



Village Talks

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF WORTHINGTON

Summer 2017 Issue

Wayfinding Signs Pointing You in the Right Direction

You may have noticed the new signs going up around Worthington this spring and summer. The Wayfinding Project is a citywide initiative to visually enhance entry ways at Worthington's borders, welcome visitors and help people find their way to the City's points of interest. These include the historic district downtown, as well as other attractions, shopping and dining, and public parking. The first phase focuses on signage in Old



Initially the group was focusing on the Wilson Bridge Road corridor, but it soon became apparent that enhancements to signage throughout the City would improve movement for pedestrians, cyclists and drivers city-wide. They also saw this initiative as a way to strengthen Worthington's identity and create a more cohesive system to make navigation easier and establish a stronger, more connected sense of place.



Worthington and the Wilson Bridge Road Corridor. Future phases will include signs identifying public buildings and parks, street signs and kiosks with maps and other directions.

The citywide initiative was kicked-off in 2014 by a steering committee made up of area residents, business owners, community groups and city leaders.



The distinctive signs help foster the community's character and enhance what makes Worthington special. There are a total of 76 new signs that are being posted throughout the City for phase one. Additional signs will be placed as funding becomes available through the City's Capital Improvements Program.

City Notes

Is your home address clearly marked?

In an emergency, every second counts! Stand at the curb in front of your home and answer these questions:

1. Is the numerical address posted on your home?
2. Are the numbers in Arabic font and not less than 3" tall?
3. Do the numbers contrast to the color of the surface on which they are mounted?
4. Do the numbers have an unobstructed view from the street?

If the answer to any of the questions is "NO", then emergency services may have difficulty finding you when precious seconds count. With your safety in mind, the City of Worthington adopted these requirements as part of its Codified Ordinances. The above points make homes and businesses easier to find, especially at night and in bad weather. Please help us by doing your part to make your home easy to find if emergency crews have to answer the call.

Street Improvements

New Strategies to Prolong Street Life

Summer is here and construction season is upon us. The Worthington Department of Service and Engineering is tasked with designating and managing these projects each year. Some of them are accomplished behind the scenes and some are very visible. One such project is the annual Street Improvement Program. In the coming months you will see many streets, sidewalks, curbs and gutters under construction. Some will receive face lifts or spot repairs and patches, while others will be replaced. In previous years, the Street Improvement Program sought to remove and replace the worst sections of streets throughout the city. This year the department spent significant time reviewing its policy, researching new technologies, life cycles and costs. As a result, you will see a variety of techniques used to extend the life of much of the City's asphalt along with some of the typical road surface replacement we're more accustomed to.



Asphalt Rejuvenation (above)

This treatment helps the pavement maintain flexibility. Originally designed to rejuvenate old pavements, studies have shown early application, within the first few years, can prolong the life of the asphalt. Think of it much like using moisturizer on your hands. Just like your skin, the application prevents further cracking, helps heal the fine cracks that are starting to develop and gives the street a much longer life and youthful look!

Crack Sealing (right)

This occurs on roadways that have not lost their structural integrity, but have developed cracks which could allow water to seep in, form ice and cause premature failure of the asphalt. While not the most cosmetically pleasing solution, it is the most cost effective treatment for extending the life cycle of the pavement saving valuable dollars on full scale replacement.

Streets Scheduled for Improvements in 2017

Alrojo St	Hartford St	Park Overlook Dr
Andover St	High St	Plymouth St
Bellbrook Pl	Highland Ave	Ravine Cir
Bryant Ave	Highland Pl	Sharon Springs Dr
Caren Ave	Indianola Ave	Sinsbury Dr
Chaucer Ct	Kertess Ave	Village Green Dr
Clayton Dr	Lambourne Ave	Village Woods Pl
Colebrook Dr	Larrimer Ave	W Lincoln Ave
E New England	Loveman Ave	W North St
E Riverglen Dr	McBurney Pl	W Stafford Ave
Eastfield Rd	Meadoway Park	W Stanton Ave
Eastworth Ct	Middlebury Dr	Weatherburn Pl
Eastworth Way	Middlebury Ct	Westbrook Ct
Emco Pl	Milton Ave	Westbrook Pl
Emerson Ave	Oxford St	Westview Dr
Farrington Dr	Park Blvd	

For more information call 614-431-2425.

Patching

Patching is performed on streets where relatively small sections of pavement are failing, but the rest of the street is in reasonably good repair. Crews saw cut the bad section, remove the old asphalt and base along clean lines, and replace it with new stone and asphalt. The result is a small, but new section of pavement that doesn't spread to the rest of the street, and prolongs the necessity of replacing the entire roadway.

Mill & Overlay

This is the most in-depth and expensive fix for roads that will not benefit from any of the other treatments. These roads are ground down to a good foundation and repaved with new asphalt. The result is a brand new street that will last for many years to come, along with regular maintenance and the treatments described above.

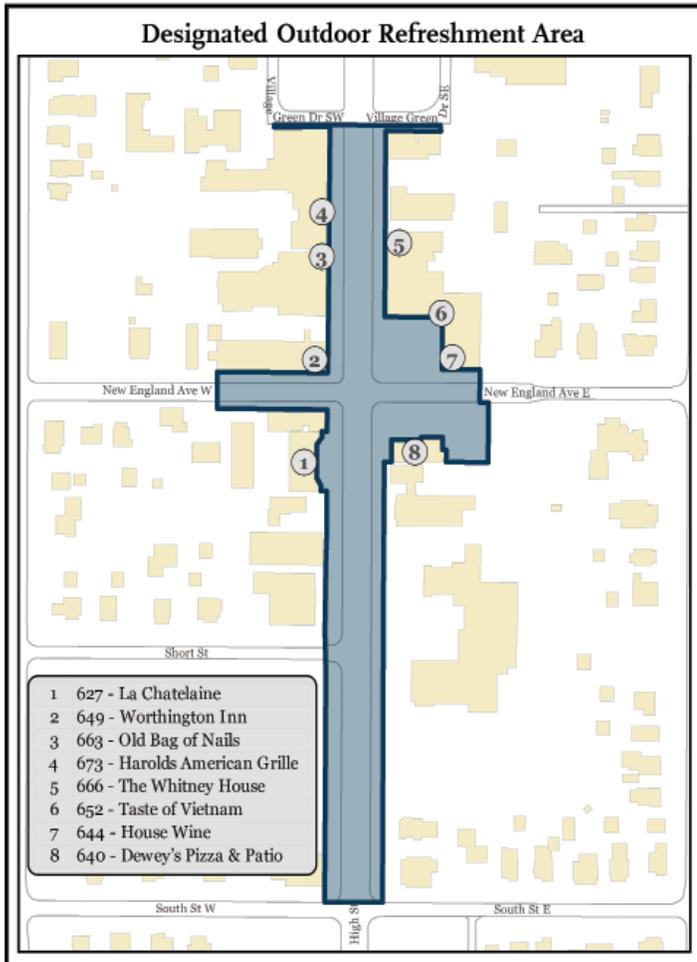
When you see the trucks, workers in reflective vests, and barrels show up this year, know the City is making the best use of your tax dollars to get the pavement back in shape, and get you back on the road!



Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area

Downtown Worthington along High Street is now established as a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA.) City Council approved legislation in June to support the creation of a DORA, which Ohio law now allows for municipalities under 35,000 in population. The DORA has been approved by the State Department of Liquor Control.

The boundaries include the High Street corridor between South Village Green Drive and South Street and east/west boundaries along New England Avenue from 26 E. New England to 41 W. New England. Within that boundary, restaurant patrons who are dining outside in the public right-of-way are permitted to have an alcoholic beverage that they purchase from any of the eight liquor-permit-holding establishments. (See map below.) Patrons with an alcoholic beverage are required to stay within an establishment's predetermined boundary, and may only do so during the posted hours of operation. Because fences are no longer required, special signage marks the boundaries. All alcoholic drinks sold for consumption outside will be served in a plastic cup with color coded labels identifying the liquor establishment.



The DORA also allows “sip and stroll” during permitted special events hosted by the Old Worthington Partnership. The Picnic with the Partnership on June 24th was the first DORA permitted event. It featured a long community table down the center of High Street, with dinner provided from downtown restaurants, and special entertainment. During special events like this one, individuals who buy drinks are allowed to walk around within the DORA boundary to shop or just enjoy the event. Alcohol is not allowed to be carried from one liquor permit holding establishment into another.

The Partnership requested the City look into the creation of the DORA because they say it helps maintain the experiential nature of our historic downtown by enhancing outdoor dining and special events. For more information visit worthington.org/dora

Summer Fun!



Worthington Farmers Market
Saturdays 8am to Noon - Downtown

Concerts on the Green

Sundays through August 13th, 7pm on the Village Green. Also, mark your calendar for special Friday lunch-time concerts July 7th and August 4th.

Worthington Family Picnic & Fireworks

July 4 – 4pm - Gather the family and come on down to the Worthington Family Picnic and Fireworks Celebration on the 4th of July! Enjoy a family picnic on the lawn of Thomas Worthington High School (TWHS) with food, live musical entertainment, Supergames and much more! Fireworks begin at 10pm



Trifit Triathlon

July 16 - The bike portion travels through Worthington and may cause traffic delays in the morning. Details, including alternate routes, are available at worthington.org.

A Taste Of Worthington

July 21 – 5:30 - 10pm - OfficeScape Corporate Center, 350 W. Wilson Bridge Rd. - worthingtonchamber.org

Contact Us

LOUIS J.R. GOOREY MUNICIPAL BUILDING
(614) 436-3100 – 6550 N. High St.
City Manager's office, City Clerk, Economic
Development, Mayor's Court, Finance,
Personnel, Public Information

LAW DEPARTMENT

(614) 436-7429 – 370 Highland Ave.

PARKS & RECREATION

(614) 436-2743 – 345 E. Wilson Bridge Rd.
Community Center, recreation programs,
park maintenance, street tree program

GRISWOLD CENTER

(614) 842-6320 – 777 High St.
Recreation Programs for 55 and older

SERVICE & ENGINEERING

(614) 431-2425 – 380 Highland Ave.
Trash collection, recycling, yard waste, sewers,
maintenance, Capital Improvement Projects

PLANNING & BUILDING

(614) 431- 2424 – 374 Highland Ave.
Land use planning, zoning and building
regulation

DIVISION OF POLICE

(614) 885-4463-6555 Worthington Galena Rd.

DIVISION OF FIRE & EMS

(614) 885-7640 – 6500 N. High St.
CPR classes, public education, fire inspection

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161 Corridor Study - Public Input

Community partners are working together to try and resolve issues with traffic congestion and safety along the SR-161 corridor between Olentangy River Road and Sawmill Road. This includes the particularly difficult intersection of SR-161 and Linworth Road, that is pieced together by a number of different jurisdictions, including Worthington.

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) is studying SR-161 in partnership with the Cities of Worthington, Columbus, Perry Township, Franklin County and the Mid Ohio Regional Planning Commission. The purpose of the study is to develop a strategy for improvements that are constructable and fundable to reduce congestion and delay, improve safety and provide bikeway/pedestrian accommodations.

An Advisory Committee comprised of members from each of the partner jurisdictions and representatives of neighborhood groups along the corridor is meeting to provide ideas and input. A public meeting was held in June to present alternative scenarios for improvements. The exhibits and materials are available to review online at worthington.org/161. Comment forms can be downloaded and submitted prior to the July 7, 2017 deadline.

