

The Mayor's Message

Building on 2024; Looking Ahead to 2025

Dear Beachwood Residents,

Happy New Year! As we enter 2025, I am enthusiastic and optimistic for the year ahead. Beachwood continues to shine as a forward-thinking community. I am confident that we will build on our strengths together, overcome challenges, and achieve even greater success in the coming year.

February will be a month of activity and celebration in our city. I invite you to join us for the Fourth Annual February Freeze on Thursday, Feb. 13, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Beachwood Community Center. This year's event will feature indoor and outdoor activities for all ages. It's an excellent way to enjoy the winter season while connecting with neighbors and friends.

I also encourage you to attend the State of the City Address on Wednesday, Feb. 19, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at SITE Centers (3300 Enterprise Pkwy.), proudly sponsored by the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce. During this event, I will provide a comprehensive report on Beachwood's accomplishments over the past year and outline our goals for 2025. This Chamber-sponsored event offers a unique opportunity to hear firsthand about our city's progress and plans for the future while connecting with others passionate about Beachwood's success. Seating is limited to this event; the city will share a video of the address on our website so those unable to attend can watch the State of the City event.

As we welcome new opportunities, I also want to recognize those who have served Beachwood with dedication. Congratulations to former City Council member Eric Synenberg on his recent election to the Ohio House of Representatives for District 21. Over his seven years on City Council, Eric demonstrated a dedicated commitment to our community, and I am confident he will represent Beachwood residents' interests effectively at the state level. We wish him the best in this new chapter of public service.

I am also proud to announce that the Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics named Beachwood the first Store It Safe City. This designation reflects our commitment

to firearm safety and protecting children and adolescents from injuries and firearm-related suicides. The Store It Safe program, launched in 2015, fosters education, advocacy, and community initiatives to promote responsible firearm storage. This recognition would not have been possible without the dedication of Police Chief Dan Grispino, City Council Member Ali Stern, and her husband, Dr. Noam Stern, Division Chief in Pediatric Palliative Care at Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital. Their collaboration was instrumental in implementing this initiative. Thank you for prioritizing the safety and well-being of our residents.

Looking ahead, I'm excited about redeveloping the Fairmount Temple property, an opportunity to create something meaningful for our community. On Dec. 16, Beachwood City Council approved the administration's process for this project. Residents expressed strong support for housing on the site, and we are now moving forward with plans for an age-targeted residential housing development that aligns with our shared vision. This project represents an essential step in meeting our evolving community's needs while preserving our city's character.

As always, I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as your mayor. Together, let's make 2025 a year of continued progress, making Beachwood an even better city to work, live, learn, and thrive.

Sincerely,



Mayor Justin Berns

MayorBerns@beachwoodohio.com



Beachwood City Council



How To Email A Council Member: FirstName.LastName@BeachwoodOhio.com



Alec Isaacson
Council President
216.291.2797



Danielle Shoykhet
Council V.P.
216.212.9212



Jillian DeLong
216.509.3514



Joshua Mintz
650.464.6788



Ali B. Stern
240.706.7478



June E. Taylor
216.533.7640



AUDITOR
216.595.3712

BUILDING DEPARTMENT
216.292.1914

CLERK OF COUNCIL
216.595.5493

COMMUNITY SERVICES
216.292.1970

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
216.292.1915

FINANCE
216.292.1913

FIRE & RESCUE
216.292.1965

LAW
216.595.5462

MAYOR'S OFFICE
216.292.1901

POLICE
216.464.2343

PUBLIC WORKS
216.292.1922

EMERGENCY
Dial 9-1-1 or
216.464.1234

Legislative Update

November 18, 2024 - December 16, 2024

The city is focusing on six key areas essential for the city's advancement, which serve not only as a roadmap, but as a guiding light for our city's progress. Each legislative update highlights ordinances and resolutions within these critical focus areas, underscoring the measures we are undertaking within each.

Nov. 18 City Council Meeting

Public Safety:

City council has approved the purchase of a new ambulance (squad). Due to long lead times, the Beachwood Fire Department will not have the vehicle in service until 2026.

Public Safety:

The Beachwood Police Department will add the first all-electric vehicle to its fleet. The 2025 Ford Mustang Mach-EGT Police Vehicle will be a traffic enforcement tool and boost community engagement during city-sponsored events.

Infrastructure Improvements:

A renewed contract has been approved for Signal Service Company to monitor and maintain traffic signals within the City of Beachwood.

Dec. 16 City Council Meeting

Economic Development:

City Council has authorized the city to move forward with a process to redevelop the Fairmount Temple property with age-targeted residential housing on the 17-acre parcel of land.

Fiscal Responsibility:

City Council has approved the City Of Beachwood's 2025 budget after three readings and discussions between the Finance Director, City Administration, and City Council.

Innovative Partnerships/Public Safety:

Council Members voted to approve a commitment for the City of Beachwood to become designated as the first "Store It Safe" city. This collaboration with the Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (Ohio AAP) will provide education on proper firearm storage and proactive efforts to protect children and adolescents from firearm-related injuries and suicides.

View Live & Recorded City Council Meetings



Scan the QR code with your mobile device or visit our website at BeachwoodOhio.com/WatchMeetings.

STAY ENGAGED IN YOUR COMMUNITY:



Meeting agendas, minutes including legislation, live and recorded meetings are available on our website at BeachwoodOhio.com or please attend an upcoming meeting.



2025 STATE OF THE CITY

Presented by the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce

BEACHWOOD, OHIO

Wednesday, February 19, 8:00-9:30 a.m.



Event will be recorded and made available at BeachwoodOhio.com.



Location: SITE Centers
(3300 Enterprise Pkwy.)

8:00 a.m. - Networking
Light breakfast and refreshments

Program Cost:

Chamber Members - \$20/person
Non-Members - \$25/person

8:30 a.m. - Program

Mayor Berns addresses 2024 city achievements and 2025 objectives

Registration beginning Jan. 1 at public.beachwood.org/events.

Open to residents and the business community. No walk-ins. Register by Feb. 14.

UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

City Council:

Jan. 6 at 7:00 p.m.
Jan. 21 at 7:00 p.m.

Planning & Zoning:

Jan. 30 at 6:30 p.m.

Architectural Board of Review:

Jan. 6 at 4:30 p.m.
Jan. 21 at 4:30 p.m.

Work - Live - Learn - Thrive

City Council Approves Fairmount Temple Redevelopment Process

Beachwood City Council voted to approve the administration's process for redeveloping the Fairmount Temple property during its meeting on Dec. 16. This significant step follows extensive community engagement, during which residents identified housing as the preferred use for the site.

The entire process is expected to take approximately nine to 12 months, from issuing the RFQ to finalizing the agreement. The City Council's approval will enable staff to begin implementation immediately.

The redevelopment of the Fairmount Temple property represents a valuable opportunity to meet community housing needs and align with public input. City Council's vote to approve this process marks the beginning of a carefully planned process moving this vision forward.



The proposed process focuses on developing an age-targeted residential housing project that aligns with the community's priorities. The outlined steps include:

- 1. Issuing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ):** The city will release an RFQ to attract development firms qualified to design and construct the proposed residential project.
- 2. RFQ Review and Shortlisting:** A team comprising City Council and administration members will evaluate submissions to identify two to three top candidates.
- 3. Request for Proposals (RFP):** The shortlisted firms will submit detailed proposals addressing project requirements, including incorporating elements of the existing Fairmount Temple structure, community impact considerations, and sustainability goals.
- 4. Proposal Evaluation:** Proposals will be assessed based on their alignment with the city's vision and community feedback.
- 5. Developer Selection:** The firm that best meets the city's goals will be selected, and the city will develop a formal agreement.

HOLIDAY RUBBISH COLLECTION:

Due to **New Year's Day** on Jan. 1, Wednesday and Thursday collections will be delayed one day.
Due to **Martin Luther King Jr Day** on Jan. 20, collections will be delayed one day that holiday week.

Beachwood Becomes State's First "Store It Safe City"



The City of Beachwood proudly announces its designation as the first Store It Safe City by the Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (Ohio AAP). This recognition highlights Beachwood's commitment to firearm safety and its proactive efforts to protect children and adolescents from unintentional injuries and firearm-related suicides.

The Store It Safe program, launched in 2015 by Ohio AAP, brings together diverse perspectives on firearm safety to develop unified, nonpartisan messaging and resources. Over the years, it has grown to encompass a variety of education, advocacy, and community initiatives aimed at reducing gun injuries and deaths among children and adolescents.

As a Store It Safe City, the Beachwood Police Department will initiate community education efforts on the importance of securely storing firearms within the home. The department will deliver these educational initiatives through various channels as proactive prevention for both intentional and unintentional firearm injuries and deaths.

"We are honored to be recognized as the first Store It Safe City," said Mayor Berns. "This designation highlights Beachwood's commitment to protecting our residents, particularly children and adolescents, through education and proactive safety measures," he stated. "We aim to create a safer community for all families by fostering awareness and encouraging responsible firearm storage."

The city will officially launch the program during this year's February Freeze event.

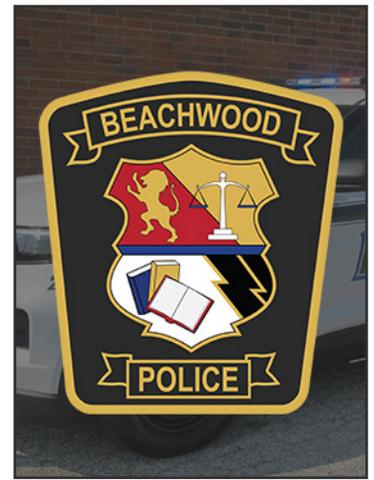
New Frontline Service for Residents

Through the support of Mayor Berns and Chief Grispino, the Beachwood Police Department announces a new service designed to enhance convenience and safety for our residents. In partnership with FRONTLINE Public Safety Solutions, the department now offers an online platform for requesting overnight parking and vacation checks. This service is not to be used during emergencies; if you have an emergency, call 9-1-1.

Our new online system is designed with your convenience in mind. It's simple to use and can be accessed securely from any device. Whether you need overnight parking or want to ensure your home's safety during a trip, this platform makes the process straightforward and quick.

Residents can access the service at <https://www.frontlinepss.com/beachwood-oh>. The link is also available on the city's website and social media channels.

For those who prefer not to use the online system, requests can still be made by calling the Beachwood Police Department's non-emergency line at 216.464.1234.



Nominate A Hometown Hero

The Beachwood Historical Society and the City of Beachwood announce the return of our Hometown Heroes celebration in 2025! We're calling on the community to help us honor those who make a difference. Nominate your hero online today by visiting BeachwoodOhio.com/HeroNominations. Submissions are open online through Feb. 28 - here's your chance to shine a spotlight on someone extraordinary!

A successful nominee actively displays the following characteristics in their everyday life:

- Must be a resident or individual who works in the city
- Makes a positive impact on the city
- Helps improve the city and society
- Shows dedication to helping others
- Displays courage, care and concern
- Contributions and accomplishments have enhanced Beachwood

Heroes will be celebrated in May with a special ceremony at the Hometown Heroes garden display in Beachwood's City Park West on Shaker Boulevard.



The 2024 Class of Hometown Heroes



Protect Your Home and Family: Smoke Alarm Safety Tips

Working smoke alarms are a critical part of home safety. A properly functioning smoke alarm can cut your risk of death or injury in a home fire by half! Unfortunately, nearly all smoke alarm failures are caused by missing or dead batteries. Regular maintenance and proper placement can save lives.

Installation and Placement

- For the best protection, install a combination of hard-wired alarms with battery backup.
- If you are unsure where to install smoke alarms, use the guide from First Alert.
- If anyone in your home is hard of hearing, consider alarms with strobe lights or bed shakers.

Maintenance Tips

- Test Monthly: Press the test button on your alarms every month to ensure they work properly.
- Change Batteries: If your alarms use regular batteries, replace them at least once a year. A chirping sound means it's time for a fresh battery.
- Replace Alarms: Smoke alarm sensors wear out over time. Replace each alarm at least every 10 years or sooner if there's no manufacturing date on the label.
- Keep Them Clean: Dust and cobwebs can interfere with the sensors.

Clear The Way: Winter Snow Reminders

Winter has certainly arrived and as we progress through the coming months, please keep the following in mind for parking, permits, and safety.

Street Parking Bans: Per Beachwood City Ordinances, when snowfall reaches 2 inches or more within 24 hours, the city declares a snow emergency, and parking is banned on all city streets.

Plow Permit Reminder: Beachwood Ordinance 725.01 requires all private snow removal contractors to secure a permit from the Beachwood Police Department before operating in the city. Please take a moment to confirm this with your contractor.

Snow-Covered Hydrants: Snow-covered fire hydrants are a hazard in an emergency. If you have a fire hydrant on your property or near your home and are able to clear a few feet around it, please do. In an emergency situation, every second counts.



January Recreation Guide

February Freeze to Warm Hearts with Pajama Drive

Beachwood's fourth annual February Freeze, presented by Crestmont, promises to go beyond simply brightening up winter with its signature lineup of activities, entertainment, and family fun. This year, the event takes on a meaningful cause: warming hearts through new pajama donations benefiting Sweet Dreams for Kids.



In partnership with resident Dalya Berezovsky, this donation drive encourages attendees to bring a new pair of kids' pajamas to donate at the entrance. These donations will provide comfort and a feeling of home to pediatric hospital patients. To date, Sweet Dreams for Kids

has donated nearly 25,000 pairs of pajamas. This family-run organization is dedicated to replacing the constant reminder of illness with a smile.

The City of Beachwood looks forward to welcoming the community to February Freeze on Thursday, Feb. 13, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Community Center and hopes you will consider supporting this worthy cause. For those unable to attend the event, new pajama donations will be accepted at the Community Center, located at 25325 Fairmount Blvd., through Friday, Feb. 21. Questions? Contact Community Services at 216.292.1970.



Celebrating Black History Month through Art

The Beachwood Art Gallery is proud to announce its latest exhibit, *Celebrating Black History Month*, an inspiring showcase honoring Black history through the lens of creative expression. Running from Jan. 8 through Feb. 14, this exhibit highlights culture and heritage as seen through the works of talented local artists.

Admission is free, and all are welcome to experience this powerful collection. Don't miss the opportunity to meet the featured artists at a special reception on Sunday, Jan. 12, from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.



Bingo Night: A Blast for All Ages

Dec. 12 was not your average bingo night at the Beachwood Community Center! Over 130 players, ranging in age from 5 to 95, enjoyed the excitement of bingo enhanced with trivia, lights, and an energetic family-friendly atmosphere. Even those who didn't walk away with prizes were all smiles, enjoying an entertaining and unforgettable evening from start to finish.

Two additional Beachwood Bingo Nights remain on Thursday, Jan. 30, sponsored by Burns Pool Management, and Feb. 27 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Given the popularity of the initial event, these dates are subject to selling out and pre-registration is highly recommended. Only \$2 to \$5 per person. Sign up at BeachwoodRec.com or call Community Services at 216.292.1970.



Beachwood Bingo Night on Dec. 12.



Youth Programs

- **Youth Theater *SugarTown Follies* (Ages 7-17)**
Wed, Jan. 8-Feb. 26, 5:00-7:00 p.m.
Beachwood Community Center
Residents \$300, Non-Residents \$360
*Performances on Mar. 1 and Mar. 2.
- **Storybook Dance (Grades K-2)**
Fri, Jan. 10-Feb. 7, 3:15-4:15 p.m.
Bryden Elementary
Residents \$100, Non-Residents \$120
- **After School Pickleball (Grades 3-5)**
Thurs, Jan. 16-Mar. 6, 2:45-3:45 p.m.
Hilltop Elementary
Residents \$94, Non-Residents \$113
*New Instructor: The Little Leagues
- **Upcycle Academy Creative Crafters (Grades K-5)**
Fri, Jan. 17-Feb. 21, 3:15-4:15 p.m. (Grades K-2)
Fri, Jan. 17-Feb. 21, 2:40-3:40 p.m. (Grades 3-5)
Bryden & Hilltop Elementary
Residents \$150, Non-Residents \$180
- **Creative Movement (Ages 1-5)**
Tues, Jan. 21-Mar. 4, 9:30-10:15 a.m. (Ages 1-2)
Tues, Jan. 21-Mar. 4, 10:30-11:15 a.m. (Ages 3-5)
Beachwood Community Center
Residents \$125, Non-Residents \$150
*No class on Jan. 28
- **Emotional Explorers Club (Ages 5-10)**
Wed, Jan. 22-Feb. 26, 5:45-6:45 p.m.
Beachwood Community Center
Residents \$100, Non-Residents \$120

Beachwood Seniors

Upcoming Programs

- **Trivia Practice for The Mind Challenge**
Thursday, Jan. 9, 1:00-2:00 p.m. & Monday, Jan. 27, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Beachwood Community Center

Now in its seventh year, The Mind Challenge is a trivia competition for seniors! Come join us to practice, learn about joining Team Beachwood, and more. Practice is open to all at no cost. Preregistration required.
- **Drawing Class**
Tuesday, Jan. 21-Feb. 25, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. or 1:00-3:00 p.m.
Beachwood Community Center

The first winter session will be inspired by master paintings throughout history. All skill levels welcome. Register by Jan. 14. Open to residents (\$79) and non-residents (\$89). Led by instructor Marlene Weinstein.
- **Unleashing the Fun Side of A.I.**
Thursday, Jan. 30, 1:00-2:00 p.m.
Beachwood Community Center

Steve Pelton of hChoices Classes returns by popular demand! Explore Artificial Intelligence with laughter, learning, and a few surprises to leave you smiling. Register for just \$5 by Jan. 22.

Jan. Meet & Eat

The Amazing One-Man Band
Thursday, Jan. 16, at Noon
Beachwood Community Center

Residents \$13
Non-Residents \$16
Program Only \$5

Register by Jan. 9

Tom Todd, the amazing one-man band, will have you clapping your hands and chasing away the winter blues! Tom sings and performs on up to nine different instruments and has a song list from Buffett to Beatles, jazz to chart toppers; Tom plays it all! Join us for this upbeat afternoon!

Meal choices include chicken pot pie or tuna noodle casserole. All entrees include a side salad, beverage and dessert.

Feb. Meet & Eat (2/20): Debbie Darling, singer/songwriter, and David Strieter, pianist, introduce you to the Nat King Cole you didn't know!
Register by Feb. 13.

Register for events at BeachwoodRec.com,
City Hall or call 216.292.1970.

WHERE BUSINESS IS BOOMING!

THE LATEST NEWS FROM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

City Reaps Rewards from Renewing Older Real Estate

The City of Beachwood was recently spotlighted in *Cleveland Community Leader Magazine* for its progress on three major commercial revitalization projects. These initiatives transform underutilized spaces, attract businesses, create jobs, and boost the city's economy.

"Beachwood's strategy of optimizing under-used sites has been a catalyst for growth, increasing real estate values and spurring improvements in surrounding areas," said Catherine Bieterman, Beachwood's Economic Development Director.

One standout project is a partnership with Industrial Commercial Properties (ICP) that revitalized a Commerce Park property. ICP and Millennium Control Systems are expected to jointly invest upwards of \$5.5 million to modernize the building, adding over 70 anticipated new jobs and generating significant new tax revenue.



View the full feature from *Community Leader Magazine*.

Additionally, a new 65,000-square-foot Porsche dealership has opened along the I-271 corridor, creating 50 jobs and adding substantial tax revenue. Meanwhile, Skoda-Gordon Dentistry replaced an outdated building with a state-of-the-art medical and dental office, and Dr. Britini Skoda noted the city's support in realizing the project.

Other developments include Trailhead Bio-Systems, Sika, and new offices for MasterBrand Cabinets, which have contributed to over \$40 million in commercial investments. Beachwood's revitalization efforts are diversifying its income base and reshaping the city's economic environment.

Building Connections

Start 2025 by prioritizing networking to enhance your business. Networking isn't just exchanging cards - it's about building relationships that open doors, spark opportunities, and growth.

Connect with potential customers, collaborate with like-minded professionals, and forge lasting partnerships. Networking amplifies your reputation, boosts visibility, and positions you as a leader in your field.

The **Beachwood Chamber of Commerce** is a top resource for networking. Their events foster business growth, offering opportunities to connect with local entrepreneurs and professionals. Membership is cost-effective - often cheaper than local advertising - and provides a full year of valuable opportunities.

Gain a competitive edge by joining the Chamber. Meet Executive Director David Lapierre and Economic Development Director Catherine Bieterman on **Jan. 22 at 8:30 a.m. at LifeTime Fitness**. Over coffee, discover the benefits of membership. Register for this event online via the Chamber's website at Beachwood.org.

Beachwood Launches Podcast to Empower Local Businesses



The City of Beachwood's Office of Economic Development announces the launch of its new podcast, *The Beachwood Business Compass: Your Guide to Local Business Growth*. Set to debut on Jan. 21, 2025, this resource is tailored to local entrepreneurs, small business owners, and established enterprises seeking growth and innovation in the Beachwood community.

With its mission to empower businesses and foster a thriving local economy, *The Beachwood Business Compass* offers practical strategies, expert insights, and success stories from local business leaders. The podcast will also highlight resources, programs, and partnerships available through the Office of Economic Development, ensuring listeners receive actionable advice and insights to enhance success.

Whether you're a new entrepreneur, a small business owner aiming to scale, or an established leader looking to stay connected, *The Beachwood Business Compass* is your go-to guide for growth and community connection.

Listeners can subscribe to the podcast starting Jan. 21, and chart their course toward innovation, growth, and a connected Beachwood business community.

*Always Be An Insider,
Stay Connected!*

Official Social Media Pages



Facebook Pages:

@BeachwoodOH
@BeachwoodPolice
@BeachwoodFire
@BeachwoodOHRec
@BeachwoodPublicWorks
@BarkwoodDogPark

X Accounts:

@BeachwoodOH
@BeachwoodPolice

Instagram Account:

@BeachwoodOhio

LinkedIn Account:

@CityOfBeachwood