



Weekly Update to City Council from the City Manager May 30, 2010

Incident Update

- As of the latest information, Yankee Road is slated to re-open by the end of business tomorrow, Wed. June 2, events permitting.
- Our city retained experts continue to monitor activities and progress at the work site and in the area.
- We continue to monitor ambient air in the surrounding neighborhood and at the site to ensure public safety.
- Repairs have been complete at the site. There may be additional work performed in the next few months which may result in future closures of Yankee Road from time to time.
- The Bureau of Workers' Compensation continues to investigate the portion of the accident leading to the fatality.
- City staff continues to monitor the remediation and mitigation process and will continue to do so as long as work continues on the project.
- We remain in contact with the Lakes family to provide support and encouragement during this difficult time. The health of our injured firefighters continues to improve.
- We appreciate the support of the community as we continue to work through this tragic incident and ongoing remediation.

University Water Main Break

Tough month for public works. To repair the broken water main and replace the balance of the old water main located under University Blvd., along with full depth paving rather than mill and fill, will add approx. \$350,000 to the University Blvd. improvement cost. Good news is that the main break occurred BEFORE we paved. With each street improvement project we make determinations as to whether or not to replace water and sewer mains prior to paving. Since we attempt to stretch our paving dollars further, we will not always replace the old pipe underground. We will be asking for additional appropriations at tonight's council meeting so that we can keep the project moving forward.

Swallen's Building and Parking Garage Demo

The actual demo will begin on June 7th. The contractor and our engineering staff are notifying all adjacent property owners and users of the garage. The mural will be stored until the mural committee determines its new home. We are making upgrades to the electric system in Governor's Square Park so that the events that currently use electric from the garage can be accommodated. The target date for completion of the project is July 30, 2010. Swallen's lot will be grass and the parking garage area will be paved surface parking.

Office Outfitters Building – Manchester Ave.

The demo on Office Outfitters should be complete by June 30. Shamrock gas station is razed and the lot will be returned to grass. The Central Ave. entryway to downtown will be much more aesthetically pleasing in the near future.

From the Int'l City Management Newsletter: Despite Efforts, Pennsylvania's Infrastructure Gets Poor Grades.

While our streets are improving in Middletown, others are not so fortunate. The AP (5/24) reported, "Pennsylvania's roads are getting worse" as they "get a D-minus grade," according to a recent engineering report. "That's down from the D the engineers gave Pennsylvania's roads in a 2006 report. The grade for the state's transit systems also went down, from D-plus to D-minus, while its bridges stayed at a C." According to the report, "the state's bridges would be worse off if it weren't for stepped up efforts, including the use of \$390 million in federal stimulus money for repairs."

Assistance to Firefighters Grant

The Fire Division applied for grant to replace our 21 year old aerial ladder truck. This vehicle was removed from service due to a broken frame and rusted out waterway. The Assistance to Firefighters Grant is intended to help fire departments and is administered by the Department of Homeland Security. The total grant request is for \$776,000 with an 80/20 cost sharing split between the Federal Government and the City of Middletown. The grant process is highly competitive with about 25% of requests being granted. Letters of support have been pledged from Senators Brown and Voinovich and Representative Boehner. With their support we are very hopeful that we will be selected as one of the recipients of the grants.

Community Revitalization

The City of Middletown is partnering with S.E.L.F. (Supports to Encourage Low-income Families) to bring Group Workcamps Foundation to the City in July 2011. Group Workcamps Foundation is a nonprofit organization that recruits junior and senior high school students from all parts of the United States to perform needed property repairs for low-income, disabled or elderly residents in communities across the country. The group will be operating in Hamilton, Ohio this summer. The average camp size is 350 volunteers per project. Earlier this year, the City submitted an application to bring the organization to Middletown in 2011. The City was

notified this week that the application has been approved and we are on the summer 2011 schedule.

The Community Revitalization Department will be working with S.E.L.F. and Group Workcamp Foundation members to identify and prepare 60-80 deserving properties needing repair assistance for the summer of 2011. The 350 volunteers will arrive to work in Middletown from July 10-16, 2011. Like the repair blitz with Berachah Church in May, this is another opportunity to make a large impact on property maintenance code compliance and the overall visual look of our City. We're excited by the partnership between the public and non-profit sector, and we look forward to keeping the City informed as plans move forward.

Safety Town 33rd Year

This is the 33rd Safety Town summer camp series. Middletown Police Officers Mike Davis and Phil Salm host the camp at Amanda Elementary School, 1300 Oxford State Road. By the end of the week each 5 year-old will be the family expert on pedestrian, vehicle and school bus safety. They will know how to deal with strangers and will take a ride on the "Big Yeller Feller" (school bus) to a Middletown fire station.

The free program is sponsored jointly by the Safety Council of Southwestern Ohio and the City of Middletown. Middletown Independent Insurance Agents are continuing supporters. To register for Safety Town, call the Safety Council at 513-423-9758.

Census Information

The Census Helpline is 1.866.872.6868. Although all mailing of forms has ceased, citizens are able to submit information to a Census employee at this number.

Upcoming Events

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| May 31 | Memorial Day Holiday - City Offices Closed |
| May 31 | Memorial Day Parade – Smith Park to Woodside Cemetery via Verity Pkwy.
10:00 a.m. |
| June 1 | City Council meeting – Council Chambers (Lower Level) 5:30 p.m. |
| June 2 | Broad Street Bash – Governor's Square 5: 00 p.m. Stagger Lee Band 6:00 p.m. |
| June 3 | Chamber Monthly Luncheon – Middletown Area Senior Center
11:15 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. |
| June 7 | Middletown Park Board meeting – Conference Room 2C 5:30 p.m.
Middletown City Schools Board of Education meeting 6:30 p.m. |
| June 8 | Middletown Board of Health meeting –Conference Room 2C 7:30 a.m. |
| June 9 | Middletown Planning Commission meeting -Council Chambers (Lower Level)
5:30 p.m. |

June 15

MPHA meeting -Council Chambers (Lower Level) 5:30 p.m.

City Council meeting- Council Chambers (Lower Level) 6:00 p.m.

Links for additional information:

City Manager's Weekly Update: www.cityofmiddletown.org

Middletown Community Calendar: <http://www.calendarwiz.com/middletowncalendar> (copy
and paste in your web browser)

Pothole Patrol: www.cityofmiddletown.org or call 727-3691 (Option 2)

Have a great week! Judy