



# June 27, 2023

# **MAYOR'S UPDATE**

## Coming up in Bexley:

June 27, 4:00 - 7:00 pm:	Farmer's Market (also on July 6, 13, 20, 27 and August 6)
June 29, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm:	Bike Friendly Bexley Meeting
July 1, 9:00 - 11:00 am:	Bexley Re:Cycle Bikes Open Workshop (also on August 5)
July 4, 8:00 am - 10:30 pm:	Independence Day Activities!
July 4, 8:00 am:	8:00 am: 5K Race / 9:30 am: Parade / 6:00 pm: Evening Activities / 10:00 pm Fireworks
July 10, 5:30 pm:	Bexley Historical Society Meeting
July 10, 6:00 pm:	Community Improvement Corporation
July 10, 6:30 pm:	Land Use Strategy 2.0 Meeting
July 13, 6:00 pm:	Architectural Review Board
July 18, 5:30 pm:	Board of Health Meeting
July 18, 6:00 pm:	Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee
July 27, 6:00 pm:	Board of Zoning Appeals and Planning
July 30, 5:00 pm:	Jazz in the Park with Sydney McSweeney
August 2, 5:30 pm:	Recreation Board
August 8, 6:00 pm:	City Council Meeting

## Some of What I've Been Up To:

- Routine staff and cabinet touch-base meetings
- Onboarding and work with interns
- Hosted MOA Consulting Session
- Alum Creek Pedestrian Bridge Site Walk
- ESID Agenda review meeting
- City Podcast planning
- Meeting on Tree Plotter
- Planning and presenting at Juneteenth event
- Work day with Bloomers on Jeffrey Park
- Planning, graphic design, and meetings for 4th parade and evening activities
- Meetings with Board/Commission applicants
- Meetings with potential developers
- Attended Pedal for Pancakes fundraiser
- Planned and facilitated Dog Park Grand Opening
- Meetings and follow up on Strategic Plan
- Planning for next steps on One Bexley project
- OEC Strategic Planning meeting and follow up
- Respond and follow up on multiple resident concerns
- Edits and content development for newsletter
- Website review and corrections/updates
- MORPC Sustainability Advisory Committee
- Hosted Bexley Trail Towns Tour
- Met with DARN
- Work on MOU regarding East Main Street gas station property
- Extensive planning and work on YOTP
- Meeting on Into the Woods Festival
- Eastside Regional Cooperation Mayors Meeting
- Ferndale Mayfield Brainstorming Meeting
- OEC Group Org Assessment Meeting
- Eastside Marching Band meeting
- Front Yards Study Group Meeting

Keep in touch! To sign up for weekly email updates from the City of Bexley, including information on community events and timely notifications and reminders, visit: [www.bexley.org/blast](http://www.bexley.org/blast)



## Year of the Parks Update

### Meetings and Progress Over Past Couple Weeks:

- Dog Park Grand Opening
- Stone columns, including plaques, at Main Street trailhead for Schneider Park are complete
- Commonwealth Pond work continues - liner installation is complete and stone installation is in progress
- Contract is signed for construction drawings for Commonwealth Plaza
- Foosball table is now here and has been well received by campers!



### Meetings and Progress Over Past Couple Weeks:

- Will be going out for quotes on Schneider Park Landscape and staircase and birch walk
- Still finalizing contract with skate park designer
- Splashpad installation wrapping up - Grand Opening discussion!

## HR Coordinator Job Posting

After an internal posting period, the HR Coordinator position has been posted on Indeed. More updates will be forthcoming!

## Chelsea Main Street Gas Station Update

This month, we entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the property owner of the site of the Chelsea and Main gas station site. The owner has removed the vertical sign and has agreed to pursue a clean-up grant through the State of Ohio and we will partner with him as a sponsoring agency. The City will be removing the curb cut on East Main Street and the property owner has agreed to make the site available for redevelopment upon completion of the cleanup. Provided that the property owner meets all of their obligations including making the site available for redevelopment, we have agreed to support a request to forgive the environmental impact assessment.

## Drexel Traffic Calming Construction Update

Work continues on the South Drexel Avenue traffic calming plan with curb bumpouts and island installation progressing. The island landscaping has been approved by the Tree and Public Garden Commission and will include Japanese cherry trees and winter creeper as ground cover. Road identification endcaps will be included in the southernmost and northernmost medians as well.

## Summer Newsletter

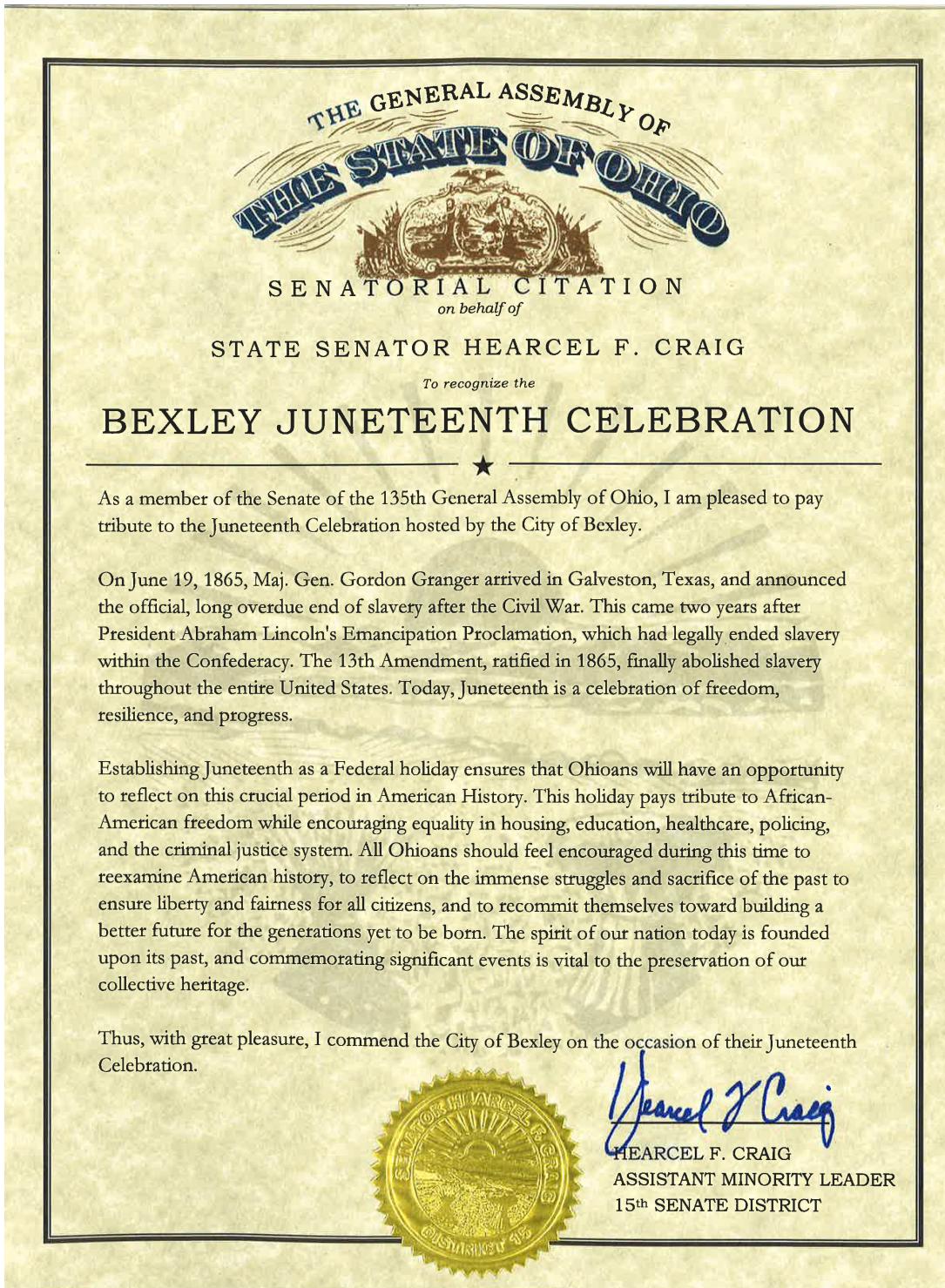
The Summer newsletter is being finalized and will be mailed this week. A draft copy is attached!

## Splash Pad Grand Opening

The Splash Pad installation is nearing completion and it's time to talk Grand Opening dates!

## Juneteenth Community Cookout

This year's Juneteenth event was one that will stay with me for many years. After a last-minute move to the library due to a forecast of rain, we anticipated the possibility of lower attendance. What happened next was an event that surprised and moved us all. Hundreds of people from all around Central Ohio arrived to share wonderful food, inspiring music, and meaningful conversation. As a group we were able to express our gratitude and celebration for this pivotal moment in our history. The event was profoundly moving and many of the organizers and leaders received comments, calls and emails with positive feedback and gratitude for this event. I was fortunate enough to receive such a call from Senator Hershel Craig, who also sent a Senatorial Citation praising Bexley for the celebration.



## Mayor's Update to City Council



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### Mayor's Office Major Goals for 2023

#### Mega Meta Goal

Finalize and complete the Year of the Parks projects

#### Safety and Community Health

Continue to study and pursue the cleanup of unsafe environmental sites

Complete and Institute Youth Interaction Working Group recommendations

Enact income-based fines for minor misdemeanors

Draft and institute community mental health and social services support model

Support and encourage police department community policing expansion

Help facilitate new, positive programs with police and schools around traffic and student safety and relationship development

Help facilitate police department command structure updates

Launch bike boulevard network and signage

Institute trail town recommendations

#### Environment and Sustainability

Work with Council to advance zero emissions tax decoupling incentive ordinance

Complete Climate Action Plan for Council adoption

Pass and Institute universal recycling

Identify and install on-street EV charging infrastructure

Monitor electrical aggregation options

Stormwater onsite treatment pods

#### Zoning and Development

Facilitate unsafe environmental site remediation and redevelopment

Launch Land Use Strategy Commission update process

Continue to encourage development of the Gateway South site

Work with the property owner of Cheeks and Mais to remove all site improvements, remediate the site, and make it available for development

Update Livingston Avenue Zoning Code to conform with Joint Livingston Avenue Plan recommendations

#### Parks and Recreation

Work with Council and Rec Board on modernizing park rules and rec board ordinance

Work with Recreation Department to launch Jeffrey Park Plan process

#### Service and Infrastructure

Leverage ARP funds to fast-track sewer infrastructure improvements

Work with Council to implement rigorous on-site stormwater treatment requirements for additive impermeable surface

Plan and install "Alley of the Future" project

Finalize Columbia Place proposal

Complete Drexel Avenue road diet

Plan and execute 2023 street program

#### Communications and Strategy

Complete 2020 Strategic Plan Update (early 2023)

Draft and circulate Annual Report to the Community

Re-launch New Resident Welcome events

Renew internal communications

Institute HR audit recommendations