

THE CLEVELAND CONNECTOR

1st QUARTER 2023
NEWSLETTER



MAYOR BROOKS - STATE OF THE CITY

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State
of the City



During Mayor Brooks' State of the City Address delivered to the Kiwanis Club of Cleveland recently, Mayor Brooks said, "We are in a great position for the future by all economic indicators. All without property tax increases."

Growth Outlook - We grew by a steady 15% from 2010-2020. Since then development and growth have only accelerated. New residential permits issued were at 222 in 2017 and were at 439 in 2022.

Current Services & Conditions - CFD is getting new equipment, increased training and improved response time. CPD remains in the top 1% of departments nationwide, began a Crisis Intervention Program, and grows community outreach programs. Finance has saved \$10 million by reducing variable debt, maintained AA credit rating and has secured low fixed rates for our Build Our Future investments. Lots of commercial and industrial activity continues to provide jobs and opportunities for citizens.

Commitments Fulfilled - Parker St, Dalton Pike, 17th & 20th St, Blythe to Blythe sidewalks all completed. Parks and Rec completed projects include Phase 1 of Candies Creek Greenway, Mosby Park, and Phase 1 of security cameras on the greenway. \$13 million worth of private downtown investment has been completed in Sanda Mill and HHM.

Looking Ahead for this year - LIC North, Paul Huff improvements, disc golf course, Inman streetscape, redevelopment of the former Cherokee Hotel on Inman Street will make way for a new City Hall, in the coming year. City government has been housed for years in the Municipal Building on Church Street, as well as other city buildings, which we have "woefully outgrown" available space.

Continued planning for the future includes Michigan Ave corridor plan & new downtown connector with railroad bridge crossing study. All this and much more. It's an exciting time to live in the City with Spirit. Cleveland continues to move forward. Promises made and kept means doing more with no new taxes by making wiser investments with tax dollars.



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HHM OPENING - DOWNTOWN



Henderson Hutcherson & McCullough PLLC (HHM), a full service Certified Public Accounting held their grand opening in January of this year. Chattanooga's biggest accounting firm expanded their accounting offices to Downtown Cleveland.

HHM chose the City of Cleveland for the location of its third company office. They purchased the Moore building located at 160 Inman Street. The building was an abandoned car dealership and office next to the Museum Center at Five Points. HHM invested 1.5 million into renovating and converting the 100-year old, two story, 7,000 square-foot structure into beautiful offices with an outside garden. The facility will house approximately 10 HHM accountants and other staffers.

Donnie Hutcherson, one of four founding partners of HHM stated, "This is a great site, in the heart of the city and we think we can help in the re-development of this area." City Manager Joe Fivas stated, "We are pleased HHM selected downtown Cleveland. This is a great addition to the city's efforts to revive our downtown."

CLEVELAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Cleveland Police Department has partnered with Volunteer Behavioral Health Care System to implement a crisis intervention team. Our co-responders assist the crisis officers in responding to individuals in the community having a mental health crisis to provide de-escalation, assessment, resources, and linkage to services. The combined expertise of the responder and our officers will allow for increased safety and on-scene evaluation to help individuals obtain the most appropriate level of care while avoiding unnecessary emergency department admissions and offering an alternative to incarceration for crimes related to their mental illness. As of February 2023, nine months after its' inception, our Crisis Intervention Team has responded to 161 crisis calls, relieving police officers and emergency medical personnel to allow them to assist other pressing needs in our community. In addition, we currently have 21 Cleveland police officers certified in crisis intervention. Thank you to all of you, for all you do for our community. Pictured L-R: VBH Co-Responder Luke Hannah, CIT Officer Spencer Green, CIT Sgt. Evie West, CIT Officer Nathan Hartwig, VBH Co-Responder Jacqueline VanWinkle.



JETPORT 10TH ANNIVERSARY



In January, Mayor Brooks; Mayor Emeritus Rowland; Councilman Ken Webb; City Councilman David May; city staff; GMC Engineering and Cleveland Municipal Airport Authority (CMAA) members celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Cleveland Regional Jetport. GMC Engineering, LLC, Vice President Mark Paslick said, "It's like a homecoming and it is great to see everyone".

Jetport Director Mark Fidler spoke to the group welcoming everyone and noted how he appreciated everyone who came out, and to the success of the jetport, he attributed to a team effort. He stated, "I am honored to be a part of the most beautiful and award winning airport in the state. We are continuing to grow and have more development opportunities each week." Mayor Brooks stated, "We are proud of one of the city's most valuable assets." City Manager Fivas added, "Our Jetport Manager Mark Fidler, deserves credit for his hard work & dedication."

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Sergeant Matt Norfleet is in our employee spotlight. Matt was hired by the City of Cleveland in June of 2015 as a Patrol Officer, after being employed as the same for nine years at the Athens Police Department. He has been assigned to both Alpha and Bravo Teams since being hired and has served as a Master Patrol Officer, Corporal, and most recently, as a Sergeant. He is also the Team Leader of our Crisis/Hostage Negation Unit. Matt stated, "he came to this department because he wanted to be part of a professional organization that truly focused on serving the community." He also stated, he is proud to say, "he found exactly that with the City of Cleveland."

He and his wife (Courtney) have two boys (Raylan 10 and Knox 9). He is a graduate of Bethel University, with a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. Something only a select few know about Matt is, he played baseball for the Detroit Tigers' Minor League Class A team (Oneonta Tigers) prior to becoming a police officer. He also enjoys camping, off-roading, and being outdoors when not at work.

Thank you Matt for your service.

Mayor & City Council

Kevin Brooks
Mayor

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City of Cleveland

City Departments:

- Animal Control: 423.559.3333
- Cleveland Regional Jetport: 423.650.3775
- Codes Enforcement: 423.284.4402
- Dev & Eng Services (Permits): 423.479.1913
- Fire (non-emergency): 423.476.6713
- Municipal Traffic Court/Business Tax: 423.472.4551
- Parks and Recreation: 423.479.4129
- Police (non-emergency): 423.476.1121
- Public Works: 423.472.2851

Job Opportunities:

- Firefighter
- Police Officer

Additional job openings are posted on the city's website at:
<https://www.clevelandtn.gov/jobs.aspx>

City of Cleveland

General Business Information, Call: 423.472.4551

City offices are open Monday - Friday

8a.m. - 5p.m.

(excludes holidays)

City Council meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Monday, unless otherwise noted (Excludes holidays). There are two sessions.

Work session is held at 1 p.m.

Voting session is held at 3 p.m.

in the City Council Chambers located on the 2nd floor of the Municipal Building at 190 Church Street.

Agendas are posted on the city's website at:
<http://www.clevelandtn.gov/AgendaCenter>