

Progress Report

Spring 2016

CITY OF DELAWARE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Vets Plaza, 'Spray and Play' on schedule for openings

Mark your calendars for Memorial Day weekend 2016, when two new City of Delaware public places will be opened at 1121 South Houk Road.

"Spray and Play," a splash pad and activity area at Veterans Park, is scheduled to open for fun and families on May 28. The main feature of Spray and Play is a splash pad, along with a Jurassic-themed play area. Other features include an amphitheater, concessions and shelters. The play area is located in Veterans Park, just west of the Community Center YMCA.

The project is being funded by the recreation levy approved by residents in 2008.

Also in May, Veterans Plaza will be dedicated during a ceremony planned for Memorial Day, May 30. The plaza is a collaborative effort, spearheaded by City Council member Joe DiGenova. The City, Delaware County and the state all contributed funds toward the project that will honor our great veterans for their service and sacrifice.

All service branches will be recognized in a tranquil memorial setting, centered around an eternal flame structure that will be illuminated. Another focal point is a World War I cannon, refurbished at no charge by Delaware-based Wanner Metal Worx. The plaza will also include benches, landscaping and memorial bricks, available for purchase by contacting the City of Delaware's City Manager's Office at 740-203-1010.

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'Moving Delaware Forward' Vision for Citywide Transportation Plan

The 2015 Community Survey showed that managing local traffic is a major concern for Delaware residents. Moving Delaware Forward is City Council's transportation vision to address those concerns.

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Meter Upgrades Starting Soon

Citywide water meter upgrades will mean better customer service, early leak detection and overall improved efficiency.

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*Hello Delaware.
We hope you find this first Progress Report quarterly newsletter informative and useful. Our goal is to provide a Progress Report every three months or so in your utility bill envelope. Let us know what you think and happy reading!*

Road plan takes care of basics, keeps pace with growth

Managing local traffic is a major concern for residents. According to the 2015 Community Attitudes Survey, half are dissatisfied with the amount of congestion, and one in four is dissatisfied with the condition of Delaware streets. 'Moving Delaware Forward' is City Council's vision to take care of the basics and allow our transportation system to keep pace with a growing city.

Street Maintenance

The resurfacing program currently tackles about 150,000 square feet of local roadway

per year. A more sustainable program would target up to 500,000 square feet.

Street Improvements

Projects would expand connectivity, reduce congestion, and improve the overall efficiency of our transportation network. Here are a few:

- ◆ The Point: Add four-lane capacity under a new railway structure, including pedestrian access.
- ◆ Merrick Boulevard Extension: Provide a direct connection to Troy Road for west and north

side residents, and a more direct route to US 23.

◆ Valleyside Drive Extension: Link William Street and Central Avenue, reducing traffic delay on West Central Avenue and improve emergency service response times.

City Council is proposing a modest income tax increase to fund Moving Delaware Forward. The income tax rate would increase from 1.85 percent to 2.0 percent – a 0.15-percent increase. For a family

household income of \$50,000 a year, the new rate would cost about \$75 additionally per year, or roughly \$6 per month.

The additional tax would generate about \$2.2 million annually and be combined with what already is being spent on transportation – about \$1,920,000 per year – for a total available amount of \$4,120,000. Information is available in the Engineering section of delawareohio.net.



'Meter Smart' can help residents manage water use

Meter Smart is Delaware's new project to upgrade water meters in homes and businesses with state-of-the-art technology that allows the City of Delaware to obtain meter readings more efficiently.

By collecting meter reads on a regular basis, we can provide information to help you manage consumption and more quickly identify leaks.

AMI stands for Advanced Meter Infrastructure. Through AMI, a small battery-powered transmitter is connected to your water meter. The transmitter will read the meter and send a brief, low-powered radio signal to a nearby collector. Collectors then

transmit meter reads to the City of Delaware Utility Billing Office, eliminating the need for manual meter readings. The project will be completed in phases and residents will be notified in advance of work in their neighborhood. There is no cost to customers for the meter upgrade. For more information, phone 740-203-1900.

Yard Waste Collection Begins April 11

Curbside yard waste collection will resume April 11. All yard waste must be contained in biodegradable lawn/leaf bags, a clearly identified container or in bundles no longer than 4 feet or 18 inches in diameter. Information is at 740-203-1810.



Income Tax Filing Deadline April 18

The City of Delaware income tax filing deadline is 7 p.m., Monday, April 18.

Tax office assistance is available 8 am-5 pm Monday-Friday in the City Hall tax office, 1 S. Sandusky St.

The office will be open additional hours Saturday, April 16, 9 am to 1 pm; and Monday, April 18, 8 am to 7 pm. More information is available at 740-203-1225.



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