



July 3, 2009

TO: Council President
City Councilmembers
Council Appointees

FROM: Eric Norenberg

SUBJECT: City Manager's Update

Following are updates on various topics for your information. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you!

Planning and Development

- Recreation Program Receives Kudos: Last week, the City Manager's Office received a message of appreciation regarding Oberlin Recreation's "Hoop Camp." The note began "My children attend Hoop Camp and have been there for the entire two weeks. When the program started I had my concerns, there were so many children there and it was utter chaos." But, by "the following Monday (the next time I visited during the hours of the program), I was amazed at the transformation that Coach Ian Yarber and his staff had made. The kids were playing together; they were listening and hanging on to Ian's every word. Both Ian and his staff are to be commended for the work they do. I know many of those kids and he handles them beautifully."

OMLPS

- Electric Director Named Vice Chair of AMP Board: In case you missed the AMP Update last week, AMP-Ohio is now just AMP – American Municipal Power, Inc, – and Steve Dupee was elected as the Vice Chair of the AMP Board. Steve will serve in this capacity until elections are held at the October Annual Conference.

City Manager's Office

- Collaboration Grant Process Narrows List to Nine: We received word this week that our proposed collaboration project with the Oberlin City Schools and New Russia Township was selected as an [EfficientGovNow](#) collaboration grant finalist! In total, nine projects were selected as finalists to be voted on by the residents of Northeast Ohio. Their votes will decide which three projects receive funding. Voting begins July 1st and ends July 31st. According to the e-mail notice, "The Finalist Selection Committee of the Fund for Our Economic Future was impressed by the quality of all of the proposals. They spent many hours reviewing and deliberating all the proposals. Ultimately, they determined that (our) proposal has what it takes to be put on the regional stage for others to see and, hopefully, to emulate."

- Oberlin Area Chamber of Commerce and Main Street Oberlin Consider Merger: In recent weeks, these two organizations have begun discussions regarding a possible merger. So far a mission statement has been drafted for consideration by both boards and four working group committees have been formed to address issues related to the merger. The committees will address the following topics: Organizational Issues, Public Identity, Programs and Activities, and Finances.
- Lorain County Requests Funding for Transit: Recent federal legislation has provided some financial relief for Lorain County Transit – but it is not enough. The attached correspondence was received from Lorain County earlier this week. I will be setting up a meeting for early next week to discuss next steps with community partners and staff. As Councilmembers Ashenhurst and Petersen have expressed a strong interest in this matter, I will try to include them in the meetings as well, if there are no objections.
- City Manager Vacation Details: I will be in Iowa for a family vacation from July 8 to 15. I will have my cell phone with me and be able to access e-mail. Gary Boyle will be acting City Manager July 9-12 and Darlene Colaso from July 13-15.