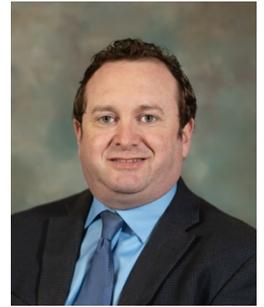




WARD 2 NEWSLETTER
Fall-Winter, 2022
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I hope everyone is doing well! I want to give an update on many issues in our ward and the City.

Solon to Chagrin Falls Trail - City Council approved the Solon to Chagrin Falls Trail. The project has \$1,200,000 committed to date in grant funding. The City is actively pursuing other grants and avenues of funding to offset the cost of construction. An agreement was reached and approved with the Cleveland Metroparks wherein they will manage and design the project and, most importantly, they will maintain the trail after it is installed.

The trail is a shared use path (walking, running and biking) and will connect Solon to an existing 1.7 mile portion of the Cleveland Metroparks trail system. The Metroparks will be installing two trail bridges and one suspension bridge over the Chagrin River. The trail will enable residents to travel via foot or bike to Bainbridge Township and Chagrin Falls without the need to be on a main road.

Speed Issues - The Solon Police Department has initiated several selective enforcement actions at the request of residents that have contacted me concerning traffic issues. The police have been active on Cromwell Drive for speeding, stop sign violations and school bus safety concerns. On Pettibone Road, complaints are being addressed regarding semi-truck traffic. On Ada Drive the police have monitored speed and stop sign infractions. If you know of any other areas where you feel it would be beneficial to have an electronic speed sign temporarily placed or enforcement concerns, please contact me.

Interchange Project - The City of Solon has been working with the Ohio Department of Transportation on the reconfiguration of the US-422 Interchange at Harper Road. A new interchange is in the process of being designed that will improve traffic flow and safety. A

sidewalk addition and shared use path are also being considered for Harper Road near the highway interchange.

Solon Community Living - The City spent several years working with Solon Community Living on their development on Aurora Road. The city placed a new zoning classification on the ballot that was approved by voters. This issue created one of the first designated zoning uses in the State of Ohio for disabled individuals. The homes contained in this new development are within walking distance to the library, shopping and the community center. It consists of fourteen ADA compliant homes and caregiver suites.

City Finance Issues - The City is once again in good financial condition as pandemic issues have subsided. As of the last fiscal quarter, the total revenue received is approximately 8% above our estimates from the beginning of the year. The operating expenditures are now projected to come in under budget by approximately 4%.

The Finance Committee will be considering departmental budgets for the next fiscal year and a proposed budget will be submitted to Council for public reading and comment. The City is working hard to maintain staffing in a difficult hiring environment and to add efficiencies to our overall operations. Capital investments are currently being prioritized and the Finance Committee and City Council are working to preserve long term structural balance in the general fund of the city.

Recycling and Service Department Update - Many questions have been asked regarding the procedures for solid waste and recycling pickup. Carts must be on the curb before 7:00 A.M. Please do not place your cart on the curb before 7:00 P.M. the night before pickup. Please place your cart at a minimum of three feet from your

mailbox or any utility pole, as the truck has difficulty picking up the cart if it is too close to an obstruction. After trash has been picked up, please return your cart to your garage by 7:00 P.M. on the day of collection. The Service Department also asks that yard waste bags be placed on the curb pursuant to the same time requirements as the solid waste and recycling carts. If any resident has a contractor performing work in their home, the contractor is responsible for removing any debris from the property. In addition, landscapers are required to remove any and all yard waste.

Senior Transportation - The City of Solon Department of Senior Services provides van transportation within the City of Solon, Monday through Friday 9:00 AM to 3:40 PM. The transportation is available to all Solon seniors and any disabled resident 21 years or older. All transportation is wheelchair accessible.

Storm Water Management - The City has, for the past ten years, administered an extensive storm water management program. During this time, the city has designed, built and maintained many new structures, culverts, detention basins and sewer systems to control storm water. The City has programs for testing, cleaning and maintaining all of our storm and sanitary sewer lines and systems. New and expanding businesses are also required to comply with our storm water management program and are required to follow our rules and procedures for maintaining storm water on their properties.

The City also has been very active in making improvements at our Water Reclamation Facility. These improvements have been approved by City Council, and did not result in any increase to your sewer bill. The Water Reclamation Department hosts open houses and community events to explain what they do and how it benefits the residents of Solon.

Liberty Hill Storm Water Update - Ashdown Drive, Brackenbury Drive, Cheshire Place, Cromwell Drive, Hambleton Drive, Pettibone Road and Popham Lane will have additional studies

occurring in the next few weeks. The consultant retained by the City will be conducting a ground survey, after previously performing other studies. The survey is for the purpose of design engineering for the above referenced drainage study. It is expected that the surveying activities will require approximately two to three weeks or less to complete.

Community Park Update - The City retained the services of a consultant to determine the best and greatest use of the Solon Community Park. The Safety and Public Properties Committee received a recent update and there has been extensive public involvement in this study via surveys, in person meetings and meetings of groups of interested contingencies. The City appreciates all of the responses to the surveys and is now in the process of prioritizing projects for the Community Park. This is the first major overhaul of the park since its initial construction.

Projects anticipated will include (but are not limited to) a new parking lot, multipurpose fields, new lighting, new playground, water playground (spray ground), additional outdoor area for music and arts and other amenities to be beneficial to the greatest number of residents in our community. We are focusing on all areas of community life in our plans and vision for the park.

Contacting Your Councilman - I thank you for your telephone calls and emails offering input on all types of city issues. If you have questions or concerns regarding any part of our city government, please contact me at (440) 519-1717 or via email at rpelunis@solonohio.org. I am also available to meet with residents individually or in groups to discuss any issue. I can also be reached via Facebook and Nextdoor.

