



# August 15, 2023 MAYOR'S UPDATE

## Coming up in Bexley:

<b>August 16, 4:00 pm:</b>	<b>Tree and Public Garden Commission</b>
<b>August 17, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm:</b>	<b>Adult Pool Splash</b>
<b>August 17, 4:00-7:00 pm:</b>	<b>Farmers' Market</b>
<b>August 19, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm:</b>	<b>Splish, Splash &amp; Dash</b>
<b>August 19 &amp; 21:</b>	<b>Capital University Move In Weekend</b>
<b>August 22, 6:00 pm:</b>	<b>City Council Meeting</b>
<b>August 26, 5:00 - 10:00 pm:</b>	<b>Smoke &amp; Fire Festival</b>
<b>September 3, 3:00 - 8:00 pm:</b>	<b>Labor Day Block Party and Brewfest</b>

## Some of What I've Been Up To:

- Routine staff and cabinet touch-base meetings
- Newsletter completion and sent to print
- Cooked for National Night Out
- Extensive planning, coordination, and staffing support for July 4 parade and evening activities
- Trash Talk with residents after July 4
- Alley of the Future planning meeting
- Meetings, communications, and follow up in support of aggregation program rollout
- Preparation and presentation at TIRC Meeting
- Extensive work reviewing, interviewing, and evaluating HR Coordinator candidates
- Meeting on commercial/multifamily recycling
- Front Yard/Corner Lot Meeting and follow up
- Year of the Parks communication, meetings, emails, and other follow up regarding Pedestrian Bridge, Follies bids, Outdoor Reading Room, etc.
- Greenlining Community Engagement Brainstorming session
- Into the Woods meeting and emails
- Oath of Office administered to Officer Anderson
- After Action review meeting for July 4
- One Bexley meeting and follow up
- Bike Friendly Bexley public workshops and other planning/communications work
- Meeting with Columbia Gas regarding line replacement project
- Attended Senator Hearcel Craig's birthday party
- Meetings, emails, and calls with multiple residents regarding various concerns and questions
- Staffed cookout for seniors at Senior Center
- Mayor's Court Meeting
- Calls and Meetings with potential board candidates
- Planning and staffing of Splash Pad Grand Opening
- Meeting and work on Ferndale Mayfield
- OEC Organizational Assessment meeting
- Meetings and communications with potential developers
- Columbus Regional ESID Board Meeting
- Meeting regarding EV Charging idea
- Youth Interaction Policy Meeting
- School Traffic Study Meeting

Keep in touch! To sign up for weekly email updates from the City of Bexley, including information on community events and timely notifications and reminders, visit: [www.bexley.org/blast](http://www.bexley.org/blast)



**BEXLEYBLAST**  
CITY OF BEXLEY EMAIL COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

## Year of the Parks Update

### Meetings and Progress Over Past Couple Weeks:

- Splash Pad Grand Opening
- Pond nearing completion
- Follies bid awarded
- Plaza utility work went to bid and now going to board of control



## Drexel Traffic Calming Construction Update

The Drexel Avenue project is a multi-year water, sewer, and roadway project designed to modernize infrastructure and calm traffic along this portion of Drexel Avenue. To date, we have completed the rehabilitation of the existing storm and sanitary sewers to enhance the function of our sewage and drainage system. We have also completed the replacement of our water mains in this corridor to improve the function of our water system and provide better water quality and fire hydrant flow.

Currently, we are working on installing the curb bump-outs and medians at various intersections along South Drexel from Main Street to Broad Street. We anticipate this work will be completed by the end of September. The median planting will be completed in the Fall of 2023. The tree selected is Prunus x Okame, an ornamental Cherry tree, with euonymus fortune ("winter creeper") ground cover. There will be several road closures to install the medians and traffic will be detoured to the nearest side street while these short closures are in effect.

After the current phase of work has been completed we are coordinating with ODOT to perform the road resurfacing of US 40, which will include both S Drexel Avenue (from Main Street to Broad Street) and Broad Street (from Nelson Road to Westland Avenue). We expect this work to occur in the Spring of 2024 depending on ODOT'S bidding schedule.

Following ODOT's paving, an additional pedestrian-activated beacon at Powell and permanent pavement markings will be installed in the Spring of 2024. Additionally, once the necessary traffic calming devices (medians and bump-outs) have been installed and the street is open and available for unrestricted use we will be performing a traffic study in the hope to petition ODOT to allow us to decrease the speed limit in the residential area to 25 MPH; we will keep you apprised of this component of the project as it progresses.

For ongoing updates on this and all city projects, please visit <https://bexley.org/street-projects/>. Thank you for your patience and cooperation throughout this project, as we work hard to continuously improve our infrastructure and the safety of our streets for all!

## Back to School Safety Message

As the new academic year begins, motor vehicle and pedestrian traffic multiplies around the city of Bexley and with it safety issues can arise. The Bexley Police Department reminds residents, parents, students, faculty and staff that there are a number of simple actions everyone can take to reduce the chances of being impacted while making walking, biking, and traveling to school a safer experience.

Part of our safety, security, and visibility efforts include Bexley Police Officers being strategically placed at Broad Street and Cassingham and Main Street and Cassingham at both the beginning of and end of the school days on select days through the first few weeks of school.

Students walking to school should remember the following:

- Be alert when crossing the street, even when at a stop sign or traffic light. Always watch drivers to make sure they see you.
- Put phones down before crossing, and take out headphones to make sure you're aware of your surroundings.

Students biking to school should remember the following:

- If biking on the sidewalk or using crosswalks with a bike, always walk bikes through crosswalks; it can be challenging for drivers to brake in time for bikes that are in motion.
- If biking on the street, you must obey traffic rules, including for stop signs and traffic signals, stopping for pedestrians at crosswalks, and using hand signals to indicate turning motions.
- Bike helmets are required for riders of bikes/skateboards/scooters who are 16 and under and they're strongly recommended for all others!

Parents dropping off students should remember the following:

- It is not legal or safe to unload passengers at or near stop signs, or in any lane of moving traffic; drivers should only unload passengers from legal parking spaces when fully stopped and completely outside of any travel lane.
- Bus parking zones are marked and enforced.
- Each public school zone has turn restrictions that are designed to protect student safety; these turn restrictions are marked and enforced.
- Students being dropped off at a mid-block location across from a school should cross at the nearest marked crosswalk.

Thank you for doing your part to help keep Bexley safe for our students as they return to school!

## Mayor's Update to City Council



