

BEXLEY TIMES

City of Bexley Quarterly Newsletter

Volume No 20 - July through September, 2013

ON THE FLIP SIDE:



Ohio Chautauqua in Bexley



Coming Up @ The Main Event



Water MTU Replacement



Code Enforcement Corner

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK: NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN BEXLEY

A look at City Hall redevelopment plans and the Main Street infrastructure and streetscape project

In last quarter's water bill, we highlighted goals for the year ahead, including a focus on Main Street via our streetscape and infrastructure project, and also a focus on trying to find a viable, tax-generating commercial use for the City Hall site.

City Hall Redevelopment Update

A focus on redevelopment of the City Hall site has been driving the City for decades now to look at various options as they have come before us. The City and the newly-created Bexley Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) have been working with Continental Real Estate Companies to bring a Giant Eagle Market District to Bexley on the City Hall site. This fulfills several development ambitions in one swoop. The concept of converting the City Hall site to a profitable, tax-generating use is of course a central benefit. But we've also been reaching out for years to grocers, based on a consistent and high volume of requests from residents, and this development brings a stable and high-quality grocery concept to the heart of the City.

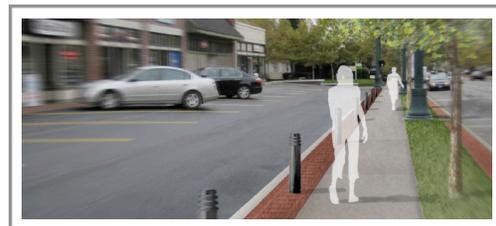
Part of the plan as it currently stands involves a drive-lane being provided through Bexley Square shopping center, to give the grocer access to the light at College and Drexel. This will be done with an emphasis on preserving tenants in place and minimizing any disruption to businesses during construction. The Bexley Giant Eagle Market District plan is still being worked on and finalized, so there are still questions to answer and details to firm up. But we wanted to provide more information and provide some context to the discussion. If you have any questions, feel free to give me a call at 559-4210.



Main Street Infrastructure & Streetscape Project Update

Last month, the City began work on the water line/infrastructure portion of the 2013 Main Street project. This portion of the project is 75% funded by a grant and 25% funded by an interest free loan from the State of Ohio. It involves connecting businesses and users along Main Street to a new, higher-capacity water line stretching from Parkview to Cassady. It also involves replacing concrete bus pads, curbs, and other concrete infrastructure that has degraded to the point of requiring replacement. Finally, it will involve the resurfacing of Main Street and the replacement of the Main Street traffic signals (that portion of the project will be funded by a federal grant).

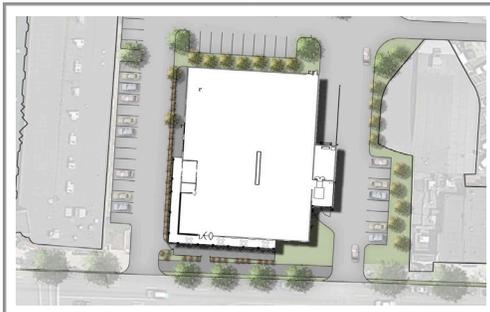
The second portion of the project involves beautification and streetscape improvements to Main Street, and this portion of the project is funded exclusively by the Main Street Tax Increment Finance District (TIF) that was expressly created for infrastructure and streetscape improvements on Main Street back in 2003. The streetscape project will include brick crosswalks at major intersections of the City,



streamlined regulatory signage along the street, seven landscaped medians placed on Main Street in carefully selected areas where there are unused center turn lanes, and beautification of key areas of Main Street with enhanced landscaping features. To learn more about the Main Street project, visit www.bexley.org/main. More info on the year ahead is in this newsletter and at www.bexley.org/mayor.

Until next time - see you around Bexley!

Ben Kessler
Mayor



Conceptual plan - plans pending revision & approval

As proposed, this grocery store has a Bexley twist (of course!). This neighborhood-centric concept brings a true two-story grocery store on a modest 15,000 square foot floor plate. Built to the front of the site, with an engaging presence on Main Street that will meld with adjacent storefront setbacks, the building will have parking at the rear of the store and will be accessible from both Drexel Avenue and Main Street. The focus at the grocery store will be fresh produce, high quality meats, prepared foods with a Main Street patio for onsite dining, and a comprehensive wine selection.



July 4th in Bexley

The Bexley Celebrations Association has a fantastic series of events lined up for the 4th of July, and many of us point to this day as one of the reasons we love living in Bexley. Here's a quick overview of the activities:

- 8:00 am:** John Barr 5K Run @ Jeffrey Mansion
- 9:30 am:** Parade starts at Roosevelt and Maryland
- 6:00 pm:** Community Celebration @ Capital's Lawn
- 10:00 pm:** Bexley 4th of July Fireworks @ Capital U!



Ohio Chautauqua Bexley: July 16 - 20th

Come face to face with history this summer! Bexley will host Ohio Chautauqua: When Ohio Was the Western Frontier on Capital University's front lawn on Main Street during July 16-20. This five-day event, presented by the Ohio Humanities Council, offers an exciting mix of education and entertainment with daily interactive workshops for children at 11:00 a.m. and adults at 2:00 p.m. at locations throughout Bexley. Musical performances and living history presentations will follow each evening under the signature red and white tent on Capital University's front lawn. Meet Iroquois leader Chief John Logan, naturalist and folk hero Johnny Appleseed, and more! All events are free and open to the public. We've invited food trucks to visit Bexley each evening, including Short North Bagel and Deli, Thirsty Turtle, Sweet! Mobile Cupcakery, and the Pickled Swine, in addition to a local favorite, Johnson's Real Ice Cream. You'll hear music by The Redbuds, Out of Mules, Capital University Conservatory, The Ukulele Cowboy Society, and the Ohio Village Singers. For more information and a schedule of daily activities, visit www.ohiochautauquabexley.com.



More "Main Event"!

We've been blown away by the great response to this summer's monthly movie series, related activities, and celebration of all things Main. Make sure to mark your calendars for the remaining "Main Events" this summer!

- July 19** "Indiana Jones Raiders of the Lost Ark" following Chautauqua events (see article to the left). Johnson's Ice Cream and food on site!
- Aug 16** "Willy Wonka" (classic) / Chef demos from Bexley chefs / Food truck festival / food crafts
- Sept 20** "The Princess Bride" / "Bexley's Got Talent" talent show / Music of Capital U.

Also, don't forget to pick up your Bexley summer business passport to win big Bexley prizes at the next main event (detail: www.gobexley.com/passport). A special, enormous thanks to our major sponsors: Bexley Community Foundation, Capital University, The Drexel Theatre, First Bexley Bank, and to all of our many other sponsors! Want more info? Visit www.gobexley.com/main.



Code Enforcement Corner

Council passed an ordinance last year requiring the use of garbage cans with tight fitting lids. Plastic bags are still permitted to be used as long as they are inside the cans. Also, the ordinance requires that recycle bins and yard waste are not taken to the curb before noon the day before collection, and returned no later than 8:00pm on the day following pick-up. In addition, recycle bins and cans must be stored in the garage or a location at the side or rear of the property that is shielded from view by natural landscape barriers, the residence or by a constructed enclosure.

If you have any questions, please contact Dave Hays at 614-559-4247 or by e-mail at dhays@bexley.org.



Fire Hydrant Flushing

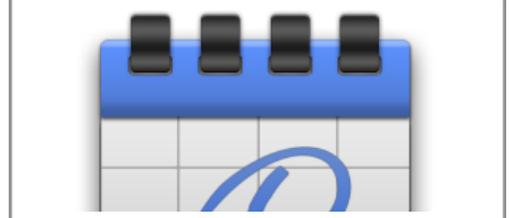
On Monday, August 5, 2013, the Bexley Water Department will begin flushing fire hydrants in the City. Crews will be assigned to various areas of the City. Work will continue each day until completion. This is expected to take no longer than five days.

Individual water service may be affected for a short time during the flushing program. Although the water may be cloudy, it is safe to drink; however, we advise residents to not wash clothing if the water is discolored. To test for discoloration, run the cold water for about two minutes. Please call the Bexley Water Department at 559-4270 for assistance.



Water Meter MTU Replacement

In 2001 the City of Bexley replaced all of the water meters with an automated system. Attached to the water meter is a MTU (Meter Transmission Unit). The batteries in these units are starting to fail. The City, at this time, is replacing many of these MTUs. This process takes approximately 15-20 minutes. If a city employee stops and leaves a notice, please call 559-4270 to schedule an appointment. We must have access to the meter and the MTU in order to complete this replacement. Thank you for your help!



Mark Your Calendar

- July 4:** 4th of July John Barr 5K, Parade, Community Celebration & Fireworks
- July 11:** Bexley Farmers Markets Thursdays 4:00 to 7:00pm through October!
- July 16-20:** Bexley hosts Ohio Chautauqua
- July 19:** "The Main Event" - Indiana Jones
- August 16:** "The Main Event" - Willy Wonka (classic)
- Sept 2:** Labor Day Community Block Party
- Sept 20:** "The Main Event" - The Princess Bride
- Oct 31:** Trick-or-Treat 5:30 to 7:00pm

For more events, visit www.bexley.org/events

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