



ADMINISTRATION & DEVELOPMENT

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE | DECEMBER 2024

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- **The Community Builders (TCB):** Over the course of the last two months, TCB hosted several focus groups and community meetings to gather feedback on proposed plans for two affordable housing developments at 420 N. Cassady and 2300 E. Livingston. At their second community-wide meeting on December 9, TCB presented a revised set of plans based on the feedback collected. We anticipate those plans being submitted for architectural and planning review yet this week. General information about the meetings was shared on the City's homepage, with more specific details forthcoming as plans are submitted.
- **Bexley's Green Energy Aggregation Program Wins State-wide Award:** On December 11, the City will receive the Power Clean Future Ohio's Clean Energy Aggregation Award for the successful implementation of our program with Dynegy. Year-to-date, the program has saved Bexley's residents a collective \$1,176,722 while offsetting significant carbon emissions. Kudos to Mayor Kessler and Sustainability Programs Coordinator Elizabeth Ellman on a job well done! With the current program ending May 2025, staff are working with energy consultants Aspen Energy to review the results of a new request for proposals for a potential future program. Details will be shared back with City Council in early 2025.
- **City Website Updating:** A big shout out to communications-guru Natalie Vawter for the many, many website updates she's pushed over the finish-line over the last two months. Highlights include major improvements in layout and usability on the street project page, FOIA request page, and Police Department pages, with more improvements to the Building and Zoning Department pages in the works. Well done, Natalie!
- **Holtzman Landfill:** The City is nearing a final joint agreement with the property owners at Ferndale-Mayfield to apply for an environmental assessment grant through the Ohio Department of Development's Brownfield Remediation Grant Program. While multiple assessments have been completed over the course of the last decade on the site of the former Holtzman Landfill, this will be the first assessment conducted in line with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's Voluntary Action Program (VAP) standards. Staff are hopeful that a grant application can be submitted by January 2025.
- **LinkUs - East/West Bus Rapid Transit (BRT):** With the LinkUs Levy adopted by voters in November, COTA is working toward provided an updated timeframe for 60% plan submission, with May 2025 being the soonest the City should expect plan sets. In the meantime, the City is working with COTA on proposed betterments (streetscape improvements desired by the City beyond the scope of the BRT project). More information will be shared as it comes available: bexley.org/linkus
- **Land Use Strategy Update 2.0:** Document drafting has officially begun and staff are working with planning advisors OHM to develop illustrations for core focus areas. The Commission anticipates bringing a draft strategy to City Council in early 2025: bexley.org/landuse
- **Other On-Going Projects:** 2024 Annual Report and Budget in Brief development; Winter *Bexley Times* newsletter editing; Mayor's Court software upgrade evaluation; One Bexley outreach assistance; Parking management system contracting