

The Insider

CITY OF
Beachwood
Mayor Justin Berns

Keeping you connected to The City of Beachwood!

May 2025

The Mayor's Message May in Motion

Dear Beachwood Residents,

With warmer days finally upon us, it's time to step outside and enjoy all that spring in Beachwood has to offer. Our city's parks and outdoor spaces are calling. Whether you're walking the dog, playing catch, or simply enjoying the weather, I encourage everyone to take full advantage of the beautiful season ahead.

Get Outside and Play

Our Community Services Department has been hard at work crafting a lineup of fresh and engaging recreation opportunities for residents of all ages. From youth sports leagues and fitness classes to outdoor concerts and cultural events, there's something for everyone to enjoy this season. I want to thank our dedicated Community Services team. Their creativity and commitment help make Beachwood a dynamic and active community, and their efforts continue to provide meaningful experiences for our residents.



Development in Motion

As spring blooms, so does Beachwood's economic landscape. We are currently in the early stages of evaluating a potential rezoning for a Classic Lexus dealership at the site of the DoubleTree Hotel on Park East. This proposal is still in development, and we believe a Classic Lexus dealership would be an excellent addition to the City of Beachwood.

Additionally, we're laying the groundwork for the future of the 43 acres the city recently acquired in Chagrin Highlands. Our team is building a strategic plan to attract new business opportunities that align with Beachwood's economic goals and community values. This acquisition is an exciting moment

for growth and innovation, and I look forward to sharing more in the months ahead.



Community Connections

Bringing people together is at the heart of what makes Beachwood a unique community. That's why I'm proud to support initiatives like Cookout with Cops, a new event created by Police Chief Grispingo to help build relationships between residents and our police officers. Join us on May 14 from 4:30–6:30 p.m. at the Beachwood Playground for a free community cookout. It's an excellent opportunity to connect with the officers who serve our city every day.

We're also nearing completion of our Solar Streetlight Pilot Program along Beachwood Boulevard and Ranch Road. This initiative reflects our ongoing commitment to sustainability and innovation. I encourage you to visit the pilot areas and share your thoughts.

Lastly, please take a moment to complete our annual Deer Management Survey. Your feedback plays a critical role in guiding how we address wildlife issues in our community.

Thank you for being an active, invested part of what makes Beachwood thrive. Together, let's embrace a season filled with warmer weather, meaningful connections, and forward momentum for our city's future.

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



Pete Smith
216.299.3557



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240.706.7478



June E. Taylor
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Beachwood City Hall
25325 Fairmount Blvd.
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216.464.1070



BeachwoodOhio.com



@BeachwoodOH

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

Solar Streetlight Pilot Installation Underway

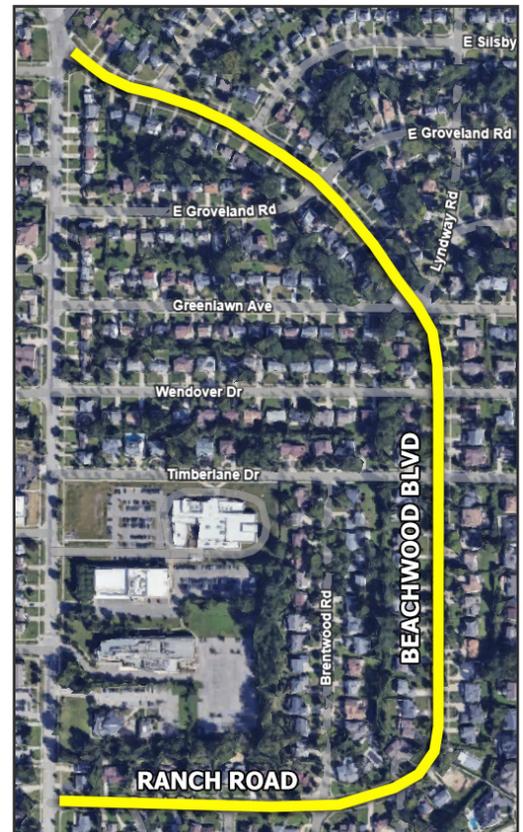
The City of Beachwood has begun installing solar-powered streetlights as part of a new residential pilot program along Beachwood Boulevard and Ranch Road. The project, with lights designed by Fonroche Lighting America, responds to resident feedback — nearly 70% of whom expressed a desire for better street lighting.

The solar lights, spaced approximately 150 feet apart, are designed to reduce energy use and light pollution while providing efficient, adaptive lighting throughout the night. Fonroche's SmartLights use recyclable materials, wireless monitoring, and an energy-saving lighting profile that adjusts brightness based on sunrise and sunset.

Residents are encouraged to visit the pilot areas, see the new lights in action, and share their feedback by emailing pilot@beachwoodohio.com. Resident input and pilot program results will help guide decisions about a possible citywide rollout.



Visual example of solar lighting for reference only.



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.



Complete the survey!

Scan using the camera on your mobile device.



Residents Encouraged to Participate in 2025 Deer Management Survey

The City of Beachwood is beginning preparations for the 2025/2026 Deer Management Program and invites all residents to participate in the 2025 Deer Management Survey.

As part of our commitment to balancing the local deer population with the health of our environment, the city is exploring potential new strategies, including deer sterilization. The feasibility of this approach will be evaluated through community input, expert consultation, and cost analysis.

Beachwood's ongoing partnership with Shaker Heights has been recognized by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources at the 2024 Wildlife Conference in Columbus as a model of regional cooperation. This recognition underscores the importance of working across municipal boundaries, especially given the high mobility of deer throughout our area.

City leadership is actively discussing with nearby cities to expand this collaborative effort and identify additional viable sites for program implementation.

Your voice matters. Please take a moment to **complete the survey by June 1** and help guide the future of deer management in Beachwood. Visit the city's website at BeachwoodOhio.com/DeerManagement to access the survey and learn more.

UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

City Council:
May 5 at 7:00 p.m.
May 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Planning & Zoning:
May 29 at 6:30 p.m.

Architectural Board of Review:
May 5 at 4:30 p.m.
May 19 at 4:30 p.m.

Work - Live - Learn - Thrive

Police Department: Promotions & New Hire

The Beachwood Police Department is proud to recognize the dedication and accomplishments of its officers through recent promotions and a new addition.

Promotions:

- Sergeant Erin Draves promoted to Lieutenant
22 Years of Dedicated Service
- Officer Aaron Lieb promoted to Sergeant
19 Years of Dedicated Service

New Hire:

- Officer Elizabeth Ryan
Five Years of Service with Warrensville Heights

Please join us in congratulating Lt. Draves and Sgt. Lieb on their well-deserved promotions and welcoming Officer Ryan to the Beachwood community!



Officer Elizabeth Ryan



Lt. Erin Draves (middle)



Sgt. Aaron Lieb (middle)

COOKOUT
with **COPS**

**Wednesday,
May 14**

FREE:
4:30-6:30 pm

**Hot Dogs
Live DJ
Family Fun**

Beachwood Playground
25125 Fairmount Blvd.

Learn More:
BeachwoodOhio.com

*Kosher food options available.

FREE COMMUNITY SHRED DAY: Friday, May 9, 3:00-6:00 p.m. at the Fairmount Temple Property (23737 Fairmount Blvd.)
Proof of residency required. Please use paper bags and banker boxes only; no plastic grocery bags.

Fairmount Temple Property Development Update

The City of Beachwood continues to make progress on the planned development of the Fairmount Temple property into a new residential community. The review committee has received proposals from several qualified developer/builder teams and is currently in the process of evaluating them.

Once the initial review is complete, selected teams will be invited to present their vision for the site. These presentations will help guide the city's next steps in transforming the property into a thoughtfully planned residential community.

The city will share updates as they become available on the project page, which can be accessed at BeachwoodOhio.com/FairmountTempleDevelopment.



Classic Lexus Proposed for DoubleTree Hotel Site

Beachwood may soon see new life brought to the site of the former DoubleTree Hotel at 3663 Park East Dr., as the city begins considering a proposal to develop a Classic Lexus dealership at the location.



At the April 7 City Council meeting, legislation concerning the necessary rezoning was placed on First Reading. Council members referred the matter to the Planning and Zoning Commission for further review and recommendations. The proposal seeks to rezone the property from its current U-4C classification (previously designated for mixed-use development) back to a U-9 Motor Service District, which would allow for automotive dealership use.

“This project is in its very early stages and requires rezoning,” said Mayor Justin Berns. “But we believe a Classic Lexus dealership would be an excellent addition to the City of Beachwood. We look forward to working with Jim Brown (President of Classic Auto Group) and his team to bring this project to fruition.”

Jim Brown also expressed enthusiasm for the opportunity. “On behalf of Lexus of North America and the Classic Auto Group, we appreciate the warm welcome and support from the City of Beachwood,” he said. “I look forward to working with Mayor Berns and city council to bring Classic Lexus to this great city.”

The rezoning process will include three readings by city council and a public hearing, scheduled no less than 30 days after the Planning and Zoning Commission issues its report and recommendation. The project also remains contingent on the completion of the property's sale.



The former DoubleTree Hotel property. Photo by Crain's Cleveland Business.

HOLIDAY RUBBISH COLLECTION:

Due to **Memorial Day** on Monday, May 26, rubbish and recycling collection will be delayed one day. For questions, contact Beachwood Public Works at 216.292.1922.

Have You Seen A Fox?

According to Animal Control, foxes provide a vital service in controlling the rodent population. Animal Control does not recommend their removal. The Humane Society reports that typical adult cats and dogs are not at risk from a fox attack, though kittens and very small (less than 5 pounds) adult cats could be prey for a fox so it's best to keep those cats indoors.

Foxes have a natural fear of people and will usually run away if they see you. If they have learned to associate people with food, you may scare them away with squirt guns or loud noises (similar to how you would haze a coyote). For more information, please search “foxes” at humanesociety.org. Foxes can be trapped by a private, certified firm but cannot be relocated (they must be euthanized). Because of this, there has to be a history of the fox being a nuisance for it to be trapped.



Mayor's Court to Transition to Shaker Heights Municipal Court Following Changes in State Law

As a result of significant changes introduced by Ohio House Bill 29, signed into law by Gov. Mike DeWine on Jan. 8, 2025, and effective April 9, 2025, the City of Beachwood will cease operations of its Mayor's Court. Moving forward, all proceedings previously heard at Mayor's Court will be heard by the Shaker Heights Municipal Court.



In summary, House Bill 29 has altered how courts across the state may attempt to enforce payment of fines and fees pertaining to traffic citations. It is anticipated that these changes would raise the administrative costs of Beachwood Mayor's Court while also leaving the city with fewer mechanisms for enforcement and realization of fines and fees.

Fortunately, Shaker Heights Municipal Court is well equipped to address these issues. This move not only streamlines operations but is also expected to reduce costs to the city, improve the realization of court-ordered fines and fees, and provide greater efficiency in the administration of justice. Shaker Heights Municipal Court anticipates that Beachwood's traffic caseload would be integrated by May 1, 2025, with an additional 60 to 90 days needed before it could accept our parking violations case load.

May Recreation Guide

JUNE TEENTH
 BEACHWOOD COMMUNITY CELEBRATION
JUNE 19 • 4-7PM
 BEACHWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
 25100 Fairmount Blvd.
 CITY OF Beachwood

FREE FAMILY FEST
 ACTIVITIES - GAMES - MOVIE TRUCK - DJ
 VENDORS - FOOD TRUCKS - FUN

Visit BeachwoodRec.com
 or email AfricanAmericanAffinity@beachwoodschoools.org

POOL Party Nights
SWIM UNDER THE LIGHTS
 MUSIC & GAMES • POOLSIDE SNACKS • FAMILY-FRIENDLY

JUNE 26
ICE POP PARADISE
A Chill Night at the Pool

JULY 24
TROPICAL TWILIGHT
Come Tropic Like It's Hot

BFAC MEMBERS \$3. RESIDENTS \$5.
 NON-RESIDENT GUESTS \$8
 REGISTER: BEACHWOODREC.COM

CITY OF BEACHWOOD family aquatic center

STATEMENT NAIL & WAX LOUNGE

BEACHWOOD ART GALLERY: Beachwood K-12 Art Show | May 1 - May 29 | Opening Reception: May 1, 5-7 p.m.
 Beachwood students of all ages put their talent on display, presented by the Beachwood Arts Council.

BFAC Expands Aqua Aerobics Classes



Andie Ferman

Aqua Aerobics Cardio Stretch with Paula on Fridays is slated to return this summer after reaching fully capacity on a weekly basis last year. Due to the popularity of the program, the City of Beachwood is proud to announce the expansion of aqua aerobics classes with the addition of instructor Andie Ferman.

Andie will be offering a Deep-Water Aqua Aerobics class on Mondays at 11:15 a.m. and Shallow-Water Aqua Aerobics on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. throughout the summer.

Her upbeat, positive energy will be a great addition to the Beachwood Family Aquatic Center lineup. Andie is also an instructor for the City of Shaker Heights, Lifetime Fitness, and Yoga Roots.

Aqua aerobics classes are free for BFAC members, \$5 per class for residents, and \$10 per class for non-residents. Registration is available online at BeachwoodRec.com or call 216.292.1970.

PLAYGROUND POP-UP

NEVER MISS A POP-UP OR SPECIAL EVENT!

Playground Pop-Ups are surprise events with fun activities for kids!

JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST!

SCAN

STOP & REGISTER TODAY!
Limited session size.

CITY OF *Beachwood*

SAFETY TOWN 2025
Fairmount Early Childhood Education Center

July 28-August 1

An educational program for incoming kindergarten students covering the essentials of safety.

MORNING CLASS
9 AM - Noon

AFTERNOON CLASS
1:30 - 4:30 PM

REGISTRATION COST
Residents \$30
Non-Residents \$45

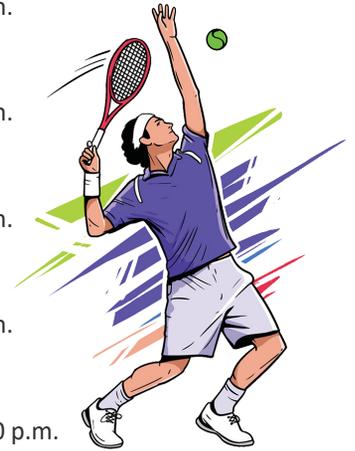
REGISTER: BeachwoodRec.com

- BUS SAFETY**
- PEDESTRIAN SAFETY**
- PERSONAL SAFETY & MUCH MORE**

Youth Tennis with David Cole

David Cole, Beachwood's varsity tennis coach, utilizes age-appropriate skill development to continually advance each player's game and confidence. Sessions include drills, fun games, and even matches. Classes meet two days per week at the Beachwood courts. Register at BeachwoodRec.com. Residents are \$105 and non-residents cost \$126.

- **Tennis for Tots (Ages 4-6)**
June 10-June 26, Tues/Thurs, 5-6 p.m.
July 8-July 24, Tues/Thurs, 5-6 p.m.
- **Young Tennis Stars (Ages 7-11)**
June 10-June 26, Tues/Thurs, 6-7 p.m.
July 8-July 24, Tues/Thurs, 6-7 p.m.
- **Rising Tennis Stars (Ages 12-14)**
June 10-June 26, Tues/Thurs, 7-8 p.m.
July 8-July 24, Tues/Thurs, 7-8 p.m.
- **High School & Tournament Players**
June 10-June 26, Tues/Thurs, 8-9 p.m.
July 8-July 24, Tues/Thurs, 8-9 p.m.
- **After Camp Junior Tennis**
June 9-June 25, Mon/Wed, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
June 10-June 26, Tues/Thurs, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
July 7-July 23, Mon/Wed, 3:30-4:30 p.m.
July 8-July 24, Tues/Thurs, 3:30-4:30 p.m.



Organized Open Play

Inclusive pickleball play where everyone, residents and non-residents, are invited to join! No registration required.

Beginning May 6:

Tues, 9:30-11:30 a.m.	Fri, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Wed, 6:00-8:00 p.m.	Sat, 9:30-11:00 a.m.
Thurs, 5:30-8:00 p.m.	Sun, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Beachwood Seniors

Upcoming Programs

- **Senior Cinemas Movie Day - *Thelma***
Thursday, June 5, 1:00 p.m.
Beachwood Community Center

Free! Pre-registration is required. *Thelma Post* is a 93-year-old grandma who loses \$10,000 to a con artist. With help from a friend and his motorized scooter, she looks to reclaim what was taken from her.
- **Beginner Mahj Lessons with Fern Grunberger**
Mondays, June 9-June 30, 12:30-2:30 p.m.
Beachwood Community Center

Do you know that "bam!" and "crack!" are not just terms in the comic strips but also part of the game of Mahj? Learn the game from expert instructor Fern Grunberger! Residents are \$48 and non-residents are \$58.
- **Lunch Bunch at Mama Santa's & Corbo's Bakery**
Wednesday, June 18, 11:30 a.m. (Van departure: 10:45 a.m.)
12301 Mayfield Rd., Cleveland

Venture with us to Little Italy for beloved Italian favorites at Mama Santa's followed by a treat at Corbo's. Van transportation available to up to nine people (\$5-\$7/person) or meet us at the restaurant. Register today!

May Meet & Eat

What's In Your Toolbox
Thursday, May 15, at Noon
Beachwood Community Center

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

Register by May 8.

Get ready to move, feel great and embrace aging with confidence! Longtime fitness instructor and retired firefighter Tim Carney will share simple yet powerful tools to boost your fitness, energy, and overall well-being – no matter your age! Discover the four cornerstones of a healthy lifestyle and how small changes can lead to big transformations.

Meal choices include meat lasagna or vegetable lasagna. All entrees served with a salad, a dinner roll, a beverage and a dessert.

June Meet & Eat (6/12): An afternoon of magic, music, and wonder with the talented Dustin Kaiser! Register by June 5. Note date change!

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

WHERE BUSINESS IS BOOMING!

THE LATEST NEWS FROM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Business Compass Podcast: Building Community Connections – From Local Events to Student-Led Impact



The Beachwood Business Compass podcast is providing a double feature this month. Two podcasts on the theme of building community connections are now available on Apple Podcasts. In the first episode, *Marketing Your Local Business Through Local Activities and Events*, Community Services Director Derek Schroeder and Graphic Designer Ryan Kennedy dive into how local businesses can build visibility and connection through city-sponsored events. In an era dominated by digital communication, face-to-face interactions offer a decisive advantage, fostering trust, building brand authenticity, and creating memorable experiences for customers and prospects alike.

Beachwood's Community Services Department provides numerous opportunities for local businesses to participate in and sponsor community events, helping them strengthen their presence and impact within the city. Schroeder and Kennedy's conversation provides actionable insights for businesses looking to deepen their local roots and grow their community engagement.

The second episode features two inspiring Beachwood High School seniors, Elizabeth Liu and Radha Pereek, who are involved in the *Hope for Heroes* initiative. This student-led mission seeks to amplify the healing power of dogs by supporting facility and therapy dog programs in hospitals throughout Northeast Ohio. During difficult times, these efforts bring comfort and emotional support to patients, their families, and caregivers.

Hope for Heroes is a standout project from Beachwood High School's Excel TECC Marketing program, which includes 40 students under the leadership of Marketing Instructor Greg Perry. Local companies can collaborate with and support this powerful initiative — demonstrating their values, enhancing their community ties, and giving back in a meaningful way.



Cathy Bieterman, Derek Schroeder, and Ryan Kennedy



Cathy Bieterman, Radha Pereek, and Elizabeth Liu



Cybersecurity: A Must for Businesses

As a small business owner, you're a vital part of our community. But in today's digital world, staying resilient means staying secure. Cybersecurity isn't just an IT concern—it's essential to protect your business. Talk with your team, connect with a trusted tech advisor, and take steps now to safeguard your future.

Explore self-guided resources at BeachwoodOhio.com/BusinessResourceCenter.

Beachwood One-Stop Business Resource Center: Facilitating Growth

The Beachwood One-Stop Resource Center is partnering with the Small Business Development Center at Cleveland State University to provide one-on-one support through the GrowthWheel program.

Designed for entrepreneurs and small business owners, GrowthWheel offers a visual toolbox to help make faster, more confident decisions. With easy-to-use graphic checklists, business owners can assess options, explore growth opportunities, and identify key focus areas.

Think of it as your pre-loaded whiteboard — ready before the meeting even begins. Skip the prep and dive right into action. Whether launching a startup or scaling up, GrowthWheel provides a clear framework to move forward with confidence. Appointments are available June 5 from 9:30 a.m to 3:00 p.m. Call 216.292.1915 to schedule.

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