

2018 State of the Village

2017 was a year of learning. Thanks to your elected and appointed Village leadership, our Village government efficiency is progressing forward through cross training of service department employees.

I am pleased to report once again, as of December 31st, 2017, the Village is sound financially with all Enterprise and Operating Funds in the black.

Our long awaited 5.9 million dollar infrastructure project of replacement of the village's water main lines began in late 2017. The Village secured nearly 75% of the funds needed through Federal and State grants to assist in this endeavor. The project will replace close to 60,000 feet of water main lines, new valves, and fire hydrants.

Continuing with infrastructure projects, the Ohio Department of Transportation with the assistance of the Perry County Engineer, will be replacing our Main Street Bridge in 2018. This project is estimated to take 4 months.

Our Industrial Drive Bridge has been added to the Ohio Department of Transportation's list of bridges eligible for replacement or rehabilitation funding under the Municipal Bridge Program for year 2019 -2020 cycle in which the Village will apply for.

The next Village infrastructure project currently being studied is storm water runoff. Storm water runoff from rain, melting snow and ice, all flow onto open ground or into storm water drains. The Villages storm water drains are nearly 100 years old and in need of repair and/or replacement.

Economic development continues at a slow pace within our local industries. Small businesses and residential growth shows small signs of improvement based upon income data. Residential home ownership data is lacking to give a fair assessment of our local housing market. To obtain accurate data for community development programs and grants, the Village will be developing a property registration ordinance to gather this valuable information.

The Village Safety Services continue to do a great job. Our police department and auxiliary police units continue to serve our community with a strong and effective force. Chief Walters continues to search for grants to improve the police department and services they provide.

The fire and emergency medical service departments continue to provide professional services through in house, county, regional, and state continuing education programs, including on line, classroom, and hand's on training. The Village Emergency Medical Services provide 24 hour 7 days a week service. The Village Fire Department continues to search for qualified personnel to fill the volunteer ranks.

The Village thanks the voters for their support of our Park, Pool, and Recreation Facilities. Our Parks, Pool, and Recreation Center are our greatest assets. Upcoming feasibility and development studies include for Village Park, a Splash Park within the pool area, construction of a separate restroom facility, a walk path, and improved LED lighting. The search continues for grants to assist in the completion of these projects.

In closing I would like to thank all our Village employees and those who support and care for our community.

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

Best Regards,



Fred Redfern, Mayor

Village of Crooksville