



Olmsted Township
7900 Fitch Road
(440) 235-3099
www.olmstedtownship.org

Trustees: Riley Alton, Jeanene Kress, Lisa Zver
Fiscal Officer: Brian Gillette

SPRING 2023

STEARNS ROAD PROJECT BEGINS



The long-awaited Cuyahoga County and Ohio Turnpike Commission Stearns Road Project between Bagley and Schady Roads has begun. The Cuyahoga County part of the project includes full-depth and full-width pavement reconstruction, pavement widening, upgraded traffic signals at the Bagley Road and Schady Road intersections, new curbs, walks, drainage, sanitary sewers, signage and pavement markings.

The Ohio Turnpike Commission is redecking the 34-year-old Stearns Road bridge over the turnpike. This includes increasing vehicular clearance and widening to accommodate 5-foot-wide sidewalks on each side of the bridge.

Some preparation work has already begun, such as surveying and moving utility poles. This next phase will involve complete closure of Stearns Road to traffic from April 3rd to August 29th and then one-way traffic heading south throughout the remainder of the project.

The Cuyahoga County/Ohio Turnpike Commission Stearns Road Project anticipated construction schedule is April 2023 through September 2024.

Our safety and service forces (Police, Fire, Public Service) have developed plans to continue to provide the services you have come to expect in a timely and efficient manner. Their input was invaluable in determining the south-bound traffic pattern.

Our website and Township Facebook page will be your best source of information on daily activity and updates throughout the project as well as daily traffic issues. Signage will be placed to mark the route.

It is important to note that Jennings Road will be resurfaced in June or July to accommodate school bus traffic. Because of delays related to the Ohio Turnpike Jennings Road Bridge, resurfacing could not be completed at the end of the project rebuild as anticipated. Traffic will be maintained throughout this resurfacing project.

This Cuyahoga County/Ohio Turnpike Stearns Road Project has been planned for some time; the rebuilding of the Turnpike bridge and complete road project are a much-needed improvement to this area of the Township. We ask your patience during this time. Allow a little extra time and exercise extreme caution in work zones and throughout the project area. The project construction is being administered by the Ohio Turnpike Commission. **Call (330) 410-3143 with complaints or concerns about this project.**

Community Shred & Drive-thru Step into Spring
Saturday, April 22 from 9am-noon, 7924 Fitch Road

ROAD PROJECTS 2023

At the March 22nd Trustee meeting, the Board accepted bids for the 2023 road project work. The successful bidder is A & J Cement Contractors at \$918,042. In keeping with guidelines and priorities in the Township Road Maintenance Plan, the following Township roads will be rebuilt, repaired, and/or resurfaced. The first three projects are being funded by General Fund/Operating Levy money. The Board has allocated ARPA (American Rescue Plan funds) for the Avondale Court project.

- **Timber Lane** - about 900 ft. of pavement from Tall Oaks Trail to the Windwood Way entrance in the Breezewood/Greenbrooke neighborhood
- **Heatherwood Circle** - a cul-de-sac in the Breezewood/Greenbrooke neighborhood
- **Hunters Ridge** - a section of Hunters Ridge Lane in the Hunters Ridge neighborhood
- **Avondale Court** - entry from Yellowstone Drive and cul-de-sac located in the Brentwood neighborhood

We anticipate these projects starting as soon as all final engineering has been completed. Signage will be placed to advise any change in traffic pattern. We ask your patience as we make these infrastructure/ road improvements. Our website and Facebook page will continue to provide the most current information. If you have questions or concerns about these projects, please contact the Department of Public Service (440) 235-1011 or one of the Trustees. Phone numbers are readily available on the Township website www.olmstedtownship.org.

NOPEC

The price of electricity is expected to double over the next few months. Learn more about cost savings through NOPEC. You may have questions about this enrollment process as you receive information in the mail.



Olmsted Township will host a presentation by NOPEC on **Monday, April 24th from 6-7pm in our Community Room**. It will be a great time to ask questions on lowering your electric bill.

Virtual Meetings are also scheduled at www.nopec.org/InfoMeetings for: Tuesday, April 18th, 10-11pm; Saturday, April 22nd, 2-3pm; and Thursday, April 27th, 7-8pm.

PUBLIC SERVICES

Our Service team is committed to providing the services most important to you, our residents, in the most efficient, cost-effective manner. We maintain the highest safety standards and continually train to ensure we are using equipment and resources in the most responsible manner.

We maintain a robust leaf collection program. In 2022, the Township, like most other communities, experienced difficulties with this program. There were considerable delays in service mainly caused by weather and labor shortages. Director Williams requested, and the Board approved the purchase of a self-contained leaf collection system so this valuable service will be handled in-house, not outsourced. This equipment will allow the Service Department to provide higher quality and more responsive service. This equipment was purchased with community cost share funds through Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District.

Nearly 700 households took advantage of our branch chipping program in 2022. We collected and disposed of 400 cubic yards of branches through this popular program.

Our recycling services are second to none! We offer two opportunities monthly to drop off household hazardous waste and the 1st Saturday of the month April thru November are Bulk Drop Off Days. It's the perfect chance to clean out the basement, garage, or shed and drop everything off at one time.



We recently purchased a New Holland/Alamo Machete Boom Mower. This versatile equipment will allow us to clean roadside ditches as part of our stormwater maintenance plan and clear hard-to-reach, often inaccessible trees, and brush. Prudent planning and spending on the part of our Department of Public Service allowed us to purchase this equipment with General Fund/Operating levy money with no financing of any kind.

INSTALLATION OF FIRE CHIEF METHVIN



The Board of Trustees would like to invite you to the installation of Fire Chief Chris Methvin on Wednesday, April 26th at 7:00pm in the Township Community Room. Passing the torch is always a moment to assess the past and look to the future with its challenges and opportunities. Chief Methvin served as the Township Assistant Fire Chief for about four years and comes with a

wealth of experience in both fire and emergency medical service. Chief Methvin completed the National Fire Academy Executive Officer program, earned a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Kent State University, and a Bachelor's Degree in Emergency Services Management.

Chris' appointment provides the opportunity for a smooth transition during a very busy time. The Department received a SAFER grant award which will allow us to hire three additional firefighter/EMTs to serve our residents and business community.

A three-year contract was also negotiated to ensure we retain/recruit and value our staff's commitment to their service mission. Chief Methvin is committed to excellence in service and has a vision for the Department in the coming months and years.

Chief Methvin is originally from Louisiana and served in Richmond VA and Hudson OH before coming to Olmsted Township. He also volunteers on the ski patrol in Snowshoe Mountain WV when he takes time for brief vacations. Chris is married to Laura and they have a son, Max.

We hope you will join us for the installation and "meet and greet" to welcome Chief Methvin into this new position.

STOP VANDALISM

We have had vandalism at our Park on Usher Road. This defacing and destruction of Township property will not be tolerated. Security cameras are being installed. **If you see something, say something.** Call (440)235-1011 or email publicservice@olmstedtownship.org. Your support will continue to make this Park a great community asset.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



Welcome Angelina's, Mi Rancho, and The Original Steaks & Hoagies! We are delighted to welcome three new businesses to the Township all located in our Town Center area at Stearns and Bagley Roads. Friendship Kitchens is also building a car wash directly adjacent to the gas station.

In keeping with the recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan 2019, we recently hired a part-time Economic Development Director. Jeremy Rowan has extensive experience working with local businesses and attracting new business. Jeremy has met with several business and land owners to understand how we can become more business-friendly and maximize their land/business assets.

Jeremy's e-newsletter highlighting our business community is on our Township website. He is readily available to meet with businesses and others to discuss development opportunities.

Looking back on the past couple years, we are very pleased to welcome Southwest General Hospital Olmsted Clinic to the Town Center. It is a great addition to our community providing medical services locally and conveniently. Primary care, lab work, and therapy are some of the services offered.

We continue to identify Olmsted Township with our unique gateway signs, our American flags proudly displayed through the summer months, and our seasonal banners at main intersections.

SOUTHWEST HOSPITAL RESIDENT TRANSPORT

Southwest General Hospital offers Olmsted Township residents curb-to-curb transportation to and from Southwest General medical facilities for those who are unable to provide their own transportation.

Transportation times are Monday-Friday, 8:30am to 4pm. For more information or to schedule transport call (440) 816-4046 or email courtesyvan@swgeneral.com.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Saturday, April 22, 9a-12p—
Shred Event and Step into Spring/Earth Day Event

Monday, April 24—Branch Chipping begins. Last Monday of each month, April–October.

Monday, April 24, 6-7p—
NOPEC Informational meeting, Community Room

Wednesday, April 26, 7p—
Installation of Chief Methvin, Community Room

Thursday, May 18, 8-9a—
State of the Township, Community Room

Thursday, May 25, 4-7pm,
Stop the Bleed Community Event, sponsored by CERT, Community Room

Trustee meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month.

Zoning Commission meetings are generally held on the 4th Thursday of the month. Check website for dates.

Board of Zoning Appeals meetings are generally held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Check website for dates.

All Township meetings are held in the Township Community Room, with a Zoom option also available. Check our website for details.

Thinking of hiring a contractor for spring renovations? See our website for tips or pick up the 'How to Hire a Contractor' tip sheet in the Building Department.

STEP INTO SPRING



Our Community Shred is **Saturday, April 22nd** at our Public Service Building from 9am-12noon. With the end of the tax season, this is a perfect opportunity to dispose of all paperwork that is no longer relevant or required.

Whether or not you have items to shred, we are inviting you to our Drive-thru Step into Spring event. You can pick up a tree sapling to plant on your property, a seed packet, tips on responsible recycling, and a flyer on services we provide.

Step into Spring is our celebration of Earth Day 2023. The year's tag line, ***Investing in our Planet***, is an invitation to people of all ages to remember how and with whom we share our "home" and how we can be responsible in the use of resources now and for future generations.

Third grade students at Falls-Lenox Primary School are making posters to celebrate Earth Day 2023 in Mrs. Canacci's art class. We appreciate the collaboration and look forward to seeing the creative expression of our third graders.

STOP THE BLEED – SAVE A LIFE



CERT and Olmsted Township are sponsoring a Stop the Bleed hands on workshop on May 25th from 4-7:00pm in our Township Community Room, 7900 Fitch Road. Members of CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) are community volunteers who work with our police and fire departments to serve the entire Olmsted Community.

Hemorrhage is the most common preventable cause of death in trauma events. You will not want to miss this lifesaving 30-minute opportunity to learn a valuable skill. Our safety and service staff will be there to answer questions about other services they provide. If you have questions about this workshop, message info@olmstedcert.org.

Sincere thanks to Southwest General Hospital and Angelina's who are partnering with CERT and Olmsted Township in support of this program.

STATE OF THE TOWNSHIP



We invite you to join us for our State of the Township on Thursday, May 18th at 8-9:00am in the Township Community Room 7900 Fitch Road. The Trustees will discuss 2022 accomplishments and the vision for 2023 and beyond. You will have an opportunity to ask questions and meet our leadership team. Breakfast will be provided. This event is open to all residents of the Township; there is no charge, but a reservation is requested. Please call (440)782-5239 or visit www.olmstedchamber.org to register. The Olmsted Chamber of Commerce is the sponsor of this annual event.

Follow us on Facebook or visit our website at www.olmstedtownship.org for additional information.

