

Brook Park Central Park almost doubles in size!

We have recently acquired 18 acres of land adjacent to our Recreation Center. Many people were unaware of the fact that our Kennedy Park playground, Veterans Memorial, half of our Forbes Baseball Field, our two pavilions and the bathroom facilities were all built on land owned by the Berea City School District.

That is why it was imperative we buy the property. We now own it all from the I-71 fence line to Engle Road (east to west) and Holland Road to Sylvia Drive (north to south). This was accomplished through a TOTAL team effort of the City Administration, City Council, the Berea Board of Education and the Berea City Schools Administration. Special thanks goes to our Law Director Carol Horvath and Recreation Director Mark Elliott.

Now that we own all of this property, we are going to create a new central park for our City's residents. This will include a walking /jogging trail; landscape berms along Holland and Engle Roads; Pine trees along I-71; and more. We are finally going to have a centralized location in our Community for residents to gather, spend time, work out and relax.

In addition to these 18 acres, we have also added 10 more acres on Snow Road and the Brookview School building.

The final price tag for all of this was \$610,000! Money well spent, invested in our Community's future. More details will be forthcoming.

Ford Property Update

Engine Plant 1 is staying put for at least another decade. The 195 acres Ford had on the market has been taken down. This is good news for Brook Park. It means Ford has a serious and stable buyer for the property. When the final decision is made, it will bring good things to our City. I cannot say any more at this time, as I have signed a Confidentiality Agreement. Hopefully, by year's end we will have a public announcement.

Roads Program

Our Roads Program is already starting. We will put over six million dollars into roads this year alone. This is unprecedented. West 130th Street will be done to Snow Road; Holland Road will be totally rebuilt from Engle Road to Fry Road; Smith Road will be done from Snow Road to Elm Street; Sheldon Road will be done from Eastland Road to Engle Road; and, finally, the West End will have an extensive crack sealing program. It will be a BUSY road construction season so please bear with us.


Pool Area

Enclosed with this newsletter is a survey card for you to send back to us. Before we renovate the pool area (i.e., new roof and wall repairs), we want to know what YOU want. It's YOUR recreation center. Please fill out the card and tell us what you want. Just drop it off or mail it to City Hall (6161 Engle Road).

In Closing

It has been a busy and successful year already. It's hard to believe 2019 is almost half over. A lot of good things are happening in Brook Park and more good things are coming. Thank you for being a resident here and a part of it all! See you at Home Days!

Sincerely,



Michael D. Gammella, Mayor

Summer Reading Program



Mayor Gammella is excited to announce that our Brook Park Firefighters will be participating in the Brook Park Library's "Summer Backpack Reading" program, in conjunction with Brook Park Memorial and Brookview Elementary Schools. The program, which will take place on Tuesdays over the summer, is designed to maintain the reading skills developed during the school year for grades K-4. This great program involves approximately 300 children! The Firefighters, alongside teachers and high school volunteers, are looking forward to reading and spending time with these dedicated students! Fire Chief Maund has even offered a ride to school in a fire truck to the student or students who are most dedicated to keeping up their reading skills!