

Minutes Approved

*10/18/2021*  
*As Circulated*

September 7, 2021  
Regular Council Meeting  
Elyria City Council

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The regular meeting of Elyria City Council was called to order on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 7:03 P.M. by President Stewart. President Stewart opened the meeting with a moment of reflection and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Tollett. Virtual Council meeting. The recording/audio tape of this meeting is available on City of Elyria Channel on YouTube. (Zoom meeting)

**2. ROLL CALL--COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

PRESENT: Cerra, Baird, Davis, Jessie, Keys, Mitchell, Oswald, Simmons, Stewart, Tollett

ABSENT: Callahan

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Whitfield, SSD Brubaker, ASSD Calvert, ASSD Williams, Law Dir. Deery, Asst. Clerk Lotko, Finance Dir. Pileski, Asst. Fin Dir. John Farrell, Police Chief Whitely, Fire Chief Pronesti, Asst. Fire Chief Gall, Superintendent Terry Korzan, HR Director Yousefi

Moved by Mr. Cerra, seconded by Mrs. Mitchell to excuse Mr. Callahan.

MOTION CARRIED

**3. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

Mr. Lotko read the public hearing notifications.

You are hereby notified of a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 during the Elyria City council meeting to consider the following:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1131.02, CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ELYRIA, OHIO, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE, TO REZONE REAL PROPERTY LOCATED ON LONGFELLOW STREET, ELYRIA, OHIO FROM R-TH RESIDENTIAL -TWO HOUSEHOLD DISTRICT TO B-G BUSINESS- GENERAL DISTRICT

President Stewart asked are there any proponents?

Are there any proponents?

Are there any proponents?

Are there any opponents?

Are there any opponents?

Are there any opponents?

Declaration made that the public hearing had been held.

**3. PUBLIC HEARINGS: CONTINUED**

Mrs. Mitchell moved, Mr. Cerra seconded that this ordinance be passed on it's first reading under suspension of rules.

SUSPENSION:	PASSAGE:
AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

Sponsored by:	<b><u>ORDINANCE NO. 2021-128</u></b>
Community	AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1131.02, CODIFIED
Development:	ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ELYRIA, OHIO, KNOWN AS
T. Callahan	THE ZONING ORDINANCE, TO REZONE REAL PROPERTY
M. Jessie	LOCATED ON LONGFELLOW STREET, ELYRIA, OHIO
D. Mitchell	FROM R-TH RESIDENTIAL -TWO HOUSEHOLD DISTRICT
K. Oswald	TO B-G BUSINESS- GENERAL DISTRICT
J. Cerra	

Mr. Lotko read the public hearing notification.  
You are hereby notified of a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 during the Elyria City council meeting to consider the following:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1131.02, CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ELYRIA, OHIO, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE, TO REZONE REAL PROPERTY LOCATED ON LONGFELLOW STREET, ELYRIA, OHIO, FROM R-TH RESIDENTIAL -TWO HOUSEHOLD DISTRICT TO B-G BUSINESS -GENERAL DISTRICT.

President Stewart asked are there any proponents?  
Are there any proponents?  
Are there any proponents?  
Are there any opponents?  
Are there any opponents?  
Are there any opponents?  
Declaration made that the public hearing had been held.

Mrs. Mitchell moved, Mr. Cerra seconded that this ordinance be passed on it's first reading under suspension of rules.

SUSPENSION:	PASSAGE:
AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1

**3. PUBLIC HEARINGS: CONTINUED**

Sponsored by:	<b><u>ORDINANCE NO. 2021-129</u></b>
Community Development:	AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1131.02, CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ELYRIA, OHIO, KNOWN AS THE ZONING ORDINANCE, TO REZONE REAL PROPERTY LOCATED ON LONGFELLOW STREET, ELYRIA, OHIO, FROM R-TH RESIDENTIAL -TWO HOUSEHOLD DISTRICT TO B-G BUSINESS -GENERAL DISTRICT.
T. Callahan	
M. Jessie	
D. Mitchell	
K. Oswald	
J. Cerra	

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mr. Cerra moved, Mr. Baird seconded that the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 2, 2021 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

**5. REMARKS AND REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS:**

**Council President Stewart:** None

**Mayor Whitfield:**

Mayor Whitfield shared that there was a lot to update, however he would save his updates and today spend his time focusing on welcoming students back to school, as well as celebrating one of our own students today. Mayor Whitfield introduced Ms. Fiona Duncan. He explained that he met Fiona in 2019 when she was a part of the Lemonade Stand Challenge. He described her as a very special young lady that embodies the Elyria entrepreneurial spirit. Mayor Whitfield presented Fiona Duncan with a proclamation and provided her the opportunity to share some remarks. Fiona was born with a medical condition called craniostenosis, she uses the proceeds of her lemonade stand to support families of children with conditions similar to her condition through mercy ships. She has sent over fifteen hundred dollars this summer to help those in need. Fiona expressed her appreciation to council and the Mayor for having her here tonight and for the acknowledgment of her giving.

President Stewart thanked Fiona for being an inspiration to others. He thanked Fiona for her commit.

**Safety Service Director Brubaker:**

Mr. Brubaker provided kudos to water distribution, had a major water break behind basf. Also waster water team on 1200 block the resident had worked on, where kudos to Brandon Christopher as well as Aaron Stefek for responding as well as Mr. Korzan and some other members of the wastewater team. The last thing was columbariums out at Brookdale cemetery.

**Finance Director Pileski:** No report

## **5. REMARKS AND REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS: CONTINUED**

**Law Director Deery:** No report

**Police Chief Whitely:**

Chief Whitely explained the first day of school did not go very well. Several emails about Eastern Heights were received. Also, investigative unit made an arrest on the homicide that occurred on Broad Street.

Mrs. Mitchell asked a question regarding covid recovery act funds for police departments from Governor DeWine for body cameras. Chief Whitely shared that he would look into the grant information.

**Fire Chief Pronesti:**

Fire Chief Pronesti explained that he started on August 1, 2021 as interim fire chief and that things have been calm internally. One engine has been placed in service , another will be placed in service in October. Chief explained that the Chief exam is scheduled for October 20<sup>th</sup>. He is planning on taking the exam and hopes there is no competition. He explained the EMS calls are increased, up over twenty percent. Chief Pronesti shared that he spoke with Mr. Dave Richards, CEO of LifeCare who explained that at times they are running out of ambulances and stretched thin with first responders. There has been an increase in trauma and accidents, violent injuries, shootings and stabbings. He shared that he has provided each council member a breakdown of calls by ward from the beginning of the year through August.

Mrs. Davis asked where the new truck was placed? Chief Pronesti responded, one new engine covered Cedar Street, the other truck is going to the North side of town to the Abbe Rd. Station. Mr. Oswald stated that he had a conversation with Fire Marshall Gall regarding fire suppression information. Some training is set up in October for use of fire extinguishers. Chief Pronesti explained that due to older buildings, that is very common in the city.

**ASSD Calvert:**

ASSD Calvert updated council that four applications have been received to be reviewed by the EEDC. The interest in reinvesting in downtown Elyria is very strong and the pipeline is definitely there. Ms. Calvert shared that she and the Mayor had the opportunity to tour Diamond Products as well.

**ASSD Williams:**

ASSD Williams provided an update to council on a Safety Service Law Enforcement Committee. The committee will be charged with the implementation and deployment of body cams and dash cams. The first meeting was held on August 31,2021. The committee consists of representation from the law department, communications, information technology, two captains from the police department and ASSD Williams. The committee is requesting from council President Stewart two council members be appointed to the committee if desired. He further explained that the

## **5. REMARKS AND REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS: CONTINUED**

committee will meet with finance and other departments as needed. He explained the first meeting went very well. Deployment is expected in the year 2022. Each committee member is charged with a task from their area of expertise that they are hoping will provide a policy to be implemented. Mr. Williams explained Governor DeWine's ten million dollar budget for the purchase of body cam and body worn systems. The information had been received and the administration is looking to apply for that grant as well as other grants that will contribute towards the purchase of equipment and training. He explained that he believes this is a great asset to policing through transparency, accountability and through the law department great savings in mitigating litigation.

President Stewart confirmed that Mr. Jessie and Mr. Williams and members of council had pledged that this was one of the issues council would look into with issue six dollars, and be supportive of body cams. Not only would they support Elyria police, but our residents as well. President Stewart inquired about when the first meeting will be scheduled for the finance committee. ASSD Williams stated that he expects the end of October, as the committee meets again in two weeks and homework and information gathering is still needed.

Mayor Whitfield asked ASSD Williams to please speak to the body cam component. Mr. Williams explained that many departments have utilized what is called the dash cam, which is the camera that is placed on the dash of the police cruiser. The question has been posed why get dash cam, when you are getting body cams? He explained that the dash cams provide another perspective in police chases and audio, which is a critical component. Ms. Mitchell asked if there was a deadline to apply for the grant. Mr. Williams responded yes, October 8<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Williams explained that they follows the guidelines on implementation of grants and believes the timing to be pretty good. President Stewart asked for confirmation, that information will be provided prior to the next finance meeting, Mr. Williams replied, yes. Mr. Oswald asked how often are meetings scheduled. Mr. Williams responded the first meeting was held, however meetings are driven by tasks. He anticipates another meeting will be scheduled in two weeks.

**HR Director Yousefi:** No Report

### **Superintendent Korzan:**

Mr. Korzan provided information about the two storms that we had recently in August Exhibit "A" attached.

Mr. Jessie thanked Superintendent Korzan and his crews for their hard work, especially when people have water in their basements and they have to go out and speak with them. Just in the past week, he mentioned two residents with lateral issues and the team had already visited with the residents and had discussion. Mr. Jessie expressed kudos to Mr. Korzan and his department. President Stewart dovetailed Mr. Jessie's comments and stated that these items were apart of the AARP funds discussion at te last finance meeting, and that the possible infrastructure bill that is coming through is what is needed to capitalize on improving the infrastructure of our city. Mr Cerra inquired about grants that may be available that was indicated in previous conversations with Superintendent Korzan that would have to be shovel ready, he would like to know if the

**5. REMARKS AND REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS: CONTINUED**

feasibility study would be part of getting things shovel ready. Mr. Korzan explained that the department has applied for a number of grant projects available through the State of Ohio, he explained that the competition is fierce across the state.

**Eng. Schneider:**

Mr. Schneider provided an update on a few things, the first being Street Sweeping Phase I kicked off September 7<sup>th</sup>. He reminded residents to please not to park where the no parking signs are. Another project that started on September 7<sup>th</sup> was TLCI, that included new sidewalks downtown and new street lighting. The following week Gulf Rd. will be closing for sewer repairs. Burns Rd. Will be closed for culvert repairs. Mr. Schneider also provided council with an update that on October 14<sup>th</sup>, a public meeting will be held for the East Broad Street project in council chambers at 5:30 P.M. Mr. Stewart asked about a water valve repair recently. Mr. Schneider explained that a water main break occurred in the middle of Route 57 and the domain had to be shut off for repair. Mrs. Mitchell asked about the closing of Fowl Rd at Mt. Vernon. Mr. Schneider confirmed the developer will be extending the storm culvert from their retention pond to the storm sewer. Mrs. Mitchell also inquired on when can council expect to see street resurfacing begin. Mr. Schneider stated that they have inquired about the same question, they are being told late September, early October. The contractors have until the middle of November to complete these projects. He understands that the delay has been primarily due to rain. Mr. Cerra inquired does this include phase I or II. Mr. Schneider explained that phase two and three are included, some were concrete portions of phase III. Mrs. Keys asked if someone could call the street sweeping company and ask that they go through the neighborhoods a little slower. Mr. Schneider confirmed that they received complaints as well and have reached out to the company. Mr. Cerra confirmed that the street sweeping company is going slower. Mrs. Simmons, received a few emails about traffic on West Ave. and inquired about any possibility for signage. Mr. Schneider explained that the engineering department received an email as well. However the traffic light should e working now. They will keep an eye on things.

**6. PRESIDENT'S REFERRALS AND REMONSTRANCES:**

*\*Matter is completed or partially completed*

1. The matter of determining the appropriate course of action to restore the function of the Two Falls Connector Bridge.

REFERRED BY: Council Members Brenda Davis 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward, Diane Simmons 5<sup>th</sup> Ward, Tom Callahan Council- At- Large

REFERRED TO: Community Development and Finance Committees

\* 2. The matter of amending the Exchange Agreement with Elyria City Schools to include an additional parcel of property.

REFERRED BY: Assistant Law Director Erik Breunig

REFERRED TO: Community Development and Finance Committees

**6. PRESIDENT'S REFERRALS AND REMONSTRANCES: CONTINUED**

\* 3. The matter of renewing the Horizon Education Center agreement for East Recreation Center.

REFERRED BY: Director Reardon

REFERRED TO: Community Development and Finance Committees

\* 4. The matter of establishing an agreement for the Boys & Girls Club to utilize South Recreation Center.

REFERRED BY: Director Reardon

REFERRED TO: Community Development and Finance Committees

\* 5. The matter of estimating the amount of active, inactive and interim funds to be awarded and deposited for the five (5) year period beginning December 1, 2021.

REFERRED BY: Finance Director Pileski

REFERRED TO: Finance

6. The matter of purchasing ten (10) new police vehicles for th Elyria Police Department.

REFERRED BY: Police Chief Whitely

REFERRED TO: Finance

7. The matter of a denied moral claim for damages submitted by Pam Bodnar.

REFERRED BY: Safety Service Director Brubaker

REFERRED TO: Finance

8. The matter of authorizing the Mayor to enter into a professional agreement with AECOM Technical Services, Inc. For the SSO/CSO/WWPCP Wet Weather Program.

REFERRED BY: Engineer Schneider

REFERRED TO: Utilities, Safety & Environment and Finance Committees

**Items 9 - 15 Received and Placed on File in the Clerk's Office**

9. List of receipts collected be each division of The Clerk of court's Office for the month of July 2021.

10. July 2021 Income Tax Report.

11. July 2021 General Fund Cash Balance Report.

12. August 2021 Income Tax Report.

13. August 2021 General Fund Cash Balance Report.

14. Elyria Parks Board Meeting Minutes from the June 10<sup>th</sup> & July 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 Meetings.

15. Contract to reconstruct Pioneer Plaza parking lot.

**7. PETITIONS COUNCIL MEMBERS: None**

**8. PETITIONS LOBBY:**

David Cuppage, 111 Superior Ave., Suite 2700., (Representing DBR Commercial Realty) - Reaser Court

Jim Miller, 5546 Riveredge Dr., Elyria, OH 44035- Representing Self- Reaser Crossing, Item #10 on Agenda

April Hawley, 445 Bayberry Dr., Elyria, OH 44035- Representing self and neighbors -Flooding and property value

Marcio Tolentino, 127 Cheshire Dr., Elyria, Oh, 44035- Representing Friends of Tolentino- Elyria Ward 6

Nancy Arnold, 451 Bayberry Dr., Elyria, OH 44035- Representing self and neighbors- Back-up sewers, also the tax hike from city auditor

Jeff Baxter, 160 Burns Rd., Elyria, OH 44035- Representing self-Wal-Mart, Reaser Point Crossing, Rt. 57, Chestnut Exhibit "A" attached

**9. REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES:** None**10. RESOLUTIONS – FIRST READING:**

Sponsored by:	<b><u>RESOLUTION NO. 2021-19</u></b>
Finance:	A RESOLUTION APPROVING A LIST SUBMITTED BY THE
V. Stewart III	SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR FOR THE COLLECTION OF
P. Tollett	DELINQUENT INACTIVE UTILITY ACCOUNTS AND
B. Davis	DIRECTING THE CLERK OF COUNCIL TO CERTIFY SAID
J. Baird	ACCOUNTS TO THE LORAIN COUNTY AUDITOR..

Tollett moved, Davis seconded this resolution be passed on its first reading under suspension of the rules.

SUSPENSION	PASSAGE:
AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

Sponsored by:	<b><u>RESOLUTION NO. 2021-20</u></b>
Finance:	A RESOLUTION APPROVING A LIST SUBMITTED BY THE
V. Stewart III	SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR FOR THE COLLECTION OF
P. Tollett	2020 DELINQUENT STORM WATER FEES, DIRECTING
B. Davis	THE CLERK OF COUNCIL TO CERTIFY SAID ACCOUNTS TO
J. Baird	THE LORAIN COUNTY AUDITOR.



**10. RESOLUTIONS – FIRST READING: CONTINUED**

Tollett moved, Davis seconded this resolution be passed on its first reading under suspension of the rules and declaring an emergency.

SUSPENSION:	EMERGENCY:	PASSAGE:
AYE: 10	AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

Sponsored by:	<b><u>RESOLUTION NO. 2021-21</u></b>
Finance:	A RESOLUTION APPROVING A LIST SUBMITTED BY THE
V. Stewart III	SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR FOR THE COLLECTION OF
P. Tollett	LOT MOWING CHARGES, DIRECTING THE CLERK OF
B. Davis	COUNCIL TO CERTIFY SAID ACCOUNTS TO THE LORAIN
J. Baird	COUNTY AUDITOR.

Tollett moved, Davis seconded this resolution be passed on its first reading under suspension of the rules.

SUSPENSION	PASSAGE:
AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

Sponsored by:	<b><u>RESOLUTION NO. 2021-22</u></b>
Utilities, Safety,	A RESOLUTION APPROVING A LIST SUBMITTED BY THE
& Environment:	SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR FOR THE COLLECTION OF
D. Mitchell	FINAL ASSESSMENTS FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF
D. Simmons	PRIVATE SERVICE SEWER LINES, DIRECTING THE CLERK
J. Keys	OF COUNCIL TO CERTIFY SAID ACCOUNTS TO THE
J. Cerra	LORAIN COUNTY AUDITOR, AND DECLARING AN
	EMERGENCY

Mitchell moved, Simmons seconded this resolution be passed on its first reading under suspension of the rules and declared an emergency.

SUSPENSION:	EMERGENCY:	PASSAGE:
AYE: 10	AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

**10. RESOLUTIONS – FIRST READING: CONTINUED**

Sponsored by: **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-23**  
 Finance: A RESOLUTION ESTIMATING THE AMOUNT OF  
 V. Stewart III ACTIVE, INACTIVE AND INTERIM FUNDS TO BE  
 P. Tollett AWARDED AND DEPOSITED FOR THE FIVE (5) YEAR  
 B. Davis PERIOD BEGINNING DECEMBER 1, 2021 AND FIXING  
 J. Baird THE DATE FOR THE DESIGNATION OF DEPOSITORY,  
 AUTHORIZING THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO ACCEPT  
 BIDS FROM BANKS, AND DECLARING AN  
 EMERGENCY.

Tollett moved, Davis seconded this resolution be passed on its first reading under suspension of the rules and declared an emergency.

SUSPENSION:	EMERGENCY:	PASSAGE:
AYE: 10	AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

Sponsored by: **RESOLUTION NO. 2021-24**  
 Finance: A RESOLUTION THAT THE CITY HAS UNFIT FOR  
 V. Stewart III PUBLIC USE CERTAIN PROPERTY, AND DECLARING  
 P. Tollett AN EMERGENCY  
 B. Davis  
 J. Baird

Tollett moved, Davis seconded this resolution be passed on its first reading under suspension of the rules and declared an emergency.

SUSPENSION:	EMERGENCY:	PASSAGE:
AYE: 10	AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

**11. RESOLUTIONS--SECOND READING: None**

**12. RESOLUTIONS--THIRD READING: None**

**13. ORDINANCES – FIRST READING:**

Sponsored by: **ORDINANCE NO. 2021-130**  
 Finance: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF  
 V. Stewart III SAFETY SERVICE TO DISPOSE OF, BY THE BEST  
 P. Tollett MEANS POSSIBLE, CITY PROPERTY THAT IS UNFIT  
 B. Davis FOR PUBLIC USE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.  
 M. Jessie  
 J. Baird

Tollett moved, Davis seconded to pass this ordinance on its first reading under suspension of the rules and declaring an emergency.

SUSPENSION:	EMERGENCY:	PASSAGE:
AYE: 10	AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

Sponsored by: **ORDINANCE NO. 2021-131**  
 Community AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE DEDICATION OF  
 Development: CERTAIN LANDS, EASEMENT AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY  
 T. Callahan FOR THE INSTALLATION OF STREETS AND UTILITIES  
 M. Jessie AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE PLAT FOR REASER POINTE  
 D. Mitchell CROSSING.  
 K. Oswald  
 J. Cerra

Mitchell moved, Cerra seconded to pass this ordinance on its first reading under suspension of the rules.

SUSPENSION:	PASSAGE:
AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

**13. ORDINANCES – FIRST READING CONTINUED:**

Sponsored by:	<b><u>ORDINANCE NO. 2021-132</u></b>
Community Development:	AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE DEDICATION OF CERTAIN LANDS, EASEMENTS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY FOR THE INSTALLATION OF STREETS AND UTILITIES AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE FINAL PLAT OF FOUR SEASONS AT CHESTNUT RIDGE SUBDIVISION NO. 3.
T. Callahan	
M. Jessie	
D. Mitchell	
K. Oswald	
J. Cerra	

Mitchell moved, Cerra seconded to pass this ordinance on its first reading under suspension of the rules.

SUSPENSION:	PASSAGE:
AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

Sponsored by:	<b><u>ORDINANCE NO. 2021-133</u></b>
Utilities, Safety & Environment	AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH CT CONSULTANTS, INC. FOR A PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING STUDY ON THE WATER PUMPING PLANT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
D. Mitchell	
D. Simmons	
J. Keys	
J. Cerra	

Mitchell moved, Davis seconded to pass this ordinance on its first reading under suspension of the rules and declaring an emergency.

SUSPENSION:	EMERGENCY:	PASSAGE:
AYE: 10	AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

**13. ORDINANCES – FIRST READING CONTINUED:**

Sponsored by: **ORDINANCE NO. 2021-134**  
 Community Development: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER  
 T. Callahan INTO A ONE-YEAR RENEWAL OF THE LEASE  
 M. Jessie AGREEMENT WITH HORIZON EDUCATION CENTERS,  
 D. Mitchell AN OHIO NON-PROFIT CORPORATION, TO UTILIZE THE  
 K. Oswald CITY’S EAST RECREATION CENTER, AND DECLARING  
 J. Cerra AN EMERGENCY.  
 Finance:  
 V. Stewart III  
 P. Tollett  
 B. Davis  
 J. Baird

Mitchell moved, Simmons seconded to pass this ordinance on its first reading under suspension of the rules and declaring an emergency.

SUSPENSION:	EMERGENCY:	PASSAGE:
AYE: 10	AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

Sponsored by: **ORDINANCE NO. 2021- 135**  
 Community Development: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER  
 T. Callahan INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF  
 M. Jessie NORTHEAST OHIO TO UTILIZE THE CITY’S SOUTH  
 D. Mitchell RECREATION CENTER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.  
 K. Oswald  
 J. Cerra  
 Finance:  
 V. Stewart III  
 P. Tollett  
 B. Davis  
 J. Baird

Mitchell moved, Simmons seconded to pass this ordinance on its first reading under suspension of the rules and declaring an emergency.

SUSPENSION:	EMERGENCY:	PASSAGE:
AYE: 10	AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

**13. ORDINANCES – FIRST READING CONTINUED:**

Sponsored by: **ORDINANCE NO. 2021-136**  
 Community Development: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2020-61 TO  
 T. Callahan ADD TWO (2) ADDITIONAL PARCELS OF REAL ESTATE  
 M. Jessie PROPERTY TO BE TRANSFERRED TO THE ELYRIA CITY  
 D. Mitchell SCHOOL DISTRICT PURSUANT TO THE EXCHANGE  
 K. Oswald AGREEMENT WITH THE ELYRIA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT.  
 J. Cerra AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE EXCHANGE  
 Finance: AGREEMENT TO ADD SUCH ADDITIONAL PARCELS TO BE  
 V. Stewart III TRANSFERRED, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. AN  
 P. Tollett ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ADVERTISE FOR  
 B. Davis BIDS AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE 2021 CRACK  
 J. Baird SEALING PROJECT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mitchell moved, Davis seconded to pass this ordinance on its first reading under suspension of the rules and declaring an emergency.

SUSPENSION:	EMERGENCY:	PASSAGE:
AYE: 10	AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

Sponsored by: **ORDINANCE NO. 2021-137**  
 Finance: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 2016-6, KNOWN  
 V. Stewart III AS THE SALARY ORDINANCE, TO INCLUDE A NEW  
 P. Tollett POSITION WITH THE ELYRIA FIRE FIGHTERS, IAFF LOCAL  
 B. Davis 474, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.  
 J. Baird

Tollett moved, Davis seconded to pass this ordinance on its first reading under suspension of the rules and declaring an emergency.

SUSPENSION:	EMERGENCY:	PASSAGE:
AYE: 10	AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

**13. ORDINANCES – FIRST READING CONTINUED:**

Sponsored by: **ORDINANCE NO. 2021-138**  
 Finance: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ELYRIA CODIFIED ORDINANCE  
 V. Stewart III CHAPTER 165: EMPLOYEES GENERALLY ,SECTION 165.33( C ).  
 P. Tollett  
 B. Davis  
 J. Baird

Tollett moved, Davis seconded to pass this ordinance on its first reading under suspension of the rules.

SUSPENSION:	PASSAGE:
AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

Sponsored by: **ORDINANCE NO. 2021-139**  
 Finance: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2021-50,  
 V. Stewart III KNOWN AS THE “2021 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS  
 P. Tollett ORDINANCE,” TO CHANGE FUNDS IN VARIOUS  
 B. Davis ACCOUNTS.  
 J. Baird

Tollett moved, Davis seconded to pass this ordinance on its first reading under suspension of the rules.

SUSPENSION:	EMERGENCY:	PASSAGE:
AYE: 10	AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

**13. ORDINANCES – FIRST READING CONTINUED:**

Sponsored by: **ORDINANCE NO. 2021-140**  
 Utilities, Safety & Environment AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS FOR THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM, ADMINISTERED BY THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE OHIO EPA, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.  
 D. Mitchell  
 D. Simmons  
 J. Keys  
 J. Cerra  
 Finance:  
 V. Stewart III  
 P. Tollett  
 B. Davis  
 J. Baird

Mitchell moved, Simmons seconded to pass this ordinance on its first reading under suspension of the rules. Tollett moved , Davis seconded to add emergency clause.

SUSPENSION:	EMERGENCY:	PASSAGE:
AYE: 10	AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

Sponsored by: **ORDINANCE NO. 2021-141**  
 Utilities, Safety & Environment AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE RE-ROOFING OF THE POWER HOUSE BUILDING AT THE WASTEWATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.  
 D. Mitchell  
 D. Simmons  
 J. Keys  
 J. Cerra  
 Finance:  
 V. Stewart III  
 P. Tollett  
 B. Davis  
 J. Baird

Mitchell moved, Davis seconded to pass this ordinance on its first reading under suspension of the rules and declaring an emergency.

SUSPENSION:	EMERGENCY:	PASSAGE:
AYE: 10	AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED



**13. ORDINANCES – FIRST READING CONTINUED:**

Sponsored by: **ORDINANCE NO. 2021-142**  
 Utilities, Safety AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ADVERTISE  
 & Environment FOR BIDS AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE 2021  
 D. Mitchell CDBG PENFIELD STORM SEWER PROJECT.  
 D. Simmons  
 J. Keys  
 J. Cerra

Mitchell moved, Davis seconded to pass this ordinance on its first reading under suspension of the rules.

SUSPENSION:	PASSAGE:
AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

Sponsored by: **ORDINANCE NO. 2021-143**  
 Utilities, Safety AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER  
 & Environment INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF CROSSWALK  
 D. Mitchell SIGNALS FOR THE EAST RIVER STREET CROSSWALK  
 D. Simmons BETWEEN THE HOSPITAL E.R. AND THE PARKING  
 J. Keys GARAGE.  
 J. Cerra

Mitchell moved, Baird seconded to pass this ordinance on its first reading under suspension of the rules.

SUSPENSION:	PASSAGE:
AYE: 10	AYE: 10
NAY: 0	NAY: 0
ABSENT: 1	ABSENT: 1
MOTION CARRIED	MOTION CARRIED

**13. ORDINANCES – FIRST READING CONTINUED:**

Sponsored by: **ORDINANCE NO. 2021-144**  
 Utilities, Safety AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER  
 & Environment INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF LEFT TURN  
 D. Mitchell BARRIERS FOR EAST BROAD STREET, WEST OF STATE  
 D. Simmons ROUTE 57.  
 J. Keys  
 J. Cerra

Mitchell moved, Davis seconded to pass this ordinance on its first reading under suspension of the rules.

SUSPENSION:

AYE: 10

NAY: 0

ABSENT: 1

MOTION CARRIED

PASSAGE:

AYE: 10

NAY: 0

ABSENT: 1

MOTION CARRIED

**14. ORDINANCES–SECOND READING: None****15. ORDINANCES–THIRD READING: None****16. COMMITTEE CALLS:**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT** 9/13/2021 6:00 P.M. All Referred Items Council Chambers w/Law Director, SSD, Engineer, Bldg. Insp.

**VIRTUAL/ZOOM**

**FINANCE** 9/13/2021 Following CD All Referred Items Council Chambers w/Mayor, Fin. Director, Law Director, SSD, Engineer

**VIRTUAL/ZOOM**

**UTILITIES, SAFETY & ENVIRONMENT** 9/8/2021 6:00 P.M. All Referred items w/ Law Director, SSD, Engineer

**STRATEGIC PLANNING** 9/20/2021 Immediately following Council All Referred Items Council Chambers W/ Mayor, Safety Service Director, Finance Dir., Law Director, Engineer

**VIRTUAL/ZOOM**

**17. MISC AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None**

Mr. Oswald recognized forth ward resident Ray Noble who received a proclamation from the Lorain County Commissioners for declaring September 2021 Prostate Cancer Awareness Month throughout Lorain County. Mr. Noble's Men to Men support group has been running for twenty-eight years.

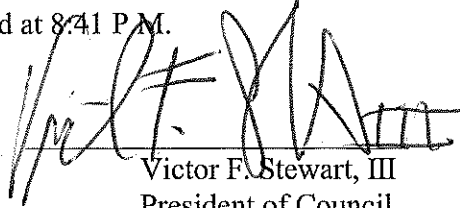
**18. ADJOURNMENT:**

Baird Motion to adjourn, Mitchell seconded at 8:41 P.M.

MOTION CARRIED



Michael J. Lotko, III  
Clerk of Council



Victor F. Stewart, III  
President of Council

RLP/



**Council Meeting Notes: September 7, 2021**

1. **Introduction:** There is no doubt that, over time, rain events have intensified. 26 years ago, we never had storms like we have been seeing over the past several years. We collect data during rain events, including total rainfall, event duration, peak flows at the wastewater plant, and other such data. I put together a couple of charts showing the numbers of storms at different amounts of rainfall for each year. If you look at the two-paged chart, you can see which months over the years 2012 to 2021 are the wettest. This has changed markedly from the 1990s and early 2000s when the wettest months were typically March, April and May. There has been a shift into the summer months, which used to be dryer. The seasons have shifted. The second chart shows the rain events that we were called out to check overflows (meaning the plant flow was greater than 30 MGD). This chart eliminates the smaller rains that don't really amount to much. The storms that are highlighted are typically the ones that cause street and basement flooding, although we can't dismiss the column showing storms that dropped greater than one inch but less than two inches of rain. This column depends on the period of time over which these rains fell. Obviously, the less time, the more issues they caused. While the past few years have shown a decrease in total storms per year, the ones we have had have been more intense.

**2. Recent Events – Just For Perspective:**

- a. Waverly TN: Recently had a rain event that dropped 17 inches of rain in a 24-hour period. This was twice the record amount of rainfall this area had ever seen (9 inches in 2010). This wasn't a tropical storm or a hurricane, it was a series of strong thunderstorms that kept developing and moving over the same area dropping 3-4 inches of rain an hour. Sound familiar? We just had two back-to-back storms that dropped 3 inches of rain in an hour and a half. The town of Waverly was devastated. Houses floated off their foundations and were crushed by the waters. We saw the same type of storm on July 4, 1969 when a series of supercell thunderstorms kept developing over the area all night long. I remember being on the 4<sup>th</sup> Street bridge

the following day with my hand in the water as it flowed under the bridge deck.

- b. Hurricane Ida developed from a tropical storm in the Gulf of Mexico into a category 5 hurricane in less than 24 hours – an amazing rate, but not that surprising given how warm the water was. Ida's remnants dropped 12 inches of rain over the states of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania over 3-4 hours causing widespread destruction and cost in lives.
- c. Climate experts say that, due to global warming and climate change, the atmosphere has been placed on steroids with a more robust way of getting super heavy rainfalls out of thunderstorms when the conditions are right. The chances are now doubled and they expect more of these types of rain events. Hotter air holds more moisture allowing storms to gather strength more quickly and grow larger. I've included in your packet two articles that detail the effects of climate change: one that focuses on the United States, and one with a more global focus. Climate change is what we are really contending with.

### **3. Our Events:**

- a. On August 13<sup>th</sup>, a storm dropped over 3 inches of rain on the southeast quadrant of the city in three very heavy downpours over a very short period of time. Between 5:30 and 5:55 PM (25 minutes), we received 1.25 inches of rain. Ten minutes later, we were up to 2 inches of rain (that is 0.75 inches in 10 minutes). Shortly after that, our rain gauges were showing over 3 inches of rain. That is a lot of rain, averaging about one inch every 25 minutes. This storm calculated out as being a 200 to 300-year storm event. All of the storm sewers and ditches were overloaded. We had a total of 20 WIB calls, 16 WIS calls, and 2 calls about overloaded ditches from this event.
- b. Twelve days later, on August 25<sup>th</sup>, we had another intense rain event that was centered most heavily over the northeast section of the city. At 0627, we already had 0.25 inches of rain and by 0650 we were up to 2 inches of rain (0.75 inches additional in

that 23 minutes). By the time the largest downpours were over, we were between 2 and 3 inches of rain, depending on where you were. Again, this all happened over a very short period of time. At the onset of this storm, our rain gauge indicated that we were getting rain at a rate of 6.24 inches per hour. That's insane. This storm was categorized as a 100-year storm. We had 83 WIB calls and 22 WIS calls for this event.

- c. The city's sewers can handle 2-3 inches of rain over a 24 to 48-hour period of time, but sewer systems can't handle storms of these magnitudes over such short periods of time.

#### **4. Solutions:**

- a. We need to look for ways to increase resiliency, which will include additional sewer projects as well as removing private side sources of infiltration into the sanitary sewer systems. In recent meetings with Engineer Schneider and Asst. Engineer McKillips, the following list was developed:
  - b. Our crews just finished televising the storm sewers on the southeast side of the city. They did not find anything unusual, such as blockages in the pipes, but all of the data is being reviewed to see if anything can be done to help this area.
  - c. The City Engineer is currently studying the Spring Valley area for future projects there.
  - d. There are some sanitary sewer projects that need to be looked at for the Abbe Road North area.
    - i. When the ESRS was being constructed in the area of Abbe Road @ Whitman Blvd, we had the junction structure in that intersection designed with a 36" blank to the northeast in the structure to accept a future 36" sanitary relief sewer from the Abbe Road North area during rain events. A new 36" sanitary relief sewer would help the area north of Bedford Avenue and would include Hartford, Sherwood, Wilder, Livermore, Fairwood,

Georgetown, and Salem Avenues. With this area's excess flows removed from the existing sewers, the area north of there, including Rosewood, Sandalwood, Finwood, Hollywood and Thornwood Avenues would flow more easily via the existing sewers.

- ii. The 14" Windward siphon pipe that takes most of the Abbe North flows needs to be replaced. It is currently a one-barrel siphon and could be redesigned as a two-barrel siphon so that the smaller barrel would handle the normal dry-weather flows and the second larger barrel would handle the higher flows during rain events. This improvement would help the entire North Abbe Road area, as well as the Northfield, Briar Lake and Windward Drive areas.
- iii. These projects would include looking for private side infiltration going into the sanitary sewers through broken lateral pipes and other sources.
- iv. We would like to get these projects into a feasibility study phase and then into a design phase. We don't have costs for these studies at this time but the estimates for the feasibility study could probably be developed rather quickly. These projects are outside of the scope of the comprehensive wet weather plan that is currently underway. I don't know if these studies could be appropriated from the Sewer Fund or if some of the ARPA dollars would need to be reserved. An additional discussion needs to be had with the City Engineers on this. But, that could be a good use of the funds. I know we are waiting to see what comes out of the \$1.3 trillion-dollar Infrastructure Improvement and Jobs Act, as well as the \$3.5 trillion-dollar Budget Resolution that is currently paused by Senator Manchin. I am hoping that the stall on the Budget Resolution doesn't delay the vote set for late September on the Infrastructure Improvement and Jobs Act. Once signed, the IJA funds will be disbursed to the states through the Clean Water State



Revolving Funds, and it is predicted to take quite some time before municipalities see any of this funding. From where we are at currently, the quicker we get these studies completed, the quicker we could have solutions underway.

## **5. Questions**

# The Washington Post

## Nearly 1 in 3 Americans experienced a weather disaster this summer

Climate change has turbocharged severe storms, fires, hurricanes, coastal storms and floods — threatening millions

By  
Sarah Kaplan  
and  
Andrew Ba Tran

September 4, 2021 at 1:35 p.m. EDT

Nearly 1 in 3 Americans live in a county hit by a weather disaster in the past three months, according to a new Washington Post analysis of federal disaster declarations. On top of that, 64 percent live in places that experienced a multiday heat wave — phenomena that are not officially deemed disasters but are considered the most dangerous form of extreme weather.

The expanding reach of climate-fueled disasters, a trend that has been increasing at least since 2018, shows the extent to which a warming planet has already transformed Americans' lives. At least 388 people in the United States have died due to hurricanes, floods, heat waves and wildfires since June, according to media reports and government records. Record-shattering temperatures in the Pacific Northwest cooked hundreds of people to death in their own homes. Flash floods turned basement apartments into death traps and in one instance ripped twin babies from their father's arms. Wildfires raged through 5 million acres of tinder-dry forest. Chronic drought pushed federal officials to impose mandatory cuts to Colorado River water for the first time.

Americans' growing sense of vulnerability is palpable. Craig Fugate, former head of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and Florida's Emergency Management Division, has never known a summer as packed with crises as this one. The question, he wonders, is whether this calamitous season will mark a turning point in public opinion that finally forces political leaders to act. "If not," Fugate asked, "what will it take?"

Hurricane Ida dumped record amounts of rain in several Mid-Atlantic and Northeast states days after making landfall in Louisiana. The record drought and extreme heat fueled wildfires in the West and stressed water resources. Even seasoned survivors say that recent disasters are the worst they've ever experienced. People who never considered themselves at risk from climate change are suddenly waking up to

floodwaters outside their windows and smoke in their skies, wondering if anywhere is safe. The true test of this summer's significance will be in whether the United States can meaningfully curb its planet-warming emissions — and fast. The nation's most ambitious plan to address climate change and adapt to its impacts — Democrats' \$3.5 trillion budget bill — is now in jeopardy after Sen. Joe Manchin III (D-W.Va.) called for a “strategic pause” on the legislation Thursday, citing concern over the price tag. The proposal to institute renewable energy requirements for power companies, impose import fees on polluters and provide generous support for electric vehicles cannot pass without Manchin's vote. Yet time is one thing the world lacks. The planet has already warmed more than 1.1 degrees Celsius (roughly 2 degrees Fahrenheit) since the start of the industrial era. The United States has contributed more to that warming than any other country in history; a quarter of all carbon dioxide added to the atmosphere since 1850 has come from Americans burning fossil fuels. Humanity must roughly halve emissions by the end of the decade to have a chance of avoiding the worst effects of warming, according to the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The climate will not stabilize unless greenhouse gas emissions cease. Until then, the scientists warn, we commit ourselves to an even hotter and more disastrous future with each ton of carbon we unleash.

### **‘Something's amiss’**

Extreme weather has always been a “game of chance,” said earth scientist Claudia Tebaldi. People have long weighed the risk of storm surge against a view of the ocean, bet against the threat of fire by building homes nestled in the trees.

But climate change has loaded the dice for disaster. Studies show the chance of a given tropical storm becoming a hurricane that is Category 3 or greater has grown 8 percent every decade since 1979. The area of the West burned by wildfire is twice what it would be without human influence. For every degree Celsius of warming, the atmosphere is able to hold 7 percent more moisture, leading to exponential increases in rainfall. Scientists say the Pacific Northwest heat wave, which killed more than 200 people in June, was “virtually impossible” in a world without climate change. “What we are doing with global warming is making ourselves play a game that is rigged more and more against us because of our own actions,” said Tebaldi, a researcher at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory and a lead author of the IPCC's latest climate report.

As extreme weather events become more frequent and intense, that report cautioned, they are more likely to coincide — creating “compound catastrophes” that are still more dangerous than each disaster would be on its own. Experts pointed to the deadly deluges in the Northeast this week. The region had already experienced a historically wet August, which left waterways close to overtopping and the ground so saturated it couldn't absorb any more rain. By the time Hurricane Ida's remnants plowed through, dropping record amounts of rain in a matter of hours, flash flooding was inevitable. Seven rivers saw record-breaking floods, according to Dartmouth hydrologist Evan Dethier, at a time when waterways usually record their lowest flows of the year.

Similarly, the intense heat Louisiana has experienced in Ida's wake has compounded the storm's damage. Nearly a week after the storm made landfall, New Orleans has begun

evacuating residents to save them from the sweltering conditions. The 100-degree heat index would be easier to withstand if so many people hadn't lost power during the storm, experts said. And the toll of the hurricane would be less catastrophic if it wasn't followed by temperatures that could kill.

Using advanced computer models, scientists can calculate the degree to which climate change made a given disaster more likely. This type of research, known as "attribution science," has revealed how warming boosted Hurricane Harvey's rainfall by at least 15 percent in 2017 and how a 2020 heat wave that blasted Siberia was almost impossible in a world not altered by humans.

For its analysis of exposure to disasters, The Post considered FEMA-declared severe storms, fires, hurricanes, coastal storms and floods — events that scientists have found are made more frequent or severe by climate change. Though most of those events were not subject to an attribution analysis, experts increasingly say the fact that these extremes are unfolding in a hotter world makes them, inevitably, climate disasters. As Texas Tech researcher and Nature Conservancy chief scientist Katharine Hayhoe put it on Twitter: "The question today is not ... how could climate change affect this event — but rather how could it NOT, as it is occurring over the massively altered background conditions of our 1.1C warmer planet."

Things certainly felt worse to Margie Smith as she waited in line for water outside a city-run food assistance center in New Orleans's West Bank. The lifelong Southerner is used to hurricanes, used to people measuring their lives in the number of storms they've witnessed, used to people saying nothing could ever be as bad as Katrina. But now, on her fifth day without electricity, surrounded by broken telephone poles and splintered trees, she's not so sure.

The storms seem stronger. The summer heat lasts longer. The normally mild winters have been shattered by ice storms and wild temperature swings.

Smith is no expert, she insisted. "But it feels like something's amiss."

Surveys show that concern about climate change has been steadily rising among Americans for the past decade. In a 2019 poll from The Washington Post-Kaiser Family Foundation, 63 percent of people who said their area had been affected by severe storms, droughts or extremely hot days identified climate change as a "major factor." A slightly smaller fraction, 54 percent, viewed climate change as a major contributor to wildfires in their area.

Mariana Arcaya, a social epidemiologist and urban planner at MIT, has noticed an uptick in confessions of outrage, grief and fear from people in her life. Friends have reached out to ask where they should move to "escape" climate risks.

And in her research on the health effects of natural disasters, Arcaya is hearing more and more people worry about higher temperatures creating higher utility bills and basement flooding damaging rental homes.

"People have rightly been talking about climate change as the emergency that it is for years," Arcaya said. "And it feels like that sense of urgency is finally spreading to those who, until now, have felt pretty safe."

Yet views of the issue are sharply polarized. This year, a Gallup poll found a record high 82 percent of Democrats said the effects of global warming had already begun, compared with 29 percent of Republicans. In the Post-Kaiser poll, Democrats in the Southeast were more than twice as likely as Republicans to blame climate change for recent severe storms.

And even among those who worry about warming, the issue lacks political urgency. When the Pew Research Center asked Americans about President Biden's policy agenda in January, just 38 percent said climate change should be a top priority. Fourteen other issues, from strengthening the economy to dealing with immigration, ranked higher.

### **Bracing for impact**

The record-breaking nature of recent disasters has strained infrastructure that wasn't built to withstand them. Storms have overwhelmed the pumps that remove water from New York City's subway stations, nearly drowning people who were trapped underground. Temperatures high enough to melt streetcar cables forced Portland's transit agency to suspend service during the heat wave, making it harder for vulnerable residents to reach cooling centers.

Preparations for Hurricane Ida were hampered by its rapid intensification, a trademark of climate change-driven storms. Officials had just 76 hours between when a tropical depression was identified in the Caribbean and the minute Ida made landfall — not enough time to change the flow of traffic on highways to enable a full evacuation. And the breathless pace of emergencies has pushed the nation's first responders to the breaking point.

A U.S. Forest Service firefighter said he's been working for five straight months, struggling to contain blazes that move faster than any he's ever seen. His crew is so tired he's had to ask members to stay home from assignments. As much as they are needed to help battle the 84 large fires currently burning across the country, their fatigue makes them a hazard.

But there is no one to replace them. Since mid-July, the National Interagency Fire Center has set the nation's preparedness level at 5 — the highest possible rating, which indicates the country is at risk of exhausting its firefighting resources. The firefighter, who spoke on the condition of anonymity out of fear of losing his job, said hundreds of requests for help from incident commanders have gone unfilled. "We're so on our heels, we're so burnt out, we're so understaffed," he said.

Trevor Rikken, the head of the American Red Cross's domestic disaster program, said the agency is "testing the limits" of its network. This week alone, more than 2,000 staff and volunteers have deployed across 10 states. Many of them are on their second or third crisis of the summer. "It's no longer, 'We have a big event and then there's time to recover,'" Rikken said. "Disaster has become a chronic condition."

But the extent of damage wrought by climate change will be determined by how the nation plans for it, and how the communities rebuild. Almost half of public roadways are currently in poor or mediocre condition, according to the American Society of Civil Engineers — making events like the deadly collapse of a Mississippi highway during Hurricane Ida more likely. The location and condition of some 10,000 miles of levees in the United States are unknown. Chronically underfunded storm water systems are unable to cope with record rainfall. Many electric utilities have not taken steps to ensure the grid keeps functioning amid worsening hurricanes and wildfires. Communities need to start preparing for the unprecedented, Fugate said. Coastal cities should develop alternative evacuation plans to avoid getting caught off-guard by rapidly intensifying storms — for example, building comfortable, well-equipped shelters for people who don't have time to flee. Levees and storm-water systems must be built to withstand floods that would have been impossible in a cooler world. Amid unstoppable wildfires, homes at the edge of forests can be made safer with flameproof building materials. Social systems are also in need of repair, said Arcaya. During heat waves, early warning systems and check-ins from neighbors have been proved to save hundreds of lives. After hurricanes, research shows, people with strong connections to their neighbors experience less trauma and are better able to get back on their feet. The country will need a robust support system to help thousands of displaced people navigate the bureaucracy required to obtain federal assistance, Arcaya said. And since disasters often destroy affordable housing, the nation will need to invest in building more places for people to live. These changes will be expensive, Fugate acknowledged. But the cost of responding to disasters already totals more than \$81 billion per year. "It's a choice between spending now or spending more in the future."

### **Beyond adaptation**

However, no amount of investment in infrastructure will be enough, experts say, if people don't stop the world from warming. Under the worst-case scenarios for climate change, average temperatures in much of the country are projected to be between 6 and 8 degrees Fahrenheit higher by the end of the century. More than 60,000 additional people may be killed per year by extreme heat by 2050. Hurricanes that gain 70 miles per hour of wind speed in half a day could happen every few years by the end of the century. Most people will not be able to keep up with such a rapid pace of change, Tebaldi said. And the most vulnerable citizens will inevitably suffer the most. Low-income people won't be able to afford insurance or home repairs. On Thursday, the Environmental Protection Agency released findings that people of color are disproportionately likely to live in communities hit by flooding, extreme heat and other climate impacts in a warming world. "If we want to limit these probabilities, if we want to limit the damages, then we should start to do something for real about mitigating," Tebaldi said. "And we need to start now."

*Holly Bailey and Scott Clement contributed to this report.*  
Updated August 26, 2021

# UN: Weather disasters soar in numbers, cost, but deaths fall

By SETH BORENSTEIN and JAMEY KEATEN

GENEVA (AP) — Weather disasters are striking the world four to five times more often and causing seven times more damage than in the 1970s, the United Nations weather agency reports.

But these disasters are killing far fewer people. In the 1970s and 1980s, they killed an average of about 170 people a day worldwide. In the 2010s, that dropped to about 40 per day, the World Meteorological Organization said in a report Wednesday that looks at more than 11,000 weather disasters in the past half-century.

The report comes during a disaster-filled summer globally, including deadly floods in Germany and a heat wave in the Mediterranean, and with the United States simultaneously struck by powerful Hurricane Ida and an onslaught of drought-worsened wildfires.

“The good news is that we have been able to minimize the amount of casualties once we have started having growing amount of disasters: heatwaves, flooding events, drought, and especially ... intense tropical storms like Ida, which has been hitting recently Louisiana and Mississippi in the United States,” Petteri Taalas, WMO’s secretary-general, told a news conference.

“But the bad news is that the economic losses have been growing very rapidly and this growth is supposed to continue,” he added. “We are going to see more climatic extremes because of climate change, and these negative trends in climate will continue for the coming decades.”

In the 1970s, the world averaged about 711 weather disasters a year, but from 2000 to 2009 that was up to 3,536 a year or nearly 10 a day, according to the report, which used data from the Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters in Belgium. The average number of yearly disasters dropped a bit in the 2010s to 3,165, the report said.

Most death and damage during 50 years of weather disasters came from storms, flooding and drought.

More than 90% of the more than 2 million deaths are in what the U.N. considers developing nations, while nearly 60% of the economic damage occurred in richer countries.

In the 1970s, weather disasters cost about \$175 billion globally, when adjusted to 2019 dollars, the U.N. found. That increased to \$1.38 trillion for the period from 2010 to 2019.

What's driving the destruction is that more people are moving into dangerous areas as climate change is making weather disasters stronger and more frequent, U.N. disaster and weather officials said. Meanwhile, experts said, better weather warnings and preparedness are lessening the death toll.

Susan Cutter, director of the Hazards and Vulnerability Research Institute at the University of South Carolina, noted progress in learning to live with risk and protecting ourselves.

“On the other hand, we’re still making stupid decisions about where we’re putting our infrastructure,” she said. “But it’s OK. We’re not losing lives, we’re just losing stuff.”

Samantha Montano, an emergency management professor at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy and author of the book “Disasterology,” said she worries that death tolls may stop decreasing because of the increase in extreme weather from climate change especially hitting poorer nations.

“The disparity in which countries have had the resources to dedicate to minimizing disaster deaths is of huge concern,” particularly due to climate change, she said.

Hurricane Ida is a good example of heavy damage and what will probably be less loss of life than past major hurricanes, Cutter said. This year, she added, weather disasters “seem to be coming every couple weeks,” with Ida, U.S. wildfires and floods in Germany, China and Tennessee.

The five most expensive weather disasters since 1970 were all storms in the United States, topped by 2005’s Hurricane Katrina. The five deadliest weather disasters were in Africa and Asia — topped by the Ethiopian drought and famine in the mid 1980s and Cyclone Bhola in Bangladesh in 1970.

---

Borenstein reported from Kensington, Maryland.



---

Read more of AP's climate coverage at <http://www.apnews.com/Climate>

---

Follow Seth Borenstein on Twitter at [@borenbears](https://twitter.com/borenbears) and Jamey Keaten at [@jameykeaten](https://twitter.com/jameykeaten).

---

The Associated Press Health and Science Department receives support from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Department of Science Education. The AP is solely responsible for all content.



EXHIBIT "A"

REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

NAME David Cuppige, DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS 1111 Superior Ave, Suite 2700 PHONE 696-1422  
REPRESENTING DZE Commercial Realty, EMAIL dmc@accorty.com  
(If self, please specify) LL

**PLEASE NOTE: REMARKS ARE LIMITED TO THREE (3) MINUTES  
A COPY OF YOUR REMARKS ARE TO BE GIVEN TO THE CLERK OF  
COUNCIL TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Have you contacted the appropriate department? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Who in the department was contacted? \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Have you contacted the Mayor? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Have you contacted the Safety Service Director? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Have you contacted your Ward Council person? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT: Reavis Court

**PLEASE NOTE: MATTERS WHICH HAVE HAD, OR WILL HAVE A PUBLIC  
HEARING SHALL NOT BE OPEN FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE LOBBY DURING  
THE COUNCIL MEETING.**

# **MEMO**

**September 3, 2021**

**From: Community Development Chair Callahan**

**To: Clerk Lotko and President Stewart**

**Regarding: September 7<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting**

**Community Development Chair Callahan received a phone call from Dan Reaser of DBR Commercial Realty. Mr. Reaser wanted to let Council know that his attorneys will attend the Council Meeting on Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, and they will want to speak on the matter of the Legislation for the Dedication of Reaser Pointe Crossing before the final vote.**

**Mr. Callahan will not be in attendance at this meeting, but he wanted to pass this information along so Clerk Lotko and President Stewart are aware of this.**

EXHIBIT "A"

REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

NAME Jim Miller DATE 9/7/21  
 ADDRESS 3546 Riveredge Dr. Elyria PHONE 440-476-4800  
 REPRESENTING Self EMAIL JimMiller2832@yahoo.com  
 (If self, please specify)

**PLEASE NOTE: REMARKS ARE LIMITED TO THREE (3) MINUTES  
 A COPY OF YOUR REMARKS ARE TO BE GIVEN TO THE CLERK OF  
 COUNCIL TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Have you contacted the appropriate department? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

N/A

Who in the department was contacted? \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Have you contacted the Mayor? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Have you contacted the Safety Service Director? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Have you contacted your Ward Council person? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT: Rensselaer Point ~~Driveway~~ CROSSING  
From 10 on the ~~Map~~

**PLEASE NOTE: MATTERS WHICH HAVE HAD, OR WILL HAVE A PUBLIC  
 HEARING SHALL NOT BE OPEN FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE LOBBY DURING  
 THE COUNCIL MEETING.**

EXHIBIT "A"

REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

NAME April Hawley DATE 9.7.21  
ADDRESS 445 Bayberry Dr PHONE 440-365-2897  
REPRESENTING myself + neighbors EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
(If self, please specify)

**PLEASE NOTE: REMARKS ARE LIMITED TO THREE (3) MINUTES  
A COPY OF YOUR REMARKS ARE TO BE GIVEN TO THE CLERK OF  
COUNCIL TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Have you contacted the appropriate department? Yes  No \_\_\_\_\_

Who in the department was contacted? Mayor ofc Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Utilities + Council  
man

Have you contacted the Mayor? Yes  No \_\_\_\_\_

Have you contacted the Safety Service Director? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Have you contacted your Ward Council person? Yes  No \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT: flooding + property value

**PLEASE NOTE: MATTERS WHICH HAVE HAD, OR WILL HAVE A PUBLIC  
HEARING SHALL NOT BE OPEN FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE LOBBY DURING  
THE COUNCIL MEETING.**

EXHIBIT "A"

REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

NAME MARCIO TOLENTINO DATE 09-07-2021  
ADDRESS 127 CHESHIRE DR. PHONE 440-387-7190  
REPRESENTING FRIENDS OF TOLENTINO EMAIL tmarcio335@gmail.com  
(If self, please specify) ELYRIA123@gmail.com

**PLEASE NOTE: REMARKS ARE LIMITED TO THREE (3) MINUTES  
A COPY OF YOUR REMARKS ARE TO BE GIVEN TO THE CLERK OF  
COUNCIL TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Have you contacted the appropriate department? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Who in the department was contacted? \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Have you contacted the Mayor? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Have you contacted the Safety Service Director? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Have you contacted your Ward Council person? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

SUBJECT: ELYRIA/WARD 6

**PLEASE NOTE: MATTERS WHICH HAVE HAD, OR WILL HAVE A PUBLIC  
HEARING SHALL NOT BE OPEN FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE LOBBY DURING  
THE COUNCIL MEETING.**

EXHIBIT "A"

REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

NAME NANCI ARNOLD DATE 9-7-21  
 ADDRESS 451 BAYBERRY DR. PHONE 440-365-3415  
 REPRESENTING MYSELF + NEIGHBORS EMAIL NSARNOLA51@AOL.COM  
 (If self, please specify)

**PLEASE NOTE: REMARKS ARE LIMITED TO THREE (3) MINUTES  
 A COPY OF YOUR REMARKS ARE TO BE GIVEN TO THE CLERK OF  
 COUNCIL TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Have you contacted the appropriate department? Yes  No

Who in the department was contacted? Mayor Kelly Date 9/21

Have you contacted the Mayor? Yes  No

Have you contacted the Safety Service Director? Yes  No

Have you contacted your Ward Council person? Yes  No

*Spoke with him during rounds of flooding*

SUBJECT:

*Back up of sewers, also the tax hikes from city auditor*

**PLEASE NOTE: MATTERS WHICH HAVE HAD, OR WILL HAVE A PUBLIC HEARING SHALL NOT BE OPEN FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE LOBBY DURING THE COUNCIL MEETING.**



EXHIBIT "A"

REQUEST TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

NAME JEFF BAXTER DATE 9-7-21  
ADDRESS 160 BURNS ROAD PHONE 440-864-3232  
REPRESENTING self EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
(If self, please specify)

**PLEASE NOTE: REMARKS ARE LIMITED TO THREE (3) MINUTES  
A COPY OF YOUR REMARKS ARE TO BE GIVEN TO THE CLERK OF  
COUNCIL TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Have you contacted the appropriate department? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Who in the department was contacted? \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Have you contacted the Mayor? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Have you contacted the Safety Service Director? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Have you contacted your Ward Council person? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT:

WAL-MART, REASER POINT CROSSING, RT. 57/CHESTNUT

**PLEASE NOTE: MATTERS WHICH HAVE HAD, OR WILL HAVE A PUBLIC  
HEARING SHALL NOT BE OPEN FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE LOBBY DURING  
THE COUNCIL MEETING.**

Elyria,  
How  
Did  
We  
Get  
Here?



# How it all began . . .

## 2005 - Planning

## 2006 - Construction Announcement

## Under Mayor Bill Grace

A2 Tuesday, January 9, 2006

### Construction to begin on Elyria Wal-Mart

Cheryl Lefae  
The Chronicle-Telegram

ELYRIA — Groundbreak- ing could take place soon on the 24-hour Wal-Mart at Chestnut Commons, but the superstore probably won't be ready for next Christmas, developers said Monday.

Once ground is broken, it will take about 18 months to complete construction, said Lynn Higgins of RS Associates, which is coordinating the project.

A City Council committee balked Monday night at a plan to turn over a 30-foot strip of land to the developers after nearby residents contacted to express concerns about traffic and drainage.

City Law Director Terry "Ree" Shilling said the property transfer was necessary to correct an earlier mistake when the land was turned

over to the city by developer Forest City Enterprises.

Resident Michelle Gully asked what the developer planned to do with the land which is located near an emergency entrance/exist which would be used only by five vehicles.

Forest City representative James Martynowski said nothing was planned for the 30-foot strip of land.

Gully also complained that contractors were still gaining access to the property through the nearby subdivision, which is prohibited.

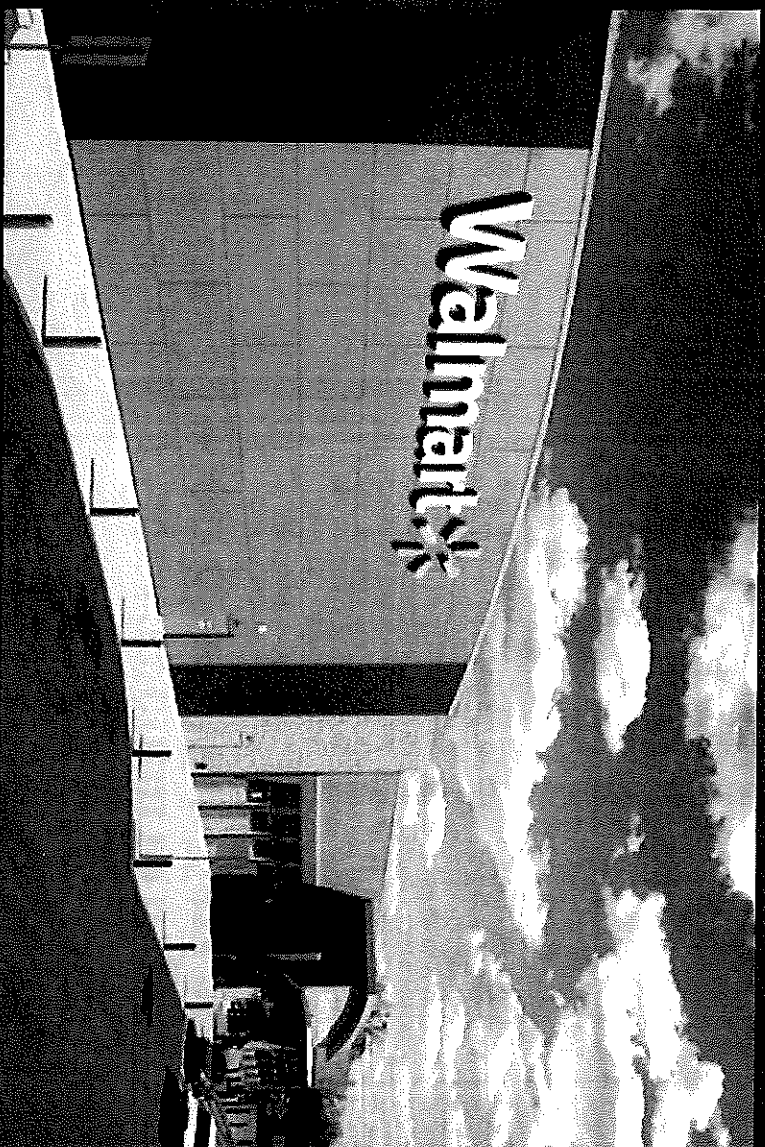
"My homeowner association put in bushes and they drove over it," she said.

Martynowski said, "They jump the curb — it's not us" but Gully told the developers "I have a picture of some people who are here tonight, driving over it."

# New Wal-Mart Opens!

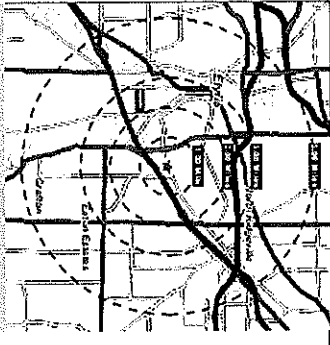
May of 2007

About 18 months  
after announcing  
it was coming.



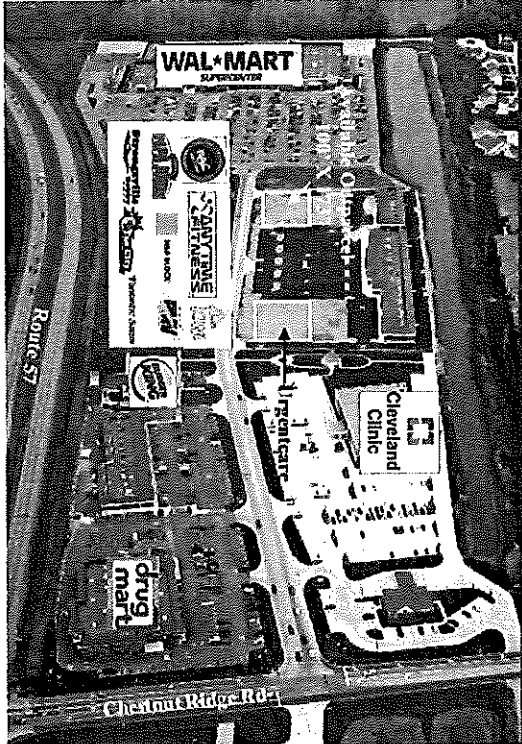
# Here's the problem!

## Chestnut Commons State Route 57 & Chestnut Ridge Rd Elyria, Ohio



**HOUSEHOLDS**  
1 MILE - 1,807  
2 MILE - 8,428  
3 MILE - 16,746  
5 MILE - 34,536

**POPULATION**  
1 MILE - 4,505



# Is this the solution?

Chestnut Commons is open  
and the traffic problems are  
increasing all the time.

Under  
Mayor Holly Brinda

## Traffic solution in works for Chestnut Commons in Elyria

Dave O'Brien

The Chronicle-Telegram

Jun 21, 2019 5:32 AM

**ELYRIA** — After several years of planning and coordinating with property owners and the state, the city is moving forward with a proposed \$4.3 million project to fix traffic congestion in the Chestnut Commons area by building a connector road from Broad Street to Chestnut Commons.

Elyria Mayor Holly Brinda announced Thursday that she will present a plan to City Council's Community Development Committee at 6 p.m. Monday in Council chambers at City Hall. She said the city has been in conversations with property owners including Walmart and DBR Commercial Realty for about six months.

"This is phase one of two phases of traffic mitigation

CT 2019 06 21 Traffic solution in works for Chestnut Commons in Elyria

CT 2019 06 22 Businessman believes Chestnut Commons connector road would be 'win-win'

CT 2019 06 25 Chestnut Commons plan goes to Council

CT 2019 07 02 Elyria Council accepts donated land for possible connector road

CT 2019 12 19 Chestnut Commons road connector work to begin around April

CT 2020 01 22 Elyria Council approves Chestnut Commons road extension design study

CT 2020 02 25 Chestnut Commons road extension to cost about \$5.7 million, roundabout is a no-go

CT 2020 03 11 Chestnut Commons road extension price tag goes up

CT 2020 12 22 City of Elyria offers different messages on opening of Chestnut Commons connector road

CT 2021 02 02 Flooding problems hold up Chestnut Commons connector opening

CT 2021 02 06 Chestnut Commons connector developer to commission study

CT 2021 06 05 City put on notice for possible Chestnut Commons road lawsuit

CT 2021 08 10 Developer sues over Chestnut Commons connector road construction

CT 2021 08 17 Elyria Planning Commission moves connector road forward to City Council

CT 2021 08 31 Chestnut Commons connector road takes final step to City Council

# And, that's how we got here!

- Chestnut Commons congestion
- Chestnut Ridge and Rt. 57 standstills
- Defiance and Chestnut Ridge issues turning east
- Dewhurst and Chestnut Ridge traffic issues





This is today!

Resear Pointe Crossing  
is not open yet!

Under  
Mayor Frank Whitfield

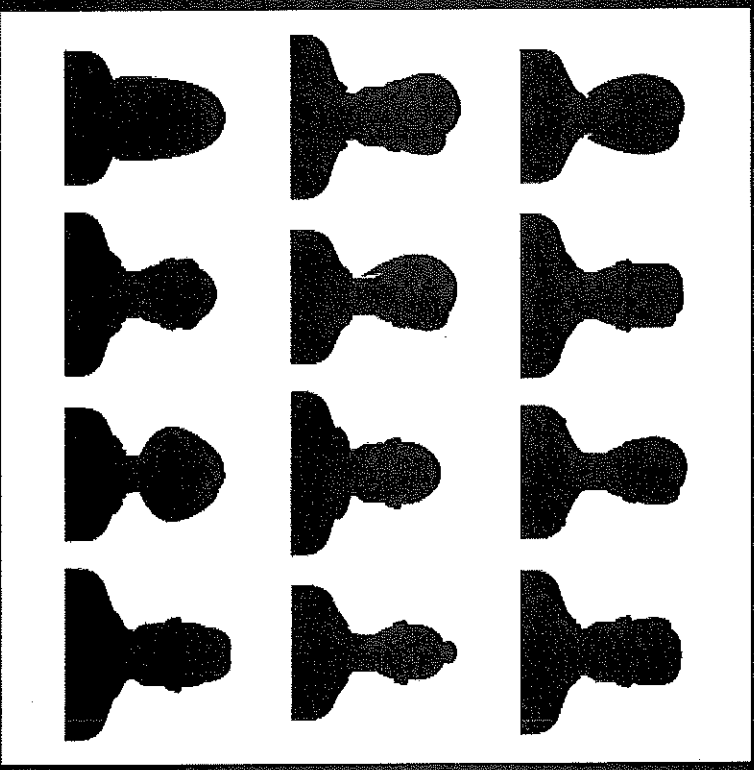


# Impact on Citizens?

Frustration with  
City council across three  
administrations.

Citizens come in last,  
not first.

We have another Bullocks  
Parkway scenario. A good  
looking road but not much else!



# What's in the Future?

Will the Citizens of Elyria be placed first for a change?  
Will City Council show some leadership and fix the road?



