



April 22, 2025 MAYOR'S UPDATE



Coming up in Bexley:

April 23, 1:00 pm:	Author Talk with Amy Stewart
April 23, 6:00 pm:	Earth Month Keynote - Jeff Speck: Building a more Walkable Bexley
April 24, 6:00 pm:	Board of Zoning Appeals and Planning
April 25, 4:00 pm:	Birch Walk Dedication and Tree Planting
April 26, 8:00 - 11:00 am:	Green Bexley Cleanup
April 26, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm:	DEA Drug Takeback Day
April 27, 4:00 - 6:00 pm:	BMPA Circle of Excellence
April 29, 4:30 pm:	Trash Talk with Mayor Kessler
April 30, 7:00 pm:	Love Your Alley: Let's Turn Water Problems Into Water Solutions
May 1, 8:30 am:	Board of Control
May 3, 9:00 - 11:00 am:	Bexley Re:Cycle Bikes Open Workshop
May 10, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm:	Bexley Women's Health and Wellness Fair
May 17-18:	Bexley For Sale and Freecycle Event

Some of What I've Been Up To:

- Extensive prep and planning work for Walkable Bexley Jeff Speck Visit
- Creation and communication of BRT station community survey
- Welcome to Toni, Payroll Coordinator
- Planning work for Arbor Day Birch Walk ribbon cutting event
- Water Buffalo meeting
- BCE & event planning and sponsor follow up
- Meeting with JCC
- Civil Service Commission
- Finance Department records retention meeting
- MORPC Transportation Commission meeting
- Meetings and follow up with Capital University
- Commercial Design guidelines meeting/interviews
- Meetings and calls with potential developers
- Meetings and calls with Bexley business owners
- Preschool tree planting
- BWC House and Garden Tour Meeting
- Sewer Study RFP meetings and communications
- CIC TCB LOI meeting
- St. Charles 7th Grade Day
- July 4 Coordination Meeting
- Spencer Cahoon meeting
- Slowdown Bexley meeting and followup
- Work on tree commission ordinance plan
- Speaker at MORPC Leadership event
- Blast work and edits
- Egg Dash
- LinkUS meetings, calls, and follow up
- Commonwealth Unification 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



BEXLEYBLAST
CITY OF BEXLEY EMAIL COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

Commercial Design/Streetscape Guidelines Kickoff Study & Talk

The firm Speck Dempsey will be kicking off our Commercial Design/Streetscape Guidelines with a walkability study and recommendations from nationally recognized planner Jeff Speck. There are several events occurring around this kickoff, including internal workshops and a community talk at the Drexel Theatre. Lineup is listed below!

Tuesday, April 22

3:30 - 5:00 pm: Workshop 1: Main Street Bexley at City Hall
6:00 pm: Jeff Speck Introduction at City Council Meeting
8:00 pm: Dinner at Cafe Istanbul (Immediately following Council)

Wednesday, April 23

9:00 - 10:45 am: Workshop 2: N. Cassady at Bexley Senior Center
11:00 am - Noon: Workshop 3: Parks, Trees, and Public Art at City Hall
7:00 - 8:45 pm: Keynote: Walkable Bexley Talk at the Drexel

Green Bexley Cleanup Day & DEA Takeback - April 26



BOOKS

Hardback or paperback in good condition.



BIKES

Bikes in need of repair are accepted.



ELECTRONICS



SHREDDING

*Limit of 3 bankers boxes per person.
Paper clips and staples are accepted, but
binders and binder clips must be removed.*



UNACCEPTED ITEMS

Visit recycleright.org for more information on how to dispose of these items.

- ✗ Oils
- ✗ Paint
- ✗ Chemicals
- ✗ Light bulbs
- ✗ Large household items
- ✗ Furniture that requires cleaning or repair



DEA DRUG TAKEBACK DAY

8 a.m.-2 p.m.

- ✓ Human or animal pills and patches.
- ✓ Vaping devices without lithium ion cartridges.
- ✗ No needles, sharps, syringes, or liquids.

Empty medicine bottles can also be dropped off for recycling.



GOODWILL

Items must be clean and in good, working order.

- ✓ Wearable clothing, shoes, and accessories
- ✓ Antiques and collectibles
- ✓ Dishes, silverware, pots/pans, and utensils
- ✓ Toys and games
- ✓ Home decorative items
- ✓ Sporting, musical, and fitness equipment
- ✓ Tools and toolboxes
- ✓ Linens, bedding, towels, blankets, and other decorative fabric household items
- ✓ Small and medium furniture



NON-WEARABLES



BATTERIES

Terminals must be taped.



Earth & Arbor Month Events

April is Earth & Arbor Month and we still have several great events left to celebrate.

Wednesday, April 23 at 1:00 pm: Arbor Day Author Visit with Amy Stewart

Don't miss NYT best-selling author and accomplished artist Amy Stewart, as she joins us to discuss her latest book, *The Tree Collectors: Tales of Arboreal Obsession* in celebration of Arbor Day.

Wednesday, April 23 at 7:00 pm: Earth & Arbor Month Keynote: Jeff Speck - Towards a More Walkable Bexley

Join Jeff Speck, internationally renowned urban planner and author of *Walkable City*, *Suburban Nation: The Rise of Sprawl and the Decline of the American Dream*, and *The Smart Growth Manual*, for a keynote talk on building an even more walkable Bexley.

Friday, April 25 at 4:00 pm: Birch Walk Dedication and Tree Planting

All are invited to join us at the dedication of Bexley's Robert Frost Birch Walk at Schneider Park.

Wednesday, April 30 at 7:00 pm: Love Your Alley: Let's Turn Water Problems Into Water Solutions

Join the Love Your Alley team at the library to learn why rain gardens are so important and how to put one or more in your own yard. Registration is required and details can be found on bexleylibrary.org.



April 18 Update from the Ohio Municipal League:

It was a quiet week at the Ohio Statehouse, with both chambers of the Legislature on recess. They return the week of April 28, when focus will predominantly be on the Senate's budget hearings. A few items of note are below:

- The Ohio House recently passed House Bill 28, legislation sponsored by Rep. Adam Mathews (R-Lebanon) and Rep. Thomas Hall (R-Butler County) that would eliminate the authority to levy replacement property tax levies. The Ohio Senate has already received sponsor testimony on the bill, and OML urges our members to have your opponent testimony ready for when a hearing is called. More information from our Call to Action is available [here](#).
Bill Analysis
- OML members are invited to a webinar to receive an update on the latest legislative happenings at the Ohio Statehouse. It will take place from 11 a.m.-Noon on April 24. The registration link is available [here](#).
- The Montrose Group will host its Fourth Annual Economic Development & Policy Forum on May 22-23, with the focus of the forum being "Preparing to Win." The event will take place at the Hilton Easton in Columbus, and is available at no cost to participants. If you'd like more information on this, reach out to Natalie.
- ODOT will be hosting its first round of meetings for the Access Ohio 2050 long-range transportation plan. The meetings will take place throughout the month of May and include stakeholder meetings from 1-3 p.m. and public meetings from 5-6:30 p.m. at various locations and on various dates.
- Gov. DeWine nominated John Logue to replace Anne Vogel as director of the Ohio EPA. Logue has served in numerous leadership capacities at the Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation and will need to be confirmed by the Ohio Senate. Vogel was appointed as the U.S. EPA Region 5 administrator.



Planting trees with JMP!



Ready to hop to it at the Egg Dash!



740-744-4092

The Columbus Dispatch

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The Fitzgerald, a mixed-use redevelopment, is under construction April 8 in Bexley. The building being developed by Continental Development is estimated to be completed in 2026. PHOTOS BY ADAM CAIRNS/COLUMBUS DISPATCH

The Fitzgerald building is taking shape in Bexley

Restaurants, offices, apartments planned

Maria DeVito
Columbus Dispatch
USA TODAY NETWORK

A massive six-story, mixed-use building that will eventually house restaurants, retail spaces, medical offices, apartments and a public parking garage is taking shape in Bexley.

Construction is underway at the mixed-use development, called The Fitzgerald, at 2200 E. Main St. Columbus-based Continental Development Enterprises is the lead developer on the project.

The project, which the city approved early 2024, includes about 232 apartments, more than 11,000 square feet for restaurants and retail shops, roughly 100 square feet for medical offices, about 300 parking spaces in a public parking garage, according to a city site about The Fitzgerald.

Workers have built the structural portion up to the third floor on the front of building, which is where the



The commercial spaces are expected to be completed first, said Bexley Building and Zoning Director Matt Klingler.

The Fitzgerald, a mixed-use redevelopment, is under construction April 8 in Bexley. The project will include apartments, offices, retail and a public parking garage.

Arrest, ticket quotas targeted

Bill to ban them passes state Senate committee

Donovan Hunt
Statehouse Bureau
USA TODAY NETWORK

Ohio lawmakers want to ban police departments from having arrest and traffic ticket quotas.

SB 114, sponsored by state Sen. Tom Patton, R-Strongsville, would forbid law enforcement agencies in Ohio from giving officers quotas for arrests or tickets. Agencies specifically could not base an officer's discipline, promotion evaluation or compensation on meeting these quotas.

Agencies would also be forbidden from offering financial rewards for meeting a certain number of arrests or tickets. According to the Brennan Center of Justice, police quotas are sometimes framed as a way to ensure police

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Ohio closer to backing passenger rail again

Budget includes funding to rejoin commission

Jessie Balmert
State Bureau
USA TODAY NETWORK

Ohio lawmakers took another step toward backing passenger rail April 9. Included in the state's \$61 billion, two-year budget was \$25,000 each year to join the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Commission, a group of state leaders that advocates for passenger rail improvements.



The Governor's Residence turns 100

