



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 26, 2019

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THE CITY IS CONTINUING THE DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION INITIATIVE WITH A UTILITY REPLACEMENT AND STREETScape IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The City of Wadsworth is moving forward with the exciting catalyst project from the 2017 Downtown Visioning Plan: a utility replacement and streetscape improvement plan aimed at enhancing and further revitalizing the City's downtown core. This project will include replacement of the aging waterlines, storm sewers, sanitary sewers, electric, and communications lines in Downtown Wadsworth; facilitation of improvements for safety, pedestrian connectivity between downtown amenities, and efficient vehicular traffic; and enhancement of sidewalks, streets, and alleyways to make downtown more livable, vibrant, and a destination spot.

Mayor Robin Laubaugh is looking forward to the further revitalization of downtown with this catalyst project. "Our historic downtown has been experiencing a transformation with recent initiatives including new events, aesthetic improvements like the murals and flowers, and new business growth. This project will further grow the heart of our community and position its success for the next generation."

The City is working with a team of consultants from City Architecture, HR Gray, and Osborn Engineering to plan the improvements. "The goal of this work is to help the community set a clear direction for Downtown Wadsworth's streets, sidewalks and alleys. Building from the 2017 Vision plan, our team is excited to help residents, businesses and the City to design spaces that better serve all users," said Alex Pesta, Planning Principal at City Architecture.

"The project is necessary to replace or upgrade underground utilities that are aging and past their useful life," added Robert Patrick, Director of Public Service. "We have the ability to then construct the sidewalks and roadways to keep our historic charm, yet benefit the community for years to come. This is an exciting time for the history of our downtown."

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The construction of the Downtown Wadsworth Utility Replacement and Streetscape Improvement Project is planned to begin in the coming years with the detailed engineering and design phase next, then the construction phase of approximately one year. The project costs and funding sources are part of the planning process and estimated to be determined by the end of this year. Information will be updated regularly on the City's social media and project page of the website at WadsworthCity.com/DowntownRevitalization

The City of Wadsworth is located in Northeast Ohio and known for its high quality of life, exceptional school district, outstanding safety forces, progressive city services, and recreational opportunities. It is home to over 23,000 people and one of the fastest growing communities in Northeast Ohio since 2010. More information about the City of Wadsworth is available online at www.wadsworthcity.com