

# ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

*2023 ANNUAL REPORT*



City Engineer: Dale Vandersommen, P.E.

4/1/2024

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## DEPARTMENT'S MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the City of Lorain Engineering Department is to provide expedient technical engineering services and advice to all city departments, the administration, and the general public. Generally, the technical support is related to design, inspection, and contract administration of public improvements and subdivisions, plan review, grading, draining and general construction information.

## ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT STAFF



The Engineering Department is comprised of Professional Engineers, a Professional Surveyor, Engineering Aides, Engineers in Training, a Storm Water Manager, a GIS Administrator, a Technical Administrative Assistant, and an Intern.

- Eric Baker, GIS Administrator
  - Specialist in GIS base mapping, GIS analysis, remote sensing, photogrammetry, LiDAR, orthophotography, aerotriangulation, statistical analysis, imagery analysis and physical/environmental geography.
  - Certifications:
    - Geographic Information Systems professional (GISP)
  - Education:
    - Bachelor of Science, Geography, Penn State University

Post Baccalaureate Certificate, GIS, Geographical Information Systems,  
Penn State University

- Gwen Frey, Intern
  - Ms. Frey is pursuing a Bachelor of Civil Engineering at Cleveland State University. Expected to graduate in spring 2025.
- Dalton Evans, E. I., Intern
  - Mr. Evans is pursuing a Bachelor of Civil Engineering at Cleveland State University. Expected to graduate in spring 2024.
- Kathryn Golden, CPMSM, CFM, Stormwater Manager
  - Mrs. Golden has over 20 years of experience in the stormwater and water quality field. Her responsibilities include the administration of the oversite and management of the storm sewer system, environmental and brownfield restoration projects, management and oversight of the overseeing the design and development of the Black River Dredge Reuse Facility, managing the City's MS4 Stormwater program, and floodplain administration. Ms. Golden's previous experience includes private sector consulting, water quality, stormwater, and wastewater planning in Clark County, Nevada, and watershed coordination in Lorain County, Ohio.
  - Certifications:
    - Certified Professional in Municipal Storm Sewer Management
    - Floodplain Management
  - Education:
    - Bachelor of Science, Urban and Regional Planning, Geography, and Environmental Science, Miami University
    - Master of Public Administration, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
- Doug Hasel, P.S., Engineer III
  - Certifications:
    - Certificate of Registration Professional Surveyor State of Ohio
  - Education:
    - Bachelor of Science, Surveying and Mapping, University of Akron
- Elva Martes, Technical Administrative Assistant
  - Mrs. Martes has over 27 years of experience in municipal office and technical assistance in public works projects. She is responsible for the daily administrative and technical operations of the City Engineer's Office, including ordinances, departmental budget, permitting, and payroll. She is the key communications coordinator in our public response services.
  - Certifications:
    - EPA Water Supply Class I
- Katherine McGannon, Engineering Aide III
  - Ms. McGannon has over 11 years of experience in public works projects. She serves the department as an inspector. She provides expertise in construction inspection of road, sewer, bridge rehabilitation,

subdivision, new construction, sidewalk/apron, laterals, etc. Also, she provides expertise in project quantification and quality assurance of plan designs. She also has over 21 years of survey experience.

- Certifications:
  - ODOT Roads Scholar Level III
  - ODOT Bridge Inspector Level II
  - ACI Field Testing Technician Grade I
- Nick Murray, E.I.T., Utilities Engineer II
  - Mr. Murray serves the department as a Utilities Engineer. He has 6 years of experience as a wastewater treatment operator at Black River WWTP. He provides expertise in the construction and maintenance of water, sanitary, and stormwater infrastructure.
  - Certifications:
    - OPEPA Wastewater Treatment, Class III
  - Education:
    - Bachelor of Chemical Engineering, University of Dayton
    - Master of Environmental Engineering, Cleveland State University
- Seth Schilling, Engineering Aide III
  - Mr. Schilling has over 16 years of experience in public works projects. He serves the department as an inspector. He provides expertise in construction inspection of road, sewer, bridge rehabilitation, new construction, sidewalk/apron, laterals, etc.
  - Certifications:
    - ODOT Roads Scholar Level III
    - ODOT Bridge Inspector Level II
    - ACI Field Testing Technician Grade I
    - PACP, MACP, LACP Certification
    - Backflow Prevention
- Veronica A Newsome, P.E., Engineer III
  - Mrs. Newsome serves as one of the design engineers for the City of Lorain. Her technical background includes a wide variety of municipal infrastructure and capital improvements projects.
  - Certifications:
    - ODOT Bridge Inspector Level I
    - ACI Field Testing Technician Grade I
  - Education:
    - Associate of Applied Science, Architectural and Construction Engineering, Cuyahoga Community College
    - Bachelor of Arts, Historic Preservation, Ursuline College
    - Bachelor of Civil Engineering, Cleveland State University
    - Master of Civil Engineering, Cleveland State University
- Joe Whitely, E.I., Engineer II

- Mr. Whitely serves as one of the staff engineers for the City of Lorain. His technical background includes a wide variety of municipal infrastructure and capital improvements projects.
  - Education:
    - Bachelor of Civil Engineering, Youngstown State University
- Jessica Potter, Civil Engineer I
  - Ms. Potter serves as one of the design engineers for the City of Lorain. Her technical background includes a wide variety of municipal infrastructure and capital improvements projects. Jessica has over 5 years of survey experience. She was honorably discharged from the USAF as a senior airman after 6 years of service in civil engineering.
  - Certifications:
    - ODOT Bridge Inspector Level I
    - ACI Field Testing Technician Grade I
    - CESSWI
  - Education:
    - Associate of Arts, Lorain County Community College
    - Associate of Civil Engineering, Concrete Specialization, Rhodes College
- Guy Singer, P.E., Deputy Director of Engineering
  - Mr. Singer has over 32 years of experience in municipal infrastructure and capital improvements projects.
  - Education:
    - Bachelor of Civil Engineering, Case Western Reserve University
    - Master of Civil Engineering, Cleveland State University
    - EPA Wastewater Operator Class II
- Dale Vandersommen, P.E., City Engineer
  - Mr. Vandersommen has over 29 years of experience in municipal infrastructure and capital improvements projects. He directs the Engineering Department and key personnel on their assignments and requirements of their scope of work.
  - Certifications:
    - Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control
    - Certified Professional in Storm Water Quality
    - ODOT Bridge Inspector Level I and Level II
    - EPA Wastewater Operator Class III
  - Education:
    - Bachelor in Engineering, The Ohio State University

## ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT STAFF – BLACK RIVER RECLAMATION FACILITY



- Don Queen – Motor Equipment Operator 3
  - Mr. Queen is the primary operator of the City's Class IV Compost Facility and assists the Department in maintaining compliance with State of Ohio standards for its operation and maintenance. He coordinates the receipt of materials from other City departments and processes waste material into usable materials including compost, topsoil, and mulch.
- Mike Janosik -Environmental Landscape Crew Leader
  - Mr. Janosik started with the Department in 2024 and is tasked with environmental management of the City's environmental properties. He provides management of the Martin's Run Wetland Complex, maintenance of invasive vegetation on City properties, and maintenance of vegetation within drainageways, improving drainage in unimproved areas of our community.
- Kevin Sipkovsky – Reclamation Site Crew Leader
  - Mr. Sipkovsky is responsible for the day-to-day coordination of activities at the Black River Reclamation Facility, including the operation of City of Lorain Compost Facility, coordination with City departments and outside contractors utilizing and accessing the site, and most recently, the construction of the City's \$15M Black River Dredge Material Reuse Facility.

## ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

The Engineering Department is responsible for approximately 295 miles of public right-of-way, bridges, and culverts. The Engineering Department's responsibilities include design, construction management, permitting, and construction inspection of roadways, bridges, culverts, and sewer systems within the City of Lorain.

## DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS

- Inspection of sidewalks and aprons
- Inspection of storm sewer and sanitary sewer connections, sanitary backflow preventers
- Inspection of new subdivisions
- Inspection of all public works projects
- Construction management and inspection of all Engineering Department projects for paving, sewer, storm, etc.
- Construction management and inspection for city ODOT-LPA projects funded by NOACA
- Design and engineering of roadway paving, storm, sanitary, and water projects
- Design and engineering of simple waterfront structures
- Design and engineering of parking lots
- Project manager for all OPWC projects
- Preparation of engineering department construction contracts and bidding
- Preparation of engineering department service contracts
- Applies for all OPWC project funding
- Applies for all NOACA/ODOT project funding
- Applies for all ODNR project funding
- Applies for all CMAG/ODOD project funding
- Keeps and maintains records of all sanitary and storm sewer connection locations
- Keeps and maintains records for all public improvements
- Performs records research for external engineers and surveyors
- Operates pavement management system
- GIS mapping and data input for all city departments
- Liaison to ODOT projects
- Liaison to USACE projects

- Planning for annual roadway rehabilitation projects
- Prepares Request for Qualification packages
- Prepares Request for Proposal packages
- Property Surveying
- Construction Surveying
- Obstruction and topographic surveying
- GPS surveying
- Hydrographic surveying
- Property description writing
- Clerical work
- Data entry and scanning of current records
- Digitization of paper records
- Stormwater Management
- Oversees Best Management Practice for stormwater runoff
- Prepares petitions for street and alley vacations
- Prepares petitions for paving projects
- Prepares city permit applications for submission to EPA and USACE
- Prepares application for ODNR permits, including submerged land leases
- Reviews plans for new subdivisions
- Reviews plans for commercial sites
- Reviews plans for Lorain City school sites
- Reviews lot split submissions
- Site plan reviews for drainage, etc.
- Engineering and surveying for all other city departments
- Issues permits and collects fees for sidewalk, storm, sanitary, and water connections, apron and pavement openings. Collects fees for plan reviews, lot split reviews
- Prepares ordinances
- Operates material testing lab for Portland cement concrete, sampling, testing, and destructive testing
- Prepares estimates for paving, storm, sanitary, and water
- Prepares annual capital improvements projects budget for Engineering Department projects
- Annual inspection of all city bridges and culverts
- Preparation of Developers' Agreements and collects fees for inspection
- Approves plats for new subdivision
- Issues and collects fees for sewer digger licenses

- Collects, deposits, and issues refunds for grading deposits held in trust
- Maintains address atlas and assigns address in city
- Assists general public and contractors in locating storm and sanitary connections
- Enforces EPA regulations, permit acquisition, permit to install, construction permits, and municipal separate storm sewer system permits
- Education administrator for storm water
- Public involvement coordinator for storm water issues
- FEMA grant administrator
- Flood zone administrator
- OUPS location coordinator
- Prepares NDPES Storm Water Permit and Annual Report
- Approves new street names and assigns addresses
- Monitors air testing on new sanitary sewer installations
- Monitors mandrel testing on new sanitary sewer installations
- Environmental & Brownfield Remediation

## CEMETERY MAPPING AND RECORDS

The Engineering department maintains and updates the cemetery maps and permanent records for those who have been interned at Elmwood Cemetery. The maps are updated yearly in coordination with the Public Property Department and Cemetery Personnel.

## CITIZEN INFORMATION

Citizens can request information from the COL Engineering Department, including the grading of their property, drainage concerns, main sewer, and lateral locations back up information, etc.

The Engineering Department maintains web pages for all roadway projects to inform citizens on current projects. These web pages are available on the COL website under Engineering.

Also, the Engineering Department maintains the COL Utilities Projects on the COL website and in the COL Engineering Department. This information provides details on current COL utilities projects, including, but not limited to project area, project schedule, project cost, and environmental reviews by

agencies such as the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) and Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR).

## INVESTIGATIONS

Field investigations are carried out when the situation warrants it.

2023 Investigations include:

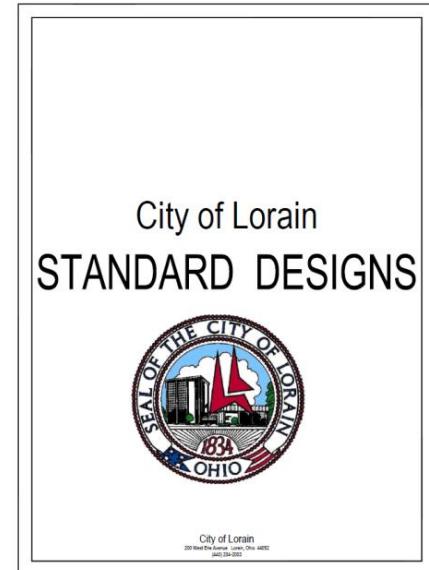
- 2 Drainage complaints, grading
- 3 Drainage complaints, alley, roads, downspout/underdrain
- 2 Right of Way Obstructions

## STANDARD DESIGNS

The Engineering Department updates the City of Lorain Standard Designs and Specifications for roadway and new construction to provide guidance to developers, engineers, surveyors, contractors, public and private utilities, various city departments, and private property owners.

Design standards include sanitary, storm, pavement, and miscellaneous items that those mentioned are expected to follow designs.

City of Lorain contract work shall be governed by all provisions set forth in the State of Ohio Department of Transportation Construction and Material Specifications, current version, and any other supplemental specifications per individual project contract documents.



## PROJECTS

### US DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (USDOT)

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal (BIL) will rebuild America's roads, bridges, and rails, expand access to clean drinking water, ensure every American has access to high-speed internet, tackle the climate crisis, advance environmental justice, and invest in communities that have too often been left behind.

## RAISE GRANT AND RECONNECTING COMMUNITIES

The E. 36th Street Improvements project will provide increased safety, environmental benefits, economic opportunity, flood mitigation, and increased mobility and connectivity to this diverse area. The City requested a \$1,500,000 planning grant to design approximately 3.3 miles of new and improved roadway and multi-use path, to design, install and utilize roadside green infrastructure along this route, and to address over a mile of degraded stormwater channel adjacent to E. 36th Street in an area already impacted by significant flooding. These requests were unsuccessful in 2022 but will be reapplied for in 2024.

## STRENGTHENING MOBILITY AND REVOLUTIONIZING TRANSPORTATION (SMART) GRANT

The BIL established the Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) discretionary grant program with \$100 million appropriated annually for fiscal years 2022-2026.

The City of Lorain requested (\$1,009,500) 100% funding to install smart signal equipment, purchase software service packages, construction, and develop base signal timing plans. Award notification is anticipated by June 2023.

## OHIO PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION (OPWC)

OPWC provides financing for local public infrastructure improvements through both the State Capital Improvement Program (SCIP) and the Local Transportation Improvement Program (LTIP). SCIP is a grant/loan program for roads, bridges, water supply, wastewater treatment, storm water collection, and solid waste disposal. LTIP is a grant program for roads and bridges only. See Exhibit A for a list of projects completed with OPWC funding in 2023.



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## OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ODOT)

We are collaborative partners with ODOT who oversees Interstate, State and US routes. ODOT oversees the planning, engineering, and construction of many of

the major roadways, bridges, and culverts on the state transportation system.

#### WEST 21ST STREET (SR611) PID-107478 RESURFACING

Project planning for construction in 2024. Urban Paving Project managed by ODOT utilizing federal funding (80% federal/20% local) for the rehabilitation of West 21<sup>st</sup> Street (SR611) from West Erie Ave. (US6) to Colorado Ave. Total project cost is \$3,783,734.

#### TOWER BOULEVARD REHABILITATION PID 120287

Project planning for construction in 2025. Our office applied for and received federal funding (80% federal/20% local) for the rehabilitation of Tower Boulevard from Leavitt Rd. (SR58) to Oberlin Ave. Total project cost is \$3,862,219. Richland Engineering will provide detailed design for the project.

#### LONGBROOK/YORKTOWN REHABILITATION PID 120288

Project planning for construction in 2026. Our office applied for and received federal funding (80% federal/20% local) for the rehabilitation of Yorktown Dr. from Oak Point Rd. to Longbrook Dr. and Longbrook Drive from Yorktown Dr. to Kolbe Rd. Total project cost is \$3,862,219. Richland Engineering will provide detailed design for the project.

#### CITY OF LORAIN INTER-DEPARTMENTAL PROJECTS

##### PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

The Engineering Department provided design and construction layout services to assist the Public Properties and Building, Housing, and Planning Department in infrastructure upgrades at Pawlak and Campana Parks.

##### SAFETY FUNDING

#### WEST 21ST ST (SR611) AND WEST ERIE AVE (US 6) – SIGNAL UPGRADES AND ROAD DIETS PID – 114823

Project planning for construction in 2024. Our Office applied for and received Safety dollars for signal and roadway improvement. New signals will be installed at SR611/Leavitt Rd. (SR58), SR611/Oberlin Ave., and

SR611/Washington Ave. In addition, a HAWK signal will be installed at Lakeview Park. Road Diets will be installed on both SR611 and US6 to right size the roadway for current conditions. Total project cost is \$1,486,225.

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#### LOR-58-25.41 PED CROSSING IMPROVEMENT PID 119515

The City of Lorain was awarded funding for ODOT to study the intersection of N. Leavitt and Tower Blvd in 2021. It was found that pedestrian upgrades are required at the intersection. An abbreviated safety application for a pedestrian pushbutton improvement at Tower Blvd/SR 58 was submitted and awarded in 2023. Construction in 2024. Total project cost is \$65,414.

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#### LOR-58-25.41 FULL SIGNAL REBUILD PID 120792

The City of Lorain was awarded funding for ODOT to study the intersection of N. Leavitt and Tower Blvd in 2021. It was found that a full signal rebuild is required at the intersection. A formal safety application for the full signal rebuild was completed in 2023 by Woolpert at Tower Blvd/SR 58 and was submitted and awarded in 2023. Construction in 2026. Total project cost is \$529,700.

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#### LOR 611 4.25 SIGNAL IMPROVEMENT AND SLIP LANE REMOVAL PID 118175

The City of Lorain was awarded funding for ODOT to study the 611 Corridor from Broadway to SR611 Colorado Avenue in 2022. A formal application was made in August 2022. Funding for a full signal rebuild and slip lane removal (\$696,000) 90/10 was awarded in Winter 2022. Design work is slated to begin in April 2023. Construction summer 2025. Total project cost is \$815,967.

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#### SAFETY FUNDING - PEDESTRIAN SYSTEMIC SAFETY APPLICATIONS

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##### YEAR ONE – PILOT PID 117537

The City of Lorain and ODOT District 12 – Garfield Heights created a joint application for pedestrian safety from the newly established pedestrian safety project funding source. This project includes 33 locations throughout the City of Lorain. Project funding application (\$750,000) 90/10 was in December 2022. Awarded spring 2023. LBJ is providing detailed design. Construction summer 2025. The total project cost is \$2,031,904.

## YEAR TWO – PID 119936

The City of Lorain created an application for pedestrian safety from the newly established pedestrian safety project funding source. This project includes 26 locations throughout the City of Lorain. Project funding application (\$1,926,108) 90/10 was in December 2022. Awarded spring 2023. The City of Lorain Engineering Department is providing detailed design. Construction summer 2025. Total project cost is \$1,438,106.

## YEAR THREE

The City of Lorain created an application for pedestrian safety from the newly established pedestrian safety project funding source. This project includes various pedestrian crossings throughout the City of Lorain. Project funding application (\$2,000,000) 90/10 was in December 2023. Anticipated award spring 2024.

## SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL (SRTS)

The purpose of Safe Routes to School is to encourage and enable students in grades K-8 to walk or ride their bicycle to school. Projects can be either engineering (improved crossings, sidewalks, etc.) or non-engineering (education and encouragement programs). Since the program began in 2018, walking and bicycling to school has increased in Ohio communities with active Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programs. The responsibility of a safe route to school is ultimately shared by the user, government agencies,

### Lorain Active Transportation Plan (ATP) 2023 Progress Report

*Progress made in 2023 for better walking and bicycling experiences in Lorain, and what to expect in 2024.*



#### ATP update is in progress

- ODOT awarded Lorain funding for consultant assistance with updating the existing Active Transportation Plan, originally created in 2018.
- 10 new partners joined Lorain Connected as steering committee members to help with the update.



#### ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

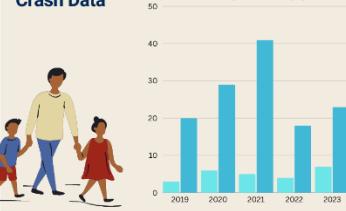


#### 1 co-ed bike camp completed

"Ride and Thrive" youth bike camp reached over 20 Lorain 5th through 8th graders. The 231 Go! collaborative, facilitated by El Centro, piloted the camp.



#### Crash Data



#### Projects completed in 2023

- 1.21 miles of sidewalk improved
- 9 traffic signal improvements
- Planning for 35 intersection improvements

#### Projects planned for 2024

- Road diets on US 6 and SR611
- Paving on SR611
- Signal upgrades at Washington, Oberlin and Leavitt
- Pedestrian improvements at Tower Blvd and SR 58
- SRTS pedestrian improvements at Longfellow Middle School



View the Lorain ATP:  
[CityofLorain.org/500/Active-Transportation-Planning](http://CityofLorain.org/500/Active-Transportation-Planning)  
Questions: [HealthEd@LorainCountyHealth.com](mailto:HealthEd@LorainCountyHealth.com)

**LORAIN**    
**connected**

elected officials, and safety advocates.

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**SRTS 2023 – SAFE AND COMFORTABLE SCHOOL ZONES – PID 113537**

In 2020 the City of Lorain was awarded a grant of \$396,554.37 from the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for improved pedestrian accommodations at 3 elementary schools: Admiral King, Hawthorne, and Garfield.

These improvements include Removal and replacement of sidewalks that are beyond their useful life and/or are not up to current design standards, removal and replacement of non-compliant ADA curb ramps, installation of new “SCHOOL” crossing paint, installation of word on pavement “SLOW” at midblock of school sites, update existing school zone signage to meet new Ohio MUTCD standard, installation of new digital speed limit signs prior to school zone areas. Work was completed in 2023, with digital speed limit signs to be installed in 2024.



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**SRTS 2024 – SAFE AND COMFORTABLE SCHOOL ZONES – EAST LORAIN - PID 115380**

In 2021 the City of Lorain was awarded a grant of \$190,078.25 from the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for improved pedestrian accommodations at Longfellow Middle School.

These improvements would include removal and replacement of sidewalks that are beyond their useful life and/or are not up to current design standards, removal and replacement of non-compliant ADA curb ramps, installation of new “SCHOOL” crossing paint, installation of word on pavement “SLOW” at midblock of school sites, update existing school zone signage to meet new Ohio MUTCD standard, installation of new digital speed limit signs prior to school zone areas. Work will be completed in the Summer of 2024.

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**SRTS 2025 – CONNECTING COMMUNITIES – CLEARVIEW - PID  
117559**

In 2022 the City of Lorain was awarded a grant of \$390,842.96 from the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for improved pedestrian accommodations in the Clearview school district within Central/South Lorain. Serving Durling Middle School, Horizon Science Academy, and Steven Dohanos Elementary School.

These improvements would include: Removal and replacement of sidewalks that are beyond their useful life and/or are not up to current design standards, installation of new sidewalk where currently none exist, removal and replacement of non-compliant ADA curb ramps, installation of new “SCHOOL” crossing paint, installation of word on pavement “SLOW” at midblock of school sites, installation of a Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacon (RRFB), and update existing school zone signage to meet new Ohio MUTCD standard. Work will be completed in the Summer of 2025.

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**SRTS 2026 – CONNECTING COMMUNITIES – SOUTH LORAIN - PID  
120211**

In 2023 the City of Lorain was awarded a grant of \$498,000 from the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for improved pedestrian accommodations near 2 schools: Southview Middle School and Helen Steiner Rice Elementary within South Lorain.

These improvements would include Removal and replacement of sidewalks that are beyond their useful life and/or are not up to current design standards, removal and replacement of non-compliant ADA curb ramps, installation of new “SCHOOL” crossing paint, installation of word on pavement “SLOW” at midblock of school sites, installation of a Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacon (RRFB), and update existing school zone signage to meet new Ohio MUTCD standard. Work will be completed in the Summer of 2026.

**OHIO WATER DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (OWDA)**

OWDA provides financial assistance for environmental infrastructure from the sale of municipal revenue bonds through loans to local governments in Ohio and from issuance of industrial revenue bonds for qualified projects in Ohio.

## DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (DEFA)

Through the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF), DEFA provides financial and technical assistance to public or private applicants for planning, design and construction of a wide variety of projects to protect or improve the quality of Ohio's water resources. Similarly, through the Water Supply Revolving Loan Account (WSRLA), DEFA assists applicants with projects that address human health and failing drinking water infrastructure needs.

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entitlement Program provides annual grants on a formula basis to entitled cities and counties to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income (LMI) persons. The program is authorized under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, Public Law 93-383, as amended; 42 U.S.C.-530.1 et seq.

Each year Building, Housing, and Planning allocates HUD funding for LMI areas and Engineering either applies that to its local share in an LMI street in its on-going road program or designs and administers additional contracts to rehabilitated street in LMI areas.

Additionally, the Engineering Department assisted the Building, Housing and Planning Department in utilizing CDBG Funds to repave and update the parking lot and playground area of the Harrison Cultural Community Centre.

## TRANSPORTATION FOR LIVABLE COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE (TLCI)

NOACA's Transportation for Livable Communities Initiative (TLCI) provides assistance to communities and public agencies for integrated transportation and land use planning and projects that strengthen community livability.

## TLCI 2020 PLANNING APPLICATION – EAST 28<sup>TH</sup> STREET CORRIDOR

The City of Lorain applied for a Planning study of the East 28<sup>th</sup> Street corridor (SR57) in 2020. The application was made at the urging of the 6<sup>th</sup> Ward councilman, Rey Carrion, who is concerned about the future of the East 28<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor. NOACA will select the consultants in 2024.

## TLGI 2022 INFRASTRUCTURE APPLICATION – TLGI BEACHSCAPE

The City of Lorain applied infrastructure funding in 2022 for bike lanes from downtown Lorain to the underpass at SR611. The application was made at the urging of the 7<sup>th</sup> Ward councilman, Cory Shawver, stated that residents were uncomfortable cycling from downtown Lorain to Lakeview Park and points further west. Project was combined with the SR611 Signals project and will be constructed in the Summer of 2024.

### CONGESTION MITIGATION AND AIR QUALITY (CMAQ)

The Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program provides federal funding statewide for transportation projects located in the largest urban areas of Ohio that improve congestion and air quality.

The purpose of the CMAQ program is to fund transportation projects or programs that will contribute to attainment or maintenance of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone, carbon monoxide (CO), and particulate matter (both PM10 and PM2.5).

The CMAQ program supports two important goals of the U.S. Department of Transportation (Department): improving air quality and relieving congestion. The CMAQ program provides funding for a broad array of tools to accomplish these goals. By choosing to fund or sponsor a CMAQ project, a State or local government, transit agency, or other eligible project sponsor can improve air quality and make progress toward achieving attainment status and ensuring compliance with the transportation conformity provisions of the Clean Air Act (CAA). Projects are awarded at 80% federal share with 20% local share.



### LORAIN TRAFFIC SIGNALS

This project provides new traffic control hardware for nine signalized intersections and a complete replacement of one signal. The locations vary along the Broadway and Elyria Avenue corridor. These signals communicate and use GPS coordination to minimize wait times to improve air quality. Project was constructed in the Summer of 2023.

## SURVEY / RIGHT OF WAY

### SURVEYING

The Engineering Department performs construction, topographic, hydrographic, boundary, quantity, right of way, obstruction, and GPS surveys. Surveying is required for all engineered plans and is the first step in a properly designed project. Surveys performed for the city have assisted in settling legal issues, clarified right of way, determined boundary limits for city owned properties, and have accelerated the timeline of public works projects allowing both city employees and hired contractors to complete public works projects on time.

Larger surveys have been completed on several roadways to begin construction in 2023. Surveys have also been done on active job sites that were constructed in 2023 to improve design and functionality of those jobs.

The following are some additional surveys:

### UTILITIES

- Survey and stake the new dewatering pad located at the sewer department garage.
- Survey the Martins Run Lift station.
- Survey storm and sanitary lines on Oberlin Ave. for replacement.
- Survey S. Broadway for waterline installation.

### STREET DEPARTMENT

- Survey and stake boundary on W. Erie @ Ashland Ave. required for clarification of property.
- Survey Beaver Park Place to establish right of way limits.

### SAFETY/SERVICE DIRECTOR

- Prepare legals of various city properties for transfer.
- Survey Pawlak Park improvements.

### GRADING APPROVALS

Preliminary Grade review for drainage. Certified Grade review for occupancy.

- Preliminary Grade Approvals: 78

- Certified Grade Approvals: 88

## PLAT REVIEW

The following plat reviews were performed by our Professional Surveyor:

- Crossings #5 & #6
- Harborview #18

## LOT SPLITS REVIEWED

- Arizona Remainder.
- Leavitt north of Meister Rd.
- Meister @ Pole Ave.
- Jaeger Rd west of Leavitt Rd.



## EASEMENTS PREPARED/REVIEWED

- Jaeger Rd behind Kohl's
- USS Ingress/Egress
- Valleyview Dr 2 documents
- W. Erie Ave outfall 2 documents

## EASEMENTS PREPARED/REVIEWED

- W. Erie outfall project.

## INSPECTIONS

Inspection services validate that the work performed complies with the scope detailed in the permit description. The types of inspections vary depending on the nature of the project. Before a permit can be completed and closed, all required inspections must be approved.

In 2023 the Engineering Department performed the following inspections:

## CONCRETE– INSPECTION

- Sidewalk – 400

- Apron - 202
- Open Pavement – 196
- Catch Basin/ Manhole – 72

#### STORM SEWER AND SANITARY SEWER – INSPECTION

- Sanitary – 256
- Storm – 139

#### NEW SUBDIVISIONS– INSPECTION

- Sandy Springs Subdivision No. 4. Created 45 new lots.
- Harbor Walk Subdivision No. 18. Created 8 new lots.

#### PROJECTS– INSPECTION

- **OPWC Round 36 A** – Street Rehabilitation of:  
**Lexington Ave**- W. 21<sup>st</sup> St. to W. 20<sup>th</sup> St  
**Reeves Ave**- W 21<sup>st</sup> St. to W 19<sup>th</sup> St.  
**Edgewood Dr.**- Shaffer Dr. to Narragansett Blvd.  
**Livingston Ave**- W. 34<sup>th</sup> St. to W. 33<sup>rd</sup> St.  
**W. 23<sup>rd</sup> St.**- Marshall Ave to Pole. Ave.  
**Edgewood Dr.**- W. 40<sup>th</sup> St to W. 39<sup>th</sup> St.
- **OPWC Round 35 B** - Street Rehabilitation of:
  - **Concord Dr.**- Garfield Blvd. to Cleveland Blvd.
  - **Fulton Rd.**- E 36<sup>th</sup> St. to Plant St.
  - **E. 42<sup>nd</sup> St.**- Gary Ave. to Grove Ave.
  - **E. 32<sup>nd</sup> St.**- Clinton Ave. to Seneca Ave.

#### PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT RATINGS

Engineering continues to use Streetlogix by StreetScan Inc. to develop capital plans and optimize spending on road projects. In 2023, the City re-analyzed the condition of every street and is currently updating scores accordingly in order to ensure fairness and equity.



## CONCRETE TESTING

Concrete testing is performed on all capital improvement projects. Testing is done in accordance with applicable American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) standards by an American Concrete Institute (ACI), Certified Concrete Field Technician. A sample is obtained in the field, and then allowed to cure, then compression tested in a lab. Concrete samples are obtained in the field during paving operations as well as other operations where a substantial volume of concrete is being used. Samples are cured for at least 7 days before the first compression test is performed. Multiple samples are taken so that compression testing can also be performed at 28 days.

Multiple samples are taken so that compression testing can also be performed at 28 days.

Concrete is said to be fully cured and have developed most of its strength at 28 days.

Testing is performed to make sure that what is being specified in plans and contract documents is what is being constructed in the field.



## ASTM TESTING PERFORMED

- ASTM C172 - Sampling
- ASTM C143 - Slump
- ASTM C438 - Density
- ASTM C231 - Air Content
- ASTM C31 - Cylinders

## CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

### AGREEMENTS

- 113573 – Safe Routes to School 2023 – Construction
- 113573 – Safe Routes to School 2023 – Construction Management
- 114823 – SR611 signals and US6 Road diet – Construction
- 114823 – SR611 signals and US6 Road diet – Construction Management

- 115380 – Safe Routes to School 2023 – Construction
- 118175 – SR611/Colorado Sliplane and Signal upgrade – Detailed design
- 119515 – Tower/58 Pedestrian Improvements – Detailed Design
- OPWC Round 36A Road Rehabilitation
- OPWC Round 36B Road Rehabilitation
- 2023 Sewer Lining Project – Year VI
- East Erie Sidewalk Improvements
- Sewer System Lateral Creation Project
- Street Logix
- Wickens/W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street stormwater repair
- Martin’s Run Wetland Complex Construction
- Black River Dredge Dewatering Facility Design and Construction
- Pellet Terminal Brownfield Remediation Project
- St. Joe’s Brownfield Remediation Project
- Stove Works Brownfield Remediation Project
- Emergency Erosion Program
- Black River Riparian Forest Design
- Black River Riparian Restoration Construction
- Sunset Pier Park Assessment

#### REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

- 113573 – Safe Routes to School 2023 – Construction Management
- 114823 – SR611 signals and US6 Road diet – Construction Management
- 118175 – SR611/Colorado Sliplane and Signal upgrade – Detailed design
- 119515 – Tower/58 Pedestrian Improvements – Detailed Design
- 2023 Qualifications Statement from Interested Professional Engineering, Architectural, and Surveying
- Storm Sewer Condition Assessment

#### PLAN REVIEW

The Engineering Department is responsible for reviewing plans impacting the public right-of-way. This includes residential subdivisions where the City is

accepting new infrastructure such as water mains, sewers, roads, and storm management infrastructure. Engineering also reviews and permits new residential and commercial construction to determine proper grade, stormwater management, proper sidewalk and driveway apron configuration, and public utility services such as water and sewer service. Lastly, Engineering reviews projects by third parties such as ODOT or Lorain County within Lorain's Corporate limits. Plans related to any of the following areas must be submitted and reviewed and approved depending on the nature of the project.

- Residential Subdivision
  - Colonies at Martin's Run - 8 Unit Condo
  - Lorain Townhomes
  - Harborwalk Infill - 8 Unit Condo
  - Arizona Townhomes
- Commercial Buildings
  - PC Campana Addition
  - George Daniel Stadium - Concession Stand
  - Jaeger Road Storage - Lighthouse Village
  - Lorain County Crisis Center
  - Achieve Credit Union
  - Addition Haven Center
  - Flipper Boat Storage
  - Pellet Terminal - Phase 1
  - Amcor
  - Pawlak Park
  - Shops At Deerfield
  - New Apt Office Bldg
  - City of Lorain Dredge Facility
  - Black River Riparian Restoration Project
  - Broadway Commons
  - TJ Maxx
  - Hold-It Self Storage
  - Motor Sports Park
  - Taco Bell
  - City Of Lorain Rec Site Entrance Building
  - 5950 Park Square Dr – New Adult Care Facility
  - Panda Express
  - Silver Hills

- Projects administered by other agencies
  - County/State Improvement Projects
  - Private Utility Replacements (gas, fiber optics, etc...)

## UTILITIES ENGINEERING

The Engineering Department assists the Utilities Department with the planning, design, and construction administration services.

- **Water System Rehabilitation**
  - Planning and prioritization of water system improvements
  - Design administration
    - Year 2 - Water Main Replacement Program
    - Year 2 - Lead Service Line Replacement Program
    - Water Treatment Plant Improvements Project
  - Construction administration
    - Red Hill Boosted Pressure System and Water Main Improvements
    - East Lorain Water Main Replacement
      - WWTP Dr to Colorado Ave, E Erie Ave to Lakeside Ave
      - G St from Missouri Ave to Root Rd
      - McKinley St from G St to Leroy St
      - New Hampshire Ave from Crehore to Colorado
    - Water Main Replacement Year 1
      - Vine Ave from E.28 to E.33
      - W.40th St. from Ashland to Oberlin
      - E. 37th St. from Pearl to Lorain
      - Woodward from E.37th to Fulton
    - Year 1 - Lead Service Line Replacement Program
- **Sanitary System Rehabilitation**
  - Planning and prioritization of sanitary sewer system improvements
  - Design administration
    - Sewer and Manhole Rehab (CIPP lining) Year 6
    - Black River Wastewater Treatment Plant Digester Improvements Project
  - Construction administration
    - Sewer and Manhole Rehab (CIPP lining) Year 5
    - Sewer and Manhole Rehab (CIPP lining) Year 6

## TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

City of Lorain staff offers ongoing technical support to developers, contractors, engineers, builders, and property owners within the City of Lorain. This technical assistance is related to:

- Permitting and associated fees
- Standards and design support
- Construction and inspection requirements

### NEW RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS ASSIGNMENTS

Sandy Springs No. 4 (45 addresses)

Harborwalk Subdivision No. 18 (8 addresses)

### NEW COMMERCIAL ADDRESS ASSIGNMENTS

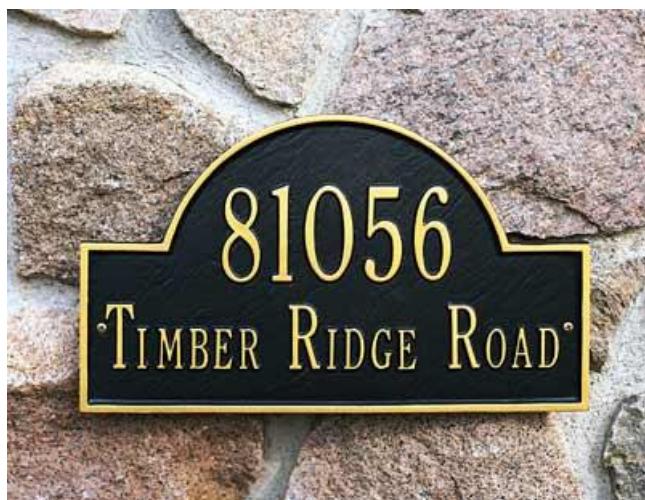
5950 Park Square Drive – New Commercial Building – Adult Care Facility

2800 Cooper Foster Park Rd – New Commercial Building – Panda Express

1390 Colorado Avenue – New Commercial Building – Taco Bell

2601 E. 28<sup>th</sup> Street – New Commercial Building – Black River Rec Site Bldg

2840 Meister Rd. Unit 100 & 200 – New Concession Stands & Restrooms



## City of Lorain Public GIS



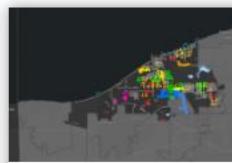
Utilities



Pavement Evaluation



Zoning

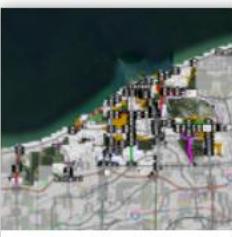


Projects



Council Wards

City of Lorain Council Ward Boundaries



City of Lorain - ODOT, NOACA, OGRIP and ODNR

This web application contains data from ODOT, NOACA, OGRIP, and ODNR

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and general mapping services are managed by the Engineering Department. In 2021, the Engineering Department created a GIS and Mapping “Portal”. This portal allows public access to information about:

- Public Utilities (Water, Sanitary Sewers, and Storm Sewers)
- Pavement Condition (Pavement Rating System)
- Zoning Codes
- City Wide Projects (Projects administer by the City of Lorain or other agencies, such as Columbia Gas, within city limits)
- General Ward Maps (showing current and future ward boundaries and council member information).
- Other data managed and maintained by ODOT, NOACA, OGRIP and ODNR within city limits.

The Engineering Department maintains and updates all data associated with maps within the portal. Engineering performs edits related to:

- Utilities updates such as:
  - Infrastructure in new developments
  - Modifications necessitated by public improvement projects such as water main replacement and sewer lining projects.
  - Updates and modifications to water pressure systems
  - Locations of private utility connections (sanitary laterals, water taps, etc.)
- Pavement Planning and Improvements
- Zoning changes/updates
- Project updates and status

Engineering will also prepare maps and exhibits on an as needed basis such as:

- Maps requested by Council Members
- Entertainment District maps
- Central Business District Maps
- Active Transportation/TLCI maps
- Towing district maps for Police
- Backflow Area maps for Utilities
- Community Reinvestment Area Maps
- Urban renewal area maps
- Community Development Block Grant Funded Project Maps
- Tax Abatement Area Maps
- Exhibit Maps for Grants for Various Departments
- Training Maps for Lorain Fire Department and Lorain Police Department

Engineering's Portal is also a critical application for the City's asset management program, Cityworks, that was implemented in 2023. This allows the city to administer a work and asset management system that tracks asset lifecycle, cost, and a number of other factors.

The Portal is also being utilized by the Fire Department to perform yearly fire hydrant inspections, and hydrant flow testing. The GIS has increased the efficiency of this process, and accuracy with regard to the required flow calculations. The fire department was an early adopter, and has been key in showing the power of GIS, and how it can be used throughout the City.

## STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

- Implemented and managed the requirements of the City of Lorain Stormwater Management Program.
- Performed 521 storm water inspections on 118 sublots and 7 commercial sites within the City issuing 311 violation notices and 113 enforcement actions.
- Performed quarterly site inspections of the following City properties: Compost Facility, Street Department Complex, and Sewer Department Complexes.
- Provided storm water training to employees in the following departments/divisions: Sewer, Landscaping, Water Distribution, and Public Properties.
- Administered the Long-Term Operation and Maintenance standards for all existing post-construction BMPs.
- Continued communication with City departments and facilities to ensure all facilities within the City are brought into compliance with minimum storm water standards.
- Completed construction on the Martin's Run Ecological Restoration Project to restore and enhance approximately 16.3 acres of wetland. Within the project site, approximately 1,000 linear feet of the channelized, incised, and severely eroding stream channel was relocated and restored using natural channel design techniques to reduce erosion and sediment loss and reconnect the channel to the floodplain. Completion of this project established and preserved approximately 19 acre-feet of runoff retention, storage, and treatment.

## ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM

- Grant management and restoration projects active in 2023 include:
  - Martin's Run Ecological Restoration Project Phase II – Used Ohio Department of Natural Resources H2Ohio Grant of \$1,400,0000 to fund construction. Final completion of the property was achieved in 2023.
  - Black River Dredge Reuse Facility – The City continued work under the \$4,000,000.00 Healthy Lake Erie grant award to design and construct an upland dredge dewatering facility to ensure continued navigational dredging of the Black River. An additional \$150,000 was awarded to the City to assist with the pilot project completed under the original award.

- In 2022, \$15,000,000 was awarded to the City in order to fund the construction of the Black River Dredge Material Dewatering Facility, an approximately 80-acre industrial facility to be owned and operated by the City of Lorain. Construction is planned to begin in summer 2023, with substantial completion planned for July 2024.
- Additional restoration funding in the amount of \$1,200,000.00 was awarded to supplement the \$15M 2015 award at the Black River Reclamation Site. The cap and cover of 14 acres at the site brings a close to over \$30M in restoration funding implemented to improve Beneficial Use Impairments in the Black River.
- Funding in the amount of \$200,000 was received from the US Fish and Wildlife Service to manage invasive vegetation and perform tree planting at the Black River Heron Rookery, a property owned and protected under an Environmental Covenant by the City of Lorain.



## BROWNFIELD REMEDIATION PROGRAM

In 2023, the City of Lorain was awarded the following brownfield redevelopment projects:

- Pellet Terminal Redevelopment Project (\$4,025,899) will remediate contaminated soil from 20+ acres of waterfront property that previously served as an iron ore pellet terminal, preparing the site for mixed-use development. The project will also extend Broadway to the pellet terminal site, provide utilities critical to the long-term development of this area, revamp and repave the entrance to the “Hot Waters” boat launch, and improve traffic flow. Onsite work began in 2023 and is anticipated to be complete in 2025-26.
- Stove Works Remedial Action Plan Implementation (\$709,167) will remediate onsite contamination in order to prepare the site for future

affordable housing. Work onsite was completed in summer 2023 and additional funding was requested to complete onsite work.

- St. Joe's Phase II (\$195,750) was planned to identify onsite contamination and develop a Remedial Action Plan to advise future cleanups. This project was awarded in the second quarter of 2022 and completed in summer 2023. Additional funding has been requested to complete cleanup on the site.

## LORAIN BLACK RIVER RECLAMATION FACILITY

- Staff managed and operated the City of Lorain Class 4 Composting Facility.
- Onsite staff coordinated with City departments on the movement and management of material into the facility.
- Onsite staff worked to manage and produce leaf humus, topsoil, and mulch.
- Onsite staff assisted in the management and coordination of all environmental restoration projects occurring on the property including the Black River Remediation and Restoration project as well as the Dredge Facility project.
- The site's new 1600 sq ft "entrance building" was substantially completed in 2023. The building provides office space for three City employees, our contract security staff, and offers office space and a conference room for the Black River Dredge Facility Manager to be hired in 2024 via a professional services agreement. Demolition of the old office building is planned for early 2024.

## PERMITTING

A permit authorizes a homeowner or contractor to begin the work described on the permit. The Engineering Department issues permits for aprons, sidewalks, open pavement, water service line repair/replacement, replacement water taps, meter downsizing, sanitary and storm sewers repair/replacement and new construction taps for residential and commercial. The following number of permits were issued in 2022:

- Apron and Sidewalk – 330
- Sanitary and Storm Repair/Replace/Check Valve – 135
- Open Pavement – 91
- Water Permits (repair/replace water service line / meter downsizes, replacement taps) – 50
- New Construction (Sewer & Water Tap in) Residential – 113 \*

- New Construction (Sewer & Water Tap in) Commercial – 7 \*
- Commercial Additions (Sewer and/or water) – 1
- New Sanitary & Water Tie-Ins (outside of city) – 32
- New Sanitary Only Tie-Ins (outside of city) – 16

\*(New Construction Permits include sanitary, storm, water, sidewalk, and apron permits)

## FINANCES

### 2023 Engineering Collections

Sewer Permits	\$ 28,880.00
Miscellaneous Sales	\$ -
Parkland Trust Fund	\$ 6,845.00
Sewer License Fees	\$ 2,070.00
Deposit Held Trust Fund	\$ 43,048.00
Reimburse Engineering Service	\$ 48,410.00
Inspection Fees Allotment Impr Fund	\$ 26,844.45
Contract	\$ -
Storm Sewer Fees	\$ 168,920.00
Rental Income / Pole Nodes	\$ 1,087.56
Sanitary Tap in Fee	\$ 206,120.00
Sanitary Capital Improv. Fee	\$ 138,280.78
Water Pollution Control Interceptor Fees	\$ 9,650.47
Water - Capital Improvements	\$ 107,693.88
Water - New Main Frontage	\$ -
Service Connection Taps	\$ 141,257.20
Meter Charge	\$ 73,438.00
Manifolds	\$ 500.00
Street Excavation	\$ -
Water Works Inspection	\$ 17,160.00
Compost License	\$ 1,250.00
County Sewer Fee (forward to County)	\$ 75,105.93
<b>Total Collections</b>	<b>\$ 1,096,561.27</b>

## EXHIBIT A

### OPWC 36 – Completed 2023 work

Street	From	To
Concord Dr	Cleveland Blvd	Garfield Blvd
Lexington Ave	W 20th St	W 21st St
Reeves Ave	W 20th St	W 21st St
Reeves Ave	W 19th St	W 20th St
Edgewood Dr	Shaffer Dr	Narragansett Blvd
Fulton Rd	Plant Ave	E 36th St
Livingston Ave	W 33rd	W 34th
E 42 <sup>nd</sup> St	Grove Ave	Gary Ave
E 32 <sup>nd</sup> St	Seneca Ave	Clinton Ave
W 23 <sup>rd</sup> St	Marshall Ave	Pole
Edgewood Dr	W 40th St	W 41st St
Edgewood Dr	W 39th St	W 40th St

### ODOT – Completed 2023 work

- Safe Routes to School – Central Lorain Safe Zones - \$396,554.37