



October 8, 2024 **MAYOR'S UPDATE**

Coming up in Bexley:

October 8, 8:00 pm:	Board of Control
October 10, 4:00 - 7:00 pm:	Bexley Farmers Market (also 10/17)
October 10, 5:00 pm:	Civil Service Commission
October 10, 5:30 pm:	Recreation Board
October 10, 6:00 pm:	Architectural Review Board
October 11, 8:00 am:	Community Improvement Corporation Special Meeting
October 13, 5:00 - 7:00 pm:	One Bexley Gathering
October 14, 9:00 am:	Open Office Hours with Councilman Hurley
October 14, 5:30 - 8:00 pm:	Bexley Chamber Taste of Bexley
October 15, 5:30 pm:	Board of Health
October 15, 6:00 pm:	Green Bexley (ESAC)
October 16, 4:00 pm:	Tree and Public Gardens Commission
October 18, 6:00 - 8:00 pm:	Harvest Fest
October 21:	Curbside Leaf Pickup Begins (weather permitting)
October 22, 6:00 pm:	City Council
October 26, 7:30 - 11:30 pm:	Adult Halloween Bash at Jeffrey Mansion
October 31, 5:30 - 7:00 pm:	Trick or Treat

Some of What I've Been Up To:

- Multiple meetings and follow up work on 2200 East Main proposed easement
- Prep work and attendance at COMMA Meeting
- Assisted with Year of the Parks staff Lunch and Learn video
- Attended Bexley Big Table Event
- Prep work for One Bexley Gathering event
- Attended Centennial Author Series reception and event with Maggie Smith
- Presented at Columbus Young Professionals Emerging Leaders event
- Livingston Avenue Coordination Meeting
- Verizon Small Cells Meeting
- Meetings, site visits, and follow up with potential developers
- Communication and support during storm damage cleanup.
- Livingston Avenue Update Workshop
- Meeting with TPGC leadership
- One Bexley Story Slam event meeting
- Meeting and coordination work for Good Neighbor Network re-launch
- MORPC Executive Committee lunch and meeting
- Performed/attended Bexley Farmer's Market
- Attended BHS/Columbus Academy Game
- Meeting with Franklin County Public Health
- Attended JCC Remembrance Event
- Work on Hometown Heroes veteran's project
- Extensive work in preparation for 2025 Budget
- Emails and calls with residents on various issues
- Follow up on various street project questions and communications items
- Newsletter work and review
- BCE Events Season review 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

Bike and Pedestrian Safety Note

Last weeks' Blast article re: safe travel to school was prompted by a student cyclist being struck while crossing Main Street this morning. While thankfully he didn't suffer serious injury, we take any pedestrian or cyclist accident incredibly seriously and I've already worked closely with Chief Lewis and Bexley schools to evaluate this incident, and to incorporate any takeaways into an existing bike-focused engineering look at the area.

Driver responsibility is a critical factor, and we're redoubling our already enhanced efforts around traffic safety based enforcement. One thing is for certain - no matter what we do from a traffic calming or infrastructure perspective, the most important lesson for our kids is to practice defensive behavior - wearing helmets, using bike lights, walking bikes through intersections if using the crosswalk, and most importantly keeping a close eye on drivers to make sure they're stopping and paying attention.

In addition to ongoing enforcement efforts, we are all working consistently and with focus to enhance pedestrian and bike safety through infrastructure. Here are a couple recent and upcoming projects focused around bike/ped safety:



Drexel Pedestrian Enhancements

The Drexel Avenue project aimed to slow traffic speed and provide safer pedestrian crossings, and it has delivered. With meaningful reductions in average speed, and pedestrian crossings that feature shorter crosswalks and much improved pedestrian visibility, this project has been a success for enhanced pedestrian safety.



Calm Corridors Project

The Calm Corridors Project brings enhanced traffic calming to Cassingham and Remington, connecting Bexley's three elementary schools. Features will include narrowed intersections, tabletop intersections in key areas, limited bike lanes, plantings, and enhanced signage. Currently in engineering, with funding proposals connected to the LinkUs issue.



Alum Creek Ped/Bike Bridge

The Alum Creek bridge, located at Schneider Park, will provide safe crossing to the Alum Creek Greenways Trail. With over \$1,000,000 in grant funding received on the project, it is in the advanced stages of engineering, and due for 2025 construction.



Bike Boulevards

Bexley's 5 Bike Boulevards are in advanced planning, with wayfinding details complete and sign contract RFP being prepared and road marking engineering under way. Anticipated date of install is Spring, 2025.



Livingston Avenue Multi-Use Path

The Livingston Multi-Use Path will bring protected bike and pedestrian ways to the north and south sides of Livingston, as part of the Federally funded joint infrastructure project.

These are some of the projects under way. Additional projects include Main Street bike/ped bridge improvements; Trail town work; Cassady bike infrastructure planning, and more! Many of these projects will be referenced during our 2025 budget process - stay tuned for more details!

Bexley Police - Agency of the Month

Last week, the Bexley Police Department was recognized by the Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police as the "Agency of the Month" as part of their Sharing Ohio's Best program. Bexley was recognized for a myriad of reasons, including our work in community training; counter-terrorism work; School Resource Officer innovations; community outreach and community liaison officer; school outreach; bicycle safety work; "Cops and Kids" and "Shop with a Cop" programs; scout outreach; Citizens Police Academy work; National Night Out; K-9 work; US Marshals Task Force involvement, and more!

I'm extremely proud of the innovation and growth occurring at the department, and join our community in celebrating our department's achievements via this award and - more importantly - in the hard work being done day in and day out by our officers and command staff under Chief Lewis. Bravo!

Introducing Miss Madison "Madi" Roosevelt Bexley

A box of abandoned puppies was recently found in Bexley by Rumpke workers, and our Animal Control Officer, and our community, hit the ground running getting these pups into loving homes. Many of the dogs were adopted into the Bexley community that very day, and both the Bexley Animal Hospital and Hollywood Feed helped with vaccinations and all the essential puppy gear!

One particular pup stole our team's heart, earning her a special position as our official City of Bexley dog! After some important growing-up stuff is handled, she'll spend a lot of time at the Police Station and City Hall, and to make sure we found the best name for our City dog, we reached out to the community with a naming poll in last week's Blast. The results are in and the puppy's formal name will be Madison Roosevelt Bexley, or "Madi" for short in honor of Mayor David Madison.



Do You Know About LinkUs Transit-Supported Infrastructure?

TSI is a key component of the LinkUs proposal, bringing bike and pedestrian friendly improvements to the region. Bexley's first round of LinkUs TSI fund proposals includes around \$3.6 million of bike and pedestrian improvements, including Calm Corridors project; enhance bike/ped accommodation at the Main Street bridge; and assistance with the Livingston Avenue infrastructure project.



Drexel Avenue Paving

After delays from ODOT (ODOT is responsible for paving Drexel Avenue) and recent rainy weather, we are finally closing in on the final wrap-up of the South Drexel project. ODOT contractors are finishing up the final mill and overlay project. Once the surfacing is finished, we'll refine crosswalk and roadway markings as needed and will finally be able to call this project complete!

Watching the clear increase in pedestrian crossings on Drexel due to the calmer traffic and enhanced/increased crossings has been a really rewarding outcome of this project, but it has definitely been difficult to be patient through the delays. Many thanks to all who have been impacted by this project - thank you for your patience throughout!

Livingston Avenue Update - Next Steps

Last week, we facilitated a town hall meeting regarding Livingston Avenue to discuss current conditions, safety enhancements made to date, and the major changes to come in the federally funded project that is underway. With Columbus Police and Service/Engineering staff on hand to help answer questions and take feedback, we had great attendance and great dialogue, and from it several questions which require a little more research to answer. We'll be back soon with a follow up FAQ to be added to our www.bexley.org/livingston page, where you can head today to learn all about the Joint Livingston Avenue Plan and the associated major infrastructure project that is in the early planning phase as we speak.

One Bexley Gathering - Date Change to October 13

There is still time to sign up for the 2024 *One Bexley Gathering*, which has been moved to Sunday, October 13 at 5:00 pm. Some great changes are being planned to encourage more conversation and connection. The event will once again transform the intersection of Main and Drexel, creating a welcoming space for the community to come together to share a meal and conversation. If you haven't signed up, visit onebexley.us to reserve your ticket!

