

2016

STATE OF THE VILLAGE REPORT

The Village of Crooksville has made progress on several fronts the past few years. This progress is the result of accountability by our Village Administrator, Village Fiscal Officer, Village Council, Village office staff and employees. As of December 31st, 2015, the Village is financially sound with all Enterprise and Operating Fund's in the black.

Our village economic development is showing slow growth within our local industries. This growth allows our community to grow as well. Small business growth continues at a slow pace during the past year based upon income tax data. Updating our Villages infrastructure continues with the replacement of the 1930's village water distribution lines and East Hill water storage tank beginning in the fall of 2016, or spring 2017 timeframe. This project will increase the Village's fire protection and reduce our current water loss. This project is estimated to last approximately 18 months.

Our village fleet of Service Department vehicles and equipment over the last five years have been replaced with new vehicles and backhoe through the State of Ohio Cooperative Purchasing program with a savings of several thousand dollars of local taxpayer's money. The Coop Program allows Counties, Townships and Municipalities and School Districts the benefits and cost savings to purchase through state contracts.

Our main street bridge is also due for replacement in 2017 -2018 by the Ohio Department of Transportation, and Perry County Engineer's Office. It will require some moving of overhead and underground utilities allowing for construction equipment access. This project is estimated to take approximately 4 months.

The Village safety services are providing a great service to our community. Expanding for your safety, the Police Department has expanded a mutual aid reciprocal agreement with Roseville Police, increasing the use of our auxiliary police force, patrolling more, and allowing for a safer community. Through local tax dollars and available grants, the police department remains a strong force.

The Village fire and emergency medical service continue to upgrade equipment and training to provide our residents with the best fire and emergency service. Over the last three years the fire department has expanded its EMS (emergency medical service) staffing offering a 24 hour, 7 days a week service. Replacing the 1999 fire truck and outdated self-contained breathing apparatus are currently being sought through state and federal grants.

Our Village north and south parks continue to be an important hub of outdoor activities for young and old alike. New roofs have been installed on the shelter houses at the north park. A new mower was purchased in 2015 to keep up with the grass mowing. Improvements being

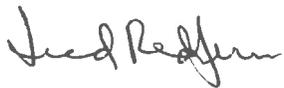
pursued at the north park include installation of a new "Baby Pool" activity area at the village pool, as funds become available. Replacement of the diving boards are scheduled for 2016. Recent improvements also included a complete new upgrade of the large pool filter backwash system to include new piping and pumps. Thanks for all those who support our Park and Pool tax levy!

The recreation center continues to host indoor archery, basketball, wall climbing, and exercise activities. These programs continue to grow and add additional revenue. Two equipment grants have been received for the archery program for 2015 and 2016 totaling \$1,000 easing some of the financial burden. However, there are time slots available throughout the week as well as weekends for additional activities. We are proud of the volunteers who run and support these programs.

In closing, I would like to thank our Village employees and those who reside in the village for your support and caring for our community.

As Mayor of our Village, I will continue to strive for the betterment of Crooksville.

Best Regards,



Mayor, Fred Redfern

Village of Crooksville