

Willoughby • Ward 2 Newsletter



Volume 1, August 2018

Councilman: Ken Kary

Citywide News

What's happening in the City



BEAUTIFICATION OF WILLOUGHBY

I have taken a lead role in the area of promoting the “aesthetics” of our Great City. I know there are critics out there that want to see us spending money on roads, and city services. I could not agree more! But we must also make and keep Willoughby looking attractive for its residents and their guests. Nothing makes us as a resident here feel better when we hear people comment on Willoughby, saying it is so beautiful. That does not come without some effort. This year we have taken time to spend the least amount in funds to place hanging planters along with the large planter boxes at critical points. For the first time, there are now large planter boxes at the entry points to Willoughby. Let's be proud of our Great City.

Ward 2 News

What's happening in Ward 2



NEW TRAFFIC SIGNAL FOR LOST NATION ROAD

For quite some time there has been the criticism of the intersection of Lost Nation Road, Westminster, and Adkins. Police reports over the years have documented several accidents, some of which have been quite serious. During my campaign in 2017, I heard stories of those who were victims of this intersection. The stories led me to take it up as one of my first goals as a candidate and a councilman. During the campaign, I spoke to the Police Chief, the Service/Traffic Department, our City Engineers, as well as the residents of Ward 2. After some serious homework, it has been determined that far too many traffic incidents have occurred at this location and it was time to add this light to a traffic study that was being conducted by the City and CT Consultants. The study concluded that, yes this was a dangerous intersection. The most practical solution was to install turning arrows for Adkins and Westminster, off of Lost Nation Road. This July, the new traffic light system was activated, and now we need to all get used to the fact that when the light changes, there will be time for those in the turning lanes to exit off Lost Nation Road to either Adkins or Westminster. As with all things NEW, there may be a few “bugs” to work out. My goal, as the Councilman for this area, is to ask you, the residents that experience this light to share your comments with me. By doing so, you will be able to be heard, and in turn, I will share those comments with the Traffic Department. If need be, there will be modifications made to make this intersection as safe as possible. Those trying to make those turns off Lost Nation can now travel with a bit more confidence that the turn will be “SAFE.”

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NEW RESIDENTIAL HOUSING DOWNTOWN, 6 PUBLIC SQUARE

City Council, Planning Commission and the Historical Design Review Board are reviewing plans for a 4 unit micro townhomes at 6 Public Square. The front structure will have two attached units with two car garages. The back structure will have two attached units with two car garages as well. The design of the building is unique and will mimic the structure it is replacing, the Weiss Home. This is said to be one of if not the oldest residential home in the city of Willoughby. Efforts to save the house have been in place for years with no success. It is currently in total disrepair and needs to come down. The best part of this is that the developer is replicating the look of the home on the exterior while at the same time they will be using materials from the inside of the house in the new construction. Not the best answer when we wish to preserve our history, but with all the effort made to save this building, this is the next best solution. Pay homage to the historical home externally and internally. The four new units are proposed to be three floors.



HOME SALES @ FAIRWAY GLENN

Now that the Model Home has been constructed at Fairway Glenn, it is now up to the sales agents to see how successful this development will become. Since the model home opened, there have been 14 homes sold to date, with hundreds of private appointments booked for possible buyers. Remember, phase 1 will include the construction and sale of 41 houses.

HELP TO WARD 2 CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION FIGHTING EROSION ISSUES



work for the City of Willoughby to solve these types of problems.

I have spent time over the past month working with Tamarac Estates, the Service Department of the City, our City Engineers (CT Consultants), as well as the Chagrin River Watershed Partners to assess, and offer solutions to handling an erosion problem created by "Two Town Ditch" traveling through their property. After finally meeting onsite, the Association was provided many ideas, several of which came from the Chagrin River Watershed Partners who are contracted to

PROPERTIES IN WARD 2



I am always in contact with those property owners in Ward 2 helping them to promote the sale and development of their land for the benefit of those of us living in Ward 2. We all are concerned about the development of these lands, but these landowners have the right to see their land developed. All I wish to do, as your councilman is to know that it grows to benefit Ward 2 as opposed to causing us a negative impact. Wouldn't a grocery store in Ward 2 be nice?

Citywide News

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NEW BANK TO REPLACE BP GAS STATION @ 4015 ERIE ST.
 This critical piece of property will also host a City Sculpture Garden at the Corner of Erie St and Vine Street. This land will be leased to the city at no cost! This is all planned to promote Willoughby as an Arts and Entertainment Destination.



OSBORNE PARK
 I have taken it upon myself as the Councilman for Ward 2 to spend some of my time promoting the entire North End of our City. One element

of this is the promotion of Osborne Park. I have teamed up with Ward 1 Councilman Chris Woodin, our Parks, and Recreation Director Judean Banker as well as our Economic Development Director, Tom Thielman to do all that is possible to maximize the use of this facility. Tuesday, July 24th from 5-6:30 pm the city will be holding a City Wide Picnic @ Osborne Park to promote the recent additions to the Park. All Willoughby residents are invited.

OTHER EVENTS COMING SOON @ OSBORNE.

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Hopefully, all of you have experienced some of the early patchings that have been taking place throughout the city and especially Ward 2. Crews from the Service Department have been working daily to keep up with the most severe potholes. In fact, they patched Hodgson several times when the temperatures were not the best and caused the patching not to last very long. Soon the 2018 Road Program will be in full swing, and we will all see "more permanent" repairs made to

the streets throughout Willoughby and again in Ward 2. We are doing our best!

Undeveloped Lots in Ward 2



One of my most "involved" tasks as your new councilman has been to work with the city to help enforce the "owners" of undeveloped lots in Ward 2 to maintain their properties to the standards of the city. What has been happening is these property owners have been cutting only a portion of their lots leaving the grass as high as 4-5 feet. With

the aid of Mr. Lee Bock, our Service Director we have taken an aggressive stance in making these "vacant lot owners" be more responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of these empty lots. I thank those of you who have called or emailed me about your concerns, and as I stated in the past, if you see that vacant properties near where you live are not maintained, PLEASE CONTACT ME.

Contact Ken

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