



April 3, 2020

To All Residents,

Governor DeWine has extended the Stay at Home order to May 1. Given that fact and the reality that this pandemic will not peak for several weeks, I am officially canceling our Memorial Day parade and ceremony. The 4th of July celebration, which was scheduled for the 5th, is also likely to be canceled. It makes no sense to have people congregate and risk the spread of this deadly disease.

I have also put a halt to most spending by all Departments. The economic impact this is having on all of us will be reflected in the Village's revenue stream. It is too early to determine the extent and depth of the downturn; we are exercising caution. We must be certain to have monies to pay our employees, especially our First Responders.

I do have some good news to share, an all too rare occurrence of late. There are three projects teed up for this Spring and Fall that will proceed. These are fully funded and are as follows:

- **Tree trimming and planting.** Cuyahoga County has awarded Bratenahl a \$24,000 grant for this purpose. With the help of our Shade Tree Commission, bids are being received and considered.
- **Ohio EPA 319 Grant for the Restoration of Nine-Mile Creek.** This project, which approximates \$500,000, will restore 1,100 feet of this stream. It will include debris clean-up, bank restoration, stabilization and plantings. The Village is partnering with three other entities; Chagrin River Watershed, Bluestone Partners and the NEORS on this project. The Grant from Ohio EPA pays for about half the cost, with the Village obligated to pay the remainder. NEORS generously offered to pay the Village's portion. There is no cost to the Village. What we do spend will be reimbursed. Moreover, NEORS will replace, at their cost, the collapsed headwall of the Oakshore Green storm sewer which empties into Nine-Mile Creek. This project is going out for bid and should approximate \$150,000. Many thanks to NEORS for their help and generosity.
- **Department of Public Works Integrated Committee (DOPWIC) project.** This will pay to repave Lakeshore Boulevard from Bratenahl Road west to Holden Lane. Also included is storm sewer repair, curb repair, etc. The cost on this approximates \$612,000. The Village received a 20-year, zero interest loan for half the project from DOPWIC. The remaining amount is covered by monies the Village borrowed last year. We should see activity on this starting in late April through the end of June 2020.

All of the above will be conducted with proper social distancing. Traffic will be maintained.

Although the pulse and life in our community has slowed to a crawl, we will continue to improve our Village with all precautions and protocol. This pandemic will end and life will return to a semblance of normality. It can't happen soon enough.

In closing, I want to thank our Administrative Staff and Service Department employees for their efforts during this difficult period. Also, please keep our Police Force and other First Responders, along with medical professionals in your thoughts and prayers. They are more important now than ever.

Stay safe and well. I will continue to keep you informed.