Check Inside
Learn more about our City and its major projects, plus what’s coming up in 2019

Delaware at-a-glance

Population: 41,180
Median Age: 34.1
City Land Area: 19.9 square miles

29th largest city in Ohio (population)

Each year, the City’s 300-plus employees provide a variety of services to help maintain our community and keep it safe. These services are paid for in several ways, including with income tax dollars, fees and state and federal funding.

Your City at Work: By the Numbers in 2018

Solid Waste and Recycling
- Residential curbside stops: 640,000
- Tons of residential trash collected: 11,000
- Tons of recycling collected: 1,400
- Tons of yard waste collected: 1,800

Income Tax
- Individual tax returns processed: 17,873

Water, Wastewater, Stormwater
- Gallons of water produced, distributed: 1,455,000,000
- Gallons of waste collected, treated: 1,800,000,000
- Tons of street sweeping debris: 135

Planning and Community Development
- Code enforcement actions: 1,800
- Construction inspections: 13,000

Airport
- 39,000 landings and takeoffs

Public Safety
- Police service calls: 70,000
- Fire/EMS service calls: 6,252

Streets, Traffic and Fleet
- Miles of roadway: 169
- Street lights maintained: 1,800
- Traffic signals maintained: 61
- Gallons of gasoline, diesel used: 113,130
- Snow/ice event responses: 25
- Tons of salt used: 3,000

Parks and Natural Resources
- Acres of park land maintained: 368
- Athletic fields maintained: 24
- Dog waste stations: 32
- Playground units: 27
- Trees planted: 183
- Cemetery acres maintained: 80

Source: City of Delaware
The Four Pillars of City of Delaware Operations

City Council and staff have embraced a strategic planning process built around four goal-driven themes.

It is upon these four pillars that we base our efforts and focus. The components were identified in the City’s 2015 citywide survey and endorsed by City Council.

**Great Community:** neighborhoods, streets, open space, parks
**Safe City:** police, fire, health and safety, environment
**Healthy Economy:** economic development
**Effective Government:** fiscal resiliency, civic engagement, customer service

Great Community  - neighborhoods, streets, open space, parks

- The City of Delaware’s “blueprint for growth, it’s Comprehensive Plan, is getting a much-needed update. Called Delaware Together, the initiative kicked off in 2018 with community meetings, workshops and an online survey. More than 1,300 ideas and comments have been generated with additional work planned for 2019.
- An important West side bike path is seeing progress.

Street and Traffic Maintenance

- Widening E. William Street to add a center turn lane will reduce congestion and increase safety for the 20,000 vehicles that travel the route daily. Construction in 2019 will require about 18 months to complete. Eighty percent of the $4.65 million cost is being paid for by the state.
- At the W. Central Avenue rail bridge, vehicles too tall now trip a laser beam, triggering a flashing message sign suspended over the travel lane. The City received $215,000 from the state but competed the project under budget for $180,000. Initial data after five months of use showed that truck drivers were turning around more and striking the bridge less.
Safe City

- The Police Department has a second K-9 Unit, funded entirely with drug seizure funds, and two new officers. The department in 2018 made 2,202 adult arrests (2,529 in 2017). Charges were filed against 345 juveniles in 2018 (290). Traffic citations totaled 1,665 in 2018 (2,012).

- Fire Station 304, located at 821 Cheshire Road, opened in 2018 to serve the growing southeast quadrant and reduce response times.

- The quality of wastewater that is reused, recycled or discharged to the environment is improved with completion of a $1.8 million tertiary treatment system that includes new equipment. The system also achieves compliance with EPA regulations.

- More than 2,750 feet of new water line was installed along E. Winter Street, Blymer Street and Stilson Street to improve system reliability and water service.

- Solar panels power a new recycling facility on the Public Works campus, reducing the electric bill for the building by more than $5,000 a year.

The Local Economy

- Median Household income grew by 4.1% in 2018
  - 2018 - $50,092
  - 2017 - $48,362
  - 2016 - $46,233

- Employment grew by 3.75% in the City!

Entrepreneurship:
- 282 small-business development projects
  - Includes: attraction — creation — expansion of small businesses
  - Of the total number 43 (15.2%) opened a business or expanded in Delaware

- The number of jobs created due to successful Project completions $13,110,287 is the NEW payroll tied to the created jobs.

- 41 jobs from successful retention and expansion projects.

BRE: BUSINESS RETENTION & EXPANSION
- 130 Company Visits
- 80 or 60% resulted in projects

Source: City of Delaware Economic Development Department

Healthy Economy

- Engineered Material Systems completed a new $2.1 million, 45,000 sq. ft. expansion at 101 Innovation Drive. The company is adding new jobs, and increasing its total employees to nearly 60 by the end of 2021.

- Midwest Acoust-A-Fiber is investing $8.3 million to build a 20,000 square foot expansion onto its existing Pittsburgh Drive facility. Fourteen new jobs and new payroll of $420,000 are expected.

- Business expansion and attraction in 2018 resulted in the creation of 259 total jobs with a payroll of $13,110,287.

- The Newsstand, the newest look in co-working space, occupies the former Gazette building. It reflects the City’s pledge to help provide opportunities for small business formation and growth.

- Downtown Delaware earned a prestigious “Great Place in Ohio” designation from the American Planning Association based on its character, personality and special history.

- A first-of-its-kind Entrepreneurial Center is open on Sandusky Street, thanks to a partnership with the City, Delaware County, and Ohio Wesleyan University.
Delaware’s **General Fund** is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in other funds. The General Fund is available to the City for any general purpose — provided it is expended or transferred according to the City’s Charter, and the general laws and regulations of the State of Ohio. As a result, most people find the General Fund to be the most important fund.

**Effective Government**
- fiscal resiliency, civic engagement, customer service

- **More than a dozen tablet computers** are now deployed for use by Public Utilities Department field staff. Crews are able to capture information on our underground utility assets in real time and spend more time in the field and less in the office.

- The Finance Department in 2019 will put into use an **Enterprise Resource Planning System** — more robust software for accounting, budgeting, payroll, utility billing and human resources.

- For the 18th consecutive year, the **Finance Department** was honored for accounting and finance reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada. The GFOA’s highest honor was presented for the City’s 2017 comprehensive annual financial report.

- **Office expansion** work begun in 2018 will be completed in 2019 allowing the Planning and Community Development Department to occupy the entire 2nd floor of the former Gazette Building. The work space will help the busy department do its job better and be more functional for residents and customers. An overhead walkway will connect City Hall and the Planning offices.

- **Delaware in 2018 launched Polco**, an innovative engagement platform where residents can directly provide input to the local government decision-making process. Nearly 2,000 responses to multiple surveys on a variety of City topics have been received so far. Officials post questions directly to residents on Polco’s app and website, where residents answer and comment on the questions.