 versus today

Here is a look back at some of the changes in celebration of the start of Phase 5:

The Downtown Streetscape project has included:

- New traffic signals and crosswalks that are safer, more efficient and visually appealing
- Concrete sidewalks with a decorative strip that are safer for pedestrians and cost-effective
- Re-location of lighting to provide a clear pathway and ample light for pedestrians

Many of these changes were necessary to remain in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The project is also environmentally-conscious and incorporates silva cells to promote healthy street trees. The silva cell system, which is underground, allows the trees to grow roots past the cell itself instead of being confined. The cell system is also topped with pervious concrete, allowing the storm water into the ground to provide natural filtration.



Underground silva cells

The project also includes beautiful landscaping that will mature over the next few years, as well as the continuation of the decorative flower baskets. While some of the decorative walls were removed due to deterioration, other walls will be refinished. Future plans may also include creating a “gateway” into the City through special signage or other details.

A Perfect Compliment to Summit Park:

Vibrant restaurants, shopping, high-end apartments, office space and senior living are coming to Blue Ash! The Neighborhoods at Summit Park will be built on the former airport runway property near Summit Park. Blue Ash City Council approved the mixed-use development in early January, and the development has been designed to ensure the exciting project is the perfect compliment to Summit Park.

Summit Park was constructed with three distinct sections: the social/active zone, the adventure area, and the frontier. The Neighborhoods at Summit Park development will mirror these zones with the more active components (office, hotel, apartments) toward the east and the more passive, peaceful areas to the west. The development was designed to bring the more energetic areas closer to Summit Park's social zone, maintaining serenity on the park's western side. The design allows the amenities at Summit Park and the Neighborhoods at Summit Park to flow seamlessly together, and not detract from each other.

Developer Al. Neyer anticipates activity to increase at the site over the summer months. The developer expects construction on the mixed-use building to begin in May, as well as construction of a public roadway system throughout the development. M/I Homes has already begun construction of 12 single-family homes in the Daventry neighborhood of the development.



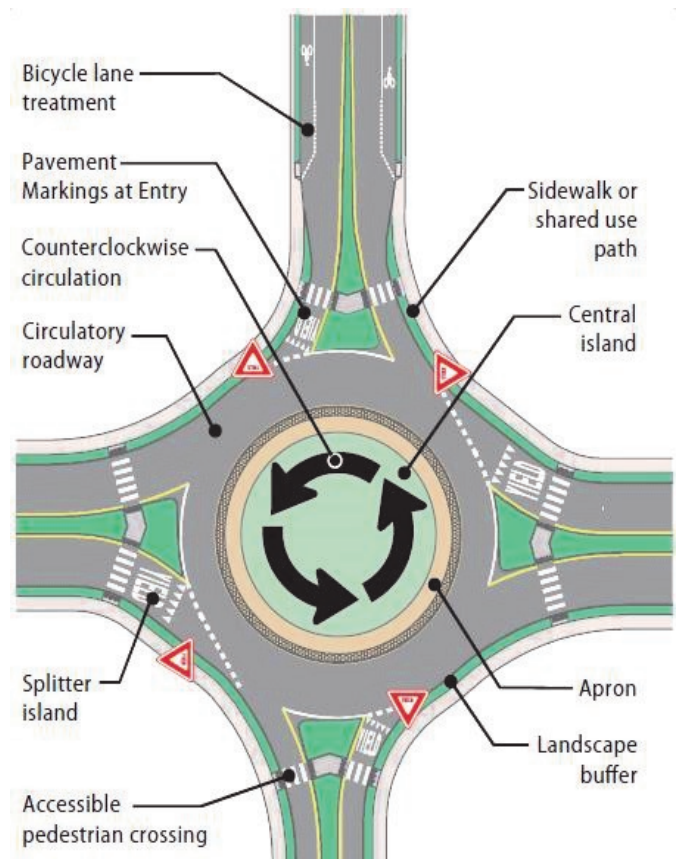
For more updates, visit the “Ongoing Projects” tab on BlueAsh.com.

Roundabouts Offer Safe Solutions:

The City's second roundabout will be located at the new Plainfield Road and Parkview Drive intersection, which is the entrance to the Daventry neighborhood. The two-lane roundabout will begin construction this year and will be a safe choice for drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians.

Roundabouts force a slower rate of vehicle speed and are designed to be safer than traditional intersections for pedestrians. Crosswalks are set further back from vehicle traffic, allowing drivers more time to react to people in the roadway before entering or exiting the roundabout. Islands between lanes of vehicle traffic give pedestrians a safe place to wait if they choose to cross only one direction of traffic at a time.

People using the crosswalk should look for approaching vehicle traffic, then move through the crosswalk to the island. Before continuing, they should look for traffic entering or exiting the roundabout. When it is safe, they can continue through the crosswalk.

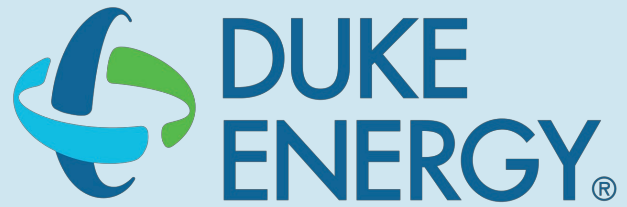


Source: Federal Highway Administration

Find more roundabout safety tips on BlueAsh.com!

Duke Energy Continues with Central Pipeline Corridor Application

Duke Energy Ohio is moving forward with its application before the Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) to construct the proposed Central Corridor Pipeline. Duke Energy Ohio asked to delay the process last summer and has since made minor adjustments after additional testing and meetings with property owners.



Duke Energy Ohio has advanced the design and alignment of the route, which runs primarily through Blue Ash, Evendale and Reading. Now, the company has asked the OPSB to reschedule the adjudicatory hearing for later this summer. The OPSB will issue its decision on the pipeline sometime after the hearing is complete.

In 2017, the City of Blue Ash filed a motion to intervene in Duke Energy's proposed Central Corridor Pipeline. The intervention was filed on March 31, 2017, following the OPSB's acceptance of Duke's application. Blue Ash City Council has continuously voiced opposition for the project, due to environmental and safety concerns.

For more information on the pipeline, visit www.opsb.ohio.gov and search case number 16-253-GA-BTX.

It's Almost Pool Season!

The outdoor pools at the Blue Ash Recreation Center are open from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend.

The Olympic-size swimming pool is heated, reaches a depth of 13-feet in the deepest end and has two 145 foot dual twist tube water slides. The Family Wading Pool (pictured below) accommodates all ages and abilities. This uniquely-built and designed pool features spray amenities, a dump bucket, wet bubble, slide and more! Both pools are open to members of the Blue Ash Recreation Center.

The Blue Ash Recreation center also offers School of Fins: Swim and Safety Lessons and the Blue Fins Swim Team. For information about swim lessons and/or memberships, please call 513-745-8550.



Nominations Being Accepted for Beautification Contest:

Is your front lawn award-worthy? Submit your lawn and garden for the annual Beautification Contest! The City is accepting nominations for the neighborhood landscaping contest through May 31st. Judges will view the lawns the week of June 9.

The homes will be judged according to the type of plantings used, lawn area and tree maintenance, and overall appearance. Three Beautification Award winners will be chosen, as well as one Mayor's Choice.

Residents who have won in the past three years will not be eligible. Interested property owners should contact Jen Wolf at jwolf@blueash.com or 513-745-8547.

SummitFest & Summit Park Dedication Ceremony on June 9:



Celebrate the start of summer with the inaugural SummitFest country music festival at Summit Park! The one-day event is family-friendly and free to attend.

Gates to SummitFest open at noon. Prior to the performances, shop a selection of retail vendors, enjoy a variety of food options and visit the Beer & Whiskey Garden to taste the specialty drink designed for SummitFest. Don't forget to stop by other activities including a silent disco, the "Rock Out" community art project from 1PM-4PM and group yoga with Project Yoga at 2PM! There will also be activities and games available for children.

Kellie Pickler will perform at 4:00PM, followed by Eli Young Band at 6:30PM and Chase Rice at 9:00PM. Stick around following the concert for the park's first-ever laser show. For 15 minutes, six lasers will create spectacular designs and images while choreographed to music.

SummitFest also celebrates the completion of construction at Summit Park! Members of the public are invited to come early and join the City of Blue Ash for a special dedication ceremony at 11AM, in a white tent located on the north side of the Great Lawn. Following the ceremony, limited access tours will be available to the public. Please note the Observation Tower will be closed to the public on June 9, due to the festival.

For more information, visit BlueAshEvents.com.



2018 Blue Ash Summer Concert Series

**Tuesdays
7-9PM
Blue Ash Nature Park**

June 5	The Klüberheads
June 12	Sycamore Community Band
June 19	Sound Body Jazz Orchestra
June 26	Ooh La La, Unplugged
July 3	NO CONCERT
July 4	RED, WHITE & BLUE ASH @ Summit Park
July 10	Ricky Nye Inc.
July 17	UC Community Band
July 24	Mickey James & The Queen City Crew
July 31	Pete Wagner Band
August 7	Monday Night Big Band
August 14	Cincinnati Brass Band
August 21	The Girtons
August 28	P&G Big Band

**Thursdays
6-8PM
Summit Park**

September 6	Hayden Kaye
September 13	River Snout
September 20	The Tealights
September 27	Chaquis Maliq

**Fridays
8-11PM
Blue Ash Towne Square**

June 1	The Soul Pocket
June 8	NO CONCERT
June 9	SUMMITFEST @ Summit Park
June 15	Final Order
June 22	**Buzz Bin
June 29	Cherry on Top
July 6	The Stagger Lee Band
July 13	The Good Hooks
July 20	**Green Light Morning
July 27	Robin Lacy & DeZydeco
August 3	The Company Stores
August 10	The Remains
August 17	90 Proof Twang
August 24	Forever Diamond
August 25	BEATS, ARTS & EATS

**** Craft Menagerie Concert**

Along with the normal Friday Night Concert,
art & craft vendors will be
joining us beginning at 7PM to showcase their work.

Presented By:



Touch-A-Truck May 23th, 4PM-7PM Summit Park

The Blue Ash Public Works Department will host Touch-a-Truck on May 23 from 4-7PM at Summit Park (4335 Glendale-Milford Road). Equipment will be on display for children and adults to get a close-up look at the vehicles used around the City. Individuals can get their pictures taken and learn more about the Public Works Department during National Public Works Week. Vehicles will include a street sweeper, wheel loader, dump truck, mini excavator, snow plows and more. The event will be canceled in the event of rain.



Bike Rodeo June 13th, 3:30PM -7PM Summit Park



Blue Ash Police, Fire and Public Works will participate in the Bike Rodeo! This event will feature safety information, face painting, snacks, free bike helmets from Children's Hospital, an obstacle course, giveaways, and a "touch-a-truck" event. The Ohio State Highway Patrol and Trek Bikes will also be present at the event with displays and fun giveaways.

A banner for the Blue Ash Farmers Market. The background is a collage of fresh produce: strawberries on the left, carrots in the center, and blueberries on the right. In the center, there is a white rectangular box with the text "BLUE ASH FARMERS MARKET" in large green letters, "2018 SEASON" in smaller black letters, and "MAY 16 - SEPTEMBER 26" in black letters. A small logo for "Blue Ash Farmers Market" is in the bottom right corner of the white box.

BLUE ASH FARMERS MARKET
2018 SEASON
MAY 16 - SEPTEMBER 26

Don't miss the Blue Ash Farmers Market at Summit Park. The Farmers Market offers sustainably grown foods and unique goods from almost 30 vendors. The market also offers live music, food trucks, free demos and more! The Farmers Market is open from 3:30-7PM on Wednesdays.

Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony
May 28th, 10:15AM
Cooper Road & Towne Square



The City of Blue Ash will host its annual Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony on Monday, May 28. The parade will begin on Reed Hartman Highway and Cooper Road promptly at 10:15AM. The parade will proceed east on Cooper to Kenwood, south on Kenwood to Hunt, east on Hunt and end at the Bicentennial Veterans Memorial Park at Blue Ash Towne Square. A special ceremony will take place after the parade at approximately 11:30AM.

More than 55 groups will participate in the parade, which range from military and non-profit organizations to local businesses and community groups. The keynote speaker will be Lieutenant Colonel Dominic "Nick" S. Fago. Fago is the Commander of the 123rd Air Control Squadron in Cincinnati. The Cincinnati Warbirds will perform a flyover, weather permitting, and there will be a performance by the Ohio Military Band.

The Blue Ash/Montgomery Symphony Orchestra Memorial Day Concert will begin at 6PM at Towne Square.

RED, WHITE & BLUE ASH

Warm98.5 **Kroger** **TOYOTA**
80s, 90s, Now. Let's Go Places

July 4, 2018 • 4PM - 10:35PM
SUMMIT PARK

Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo
8:15PM
John Waite
6:00PM
ARTHUR ROZZI PYROTECHNICS FIREWORKS
10:00PM

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THE OFFICIAL CITY OF BLUE ASH SPRING NEWSLETTER

Blue Ash Residents Complete Citizens Academy:

Eleven City of Blue Ash residents successfully completed Citizens of Blue Ash 101, a three-part class series on how the City's 6 different department's function. This was the second year for the program, which aims to educate residents, create connections and inspire the next generation of City ambassadors! This 2018 participants graduated during the April 12th Blue Ash City Council meeting.

Congratulations to Steven Manning, Joan Silverman, Rick Tremblay, Dave Rice, Mary Fischer, Sumner Saeks, Pam Saeks, Debra Loeb, David Otten, Mark Freiberg and Bernice Bishop!

The next Citizens of Blue Ash 101 program will be held in early 2019.

