

**CITY OF LOVELAND
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: David Kennedy, City Manager

RE: Weekly Update

DATE: October 1, 2021

Administration

Following their meeting on Monday September 20, 2021, the Comprehensive Master Development Plan Steering Committee met this Monday to continue their discussion on proposed future improvements to the Loveland-Madeira Road Corridor. Among the many improvements proposed are sidewalk connections along the east and west sides from Oasis Turf and Tree to West Loveland Avenue, narrow street markers indicating a multi-use roadway, additions to vegetation and greenspace, upgraded street lighting, park benches, and future concepts for the Chestnut Street property. Much of the discussion that took place encompassed the feedback received from the August 26th community engagement activity held at New Hope Baptist Church. The committee is scheduled to meet on October 25th to review a final draft of the plan and schedule a second community engagement event where the plan will be presented to the public for input and feedback. Additional information can be obtained at: <https://www.lovelandoh.gov/393/Comprehensive-Master-Plan>

Wednesday, I had the privilege to be a panelist for a webinar titled “Municipal Solar Procurement Workshop”. I was joined by former Loveland City Manager, Tom Carroll and the Director of the Office of Environment Sustainability for the City of Cincinnati, Michael Forrester. The purpose of the workshop was to discuss the process and background into adding solar panels to municipal buildings. The City of Silverton has added solar panels to their City, Hall. The City of Cincinnati has created a solar farm in Highland County, and soon we will begin construction on a new Public Works Building which will utilize solar power for 85% of its electrical needs.

Wednesday afternoon, I had the opportunity to meet with local residents Sharon and Tom Scovanner. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss a wide range of topics which they are concerned about, including the proposed parking garage and traffic congestion. I feel that the meeting was beneficial to both of us, and that the Scovanners put considerable research into their discussion points.

This past week included two Loveland U sessions. On Saturday, September 25, participants learned about the Little Miami Conservancy’s efforts to restore and protect the Little Miami River, wildlife, birds, fish, and other species along the scenic waterway. Students took a short field trip to the river to test its water quality but were unable to get on the river due to high water levels. The session was led by Executive Director Eric Partee, who has been with LMC for nearly 40 years. On Wednesday, September 29, Assistant City Manager, Tom Smith led Loveland U participants in an exercise about planning, zoning, and development. Participants were broken into groups and given different

scenarios, with a number of obstacles, and were asked to come up with a plan to develop the Jordan property located at the corner of E. Loveland Avenue and St. Rt. 48. Mayor Bailey, Councilman Kent Blair, Councilman Tim Butler, and Councilman Neal Oury observed sessions this week.

Building and Zoning

The Children's Academy of Loveland, formerly known as KinderCare, located at 10695 Loveland-Madeira Road, has submitted plans for interior alterations and a 6,744 square foot addition. Their plans are currently under review. Plans have also been submitted for a 2,102 square foot addition to Quilters Studio located at 535 West Loveland Avenue.

Finance

The Finance Department continued working on the 2022 budget this week and will have its initial Finance Commission meeting regarding the budget next Wednesday at 5PM in Council Chambers.

On Friday, Director of Finance, Mark Medlar took part in a training session with Civica CMI regarding the upgraded version of our fixed assets software. This software is used to track major assets of the city including vehicles and buildings.

Public Relations

Marketing and Communications Coordinator Krista Rose sent a [press release](#) about the Main/Chestnut infrastructure project that will begin on October 4 and the related road closure that will begin October 11. She arranged an interview with WCPO Channel 9 that will air October 4.

Also this week, Krista began working on surveys to support City Council's wish to collect feedback from the public, as well as business owners, about the parking meter pilot program. The surveys will be sent in early October via digital channels and will also be available to complete in-person at City Hall.

Public Works

In preparation of the Main and Chestnut Street project, which commences on October 11 with a closure of Riverside Drive, Monday, a solar powered flashing message board was placed at Schutte Cleaners to notify residents of the upcoming closure. This was followed by a press release prepared by Krista Rose Marketing & Communications Coordinator. Special thanks to Tom Schutte for allowing the message board to be placed on his property!



Also, on Friday, I was interviewed by Sina Gebre-Ab, with WCPO news (channel 9) regarding the Main and Chestnut Street project.

In an effort to assist the residents living along Karl Brown Way, a 30-minute loading zone area was established within an existing parking space. The sign installed by Public Works restricts the space to 30 minutes for Permit Parking only. Many residents within the downtown district have been issued “Resident Permit Parking” stickers which are affixed to their windshield.



The area will be “hashed off” by Public Works next week, in an effort to better emphasize the parking restrictions.



The annual road program continued this week with edge sealing and restoration behind curb replacements on Commerce Drive and in the Woodford and West Claiborne subdivisions. The contractor (JK Meurer) plans to start performing limited curb replacements on State Route 48 beginning after the AM rush hour on Tuesday of next week. Milling the pavement on State Route 48 is tentatively scheduled for the nights of October 21 and 22. Downtown business owners have been notified.

Due to the location of a gas main, there was little activity this week on the Miamiview Drive Culvert Replacement Project. Duke will be replacing the piping next week, which will allow for progress on the project to continue.

Police

Officers have been conducting extra patrols in Loveland neighborhoods due to a series of thefts concentrated in north suburban neighborhoods recently. LPD hosted the Citizen's Police Academy Wednesday evening. CPA students got to participate in a firearms simulation and less-lethal tools demonstration. LPD Officers assisted with the Homecoming Parade Thursday evening.

Upcoming Events and Meetings

The Loveland Sustainability Council is hosting a one stop drop recycling event on Saturday October 2, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. [Click here](#) for more information and a list of items that will be accepted.

LSFD's Annual Kidfest will be held on Saturday, October 2, in Nisbet Park from 2 to 4 p.m. Activities are free and include a pumpkin carving demonstration and a concert featuring Zak Morgan.

Flags throughout the city will be lowered to Half-Staff on Sunday in honor of the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial.

The Planning and Zoning Commission will meet on Tuesday, October 5, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

The Finance Commission will meet on Wednesday, October 6, at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall.

I will be out of the office on Friday, October 8. During my absence, Assistant City Manager, Tom Smith will serve as Acting-City Manager.