

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



City Engineer: Dale Vandersommen, P.E.

5/1/2025

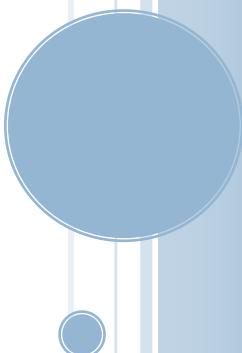


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DEPARTMENT'S MISSION STATEMENT

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
- Dalton Evans, E. I.
 - Mr. Evans serves as one of the design engineers for the City of Lorain. His technical background includes a wide variety of municipal infrastructure and capital improvements projects.
 - Bachelor of Civil Engineering, Cleveland State University
- Gwen Frey, Intern
 - Ms. Frey is pursuing a Bachelor of Civil Engineering at Cleveland State University. Expected to graduate in spring 2025.
- Vedant Shirke, Intern
 - Mr. Shirke is pursuing a Master of Civil Engineering at Cleveland State University. Expected to graduate in spring 2025.
- Jessica Herchler, Intern
 - Ms. Herchler is pursuing a Bachelor of Environmental Science at Bowling Green State University. Expected to graduate in spring 2025.
- Kathryn Golden, CPMSM, CFM, Stormwater Manager
 - Mrs. Golden has over 21 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 (retired 2024)
 - 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 28 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 12 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., 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 design, construction and maintenance of water, sanitary, and stormwater infrastructure. He also assists the Department in reviewing commercial & residential plans.
 - Certifications:
 - OEPA Wastewater Treatment, Class III
 - Backflow Prevention Certificate of Competency
 - NASSCO Assessment and Certification Program for:
 - Pipelines
 - Manholes
 - Laterals
 - Education:
 - Bachelor of Chemical Engineering, University of Dayton
 - Master of Environmental Engineering, Cleveland State University
- Seth Schilling, Engineering Aide III
 - Mr. Schilling has over 17 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
- 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
- Dale Vandersommen, P.E., City Engineer
 - Mr. Vandersommen has over 30 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
- 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

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

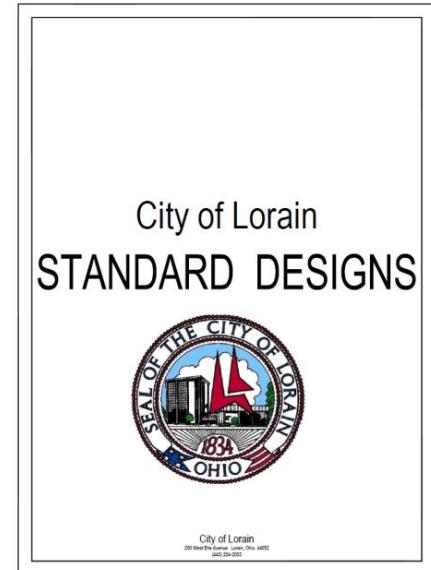
Field investigations are carried out when the situation warrants it.

2024 Investigations include:

- 3 Drainage complaints, grading
- 5 Drainage complaints, alley, roads, downspout/underdrain
- 6 Right of Way Obstructions
- 5 Illicit discharge complaints

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 was awarded 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.

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 2024.

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 construction occurred in 2024. Urban Paving Project managed by ODOT utilizing federal funding (80% federal/20% local) for the rehabilitation of West 21st 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 2026/2027. 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. First set of planning documents due 02/14/2025.

LONGBROOK/YORKTOWN REHABILITATION PID 120288

Project planning for construction in 2025. 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 \$870,807.00. Terminal Ready Mix selected to perform the work. Work to begin April 2025.

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.

OUTREACH PROJECTS

The Engineering Department worked with Firefish Arts, El Centro, Horizon Science Academy, and the Lorain Public Library System to host an art contest for children in South Lorain, ages 9-18. The chosen winners had their art translated to pavement in a mural at the intersection of Pearl Ave and E 31st St, depicting the theme, “We Walk Together.” The theme asks the kids to reflect on their culture and share their experiences with the community so that others can walk a day in their shoes.

Painted in May 2024.



The Stormwater Management program installed catch basin stickers with the goal of promoting good stewardship of Lake Erie by eliminating illicit discharges into our storm system.

Installed March 2024.

CITY OF LORAIN INTER-GOVERNMENTAL PROJECTS



In 2022 the City of Lorain Engineering department drafted a transit plan and CMAQ application that would allow for reactivation of numerous bus routes within the City of Lorain. Working in concert with NOACA and Lorain County Transit (LCT), the City of Lorain was able to have their CMAQ application approved by the Lorain County Commissioners and submitted by LCT on behalf of the Lorain County Commissioners. LCT was awarded \$2.8M to run 5 fixed route loops in the City of Lorain, starting in 2027. This funding will be provided by NOACA from their Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program.

Meanwhile, NOACA requested that the county begin testing the routes and planning for the 2027 pilot.

LCT has been working with Via Transportation to begin stress testing for the 2027 five fixed route system. Beginning in July 2024, LCT introduced 6 six-passenger vehicles to provide corner-to-corner transportation to the residents of Lorain. These vans will operate only within the city limits, and will operate Monday – Friday, 6:30 AM – 6:30 PM. If a rider needs a ride out of Lorain, these microtransit vehicles will work in tandem with the existing LCT bus

routes and the Microtransit system in the City of Elyria, allowing someone to transfer to the bus under the same fare.

This program will help LCT to define the level of demand in Lorain. LCT plans to expand services beginning July 2025.

SAFETY FUNDING

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

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



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

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 occurred in 2024. Total project cost is \$65,414.

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.

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 occurred in 2024. Construction summer 2025. Total project cost is \$815,967.

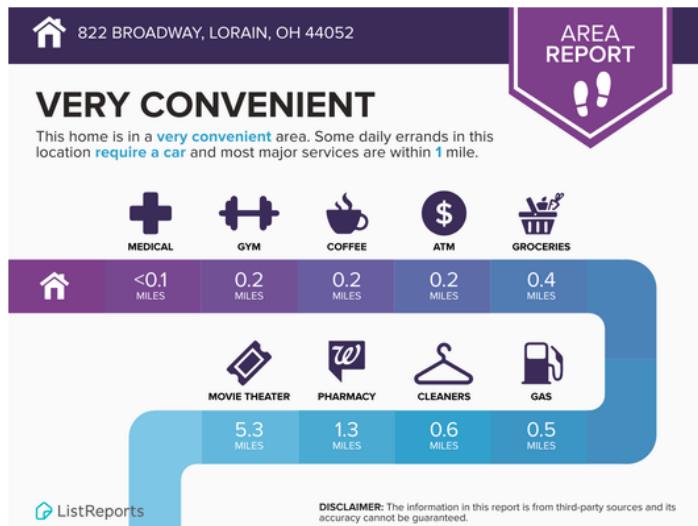
LOR BROADWAY CORRIDOR PID 122461

The City of Lorain was awarded funding for improving bicycle facilities along Broadway from 28th to 9th Street in Spring of 2024. In April of 2024 ODOT notified the City of Lorain that they were selected for safety improvements along the Broadway corridor from 28th to 9th Street. 100% funding with 0% local match for improvements was awarded in Spring of 2024. Design work to begin in spring of 2025. Construction summer of 2026. Total project cost is \$3,478,700.

SAFETY FUNDING - PEDESTRIAN SYSTEMIC SAFETY APPLICATIONS

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 - Lorain) 90/10 was in December 2022. Awarded spring 2023. LBJ is providing detailed design. Construction summer 2025. The total project cost is \$2,009,788.50.



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 provided detailed design. Construction summer 2025. Total project cost is \$625,837.60.

2025 PEDESTRIAN SYSTEMIC SAFETY APPLICATION

The City of Lorain created an application for pedestrian safety from the newly established pedestrian safety project funding source. This project includes high visibility pedestrian crossings at all signalized intersections throughout the City of Lorain as well as improved pedestrian crossings at 4 locations in South Lorain. Project funding application (\$382,068.00) 90/10 was in December 2024. Anticipated award summer 2025.

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

LORAIN ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Progress made in 2024 for better walking and bicycling experiences in Lorain, and **what to expect in 2025**.



Questions? Contact ph@LorainCountyHealth.com

1/25

CityofLorain.org/500/Active-Transportation-Planning

ROUTES TO SCHOOL (SRTS) PROGRAMS. THE RESPONSIBILITY OF A SAFE ROUTE TO SCHOOL IS ULTIMATELY SHARED BY THE USER, GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, ELECTED OFFICIALS, AND SAFETY ADVOCATES.

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 was completed in the Summer of 2024.

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.

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 28TH STREET CORRIDOR

The City of Lorain applied for a Planning study of the East 28th Street corridor (SR57) in 2020. The application was made at the urging of the 6th Ward councilman, Rey Carrion, who is concerned about the future of the East 28th Street Corridor. NOACA will select the consultants in 2025.

TLCI 2022 INFRASTRUCTURE APPLICATION – TLCI BEACHSCAPE



The City of Lorain applied for infrastructure funding in 2022 for bike lanes from downtown Lorain to the underpass at SR611. The application was made at the urging of the 7th 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 was constructed in the Summer of 2024.

TLCI 2025 OAKWOOD CONNECTOR APPLICATION

The City of Lorain applied for TLCI funding in 2024 to create a path that connects the South Branch Lorain Library with Oakwood Park within the existing Right of Way. Estimated Project cost \$315,673.32. Award notification expected spring of 2025. Construction anticipated summer 2026.

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. However, as a disadvantaged community the City of Lorain is eligible to apply at 100% federal share with 0% local share.

CMAQ 2025 LORAIN TRAFFIC SIGNALS

This project provides new traffic control hardware for twenty-one (21) signalized intersections and software upgrades for all forty (40) signals within the City of Lorain system. These signals communicate and use GPS coordination to minimize wait times to improve air quality. Currently many of the signals in the City of Lorain operate on a timed pattern with no live traffic detection.

Project also to include creation of a bridge status notification system for the Bascule Bridge. This would allow motorists to make detour decisions and reduce congestion and improve air quality; moving people and goods more efficiently throughout the City of Lorain.

Lastly, the application would include a request for two (2) electric vehicles to replace engineering department vehicles. Application May 2025. Award announcement anticipated fall 2025. Procurement anticipated 2027.

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 2025. Surveys have also been done on active job sites that were constructed in 2024 to improve design and functionality of those jobs.

GRADING APPROVALS

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

- Preliminary Grade Approvals: 71
- Certified Grade Approvals: 43

PLAT REVIEW

The following plat reviews were performed by our Professional Surveyor:

- Sandy Springs Subdivision No. 4

LOT SPLITS REVIEWED

- 1055 North Ridge Road
- Cooper Foster/Cherrywood Dr.

EASEMENTS PREPARED/REVIEWED

- 760 Tower Blvd. – waterline easement

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 2024 the Engineering Department performed the following inspections:

CONCRETE – INSPECTION

- Sidewalk – 518
- Apron - 217
- Open Pavement – 138
- Catch Basin/ Manhole –54

STORM SEWER AND SANITARY SEWER – INSPECTION

- Sanitary – 203
- Storm –67

NEW SUBDIVISIONS – INSPECTION

- Sandy Springs Subdivision No. 5. Created 30 new lots.



PROJECTS – INSPECTION

- **OPWC Round 37 A** – Street Rehabilitation of:
Crehore St.- Paine Ave. to Missouri Ave.
Euclid Ave- Colorado Ave. to Cromwell Dr.
W. 6th St.- Reid Ave. to Broadway
E. 33rd St.- Pearl Ave. to Seneca Ave
Black River Cir.- Riverside Dr. to
Riverside Dr.
Riverside Dr.- Black River Cir. To
Black River Cir.
- **OPWC Round 37 B** - Street
Rehabilitation of:
 - **E. 18th St.**- Broadway to
Elyria Ave.
 - **Beech- Highland Park**
Blvd. to W. 29th St.



- **W. 29th St-** Lexington Ave. to Reid Ave.
- **Timberview Dr.-** North cul-de-sac to South cul-de-sac
- **Williamsburg Dr. –** Nantucket Dr. to Gettysburg Dr.
- **King Ave.-** W. 13th St. to W 14th St.
- **W. 30th St.-** Reeves Ave to west terminus

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

- 114823 – SR611 signals and US6 Road diet – Construction
- 114823 – SR611 signals and US6 Road diet – Construction Management
- 115380 – Safe Routes to School 2024 – Construction
- 115380 – Safe Routes to School 2024 – Construction management
- 118175 – SR611/Colorado Sliplane and Signal upgrade – Detailed design
- 119515 – Tower/58 Pedestrian Improvements – Detailed Design
- 120792 – Tower/58 Signal Improvements - Detailed Design
- 120287 – Tower Blvd Roadway Rehabilitation -Detailed Design
- 119936 – HAWK Study and Design
- OPWC Round 37A Road Rehabilitation
- OPWC Round 37B Road Rehabilitation
- 2024 Sewer Lining Project – Year VII
- Sewer System Lateral Creation Project
- Street Logix
- Wickens/W. 4th Street stormwater repair
- 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

- 115380 – Safe Routes to School 2024 – Construction Management
- 114823 – SR611 signals and US6 Road diet – Construction Management
- 118175 – SR611/Colorado Sliplane and Signal upgrade – Detailed design
- 2024 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
 - New Century Village
 - Colonies at Martin's Run – Buildings 5 & 8
 - Sandy Springs – Subdivision 5
- Commercial Buildings
 - Boys & Girls Club
 - George Daniel Stadium Field House
 - Hawkins Cellular
 - Family and Community New Water Existing Tap
 - Black River Intermodal Land
 - George's Hook & Gun
 - Pellet Terminal Redevelopment Project Phase 2
 - Cleveland Clinic Parking Lot
 - Black River Landing Green Room Stage
 - South Lorain Community Park
 - Bon Secours Mercy Health Chiller Addition
 - Sunrise Homes Parking Lot Rehabilitations
 - Absolute Machine Metal Warehouse Addition

- New Storage Building on Baumhart Rd
- Westgate Plaza Laundromat
- 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 3 - Lead Service Line Replacement Program
 - Lead Service Line Inventory to EPA
 - Water Treatment Plant Improvements Project
 - Horizon Academy Waterline Interconnect
 - Sandy Springs – Oak Point Estates Waterline Interconnect
- Construction administration
 - 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 2 - Lead Service Line Replacement Program
 - 1199 addresses reviewed
 - 616 public-side pipes replaced
 - 79 private-side pipes replaced

● Sanitary System Rehabilitation

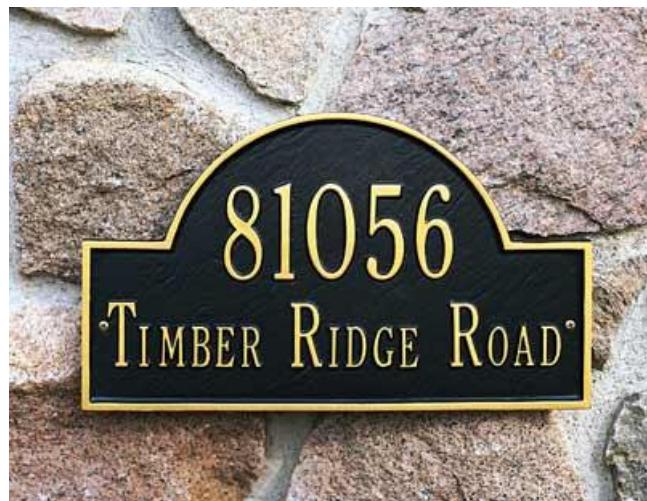
- Planning and prioritization of sanitary sewer system improvements
- Design administration
 - Sewer and Manhole Rehab (CIPP lining) Year 6
 - Black River Wastewater Treatment Plant Digester Improvements Project

- Construction administration
 - Sewer and Manhole Rehab (CIPP lining) Year 5
 - Sewer and Manhole Rehab (CIPP lining) Year 6
 - Black River Wastewater Treatment Plant Digester Improvements Project

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. 5 (30 addresses)

2934 W. Erie Avenue – New Residential Home

NEW COMMERCIAL ADDRESS ASSIGNMENTS

4415 Leavitt Rd. – New Commercial Building – 3 Suites for Retail Space

6130 S Broadway – New Commercial Building –

200 E 9th Street – New Office Trailer

3945 W Erie Avenue – New Commercial Building – Future George's Hook & Gun

2000 Root Rd. – Commercial Buildings for Motorsport Complex



City of Lorain Public GIS

The grid displays eight maps, each with a title and a brief description:

- Utilities**: This map contains Utility Assets for the City of Lorain.
- Pavement Evaluation**: This map contains Pavement Evaluation scores for the City of Lorain.
- Zoning**: This map contains Zoning information for the City of Lorain. Parcel information included in thi...
- Projects**: This map contains information related to current projects within the City of Lorain.
- Council Wards**: City of Lorain Council Ward Boundaries
- Hydrant Flow Testing and Inspections 2023**
- Lead Service Line Inventory**: This map shows the City of Lorain's lead service inventory.

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).

- Lead Service Line Inventory (showing which properties are confirmed not having lead connections, and which ones are currently unknown)
- 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 730 storm water inspections on 112 sublots and 10 commercial sites within the City, issuing 288 violation notices and 136 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.
- Initiated a Storm Sewer Condition Assessment project to determine the existing conditions of all storm infrastructure from Erie Ave to the shoreline.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM

Grant management and restoration projects active in 2024 include:

- Black River Dredge Reuse Facility – The City continued work under the \$4,000,000 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. Active dredging began in September 2024, with approximately 62,000 cubic yards dredged from the mouth of the Black River.



- In 2022, \$15,000,000 was awarded to the City 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 began in summer 2023, with substantial completion achieved in July 2024.
- Additional restoration funding in the amount of \$1,200,000 was awarded to supplement the \$15M 2015 award at the Black River Reclamation Site. The cap and cover of 14 acres at the site brought 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 2024, the City of Lorain continued work on 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 completed in 2026.

- Stove Works Remedial Action Plan Implementation (\$709,167) will remediate onsite contamination in order to prepare the site for future affordable housing. The first phase was completed in summer 2023 and additional funding was awarded in 2024 to complete the remaining 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. The City worked with the property owner, the Lorain County Land Bank, and the Ohio Department of Development and secured additional funding in 2024 to begin cleanup efforts. Remediation is anticipated to occur in 2025.

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” 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 that was hired in 2024 via a professional services agreement. The old office building was demolished in 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 2024:

- Apron and Sidewalk – 498
- Sanitary and Storm Repair/Replace/Check Valve – 98
- Open Pavement – 63
- Water Permits (repair/replace water service line / meter downsizes, replacement taps) – 40
- New Construction (Sewer & Water Tap in) Residential – 66 *
- New Construction (Sewer & Water Tap in) Commercial – 7 *
- Commercial Additions (Sewer and/or water) – 3
- New Sanitary & Water Tie-Ins (outside of city) – 0
- New Sanitary Only Tie-Ins (outside of city) – 75

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

FINANCES

2024 Engineering Collections

Sewer Permits	\$ 18,720.00
Miscellaneous Sales	\$ -
Parkland Trust Fund	\$ 35,510.00
Sewer License Fees	\$ 2,220.00
Deposit Held Trust Fund	\$ 59,125.50
Reimburse Engineering Service	\$ 41,902.85
Inspection Fees Allotment Improvement Fund	\$ 40,982.68
Contract	\$ -
Storm Sewer Fees	\$ 100,760.00
Rental Income / Pole Nodes	\$ 1,087.56
Sanitary Tap In Fee	\$ 291,960.00
Sanitary Capital Improvement Fee	\$ 161,867.34
Water Pollution Control Interceptor Fees	\$ 5,449.52
Water Capital Improvement / Bldg Water Fees	\$ 63,006.07
Water New Main Frontage	\$ -
Water Service Connection Taps	\$ 74,900.00
Meter Charge	\$ 55,959.75
Manifolds	\$ -
Street Excavation	\$ -
Water Inspection Fee	\$ 11,880.00
Compost License	\$ 1,250.00
County Sanitary Sewer Fee (forward to County)	\$ 299,188.87
TOTAL COLLECTIONS:	\$ 1,265,770.14

EXHIBIT A

OPWC 37 – Completed 2024 work

Street Name	From	To
CREHORE ST	PAINÉ AVE	MISSOURI AVE
EUCLID AVE	COLORADO AVE	CROMWELL DR
E 18TH ST	BROADWAY	BRAMAN CT
W 6TH ST	REID AVE	BROADWAY
BEECH AVE	HIGHLAND PARK BLVD	W 29TH ST
W 29TH ST	LEXINGTON AVE	REID AVE
TIMBERVIEW DR	ROSECREST DR	SOUTH
TIMBERVIEW DR	ROSECREST DR	NORTH
WILLIAMSBURG DR	NANTUCKET DR	GETTYSBURG DR
E 33RD ST	PEARL AVE	SENECA AVE
BLACK RIVER CIR	RIVERSIDE DR	RIVERSIDE DR
RIVERSIDE DR	BLACK RIVER CIR	BLACK RIVER CIR
KING AVE	E 13TH ST	E 14TH ST
W 30TH ST	REEVES AVE	WEST

ODOT – Completed 2024 work

- Safe Routes to School – Longfellow Middle School - \$253,251.20
- SR611 Resurfacing – ODOT Let - \$4,761,996.97
- 611 Signals and US6 Road Diet - \$1,486,225