

Independence Around Town

Economic Development Newsletter

Third Quarter 2016

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

As we put summer behind us and look forward to the start of autumn, the City is progressing towards the completion of some significant projects along the Rockside Road corridor. The project to add capacity to the I-77 southbound ramp is underway, while the Rockside Place streetscape project is entering its final phases. Both projects are scheduled to be complete by the onset of winter weather. While these projects may cause some delays and require a bit of patience, please know the City is always looking for opportunities to improve traffic flow and the pedestrian experience for our corporate citizens throughout the Rockside Road Business District.



On October 7, I will be hosting a luncheon and presenting my State of the City address. I look forward to sharing the progress and strides we have made since I took office in January. I have a great deal to review as we approach the end of 2016, and much to discuss as we look forward to 2017. Additional event details and registration information is available in a later section of this newsletter.

As always, my Administration and Economic Development team are here to assist you. We are committed to serving our business community and maintaining Independence as one of the best corporate environments in Northeast Ohio.

Enjoy the beautiful autumn weather.

Sincerely,

Anthony L. Togliatti
Mayor

NOTABLE NEWS

UPDATES ON ROCKSIDE BUSINESS DISTRICT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Over the summer, the City initiated two projects designed to improve traffic and the pedestrian experience throughout the Rockside Road corridor. In August, the project to widen the I-77 southbound ramp and an adjacent portion of Rockside Road got underway. At the same time, work began on the Rockside Place infrastructure and streetscape project. Both projects are progressing towards completion over the next couple of months. [Read more....](#)

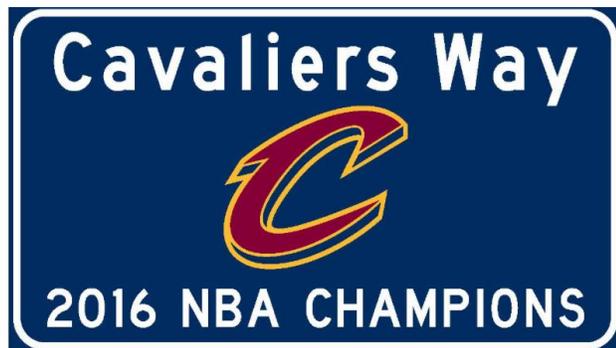
I-480 BRIDGE REPAIR PROJECT SCHEDULED TO START IN 2017

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) recently announced the project to rehabilitate the I-480 Valley View Bridge is scheduled to begin in 2017 - two years earlier than previously planned.

The aging structure, which stretches eight lanes across the Cuyahoga River in two bridges, needs a deck replacement, among other repairs. [Read more...](#)

CAVALIERS WAY

In recognition of the Cavaliers 2016 NBA Championship, the City of Independence has designated the portion of Brecksville Road between Rockside Road and the Cleveland Clinic Courts as Cavaliers Way. Since the Cleveland Clinic Courts opened its doors in Independence in 2007, the City has developed a great partnership with the Cavaliers organization and considers Independence as their second home.



Please keep a look out for the Cavaliers Way signs at the Rockside and Brecksville Road intersection. We hope to update the signs next year in order to add another NBA Championship!

MAYOR'S STATE OF THE CITY

Mayor Anthony Togliatti's State of the City address and luncheon is scheduled for Friday, October 7th at noon in the Independence Civic Center, 6363 Selig Drive. Doors open at 11:30 am and the event is free. For luncheon reservations, please call the Mayor's Office at 216.524.4131.

WORKFORCE TRAINING FUNDS AVAILABLE

Another round of funding will soon be available through the Ohio Development Services Agency's Incumbent Workforce Training Voucher Program. This program provides training funds to Ohio's incumbent workforce. [Read more...](#)

WELCOME NEW BUSINESSES/BUSINESS UPDATES

Help us keep the community up-to-date on our newest neighbors! Drop us a line when you learn of a new business calling Independence home. Please join us in welcoming the following new businesses.

The Ideal Method, has joined the Independence community at 6595 Brecksville Road.

VIASAT has relocated from Cuyahoga Heights to Rockside Center III, 5990 West Creek Road.

Phlebotomy Training Specialists has opened a new location in Independence at 4700 Rockside Road.

CardioInsight Technologies has moved into office space in the Summit Office Park. The medical device company was formerly located in Cleveland.

R&R Time LLC recently relocated to 2 Summit Park Drive from Brecksville.

St. Vincent Medical Group has expanded its services at 6701 Rockside Road.

Pulp Juice and Smoothie Bar is the newest addition to the culinary offerings at Rockside Corners, 6901 Rockside Road.

Scratch Restaurant has recently opened and is serving breakfast and lunch in downtown Independence at 6595 Brecksville Road.

ROE Dental Laboratory has completed the renovation of its new office and manufacturing facility at 7165 E. Pleasant Valley Road. The company was previously located in Garfield Heights.

Cloverleaf Lanes has been sold and is now called **Spins Bowl Independence**. The new owners are planning to completely renovate the exterior of the building. Following the renovations, the facility will feature updated bowling lanes, laser tag, an arcade, and a private party area with attached bowling. The food service will also receive an overhaul with the restaurant Verso, relocating from Parma to Spins Bowl Independence.

ODDS & ENDS

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Across the country and particularly in the Northeast Ohio area thefts of tires and rims from cars have risen dramatically. There is a burgeoning secondary market for tires and rims and it is often informal and cash-based, making it

difficult to trace stolen property. Often these thieves target large parking lots where cars will be parked for long periods of time such as hotels and office buildings. They give the appearance of someone merely changing a flat tire in broad daylight and the theft takes only minutes. It is often not discovered until hours later when the victim returns to his or her car at the end of the day.



The Independence Police Department has taken steps to discourage these thefts via an increased presence of patrol officers in the parking lots, use of our bike officers to patrol the lots and an increase in video surveillance of potential target areas. We also ask that you call the police if you see anyone removing tires from a vehicle in one of the parking lots. Additionally, give us a call if you see anything suspicious such as a vehicle cruising up and down the aisles or someone on foot in a parking lot that appears to be "casing" vehicles. Our officers will respond and determine if the activity is legitimate or not.

No one knows what is out of place better than the people who work there every day, and if you see something out of place or suspicious please call the Independence Police Department at 216.524.1234.

CONTACT THE INDEPENDENCE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR



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Economic Development Newsletter



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