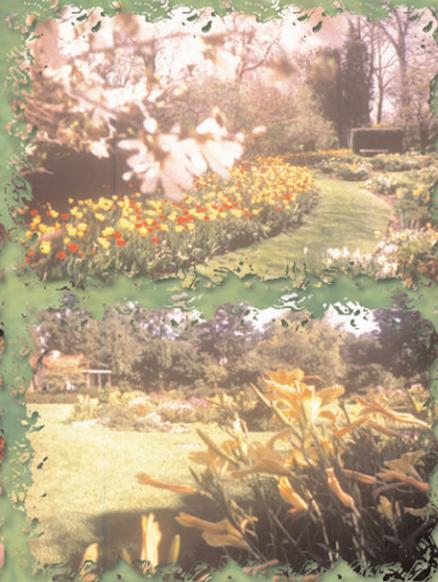




City of Oakwood's Annual Report '04

Smith Memorial Gardens

one of oakwood's
hidden treasures



Smith Memorial Gardens

**“An intimate setting and strolling place of rest...
a open, green, colorful, quiet retreat on a busy street...
a breathing space of green shade and color for busy people.”**

--- From the Family of Carlton W. Smith

Smith Memorial Gardens is located in the City of Oakwood at the corner of Walnut Lane and Oakwood Avenue. It is open daily to the citizens of Oakwood and the general public from sunrise to sunset. The entrance and parking for this beautiful area is located on Oakwood Avenue. Visitors may browse the gardens enjoying a spectacular splash of intense color eight months out of the year, or simply relax on a park bench to enjoy the peaceful environment.

Just shy of an acre, Smith Memorial Gardens is very well developed for its acreage. Included in the landscape design of the Gardens are several rock garden areas. The rock used in these areas was transported in the 1930s from the Yellow Springs area and plays an integral part in the overall layout and design of the land. Incorporated in the middle section of the Gardens is a sloped rock garden with flowing stream that runs into a pond stocked with an abundance of goldfish and water lilies. Perennials line the east side of the Gardens with several hundred varieties in irregularly shaped and curved beds. On the northwest side of the Gardens is a garden house with a patio where visitors may sit, rest and enjoy the beauty and tranquility of the area. The Gardens offer exceptionally beautiful

views in the spring, summer and fall months with thousands of spring bulbs, annuals, and perennials blooming.

Smith Gardens was graciously donated to the City of Oakwood by deceased Oakwood resident's Mr. & Mrs. Carlton W. Smith who lived directly south of the Gardens, across Walnut Lane. The City of Oakwood officially received the gift in January of 1975. Included in the gift was the Smith home as well as the Gardens. The City of Oakwood sold the Smith home for \$110,600 and established an endowment fund for the overall care of the Gardens.

The City of Oakwood is pleased and honored to have a beautiful garden in the

community. Smith Gardens is the only one of its kind in the area. The visiting experience is truly a treat for all. Children have the opportunity to feed the goldfish in the pond while adults can stroll around the Gardens and enjoy the ambiance.

The Gardens have been nationally recognized in Ohio Magazine, as well as the book "Green ByWays", as being one of the finest public gardens in the State of Ohio. "It's like a secret treasure on an ordinary street."





TABLE OF CONTENTS



I. City Council Members	4
II. Message from the Mayor	5
III. Message from the City Manager	6
IV. Public Safety	9
V. Legal Affairs	13
VI. Building and Zoning	14
VII. Leisure Services	20
VIII. Engineering & Public Works	23
IX. Finance	26
X. Municipal Court	31



CITY PHONE NUMBERS



POLICE, FIRE & MEDICAL EMERGENCY911
NON-EMERGENCY298-2122

PUBLIC SAFETY298-2122
 Director of Safety, Police and Fire Services,
 Emergency Medical Services, Public Safety Records

PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT
 INFO LINE (RECORDING)293-INFO

ADMINISTRATION298-0600
 City Manager, Deputy City Manager,
 Clerk of Council, City/School Scene Newsletter

FINANCE DEPARTMENT298-0402
 Finance Director, Assessments, Vital Statistics

HEALTH DEPARTMENT298-0600

INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT298-0531

INSPECTIONAL SERVICE297-2920
 City Inspector, Permits, Zoning and Pre-Sale Housing
 Inspections, Property Maintenance Issues

LEISURE SERVICES298-0775
 Director of Leisure Services
 Health Center & Teen Center
 Horticulturist/Smith Gardens
 Parks & Recreation Program
 William E. Gardner Pool297-2933
 Leisure Line (Recordings)297-2935

MUNICIPAL COURT293-3058
 Clerk of Courts, Small Claims Court and Traffic Violations

PERSONNEL/HUMAN RESOURCES298-0411

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT298-0777
 Public Works Director
 Engineer, Bulk Pickups
 Street, Alley, Water and Sewer Maintenance
 Waste Collection (Refuse and Recycling)

WATER DEPARTMENT
 Billing & Meter Information298-0400
 Water Softening Plant Information298-0777

CITY WEBSITEwww.mvcc.net/oakwood

OTHER NUMBERS

OAKWOOD SCHOOLS

Board of Education.....297-5332
 Oakwood High School297-5325
 Oakwood Junior High School297-5328
 Edwin Smith Elementary School297-5335
 Harman Elementary School297-5338
 Lange School (Kindergarten)299-8730

Dayton Power & Light.....331-3900
 Hills & Dales Shelter Rental Info
 (March 21 - Oct. 17)333-8400
 Kettering Inspections Department296-2441
 Montgomery County Property
 Tax Information225-4002
 RTA (Route & Schedule Information)226-1144
 SBC Ameritech1-800-660-1000
 Time Warner Cable294-6400
 Vectren1-800-909-7668
 Wright Brother's Post Office.....1-800-275-8777
 Wright Memorial Public Library294-7171



OAKWOOD CITY COUNCIL



Oakwood is served by a council/manager form of government. Oakwood’s City Council is comprised of five members who are elected on a non-partisan basis for four-year overlapping terms. The mayor and vice mayor are selected by their fellow council members for two-year terms.

City Council is the policy-making body of the community. Council appoints a full-time professional city manager to implement its policies, enforce its ordinances and direct delivery of services to citizens. The city manager serves as chief administrative and operating officer of the city.

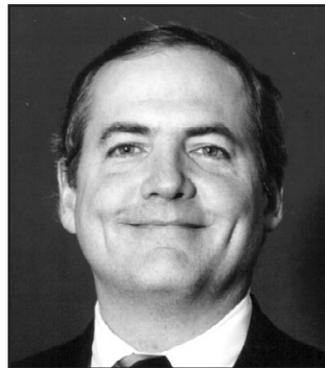
City Council normally meets in formal session on the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the city building, 30 Park Avenue. These formal meetings are broadcast live on the local cable Government Access channel (Ch. 21). Council also meets in work session once each month. These work sessions are also held at the city building and typically take place at 5 p.m. on the third Monday of each month. During summer months, council may meet only once per month. Meetings are open to the public and attendance is encouraged.

To help them in performing city business, council members rely on the assistance of many Oakwood citizens through service on myriad city committees. The current list of council-appointed committees is as follows: Board of Health; Board of Zoning Appeals; Budget Review Committee; Comprehensive Planning Committee; Environmental Committee; Human Relations Commission; ADA Compliance Committee; Personnel Appeals Board; Planning Commission; Property Maintenance Board; Public Facilities Task Force; Tax/Sewer/Water/Assembly Appeals; Martin Luther King Breakfast Committee; Centennial Film Committee; 2008 Centennial Celebration Committee.

In total, the current slate of committees provides opportunities for over 145 residents to be involved in the business of providing local public services. Citizens interested in serving on a committee should contact the Clerk of Council, Cathy Blum at 298-0600, or should send an e-mail to Mayor Judy Cook at cook@oakwood.oh.us or City Manager Norbert Klopsch at klopsch@oakwood.oh.us



Judy Cook — Mayor



Carlo McGinnis — Vice Mayor



**Bill Duncan
Council Member**



**Roger Blumensheid
Council Member**



**Stanley Castleman
Council Member**



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The year 2004 is marked by the completion of several major projects. The administrative and court personnel moved into the renovated city hall just as the year came to a close. This ended 27 long months of working in the temporary trailers. It is indicative of the quality and dedication of the staff that they performed so well and without complaints during that long tenure. With the coming of planting season, the exterior landscaping will complete Phase II of our facilities upgrade projects. Phase I, our Public Works Center, was completed back in 2000. It is rewarding to know that all of our exceptional staff now have appropriate working environments in which to function and serve our citizens.

Pedestrian safety along Far Hills Avenue is improved with the completion of the project involving sidewalk widening and installation of new rails along sections of that thoroughfare. Safety concerns for Oakwood students were central to the planning and execution of this project. City beautification is a bonus benefit from this effort.

Our new Comprehensive Plan was completed in early summer 2004. This important document already is actively guiding the work of City Council and staff. Along with the Budget Review Committee, we utilized the document to set priorities and determine expenditures in the 2005 city budget. The Comprehensive Plan will provide guidance for future initiatives as well.

Much attention, time and effort was devoted to NCR Sugar Camp in 2004. Reuse of this property remains an unresolved issue, but during the past year large quantities of information were gathered that will allow future decisions and actions to be made quickly and knowledgeably. Sugar Camp remains a focus for City Council and staff and we seek opportunities to work with NCR regarding this important tract of land.

In September, sorrow came to our community with the unexpected death of J. David Foell. Dave expertly managed our city from 1963 to 1993. He was regarded as one of the finest city managers in Ohio and is sorely missed by colleagues and friends.

The past year challenged both City Council and staff in terms of quantity and difficulty of issues presented. I applaud my fellow Council members for their diligence and devotion to the tasks presented to them. Our expert staff stayed the course, faced whatever difficulties appeared and gave the extra hours required to complete the work. Throughout the year we enjoyed the support, talents and efforts of our greatest community asset, the citizens of Oakwood.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judy Cook".

Judy Cook
Mayor



Dear Fellow Citizens,

It is my pleasure to present Oakwood's 2004 Annual Report. The format of the report includes an introduction of each operating department followed by a series of questions and answers, some of which are presented in the form of graphs and charts. We think the data and narrative will give you a good understanding of the services provided by your City staff. I hope you find this report informative and useful.



Producing this Annual Report gives me the opportunity to reflect on the past year and to present some thoughts on current issues and opportunities. We have chosen once again to have this report published in newsprint form by the Oakwood Register and delivered as an insert to your paper. We do this for two reasons. First, because the newsprint format is an inexpensive method of assembling and printing the report. We paid approximately \$1,700 to print and distribute over 4,000 copies of this report to Oakwood citizens, businesses and property owners. Other types of printing methods would easily cost two or three times this much, possibly more. Second, we know from community surveys that most Oakwood citizens read the Oakwood Register. In fact, based on a survey conducted in the winter of 2004, we found that our citizens use the Oakwood Register as their primary source of information about the City.

Let me take a moment to reflect on some of our major accomplishments in 2004. These accomplishments touch on the big events for the year, events that go beyond our normal day-to-day operations. Here are the major highlights:

- **Safety/Administration Building** – The major construction effort on this significant building addition/renovation project was completed in 2004. It was an action-packed year. Two major events occurred: 1) when the Safety Department moved from the old portion of the building into their new quarters in August; and 2) when the court and administrative staff moved from the temporary office trailers into the new office space in December. With the completion of the safety/administration building pro-

ject, our two primary public facilities (the other being our Public Works Center at 210 Shafor Boulevard) are now in excellent condition and will serve the community well for decades.

- **City Comprehensive Plan** – After a 13-month effort, City Council adopted a new Comprehensive Plan. The Plan provides detailed guidance on land use, transportation and public facilities planning throughout our City. The Plan is available for review at Wright Library, at our City website at www.mvcc.net/oakwood and at the City building.

- **Fire Truck** – Early in the year we ordered a new fire truck to replace a 1979 model-year engine that was outdated and worn out. We spent approximately \$250,000 on the new engine. It was delivered in November and commissioned into service in December. With delivery of this new fire truck, we now have two engines that have all of the features and capabilities needed for us to properly respond to any fire emergency.

- **Far Hills Streetscape** – We spent approximately \$700,000 on major repairs to the timber wall in our Far Hills Business District and in widening the sidewalk and replacing the old chain and post system along sections of Far Hills Avenue. A committee of Oakwood citizens helped us develop plans for these projects. We are very pleased with the end result and are confident that the improvements will serve the City well for many years.

- **Water Meter Replacement** – We completed all of the design and contracting work for the project involving replacement or retrofitting of 3,925 water meters throughout our community. The construction on this project began this past January and is scheduled to be completed some time this summer. Once completed, we will be able to automatically read all of our water meters via a radio transmission system. This will eliminate the need for a city employee to visit every home quarterly to obtain the readings. The project marks a very important upgrade to our water system infrastructure and will cost approximately \$850,000 to complete.

On December 21, 2004, Oakwood City Council approved the 2005 Budget. The Budget includes the resources needed to continue our comprehensive

continued on next page



public services. It also includes the following major items:

- \$300,000 for roadway improvements.
- \$80,000 for the annual sidewalk, curb and driveway apron program.
- \$160,000 for a sanitary sewer improvement along Dixon Avenue and Patterson Road.
- \$120,000 for a sanitary sewer improvement along Forrer Road, Devereux Drive, and Ashridge Avenue.
- \$35,000 for a new multi-purpose street maintenance machine.

During the process of preparing our 2005 Budget, Oakwood City Council, the Budget Review Committee (a committee of at least three members

from each of our 11 voting precincts) and City staff worked diligently to develop a budget that would allow us to continue providing the finest possible public services to our citizens while at the same time recognizing that our revenue sources have not kept up with escalating costs. As a means of communicating an important message to our citizens and businesses, I prepared a message to the community that was printed on the front page of the December 14, 2004 Oakwood Register. That same message is reprinted below. I am including it in this Annual Report because it will help to explain the challenges our community will face over the next few years – the challenge of maintaining the high level of public services for which we are recognized while not burdening our citizens and businesses with excessive fees or taxes.

“It’s Budget Approval Time Again”

On December 20, Oakwood City Council will receive for consideration the 2005 budget. The process of developing an annual budget starts in July each year when our department heads begin determining all of their needs for the upcoming year. From there, we determine how the requested expenditures compare to the anticipated revenues. After that, we evaluate the budget requests, prioritize and pare them down as appropriate, and ultimately determine what items will be included in the proposal to City Council. The process of evaluating proposed expenses against anticipated revenues includes many discussions with City Council and Staff, and meetings with our 33-member citizen Budget Review Committee (BRC). On the third Monday of December each year, we present to City Council the budget for the upcoming calendar year. Prior to presenting the budget to Council, we ask the BRC to endorse it. Once approved by Council, the budget reflects the financial resources available to us for the upcoming year.

If you read the newspaper regularly or watch the local news on TV, you are certainly aware that most local governments in Ohio and throughout America have been struggling over the past three or four years to balance their budgets. To a large extent, this is because expenses for local governments continue to escalate, while at the same time revenues have

increased only marginally or in some cases have decreased – in large part because of the economy. Even though the national economy has improved over the past couple of years, the economy here in Ohio remains stagnant, and in the Dayton area rather depressed. Evidence of this can be found in the latest report by the U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics which shows that non-farm employment in the Dayton-Springfield area has declined by approximately 40,000 jobs from January 2001 to January 2004. At the same time, it seems that there are more and more requirements of local government. Some of these are the result of mandates from state and federal government and some are the result of citizens expecting more from their local public servants. Two examples of recently imposed unfunded mandates are: 1) the requirement to establish a storm water management program; and 2) the requirement for all Emergency Medical Technicians, of which we have 32, to complete continuing education programs annually. Unfortunately, while the state and federal governments create new mandates that cost us money, they are also talking about cutting some of the revenues they have typically provided. Two examples are the Local Government Fund and the Estate Tax.

The most immediate concern is the potential loss

continued on next page



MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER



continued from previous page

of Local Government Funds from the State of Ohio. For the Miami Valley area, that amounts to over \$100 million dollars. Any reduction to this state funding will have a major impact on the services you receive. Please pay attention to the upcoming debate on this and do all you can to inform your state elected officials of how important this money is to your local community. For Oakwood, this is \$300,000 – enough to pay for all of our vehicle and other capital equipment needs in a typical year.

Oakwood's proposed 2005 budget will be balanced in the sense that we will have the resources needed to meet all of our projected expenses. However, as has been the case in the previous two years, we continue to use cash reserves to cover the deficit between revenues and expenses. We were fortunate between 1997 and 2002 to receive significantly more estate tax revenue than was expected which allowed us to: 1) defer tax increases and increases in fees for services; 2) make critically needed improvements to our two primary public facilities without additional taxes; and 3) build up our cash reserves. The city of Oakwood has not raised taxes for city services since 1991. Also, most of our fees for service have not increased in ten years.

Over the past decade, we made significant investments in our roadways, parks, pool and other capital improve-

ments, and also in capital equipment including two fire trucks, a medic vehicle, many public works trucks and other pieces of equipment. With those investments, we are keeping up with our infrastructure needs and have the equipment needed to provide the quality services you expect.

The proposed 2005 budget reflects a decrease in capital spending. By reducing capital expenses and using additional cash reserves, we will be able to continue providing top quality services without a tax increase in 2005.

In addition to managing capital spending, we are reviewing all of our fees for service. Adjustments based on inflation alone will be needed to maintain these services, including refuse collection and disposal, water and sewer service, community center memberships and others. In the process of determining the appropriate adjustments, we will continue to carefully monitor our ongoing operational expenses to ensure that we are getting the most for every dollar spent.

If you have any questions about the 2005 budget or simply wish to obtain some additional information about Oakwood finances, please feel free to call me at 298-0600.

I hope that you find this Budget message informative and that it gives you a sense of where we stand. Over the next year or two, you will hear more about the steps that we will take to address the challenges.

In closing, let me thank you in advance for taking the time to read this Annual Report. Although it certainly took a significant amount of staff time to prepare, I think it is very important that our citizens have the opportunity to learn about our community and to understand what we are doing and what challenges we face. We most certainly can remain very proud to live and work in this beautiful community. Our excellent schools, beautiful homes, unmatched community character and ambiance, and neighborly environment is second to none in southwest Ohio. Although you can point to many features or attributes that make our City special, I agree with Mayor Judy Cook that our most valuable resource is the fine citizens who have chosen Oakwood for the place to live, raise families and/or retire.

If you have any questions about this report or have any issues that you wish to discuss with me, please do not hesitate to call (298-0600) or e-mail (klopsch@oakwood.oh.us). On behalf of City Council and staff, I hope 2004 was a good year for you and wish you all the very best in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

Norbert S. Klopsch
City Manager



PUBLIC SAFETY



The Oakwood Public Safety Department is one of only 30 fully-consolidated police and fire departments in the country. All of Oakwood's sworn officers are State certified in law enforcement, fire fighting and emergency medical techniques. The underlying strength of the department is premised on the philosophy that public safety service can be most effectively provided by deploying officers trained in the basics of all three disciplines.

A significant advantage to consolidation is that Public Safety Officers ("PSOs") on patrol can respond very quickly to a fire call and extinguish small fires or report accurately the status of larger fires. Another distinct advantage is that the PSOs are trained and equipped to respond to life-threatening emergencies

and to take immediate action on any medical situation.

Formed in 1927, Oakwood's Public Safety Department is the second oldest consolidated department in the United States, second only to the Gross Point Shores, Michigan department which was established in 1911. The concept has been successful in providing our citizens with one of the most secure cities in Ohio and an extremely quick and knowledgeable response to any emergency.

Chief Glen Beddies is responsible for the 38-member Public Safety Department. The Department consists of 25 PSOs, four lieutenants, two captains, five dispatchers and a department secretary.

Here are some key questions we are often asked about public safety matters.

CRIME



What are our crime statistics?

Our total reported crime over the past few years has not fluctuated much. That said, the total reported crime for 2004 was the lowest in the past five years.

OFFENSE	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Part I crimes	168	179	207	258	195
Other major crimes	137	141	119	80	109
Total	305	320	326	338	304

We categorize crimes into two areas: "Part I" and "Other Major".

A breakdown of each including how many were cleared (see next Q&A) for 2003 and 2004 is as follows:

CRIME	OFFENSES	CLEARANCES	OFFENSES	CLEARANCES
	2003		2004	
PART 1 CRIMES				
Criminal Homicide/Attempted Murder	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0
Robbery	5	1	5	3
Assault	20	5	22	14
Burglary	62	9	35	15
Larceny	159	20	126	19
Auto Theft	12*	6	7**	6
PART 1 TOTALS	258	41	195	57
OTHER MAJOR CRIMES				
Arson	0	0	3	0
Forgery, Fraud, Counterfeiting	18	4	18	8
Morals	7	0	11	3
Criminal Damaging, Vandalism, Mischief	44	2	68	20
Narcotics	10	7	7	6
Carrying Concealed Weapon	1	1	2	2
OTHER CRIMES TOTALS	80	14	109	39
ALL MAJOR CRIMES TOTAL	338	55	304	96

*Includes six vehicles stolen elsewhere and recovered in Oakwood. **Includes one vehicle stolen elsewhere and recovered in Oakwood.



PUBLIC SAFETY



As I see in the table below, a majority of our crimes are larcenies. How many of these are investigated and how many are solved?

We investigate every larceny (or theft) and, for that matter, every crime. Shown below are the results of our investigations.

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Total Larcenies	127	116	154	159	126
Clearances*	28	22	60	20	19
Percent Cleared	22.0%	18.9%	39.0%	12.6%	15.1%

*“Clearances” means that the crime is no longer under investigation. Cases remain under active investigation unless they are cleared in one of the following manners:

- (1) by arrest;
- (2) exceptionally cleared (complainant does not want to pursue charges);
- (3) inactivated (all leads have been investigated; the case goes into a cold file until new information can be obtained); or
- (4) case is unfounded (investigation reveals that the facts do not support the allegation).

Historically, larcenies (e.g., thefts from vehicles, bicycle thefts) have been difficult to clear. Residents can prevent many of the larcenies in our community by doing the following:

- Locking garages.
- Locking vehicles and removing items of value.
- Obtaining bike licenses from the Safety Department and securing bicycles in garages.
- Reporting any suspicious activity to the Safety Department immediately.

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT



I frequently see our police cruisers around the City. What are our traffic statistics?

Traffic enforcement remains a significant part of the Public Safety Department’s mission. This has always been a priority for the City because of the residential character of our community and the high volume of traffic traveling through Oakwood daily. Annual statistics will vary depending upon community needs and the emphasis given to this important component of an officer’s duty. A 5-year history of our statistics is as follows:

YEAR	OVI*	ACCIDENTS	INJURIES	DEATHS	CITATIONS
2000	35	194	42	0	4684
2001	40	204	32	0	3952
2002	23	186	26	0	3074
2003	24	192	22	0	3425
2004	24	207	28	0	2515

*Operating Vehicle Intoxicated (formerly DUI).



Last year, what were the causes of most accidents?

CAUSES	# OF ACCIDENTS
Assured Clear Distance	.45
Failure to Yield	.29
Improper Backing	.35
Failure To Control	.41
Inattention	.12
Improper Turn	.11
Disobey Traffic Device	.9
DUI	.2
Snow/Ice	.1
Other	.22
Total	.207



What do we do to manage traffic congestion and pedestrian safety around our schools?

In April 2004, we established new turning restrictions and dedicated two public safety officers to daily duty at Smith and Harman Schools during the morning drop-off and the afternoon pickup periods. This represents a commitment of at least two man-hours, Monday through Friday, for the purpose of enforcing our traffic rules around the schools to make these environments as safe as possible for our children, teachers, school administrators and the general public. This new initiative has been very well received by our citizens.



PUBLIC SAFETY



FIRE

QUESTION

Oakwood citizens and businesses benefit greatly from the fast response time to fires - an important advantage of a consolidated Public Safety Department. What is our response time to fire scenes as compared to the ideal national standard of six minutes?

RESPONSE DATA	2002	2003	2004	National Standard
Average engine response time to scene	3.58 mins.	3.48 mins.	3.94 mins.	6 minutes
Average cruiser response time to scene	1.80 mins.	2.14 mins.	2.08 mins.	

QUESTION

What has been Oakwood's fire loss record in recent years?

YEAR	ALARMS RECEIVED	HANDLED BY		FALSE ALARM	NO DAMAGE	DAMAGE INVOLVED	TOTAL FIRE LOSS
		FIRE CREW	CREW OFFICERS				
2000	116	74	42	32	108	8	\$150,000
2001	133	78	55	38	125	8	\$110,715
2002	127	106	21	39	118	9	\$28,350
2003	151	135	16	59	139	12	\$109,110
2004	141	112	29	30	116	25	\$910,000

2004 was a particularly bad year for fires. We had five major structure fires that accounted for the majority of the \$910,000 loss. Two resulted in the complete demolition of the structures, the other three in major reconstruction.

QUESTION

How many fire trucks do we have and how much do they cost?

Answer: We have two front line fire trucks. They both meet all of the latest fire fighting standards and specifications. One is a 1996 model-year and the other is a 2004 model-year. Shown

below is our newest engine for which we paid \$255,000. This is the single most expensive piece of equipment we own. The 1996 engine cost us \$188,000.





PUBLIC SAFETY



RESCUE



How many medic runs do we have in an average year? What happened to the patients?

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Total Medic Runs	469	494	509	460	494

ACTION TAKEN	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Taken to hospital by medic vehicle	368	375	398	411	394
Taken to hospital by police cruiser	2	10	8	6	5
Taken to hospital by mutual aid*	18	30	22	26	21
No removal**	74	74	77	16	68
Dead on Arrival	7	5	4	1	6

* "Mutual Aid" means we were assisted by medics from another jurisdiction – usually this is Kettering.

** These are patients who did not need to be transported to the hospital.

They either received treatment onsite, or were able to take care of themselves.



How quickly do safety officers respond to calls for medical emergencies as compared to the ideal national standard of 4 to 6 minutes for the first unit and 13 minutes for a medic?

MEDIC RESCUE TIMES	2002	2003	2004	National Standard
First unit on scene	1.8 minutes	1.9 minutes	2.08 minutes	4-6 minutes
Medic response time	2.9 minutes	3.0 minutes	3.18 minutes	13 minutes
Average on-scene time (medic)	14.5 minutes	16.1 minutes	15.30 minutes	
Average run time	63.4 minutes	66.8 minutes	57.83 minutes	

TRAINING



How many hours of training are accomplished annually for the Department to maintain current certifications for Public Safety Officers?

TRAINING	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Police	3424	1520	2330	1502	1302
Fire	1565	988	1152	853	1064
Rescue	413	1064	1140	1024	532
Communications/General	162	228	142	34	59
TOTALS	5564	3800	4764	3413	2957

COMMENTS AND FUTURE GOALS

We are pleased to report that all of the identified goals for 2004 have been met. We transitioned into our new public safety facility with no disruption of services; we purchased a new fire apparatus, received it in November and placed it into service in late December after all operator training had been accomplished; and we updated all of our resource manuals and policies.

The primary goals and objectives identified for 2005 are listed below:

- **Police Operations** - To study our current police operations to see if there are opportunities for improvement.
- **Analysis of Special Assignments** – To review officers' assignments to ensure that all areas of need are addressed and the investment in time and personnel justifies the benefits received.
- **Evaluation of our Public Safety programs** – To verify that important community needs are being addressed by current programs and to identify potential future programs.



LEGAL AFFAIRS



The Law Department of the City of Oakwood is headed by our City Attorney, Dalma C. Grandjean, a shareholder in the firm of Altick & Corwin, L.P.A. All of Oakwood's City Attorneys have been affiliated with the law firm of Altick & Corwin, which traces its origins back to 1853.

The office of City Attorney is established by the Charter of the City of Oakwood, which was approved by the electorate on May 3, 1960, and last amended at an election on November 8, 1988. The Charter provides that the Oakwood City Attorney shall serve as the director of the Law Department. Chapter 127 of the Administrative Code of Oakwood sets forth the duties of the City Attorney and specifies that he or she shall be accountable to the City Manager and to Council.

The Law Department advises the Council, the City Manager, municipal boards and commissions and the administrative officers and departments on all relevant matters of law; drafts and reviews legislation, contracts and

other legal documents; and represents the City in civil cases and criminal prosecutions.

Ms. Grandjean succeeded Robert N. Farquhar as City Attorney on July 1, 2004. Mr. Farquhar still advises the City in his capacity as Deputy City Attorney. Also serving the Department of Law are two other attorneys with the firm of Altick & Corwin: Scott A. Liberman and Dennis J. Adkins.

Mr. Adkins prosecutes alleged violations of municipal ordinances and State laws in Oakwood Municipal Court. Mr. Adkins also provides training to the Oakwood Public Safety Department on matters relevant to effective law enforcement and to the personnel of Oakwood Municipal Court on procedural and substantive legal matters.

Mr. Liberman serves as the Tax Collection Attorney for the City of Oakwood. As such, he advises the Department of Finance in its tax collection efforts, and, when necessary, files suit against delinquent taxpayers.

Here are some questions about matters of law of interest to our citizens:



Does the new Ohio Concealed Carry Law prohibit individuals who have obtained permits to carry concealed handguns from carrying handguns into or onto certain premises?

Yes.

Employers may prohibit concealed handguns on their business premises by conspicuously posting notice of the ban.

Also, under State Law, Concealed handguns are banned from: police stations, sheriffs' offices, state highway patrol offices, jails, and state institutions for the mentally ill or mentally retarded, airport terminals, school safety zones, courthouses, areas where liquor is dispensed, premises of institutions of higher education, places of worship, child day care facilities, any state building, all local governmental buildings, and any place where federal law prohibits the carrying of handguns.

Note: The City of Oakwood has posted signs banning concealed handguns from its governmental premises.



What rights do members of the public have to obtain copies of the City's records?

Ohio law requires state and local government officials to release public records to anyone who requests them. The following items are exceptions to this rule, which may apply to records held by local governments such as the City of Oakwood:

- Medical records;
- Probation & parole proceeding records;
- Adoption records;
- Trial preparation records;
- Confidential law enforcement investigatory records;
- Certain Health Department records;
- DNA records stored in the State's DNA database;
- Intellectual property records;
- Donor profile records;
- Peace officer, firefighter or emergency medical technician residential and familial information;
- Information pertaining to the recreational activities of a person under the age of 18;
- Certain records provided to and statements made by a prosecuting attorney; and
- Any other information whose release is prohibited by state or federal law.



Does the federal Freedom of Information Act apply to municipalities such as the City of Oakwood?

- No. The Freedom of Information Act is a federal law that applies only to federal agencies.



BUILDING AND ZONING



Oakwood is a mostly developed 98% residential community with little vacant land remaining. Most of the city's homes were constructed between the 1920s and the 1940s. While the architecture and layout of our residential neighborhoods adds to Oakwood's charm, it is important that our homes be maintained and upgraded on a continual basis.

Deputy City Manager Jay Weiskircher and Inspector Dave

Bunting provide the oversight to our housing inspection program and our planning and zoning administration. Plumbing, electrical, structural and HVAC inspections are completed by the City of Kettering Building Inspection Department on a contractual basis.

Here are some key questions and updates on building and zoning related issues which we thought might be of interest to our citizens.



Has the Safety/City Building Renovation and Addition Project been completed?

After over three years of design work and construction, our major Safety/City Building project is done, except for some landscaping that will be completed this spring. Here are some highlights:

- In early August, after 16 months of construction the Public Safety Department moved into their new space on the west side of the building. The new offices for the Safety Department staff are located in renovated space formerly occupied by the City's administrative staff. Much of the remaining safety department space, including the apparatus bay, crews' quarters and jail facilities, are located in new additions on the west and south sides of the building.

- The former apparatus bay and safety department offices on the east side of the building were completely renovated and now serve as office space for the administrative, finance, income tax and municipal court staffs. The renovations to the east side of the building were completed in mid-December.

- A new city council/municipal court chambers was constructed on the first floor of the building to provide the public convenient access. The former Council

chambers on the second floor of the building has been renovated primarily for use by the safety department as a training room, but will also be available to qualified organizations and groups within the community for evening meetings.

- Most of the new basement area on the south side of the building is being used for badly needed storage space. A section of the existing basement was renovated to serve as an Emergency Operations Center to coordinate responses in the event of a natural or man-made disaster.

After the final landscaping is completed, we will conduct an Open House so citizens can tour the new and renovated spaces. This Open House will take place from 3-6 p.m. on Friday, May 6th. Additional information about the Open House will be announced this spring in the City newsletter and The Oakwood Register. Like the Public Works Center at 210 Shafor Boulevard, which was completed in May, 2000, this project was financed almost entirely by estate tax proceeds, and is designed to meet the service needs of the community for many years to come.



City Council appointed a 25-member Comprehensive Planning Committee in 2003 to update the City's Comprehensive Plan.

Has the Comprehensive Planning Committee completed its work, and has an updated Plan been adopted?

In June, 2004, Oakwood City Council unanimously adopted the City's new Comprehensive Plan. The new Plan was compiled over a thirteen month period and represents the efforts and input of the City's planning consultants, City Council, City staff, the 25-member citizen committee and hundreds of Oakwood citizens who participated in numerous out-reach efforts. The new Plan serves as the official policy guide for physical improvements and development within the city over the next ten to fifteen years, and supersedes the original Comprehensive Plan adopted in 1989. The Plan establishes a vision for the future of Oakwood, and

establishes goals, objectives and recommendations to achieve that vision. The goals and objectives of the Plan are divided into eight categories.

1. Community Image and Character.
2. Housing and Residential Areas.
3. Commercial and Business Development.
4. Transportation.
5. Community Facilities.
6. Park and Open Spaces.
7. Marketing and Promotion.
8. Communication and Cooperation.

Under each of these eight categories, the new Plan includes identified goals and objectives. Since the adoption of the Plan last June, City Council has already identified priorities that will be pursued in the short term. Citizens are invited and encouraged to review the Comprehensive Plan in its entirety. Copies are available at Wright Library, the Safety/City Building on Park Avenue and the City's website at www.mvcc.net/oakwood.



The more than 24 acres of property that include the NCR Sugar Camp campus have been for sale for nearly two years. What is the current status of the property, and does the City have an interest in purchasing the site?

NCR owns three parcels of land in Oakwood that total nearly 36.5 acres and are bounded by West Schantz Avenue and Far Hills Avenue. These three parcels include the 24-acre Sugar Camp site, approximately 7.4 acres at the northwest corner of Schantz and Far Hills Avenue, and 4.47 acres on the west side of Far Hills Avenue just north of the Schantz intersection to the Dayton corporation limit. Of these three parcels, only the 24-acre Sugar Camp parcel is currently for sale. Due to the importance of this site as the last large tract of developable property within the corporation limits, last year, the City commissioned a comprehensive analysis of the site by a planning firm from Chicago, as well as local consultants including the Gem Real Estate Group and LJB Engineering and Architecture. This analysis included a physical conditions assessment; visual preference survey; market analysis; alternative site development and re-use plans; and, a financial feasibility analysis. From information gathered by the consultant team, seven reuse and redevelopment concepts were identified.

- Two of the concepts considered removal of all existing buildings and reuse of all three parcels of land. These two concepts included various residential development options, including condominium-style

housing, as well as a professional building to be located at the corner of Schantz and Far Hills Avenues.

- Two other concepts utilizing all 36.5 acres were also developed and these concepts involved possible reuse of some of the existing structures. Like the previous two options, these concepts also included various residential development schemes.

- Two additional concepts dealt solely with development of the 24-acre parcel currently for sale. Development under these two scenarios was exclusively residential, and one of the concepts was devoted solely to condominium development.

- A seventh and final concept, also including just the 24-acre tract, contemplated 48 condominium units and reuse of the Sugar Camp buildings.

With each of the seven concepts, the consultants listed both advantages and disadvantages. A financial feasibility analysis was then performed on each of the seven concepts. The feasibility analysis pointed out that even for a user considering reuse of the existing buildings, the current cost of acquisition does not justify the investment risk. The financial risks are even greater on those options where the existing buildings are demolished. For these reasons, the City has chosen not to pursue purchase of the site at this time. The development alternatives and guidelines that have been compiled, however, will be shared with any potential developer to ensure that when the site is eventually sold, development will be unified and characterized by high design and construction standards.



As Federal and State funding to local governments continues to decline, politicians at the state level are encouraging local governments to explore ways to eliminate duplication of services where possible. Is Oakwood currently involved in any cooperative relationships with neighboring jurisdictions?

Along with mutual aid agreements with neighboring jurisdictions for fire and rescue services, since 1990, the City of Oakwood has contracted with the City of Kettering for building inspection services. Although Oakwood employs a full-time zoning inspector, the inspector is not certified to conduct plumbing, electrical or structural inspections. To find an individual with all the necessary certifications is unlikely, and the costs to have separate individuals on staff to perform each of these functions is impractical for a community the size of Oakwood. Therefore, the City of Oakwood has an agreement in place in which

members of the City of Kettering's Department of Planning and Development perform plan review, issue permits and conduct the necessary inspections for construction and improvement projects that require permits. Kettering is compensated in part for this service directly by the City of Oakwood, however, the majority of costs for these services are provided for through permit fees paid by the users. This cooperative agreement between the cities of Kettering and Oakwood not only provides our citizens with high quality plan review and inspection services, but the overall cost of the program is primarily borne by users.



With more people working out of their homes and having home offices, does the City have any regulations restricting home occupations?

A home occupation is permitted and does not need to be registered, so long as it does not conflict with any of the following regulations.

1. No home occupation may occupy more than 25% of the floor area nor more than 400 square feet of gross floor area, whichever is less.
2. No commodity may be sold upon the premises.
3. No person may be employed other than a member of the immediate family residing in the premises.
4. No accessory building may be used for a home occupation.
5. No sign, display, merchandise or other material may be used that will indicate that the dwelling is being utilized for any other purpose other than a residential dwelling.

6. No more than five persons shall visit any property on any given day in connection with an occupation between the hours of 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. In no event may any home occupation cause or result in persons arriving at or entering the premises before 9 a.m. or after 8 p.m.

If you have questions regarding a home occupation that are not specifically covered by these regulations, please contact the City Inspector at 297-2920.



In driving around the community, one is struck by the excellent condition of the older homes and the general level of care and maintenance of most properties within the community. What regulations are in place to ensure that this level of care and maintenance continues?

Since its adoption in the late 1960s, the City has vigorously enforced the provisions of the Property Maintenance Code. Each year members of City staff conduct a street-by-street tour of the community in an effort to identify those structures or properties which are in violation of the Property Maintenance Code. As a result of this monitoring effort and citizen generated complaints, more than 100 letters are sent annually advising property owners of Code violations and establishing a time frame within which to complete the necessary repairs or improvements. In most cases, violations are corrected within a four to six-month period. In those instances where short term correction of the violations are not possible because of extenuating circumstances, City staff works closely with property owners to attain compliance within a reasonable period of time. In those rare instances where the property owner does not cooperate and the violations go uncorrected, the City has the option to cite the property owner - at which time jurisdiction is then assumed by the Oakwood Municipal Court.



Are there any special regulations in place to ensure that rental properties are maintained at a level in keeping with community standards?

Besides exterior maintenance standards as provided for under the Property Maintenance Code, a non-owner occupied dwelling within the City is required to be registered. If the owner of a rental property lives outside of Montgomery County, then the owner must appoint a person residing in Montgomery County to act as an agent for purposes of receiving notices regarding the property.

In addition to the landlord registration component, whenever there is a tenant change (but no more than once per year), the owner is responsible for scheduling an inspection of the unit or dwelling. Any violations noted in the inspection become the owner's responsibility to correct.



If I am considering a room addition, adding on or building a new garage, building a deck, or some other major improvement, what do I need to do in order to secure a permit?

Major projects such as those described require submission of a certified plot plan and detailed scaled drawings which effectively describe the project. Once these items are submitted, the City reviews the plans for compliance with our zoning code. If the zoning setbacks are met and the plans conform in all other respects to City regulations, the plans are approved and forwarded to the City of Kettering for issuance of the necessary permit(s). If the setbacks are not met or if there are other issues which require special use approval, then the application is forwarded to either the Board of Zoning Appeals ("BZA") or the Planning Commission, and a public hearing is scheduled. Following the public hearing, the proposed project is either approved, denied, or approved with conditions. If the project is approved or approved with condition(s) that the applicant has agreed to meet, the plans are forwarded to Kettering for issuance of the necessary permit(s).

Since the BZA and Planning Commission only meet once a month, it is important for property owners who are planning major improvement projects to submit their plans well in advance of when they hope to have the project completed.



BUILDING AND ZONING



Along these same lines, what are the requirements for some of the most common home projects?

The following matrix identifies many of the most common improvement projects and whether those projects require a permit or zoning consideration. This is not an all-inclusive list.

HOME PROJECTS	ZONING REVIEW	BZA OR PLANNING COMMISSION HEARING	PERMIT REQUIRED
Air Conditioning/Heat Pump Equipment	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Arbor or Trellis	No	No	No
Backflow Device	No	No	Yes
Deck	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Driveway Apron Replacement	No	No	Yes
Driveway Resurfacing	No	No	Yes
Driveway Replacement	No	No (If no expansion of existing driveway.)	Yes
Electrical Wiring (New, upgrade or renovation)	No	No	Yes
Entrance Pillars	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Fence	Yes	No	Yes
Flag Pole	No	No	No
Gazebo	Yes	No	Yes
Garage (New)	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Greenhouse	Yes	No	Yes
Hot Tub	Yes	No	Yes
Irrigation System	No	No	No
Landscaping (Plant material only)	No	No	No
New Construction (Room additions or new homes)	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Painting	No	No	No
Patio	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Play Structure (12 feet or less in height)	Yes	No	Yes
Porch Enclosure	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Signs (Permanent)	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Roof Shingles	No	No	Yes (Only if roof decking is being replaced.)
New Steps	Yes	No	Yes
Replacement Steps	No	No	Yes
Siding	No	No	Yes
Sump Pump	No	No	(If the work requires removal of electric meter.) Yes
Sidewalks – Public	No	No	Yes
Storage Shed	Yes	No	Yes
Swimming Pool	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Walkways (Private)	Yes	May be needed	Yes
Water Heater	No	No	Yes
Water Softener	No	No	Yes
Window Replacement	No	No	No



If I am considering installing a fence, what materials are permitted and are there height restrictions?

Fences may be constructed of wood, ornamental wrought iron, or of steel or aluminum formed and colored as to be substantially similar to wrought iron. Wood fences may only be constructed of cedar, redwood, or treated southern pine.

In addition to the above mentioned materials, the City allows use of synthetic materials subject to the following requirements:

1. The fence material and parts must be exclusively of first-run, virgin compounds homogenous throughout the extruded wall with at least a 20-year warranty.
2. Synthetic fence colors are limited to white, almond, grey, light brown, cedar wood or approved equals.
3. Latches, hinges and hardware shall be made of non-rusting materials.

4. All fence materials must conform to the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Standard F964-94.

Fences in front or corner side yards are limited to 3.5 feet in height and must be 50% open. In other words, if the fence slat is 2" in width, there must be a 2" space between slats. Fence height in side yards are limited to 5 feet and rear yard fences may not exceed 6 feet in height. The fence height is measured from the ground to the top of the fence. Ornamental and decorative knobs are excluded in calculating fence height assuming they do not exceed 6 inches in height.

If you are considering building a fence or have contracted to have a fence built, please make sure a permit is secured from the City before beginning work.



Many communities around the country are now considering adopting a pre-sale inspection program in an effort to preserve and maintain existing housing stock. How long has Oakwood had a pre-sale inspection program in place, what are the benefits of the program, and how many inspections are conducted annually?

The Oakwood pre-sale inspection program was originally adopted in 1968 as part of the City's Property Maintenance Code. This program mandates that before an owner can transfer ownership of a premise, a pre-sale inspection must be conducted. Any violations identified during the inspection must be corrected before a Certificate of Occupancy is issued. The owner at the time of the inspection is responsible for correcting the violations. However, this responsibility may be assumed by the buyer through a written agreement. As of January, 2005, a \$50 fee was imposed for pre-sale inspections. The City will use the

revenue from this fee to defer a portion of the costs associated with conducting inspections and administering the pre-sale program.

The existence of the pre-sale housing inspection program coupled with rigorous enforcement of the Property Maintenance Code over many years has meant that most Oakwood properties are being maintained at a high level. This fact, along with an excellent school system, has resulted in Oakwood property values typically appreciating at faster rates than comparable properties in other greater Dayton suburban communities.



How many real estate transactions have we had over the past five years?

The following table summarizes real estate transactions within the community during the past five years.

PRE-SALE INSPECTIONS					
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Sale of Property Inspections	262	320	286	291	269
Residential Rental Inspections	31	36	24	39	34
Business Rental Inspections	6	4	12	15	5
TOTAL	299	360	322	345	308

OCCUPANCY CERTIFICATES					
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Sale of Property Certificates	330	311	343	329	280
Residential Rental Certificates	20	33	33	64	62
Business Rental Certificates	6	5	9	16	4
TOTAL	356	349	385	409	346



BUILDING AND ZONING



Most of the investment within the community is driven by renovations or additions to existing structures. What are some of the most common improvement projects, how many permits are issued annually for these types of improvements, and what has been the total investment in new construction and renovation during the past five years?

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Impervious Work on Private Property (Driveways, patios, sidewalk, etc.) # of Permits/Value	140 \$505,134	142 \$873,224	103 \$444,016	186 \$792,780	154 \$678,686
A/C Unit/Heat Pump # of Permits/Value	114 \$412,718	114 \$450,866	107 \$499,910	96 \$528,451	100 \$468,562
Fence/Retaining Wall # of Permits/Value	101 \$245,259	114 \$270,034	121 \$266,762	107 \$255,302	115 \$252,480
Accessory Structure (Garages, storage sheds, decks, etc.) # of Permits/Value	30 \$246,806	21 \$98,700	22 \$22,391	19 \$24,569	13 \$21,650
Residential Addition/Remodel # of Permits/Value	97 \$2,215,965	96 \$2,418,386	97 \$3,548,905	99 \$1,742,188	95 \$2,721,105
Residential – New Home Construction # of Permits/Value	3 \$1,999,000	2 \$2,340,000	0 0	0 0	1 \$1,920,000
Business Addition/Remodel # of Permits/Value	5 \$191,500	6 \$356,700	12 \$293,200	5 \$105,000	13 \$439,402
Business – New Business Construction # of Permits/Value	1 \$1,058,000	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0

Total investment in new construction, renovation or other improvements during the past five years is approximately \$44,000,000.

COMMENTS AND FUTURE GOALS

Property Maintenance Code Update - It was mentioned earlier that the City has been well served for many years by the rigorous enforcement of the Property Maintenance Code. For that reason, from time to time the Code is reviewed and updated as necessary. This year we will be updating the Code as necessary to ensure that properties within the city continue to be maintained in a first-class manner.



LEISURE SERVICES



The mission of the Department of Leisure Services is to enhance the quality of life of Oakwood residents by offering a variety of activities that encourage overall wellness, cultural enrichment and fellowship with neighbors. Its purpose also includes building upon the natural beauty of the

City to the improvement, care and maintenance of parks, public gardens, boulevards and rights-of-way. The department is managed by Carol Collins who supervises a full-time staff of seven and provides oversight to dozens of program leaders, volunteers, seasonal and part-time employees.

QUESTION *When the Department of Leisure Services was created in 1987, its goal was to make each recreation program as self-sustaining as possible. What are the top ten program areas for which fees are received?*

REVENUES FOR THE TOP TEN PROGRAMS	
Pool Membership	\$98,743
OCC/Health Center Membership Dues	83,960
Sports Activities Fees	46,648
Dance Classes and Lessons	29,633
Pool Concessions	26,174
Old River Rentals	23,010
Smith Gardens	21,870
Tumbling, Gymnastics	19,230
Exercise, Fitness Programs	19,112
Swim Lessons, Pool Passes	14,329
Other Misc. Programs	74,936
TOTAL	\$457,645

QUESTION *The Department of Leisure Services also has responsibility for maintenance of the City's natural areas and boulevards. What is the value of publicly owned trees and what are the annual expenses to maintain and replace them?*

Total value of street/park trees	\$8,231,024
2004 expenses:	
Quadrant pruning	\$35,850
Removal and trimming	\$28,155
Stump removal	\$1,580
Fertilization	\$66
Johnny Appleseed (City portion)	\$6,349
TOTAL:	\$72,000
Average street tree value	\$1,210/tree
Average park tree value	\$1,380/tree

QUESTION *To what extent does the General Fund subsidize Leisure Services programs?*
The Leisure Services Department received \$495,000 in General Fund tax dollars in 2004 to help operate Leisure Services programs.

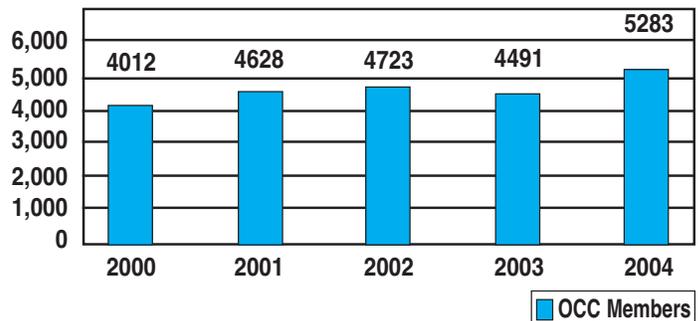
QUESTION *Memberships are an important financial ingredient of the Leisure Services operation. How many memberships did the Oakwood Community Center have during 2004 and how does this compare to the past four years?*

QUESTION *What are the major special community events and activities that are coordinated by the Department of Leisure Services?*

- Pictures with the Easter Bunny/Eggstravaganza
- Friends of Smith Gardens Perennial Sale
- Spring Health Fair
- New Resident Pancake Breakfast
- That Day in May
- Kite Nite at Old River Complex
- Blanket Concerts at Smith Gardens
- Pre-School Story Hour at Smith Gardens
- Family Fun Day at Old River Park
- Ice Cream Social
- Homecoming Hotdog Supper
- Senior Luncheons
- Johnny Appleseed Tree Planting Project
- Pumpkin Carving
- Scarecrow Row
- Candy Cane Hunt
- Letters from Santa
- Mother/Son and Father/Daughter Dances
- Breakfast with Santa
- Lighting up Oakwood/Holiday of Lights
- Holiday Decorating Event

OCC MEMBERSHIPS

Note: For family memberships, these numbers include all family members.



QUESTION *Is babysitting available while I exercise?*
Yes! For your convenience, Patricia Lawson will attend to your children Monday-Thursday for the morning exercise classes including Dancercise, Blitz and/or Circuit. Miss Pat plans fun activities for your child to do while you get fit. It's a win-win situation!

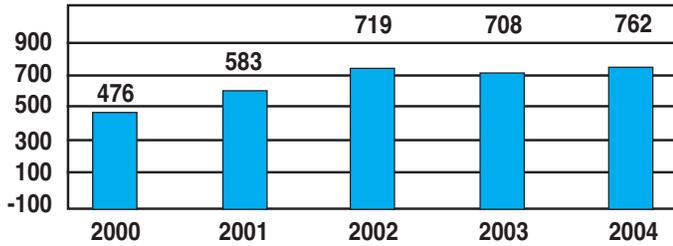


LEISURE SERVICES



HEALTH CENTER MEMBERSHIPS

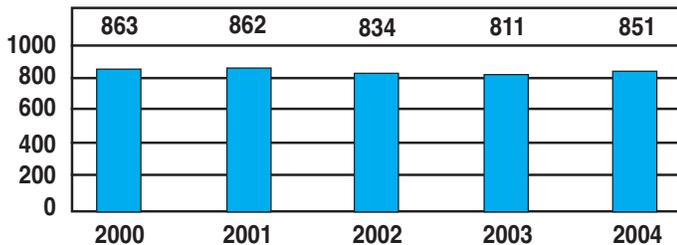
Note: There were 11,236 visits to the Health Center in 2004.



POOL MEMBERSHIPS

Note: There were an additional 3,161 daily passes purchased in 2004.

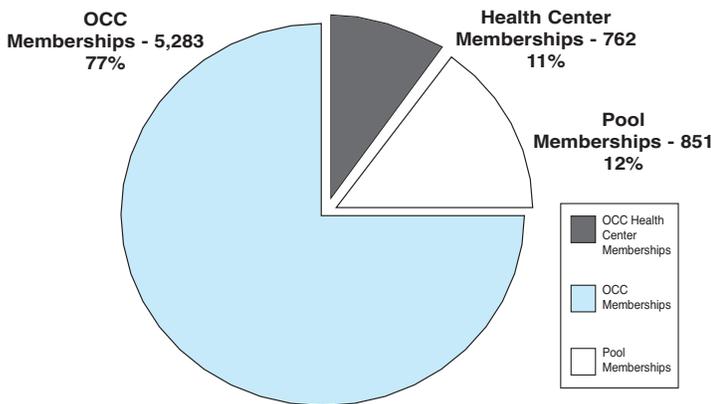
Total visits to the pool in 2004 were approximately 32,000.



QUESTION

For the year 2004, what percentage of memberships were OCC, Health Center and Pool?

2004 Memberships (total 6,896)



QUESTION

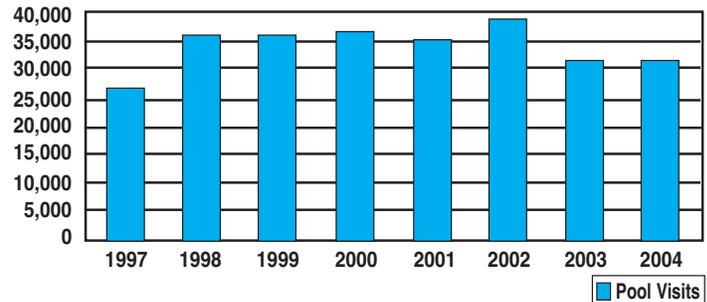
What are the benefits of purchasing an OCC Membership?

There are many benefits of purchasing an OCC Membership. By becoming a member, you are entitled to discounts on a Health Center Membership and the Gardner Pool Membership. It also entitles you to the lowest possible rate offered on all of the classes, sports programs and events the OCC sponsors. If you plan on taking classes, your membership will pay for itself in a short period of time. An OCC Membership is valid one year from date of purchase.

QUESTION

How many people swim at Gardner Pool every season and how many employees does it take to run the pool?

In 2004, there were 32,623 visits to the pool, which is a slight increase from 32,427 in 2003. That said, below normal temperatures throughout the 2004 season hampered pool attendance. Area pools were all feeling the effects of the weather as there were 50 days between June and September that were below 60°. The figures do not reflect swim lesson or swim team participants. The pool hires a Pool Manager, Assistant Manager, Head Lifeguard, nine full-time guards and 4 or 5 substitute guards. We hire a concession supervisor, 6 full-time concession workers and 4 or 5 substitutes. Three swim team coaches are employed for our summer team.



QUESTION

The City of Oakwood has leased the 22-acre Old River Sports Complex from NCR for ten years to use for recreational sports activities. What kinds of activities were held during the year and how many participants?

Activities begin in the spring and continue through the fall sports season. The City of Oakwood and Oakwood City Schools utilize the area for their sports activities and special events. The City of Oakwood uses the facility for kickball, T-ball, coach pitch, and Start Smart sports training program in the spring, and soccer in the fall. Special events sponsored by the City of Oakwood include Family Kite Nite in the spring and fall, as well as a Family Fun Day in the summer. We are certain these special events will continue to grow in popularity. The Oakwood City Schools also used Old River for their High School and Junior High School soccer programs in the summer and fall. In addition, the City leased the facility to non-city and school organizations. More than 50,000 people attended sports activities and special events that were held at that complex from April through October. The City and Schools share the cost of leasing the fields. In 2004, the cost was divided as follows:

- City: \$66,020.
- Schools: \$13,236.



LEISURE SERVICES



QUESTION

How many years has the City of Oakwood been a Tree City USA and what is the significance of this program?

The City of Oakwood has been a Tree City USA for 23 consecutive years and was one of the first communities in the Miami Valley to receive this national award by the National Arbor Day Foundation. Oakwood meets four major criteria each year to qualify for this national award. They are as follows:

- A city department is designated and responsible for tree maintenance.
- The city's forestry program must have an annual budget of \$2 per capita.
- The city must have in place a tree ordinance.
- The city must sponsor an Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation.

QUESTION

How many trees have been planted through the Johnny Appleseed Street Tree Planting program?

In 26 consecutive years, a total of 2,233 trees have been planted through this project at a total cost of \$245,953. The program is offered to homeowners each year and includes a 50% discount to homeowners as long as the trees are planted in the right-of-way. In 2004, the homeowners cost ranged from \$71.50 to \$79.50 for a 2" diameter tree.

QUESTION

Are there rooms available to rent at the OCC for meetings or parties?

There are three rooms available to rent: The Great Room, the Teen Center and the Large Classroom. We also have Birthday Party Planning which allows you to host a hassle-free party for your child. The OCC has contracted with Megan Trout and Tracy Cunningham

QUESTION

What new programs were offered in 2004?

The vitality of the Department of Leisure Services is very important to the community. During the year, the Oakwood Community Center staff added 15 new programs to their schedule to encourage and increase participation. Some of the added programs were:

- The Community Safety Seminar-"How can my family be better prepared?"
- Web Wise Seniors computer classes.
- Open Singles Tennis League.
- ABC Art, Music and Me.
- Pee Wee Cheer.
- Ballet/Pointe Intensive Camp.

QUESTION

What type of fitness classes are available at the OCC?

We realize that everyone has busy lives, but exercise, health and fitness should be an important part of it! So, together with our fitness instructors, we have developed a diverse selection of exercise classes to fit into your schedule and that will suit your individual fitness level and goals. Classes are available in the mornings and the evenings, and you can register for the whole session or buy class passes to attend on a drop-in basis. No more excuses!

COMMENTS AND FUTURE GOALS

Customer Service

- In order to make registering for a class a little easier, the Department of Leisure Services created OCC membership cards for each of its members. The card has a unique family identification number which allows us to access your household information without filling out the same information on the top of the registration form every time you register for a class. We also made a convenient key chain card for each member.
- The OCC continually strives to keep residents up-to-date on all the activities, programs and events taking place in our community. We realize everyone is busy with the day-to-day events of life, so we e-mail out a monthly Community Update to remind everyone of upcoming events, registration deadlines and program information. This service has been very well received. Please call 298-0775 to have yourself added to the e-mail distribution list.
- The OCC sponsors a Senior Luncheon in the Spring and in December every year to honor our senior residents. The staff of the OCC enjoys putting on these very special events. For the December luncheon, the seniors were entertained by

a trio of musicians from Oakwood High School.

Quadrant Tree Trimming Program

The City of Oakwood takes great pride in its beautiful tree-lined streets. Many of the trees in the tree lawn areas needed to be trimmed to meet height requirements and codes. The City has contracted with American Forestry Service to provide this tree trimming service at no cost to residents. Letters of notification are sent to each household prior to trimming.

Oakwood Community Center Building Improvements

In 2004, the Department of Leisure Services made significant improvements to update the interior of the Community Center. Those improvements included the removal of the wall-paper in the lobby which was replaced by a beautiful painting technique and a whimsical picture of kids at play replaces a bare wall in the stairwell.

New Resident Breakfast

The City of Oakwood held a new resident family pancake breakfast on Saturday, May 1st, 2004 to welcome new residents who moved into the community. There were over 150 people who attended this community event.



ENGINEERING & PUBLIC WORKS



The Engineering and Public Works Department responsibilities include:

ENGINEERING: To provide quality professional engineering and surveying oversight to management, operation and improvement of Oakwood's infrastructure. This includes development of short-term and long-range capital improvement plans and implementing an annual capital improvement program. Services include project budgeting, design, preparation of construction plans and contract documents, and construction engineering and inspection.

PUBLIC WORKS: To provide the following public services:

Refuse Program - Includes weekly household waste collection and disposal, a recycling program, a bulk pickup program and year around yard debris pickup. Also includes fall leaf pickup and a spring mulch

delivery program.

Roadway Maintenance - Includes routine repair of asphalt and concrete streets and alleys, maintenance of sidewalks and other structures within the public rights-of-way, mowing and trimming of public areas, snow and ice control, and maintenance of the City's traffic control systems including traffic signals and street signs.

Utilities - Includes operating and maintaining the City's water production and treatment facilities and the water distribution system, including fire hydrants. Also includes sanitary sewer line cleaning and repair, and storm sewer maintenance.

Kevin Weaver is Director of this Department. The department includes an assistant director, two foremen, a water production superintendent, an engineering technician, department secretary, and 28 public works employees.



We approved Energy Aggregation in Nov. 2003. What is the City doing with this program?

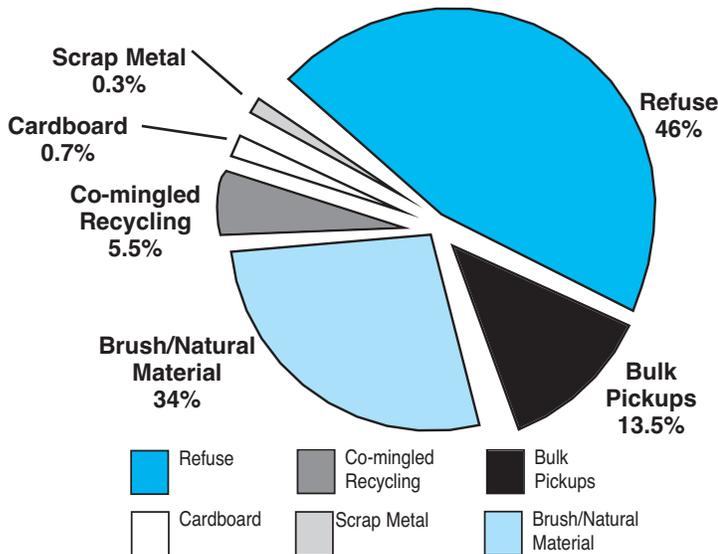
On November 4, 2003, Oakwood voters approved Opt-Out Energy Aggregation with an 81% yes vote. This empowered the City of Oakwood to establish contracts with utility companies for supplying the City with electricity and natural gas. The City is a member of the Miami Valley Communications Council (MVCC) and has participated with that group to see if there are opportunities for Oakwood citizens and businesses to save money on utility costs. MVCC is a council of governments including the cities of Kettering, Centerville,

Moraine, West Carrollton, Miamisburg, Springboro, Germantown and Oakwood. By participating with these other local governments, Oakwood will be part of a larger purchasing group which increases the opportunities for cost savings. To date, we have not found contracts that offer a guaranteed savings to our citizens and businesses. However, we will continue to check the market from time to time and will make public notices if and when we find a cost-savings contract.

Presently, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio ("PUCO") is still regulating what DP&L and Vectren can charge for supplying electricity and natural gas. With this government oversight still in place, we have a level of protection from being overcharged.

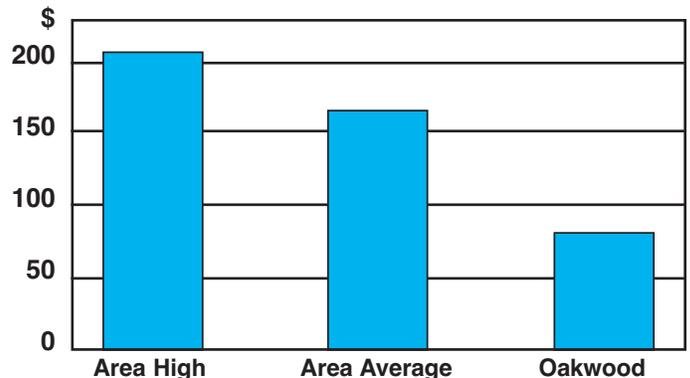


Weekly refuse collection is one of the primary components of the Public Works Department's service delivery program. What is the mix of our refuse?



I know that we have a comprehensive refuse collection program. What are the primary services we provide and how do our costs compare to other communities?

We do have a very comprehensive refuse collection program – in fact it is the most comprehensive in the Miami Valley. Our program includes weekly backdoor household refuse and recycling collection, year around bi-weekly yard debris collection, dumpster service, and special pickup service for appliances, furniture and almost any other household items. Our refuse rates are amongst the lowest in the area. The chart below shows a comparison of our rates to the rates of several of our neighbors including Kettering, Centerville, West Carrollton, Miamisburg, Springboro and Germantown.





Each week refuse, recycling and bulk pickup crews make over 3,200 residential pickups, which translates to over 166,000 pickups for the year. With all these stops, how many times last year did service crews actually miss scheduled pickups?

	Misses for the year
Refuse and Co-Mingled Recycling	386 (Less than 1% of total pick-ups)

COMMENT: In 2004, we had 1,436 reports of inaccessible trash. These reflect individual reports from our service crews where they could not make pickups due to locked garages, cars in the driveway, locked driveway gates, loose dogs, etc.



Another important task of the Public Works Department is to make sure Oakwood streets are free of ice and snow. One way to measure this effort, and perhaps the severity of our winters, is to track the tons of salt and overtime used in any one year. What does the data show?

	2001	2002	2003	2004
Tons of Salt	1,507	636	2112	1021
Overtime	1,230 hrs	287 hrs	1275 hrs	784 hrs



Part of the city's snow removal operation is the practice of plowing the 5-foot wide sidewalks if there is more than one inch of accumulation. How long has the City provided this service?

The City has plowed sidewalks since 1966, after the completion of major roadway widening improvements to Far Hills Avenue. This plowing is a starting point for ensuring safe walks, but the residents are ultimately responsible for the condition of their own sidewalks.



Where does the City get its water?

We produce almost all of our own water. We have eight water production wells and three water treatment plants. In total, we produced 99.93% of our own water in 2004. This is up 1.4% over 2003. The

remaining 0.07% was purchased from the City of Dayton. The city's total water use over the past five years looks like this.

Water use	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
In million gallons	438	427	439	480	407



What is the value of the City's infrastructure?

The infrastructure is valued at over \$100 million and consists of:

- Eight water production wells and three water treatment plants.
- A 1.5 million gallon water storage tower and a water distribution system including 44 miles of underground water main pipes and 339 fire hydrants.
- 39 miles of underground sanitary sewer pipes.
- 25 miles of underground storm sewer pipes.
- 51 miles of roadways and alleys, and 46 miles of sidewalks.
- 14 signalized traffic intersections.



What major infrastructure projects were undertaken in 2004 and what did they cost?

Project	Cost
Curb, Sidewalk and Apron Repair	\$114,000
Business District Timber Wall Repairs	\$77,000
Far Hills Streetscape Project	\$600,000
Annual Pavement Marking Program	\$16,000
Asphalt Micro-Surfacing Program	\$155,000
Water Meter Replacement and AMR Project*	\$847,000

*Most of the water meter replacement work is being done in 2005 but was paid for out of the 2004 budget.



QUESTION

The City has a five-year capital improvement program, which essentially represents a list of projects tentatively planned for upcoming years. What are some street maintenance and repair projects and anticipated costs?

Street Maintenance & Repair Infrastructure Improvements 5 - Year Program

Funding	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	5-Year Program
Annual Asphalt Pavement Program	300,000	400,000	300,000	300,000	200,000	1,500,00
Pavement Marking Program	20,000	30,000	20,000	20,000	30,000	120,000
Decorative Street Sign Posts Installation			50,000	50,000	50,000	150,000
Oakwood Avenue Safety Improvements			266,000*			266,000
Bi-Annual Concrete Street Repair		160,000		160,000		320,000
Sidewalk, Curb and Apron Program	80,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	125,000	580,000
Sweetwood Roadway Reconstruction			160,000			160,000
Woods & Thurston Roadway Reconstruction				300,000		300,000
Runnymede Roadway Reconstruction					700,000	700,000
Total Street Maintenance and Reconstruction	400,000	715,000	921,000	955,000	1,105,000	4,096,000

*Re-applying for \$200,000 grant from State Issue 2

QUESTION

I've read about Phase 2 Storm Water requirements with which the City of Oakwood must comply. What are these and what can residents do to help?

In 2003, the City of Oakwood was required to submit a Storm Water Management Program ("SWMP") to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA). The SWMP is a plan for accomplishing specific goals over the next five years to limit pollution that enters the region's streams and rivers from within the City of Oakwood. The Miami Conservancy District (MCD) is working as a partner with many of the jurisdictions in the Dayton area to help minimize the cost and disruption to operations within the surrounding communities. They have taken on the majority of the public awareness and education campaigns.

Some of the tasks that the City is or will be undertaking to meet these requirements include: 1) continuing street sweeping operations on a

regular basis to keep material out of the storm sewer; 2) dry weather screening of manholes to help identify and eliminate illicit connections; 3) mapping of the city's outfalls to rivers and streams; 4) controlling construction runoff; 5) modifying internal day to day practices to help limit pollution; 6) submitting an annual report on the year's activities to the OEPA.

Citizens in the community can do some simple things to help prevent pollution to our rivers and streams. Please clean up after your pets because the bacteria from their waste is very dangerous to animals in the streams. Please do not put oil into the storm or sanitary sewers – one quart of oil can pollute 100,000 gallons of water. Please keep plant material (except for leaves during the 10-week collection period in the fall) out of the street as it will be washed into the storm sewers and eventually into the streams.

COMMENTS AND FUTURE GOALS

Water Production: In the spring of 2004 we completed and brought into service Well 8. This production well has decreased our dependence on City of Dayton water during peak demand periods. This well will also allow staff to service equipment on the other wells as needed without purchasing water.

Resurface Fairmont Avenue: Fairmont Avenue will be reconstructed from Dorothy Lane to Alpine Lane. Goals for this project are to provide structurally sound pavement and to install new curbing from Dorothy Lane to Oak Knoll Drive. The new curbing will improve storm water runoff and will better control on-street parking. If the project budget allows, the project will also include the addition of curbs on Oak Knoll Drive between Ridgeway Road and Fairmont Avenue.

WATER Service Meter And Reading Transmitter (WATERSMART) Program: We first began discussing this project in 1998. The average age of the water meters in the community is roughly 26 years and most are older than 20 years, which is the normal expected useful life of a meter. As meters get old they tend to be less accurate and in most cases record less than actual usage. Under the program, we will replace almost all of our meters. This will allow us to obtain accurate water usage readings. We will also add radio transmitters to all meters. These transmitters

will allow us to automatically obtain meter readings. Gone will be the days when a city employee visits every home quarterly to read the meter. In addition to improving water meter reading and billing efficiency, the WATERSMART Program will accomplish two other significant objectives:

1. To reduce the incidence of customer water problems by catching leaks as early as possible. By reading meters daily, a capability of the new system, abnormal usage can be flagged so that leaks and other water flow issues can be investigated before they become large and costly problems for Oakwood citizens.

2. To ensure that all water customers are paying the appropriate amount for the water they use. This will be accomplished by having meters of consistent age and accuracy.

City staff will complete the work on meters smaller than 2". Work on large water meters (2" and over) will be completed by the project contractor, EJ Prescott. In most cases, the work should only take approximately 45 minutes. Once completed, the WATERSMART Program will mark a significant improvement to our water distribution system infrastructure. Any questions about the project should be directed to Kevin Weaver, Director of Engineering and Public Works, or Mike Wenclewicz, Assistant Director, at the Public Works Center at 298-0777.



FINANCE



Our Finance Department provides fiscal oversight to seven broad fund classifications, and manages income tax collection, payroll, water, sewer and refuse billing, accounts receivable, accounts payable, meter reading and the City's Management Information System ("MIS").

The Finance Department is managed by Brad Beachdell and consists of seven employees. Six are full-time and one is part-time. In concert with the city manager's office, the Finance Department prepares the annual budget and monitors all city expenditures.

QUESTION

How is our City budget organized?

Our budget document is organized into seven different fund classifications as follows: General Fund; Special Revenue Funds; Capital Improvement Fund; Internal Service Funds; Trust & Agency Funds; Enterprise Funds and Debt Service Fund.

The first five (General, Special Revenue, Capital Improvement, Internal Service and Trust & Agency) cover all of our City operations except the water and sewer utilities. We refer to these five as "Non-Enterprise Funds". The sixth (Enterprise) covers all operations relating to our water and sewer utilities. The seventh (Debt Service) accounts for any long-term bond debt. We are pleased to report that the City currently has no long-term bond debt.

QUESTION

How are the Non-Enterprise Funds different than the Water and Sewer Enterprise Funds?

The Non-Enterprise Funds are those that receive general tax revenues which are used to fund public services, or general government related activities, including police, fire, emergency medical services, street and park maintenance, recreation programs, etc. The Water and Sewer Funds receive revenue from water and sewer billing and must be used exclusively for the operation of our water and sewer utilities. Additionally, the Water and Sewer Funds must be maintained separate from each other. Accordingly, think of them as three separate budgets – in effect, three separate companies.

Company A – Non-Enterprise Funds (Public Services)

Company B – Water Utility

Company C – Sewer Utility

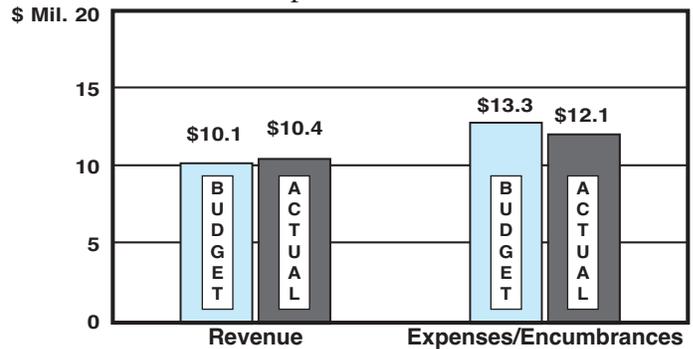
From a budgetary standpoint, each of these three companies are operated as separate and unique organizations. All of the costs involved in producing, treating, storing, distributing and billing for our public water are paid for by our residents and businesses who use the water. This is accomplished through our quarterly water billing system. Likewise, all of the costs involved in operating and maintaining our sanitary sewer system and the costs we pay to Dayton and Montgomery County for the treatment of our wastewater are paid for by the residents and businesses who use our sanitary sewer system. This too is accomplished through our quarterly sewer billing system. None of our general tax dollars (e.g., income tax, property tax, estate tax) are used to pay for any costs relating to the water and sewer utilities. Rather, 100% of the general tax dollars are used to pay for the other public services (e.g. police, fire, emergency medical services, street maintenance, parks and recreation) offered by the City.

QUESTION

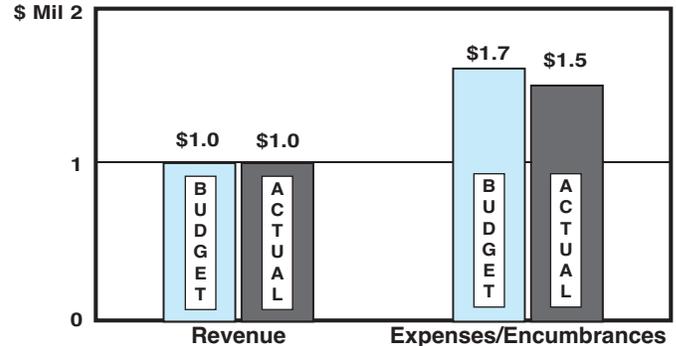
How did our revenues and expenses in 2004 compare to what we had budgeted?

The bar graphs below show that we ended the year in pretty good shape.

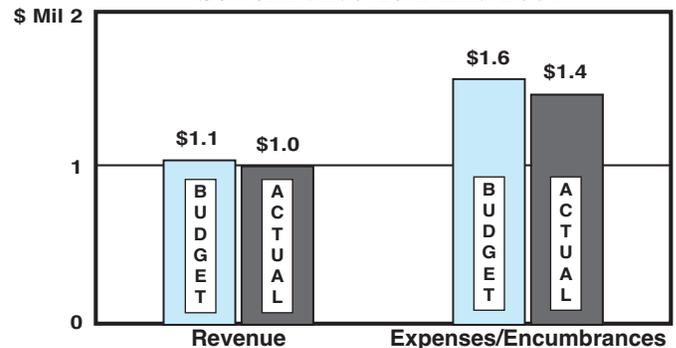
Revenue vs. Expenses
Non-Enterprise Funds Year-End 2004



Revenue vs. Expenses
Water Funds Year-End 2004



Revenue vs. Expenses
Sewer Funds Year-End 2004



Note: The three bar charts above reflect actual cash received and spent for the fiscal (calendar) year. It does not include money transferred between funds, money spent that had been encumbered (or committed) from a prior year's budget, or money borrowed or spent to pay off short-term debt.



What is the City's annual budget?

Shown below are the 2005 budget figures.

NON-ENTERPRISE FUNDS PUBLIC SERVICES - (COMPANY A)

Fund Classification	Actual Balance 01/01/05	Estimated Revenue	Estimated Expenditures	Estimated Balance 12/31/05
Non-Enterprise Funds	12,338,714	10,524,815*	11,706,336*	11,157,193

*These figures do not include \$2,850,000 borrowed and paid in accordance with the debt management plan on our public facilities projects.

WATER UTILITY - (COMPANY B)

Fund Classification	Actual Balance 01/01/05	Estimated Revenue	Estimated Expenditures	Estimated Balance 12/31/05
Water Funds	650,571	1,218,140	962,095	906,616

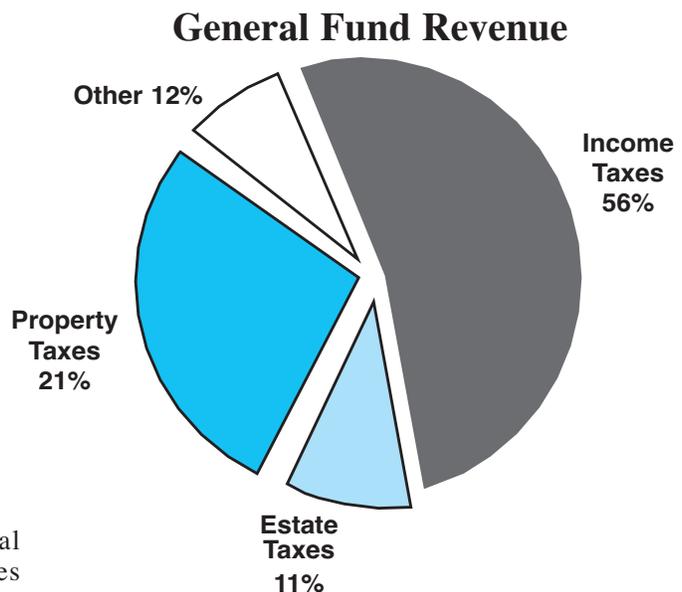
SEWER UTILITY - (COMPANY C)

Fund Classification	Actual Balance 01/01/05	Estimated Revenue	Estimated Expenditures	Estimated Balance 12/31/05
Sewer Funds	377,647	1,248,550	1,559,009	67,188



What percentage of the City's 2004 General Fund revenue was generated by income taxes, property taxes, and estate taxes?

Income Taxes	Property Taxes	Estate Taxes	Other*	Total
\$4,699,741	\$1,734,480	\$939,650	\$1,017,275	\$8,391,146



*Note: "Other" includes items such as Local Government Fund Monies, Other Miscellaneous Taxes (e.g., Liquor, Cigarettes), and Fines and Forfeitures.



Who receives my residential property tax dollars?

The amount you pay in property taxes is a function of the assessed value of your property and the property tax millage for our City. Our current total effective millage is 75.25.

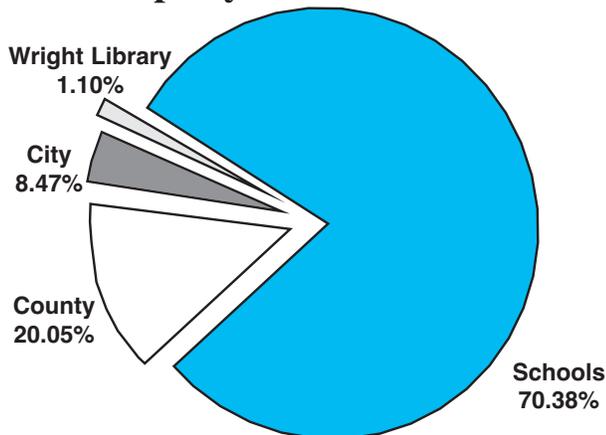
That total effective millage is divided among four organizations as shown below:

	Mills
Oakwood City Schools	52.96
Montgomery County *	15.09
City of Oakwood	6.37
Wright Memorial Public Library	0.83
	75.25

*This includes money that goes to support the Montgomery County governmental operations and also includes money supporting Sinclair Community College and the County Human Services Programs (e.g., ADAMHS Board for Montgomery County, Montgomery County Children Services, Montgomery County Combined Health District, Montgomery County Board of MR/DD, etc.).

Based on these millages, your property tax dollars are distributed as follows:

Property Tax Dollar Allocation



How are my property taxes calculated?

Here is the formula for an owner-occupied single-family property:

$$\frac{\text{Assessed Value of your property}}{1000} \times 0.35 \times \text{millage} \times 0.875 = \text{Annual Property Tax}$$

So, if your property is assessed at a value of \$200,000 your annual property tax would be calculated as follows:

$$\frac{\$200,000 \times 0.35 \times 75.25 \times 0.875}{1000} = \$4,609$$

Based on the percentages shown above, your property tax dollars would be distributed as follows:

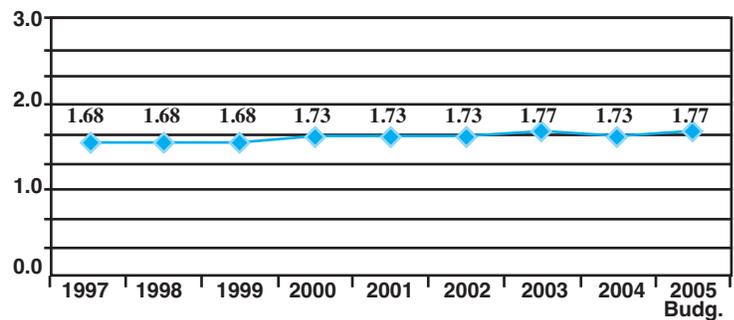
Oakwood City Schools	\$3,244
Montgomery County	\$ 924
City of Oakwood	\$ 390
Wright Library	\$ 51
	\$4,609



Has the total amount of property, income and estate taxes that goes to the City changed much in recent years?

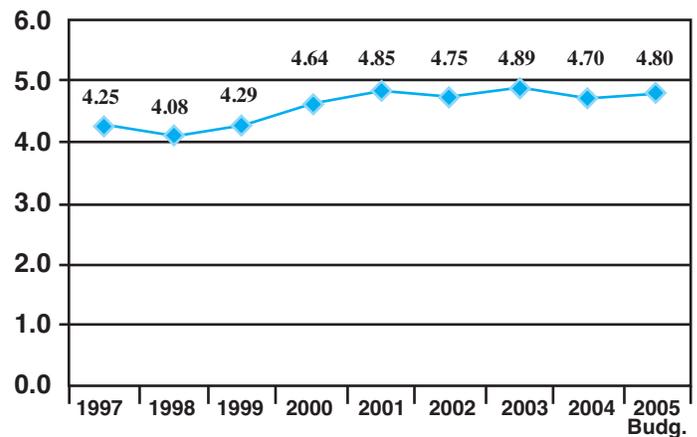
Not much. Below is the history since 1997.

PROPERTY TAX (\$ Million Dollars)



- Property revaluation occurs every six years.
- 2002 revaluation resulted in increased revenue in 2003 from 3.58 Inside Millage.
- The city has not asked property owners for an increase in property taxes for city services since November, 1991.

INCOME TAX (\$ Million Dollars)

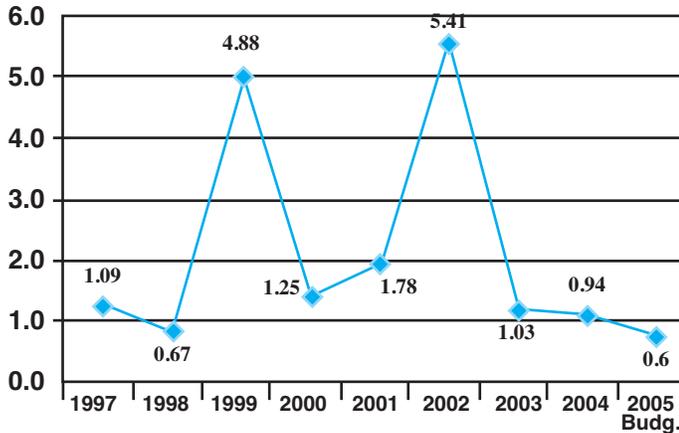


- Our income tax revenue, increased annually from 1998 through 2001, but has not increased in the past three years. This is an area of concern.



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ESTATE TAX (\$ Million Dollars)



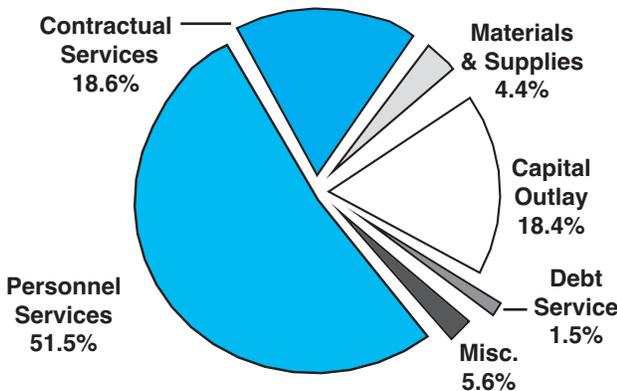
• As you can see from the graph above, annual estate tax revenue can vary dramatically from year to year. The spikes in 1999 and 2002 are very unusual, in fact, unprecedented. They are the result of a single, very large estate. Not including the estate tax revenue from that estate, our 10-year annual average estate tax receipt is \$1,072,900.



What are the different categories of expenditures incurred by the City, and what percentage of the total was expended in each category for 2004?

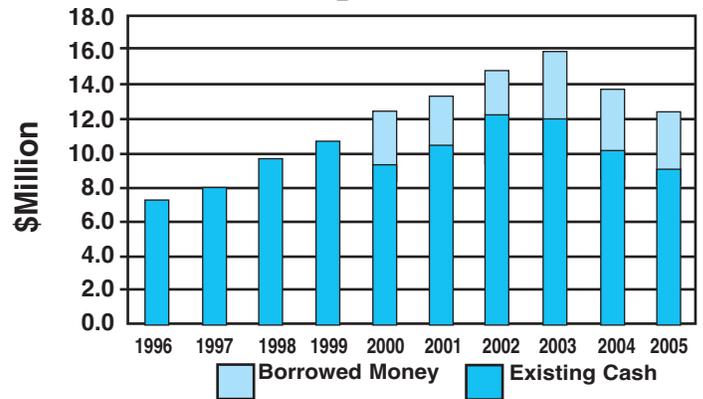
Expenditures	Actual 2004	% Of Total
Personnel Services	7,707,186	51.5%
Contractual Services	2,790,325	18.6%
Materials and Supplies	658,674	4.4%
Capital Outlay	2,760,080	18.4%
Debt Service	219,987	1.5%
Miscellaneous	839,774	5.6%
Total	14,976,026	100%

City of Oakwood 2004 Expenditures by Category

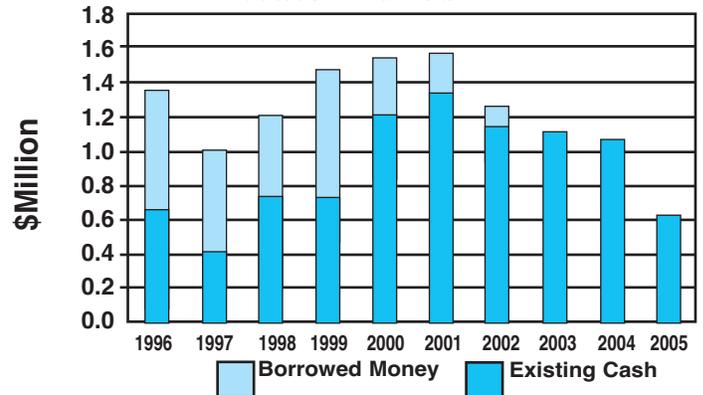


I know that the City has cash reserves that can be used during times when annual expenses exceed annual revenues. What is the 10-year history of our beginning year cash balances?

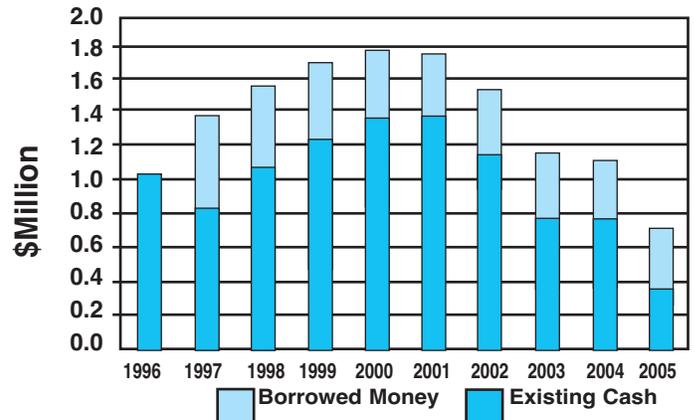
Beginning Year Cash Balances Non-Enterprise Funds



Beginning Year Cash Balances Water Funds



Beginning Year Cash Balances Sewer Funds





QUESTION

Does Oakwood invest the money it holds in reserves?

Yes, most of it. We keep all dollars not immediately required for cash flow safely invested. All investments are guided by an investment advisor and are overseen by the City Manager and Finance Director. Our investment protocol is governed by City ordinances which encompass a philosophy of protecting principal first and maximizing value next. As of December 31, 2004 the City of Oakwood had \$12,585,000 invested at an average rate of return of 3.01%. In 2004, our total investment income was \$598,528.

QUESTION

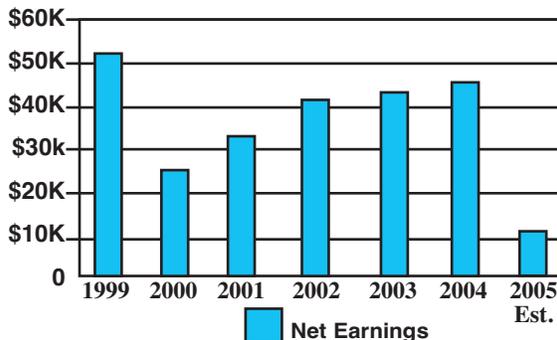
How do the City's revenues and expenditures compare on a month-to-month basis? Do we have debt?

Revenues are generally higher during income tax season. This is typically reflected by a revenue spike in March and April.

Both revenues and expenditures are typically higher in March, because that is the time when we pay off our short-term debt and borrow new money for the current year. At the close of 2004, we held \$3.2 million in debt for the public facilities projects – the Public Works Center and Administration/Safety Building. Each March, we pay down this debt in the amount of \$350,000. Although we have the cash reserves to pay off the entire general fund debt, we are earning higher interest on our investments than we are paying on the public facilities debt and have therefore chosen to pay the debt off slowly.

QUESTION

How much additional revenue have we earned by investing our cash balances as opposed to paying off the debt?



Note: The significant drop from 2004 to the estimated for 2005 results from the fact that the rate of return on our investments this year is expected to be much closer to the interest rate on our borrowed money. We borrowed money this year at a rate of 2.57%. Last year we borrowed at an unusually low rate of 1.25%.

QUESTION

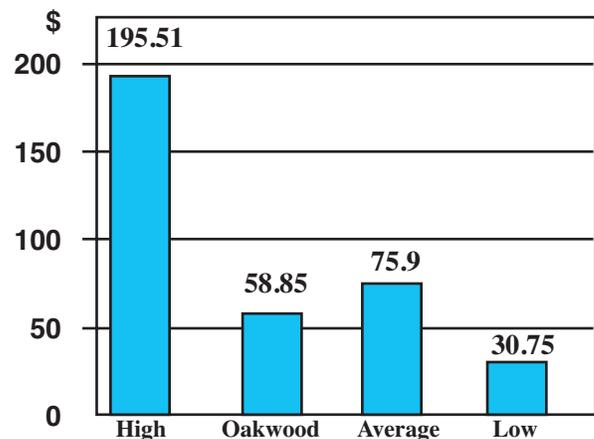
How do our water and sewer rates compare to rates in other cities and villages?

As shown below, our rates in 2004 were lower than the average for the region for both water and sewer. We are able to provide water and sewer service to our citizens and businesses at a cost lower than a majority of the other purveyors in the Miami Valley.

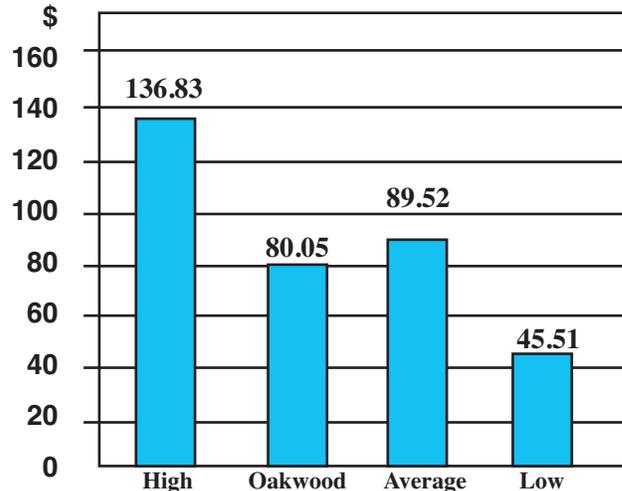
Current Area Rate Comparison

(Based on 22,500 gallons or 3,000 cubic feet of usage over a three month period)

Water — 18th lowest of 70 communities



Sewer — 28th lowest of 65 communities



COMMENTS AND FUTURE GOALS

Develop New Budget Strategy: The City has not raised taxes since 1991 and many of the fees for services have not increased in 10 years. Several large annual estate tax receipts have allowed us to operate for many years without raising taxes or

user fees. However, times have changed. Over the past two years, we have needed to use cash reserves to balance the budget. We must now develop a new budget strategy to address the growing gap between revenues and expenses.



MUNICIPAL COURT



The Oakwood Municipal Court was established on January 1, 1934. Its authority is derived from section 1901.01 of the Ohio Revised Code and its territorial jurisdiction coincides with the corporate limits of the City of Oakwood. The court's mission is to provide high quality and courteous services to the litigating public. It is charged with deciding cases fairly and will impose appropriate sentences in

criminal/traffic cases.

Judge Robert Deddens is serving his third 6-year elected term as Municipal Judge. His responsibilities as Judge include appointing and supervising a full-time Clerk of Courts, who in turn supervises the part-time Clerk and one full-time Clerk. A part-time Bailiff is employed to serve subpoenas and eviction notices, and to immobilize vehicles.



What is the authority of our municipal court?

Like all municipal courts, our court has authority to conduct preliminary hearings in felony cases and has jurisdiction over traffic and non-traffic misdemeanors. The court also has limited jurisdiction in handling civil cases in which the amount of money in dispute does not exceed \$15,000 and in handling small claim cases in which the amount of money in dispute does not exceed \$3,000.



What are the court hours of operation?

The court is open to the public Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Non-jury, criminal and traffic proceedings convene at 8:30 a.m. on Thursdays of each week. Jury trials are scheduled every other month throughout the year as needed. In addition, the judge is on call for the purpose of conducting criminal arraignments when called upon to do so by public safety officers. Civil proceedings commence at 1:30 p.m. on Thursdays of each week.



What is the process used by the court in dealing with serious criminal and traffic cases?

When a person is arrested and charged with committing a serious crime or a serious traffic offense, the police officer notifies the court, which immediately schedules an arraignment to set bail. Arraignments are held anytime day or night, on short notice. The judge meets with the officer and defendant promptly after the arrest. This reduces police time and the cost of housing and monitoring prisoners. It also ensures the prisoner is not unnecessarily jailed pending trial. Prisoners who do not make bail are transported to the county jail.



Does Oakwood have a jail?

Yes, and it includes two cells. However, our jail is classified as a Temporary Holding Facility ("THF") meaning that we may only incarcerate a prisoner for a maximum period of six hours. Given the availability and close proximity of the County jail, this THF meets our needs.



When a person pays a traffic citation, how much of the fine and court costs go to the State and how much goes to the City and County?

	Court Costs	Criminal Traffic/Fines	Seat Belt Fines	Court Cost Seat Belts
(Court Costs are currently \$74.00)				
State	32.5%	-0%	100%	32.5%
County	0%	25%	0%	0%
City	67.5%	75%	0%	67.5%

NOTES: The \$24 court cost going to the State is sent to Columbus for the Innocent Victims of Crime Fund and the Public Defender Fund. Fines for violation of State codes are paid to the County Treasurer while fines for violation of Oakwood ordinances are paid to the City.



What are some of the jury duty requirements?

Senate Bill 71, signed by the Governor on February 15, 2005, becomes effective May 18, 2005. This new law modifies the circumstances under which a prospective juror may be excused. The circumstances include:

- A physical or mental condition which must be supported by a physician's documentation.
- If a person can demonstrate that jury service would cause "extreme undue physical or financial hardship."
- The person is over 75 years of age and would like to be excused.

A person may be permanently excused if the judge determines that the underlying grounds for being excused are of a permanent nature.

The Bill also:

- Increases the minimum fine for failure to appear for jury service from \$25 to \$100.
- Prohibits employers from taking disciplinary action that could lead to the discharge of any permanent employee as a result of being summoned to serve as a juror, and
- Prohibits employers from requiring employees to use vacation or sick leave for time spent on jury duty.



Do we have jury trials in Oakwood?

Yes. When a defendant requests a jury trial, the Clerk of Court on behalf of the Court summons 60 residents from the City of Oakwood to report as prospective jurors. From those who report, eight jurors and one alternate are selected for the actual trial. No jury trial in the last 15 years has lasted more than one day. Jury trials are typically scheduled on Fridays. Jury trials are not permitted for minor misdemeanors (such as a speeding ticket) when jail is not a possible sentence.

City of Oakwood Vision Statement

It is City Council's vision of the City of Oakwood to continue its heritage as a premiere residential community:

Where citizens know and respect one another.

Where principal emphasis is placed on neighborhood, schools, responsive city services and parks.

Where citizens contribute to and benefit from strong, responsible stewardship of community resources.

Where a responsible citizenry helps establish and follows community standards that preserve the quality of individual and community property.

Where residents feel comfortable and secure in their homes and as they move about the community.

Where education is a vital community tradition.

Where viable business and professional enterprises are clearly compatible with residential living and not in conflict with the residential integrity of the community.

Where citizen participation is valued and encouraged to give definition to the high expectations of the community and its residents.

Where Oakwood benefits from the involvement of its residents and employees in a variety of regional, business, cultural and governmental activities.