



Council Minutes – Regular Meeting

July 7, 2020

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Spalding called to order the New Albany City Council Meeting of June, 2020 at 6:36 pm at the New Albany Village Hall, 99 West Main Street, New Albany, Ohio. Staff attending were City Manager Joseph Stefanov, Police Chief Greg Jones, Finance Director Bethany Staats, Administrative Services Director Adrienne Joly Deputy Development Director Mike Barker, Chief Communications and Marketing Officer Scott McAfee, Public Information Officer Joshua Poland, and Clerk of Council Jennifer Mason. *(Clerk's note: Staff were rotated out to a separate conference room so that no more than 10 persons were in council chambers at any one time.)* Staff tele-present were, Law Director Mitch Banchefsky, Engineer Ed Ferris, Community Development Director Jennifer Chrysler, and Public Service Director Mark Nemec.

Mayor Spalding led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

The following Mayor/Council Members answered Roll Call:

Mayor Sloan Spalding	P
CM Colleen Briscoe	P
CM Marlene Brisk	P
CM Michael Durik	P
CM Chip Fellows	A
CM Kasey Kist	P
CM Matt Shull	P

Clerk of Council Jennifer Mason told council that Council Member Fellows was travelling and requested to be excused. Mayor Spalding moved to excuse Council Member Fellows from the council meeting. Council Member Briscoe seconded and council voted with six yes votes to excuse Council Member Fellows from the meeting.

ACTION ON MINUTES:

Mayor Spalding asked if council had reviewed the proposed June 16, 2020 regular meeting minutes and asked if there were any additions or corrections. Hearing no changes, Council Member Shull moved to adopt the June 16, 2020 regular meeting minutes. Council Member Brisk seconded and council voted with six yes votes to approve the June 16, 2020 regular meeting minutes.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA:

NONE.

HEARING OF VISITORS:

Proclamation Celebrating Chief John Hoovler On His Retirement

Mayor Spalding applauded Chief Hoovler for his impact on the community. Chief Hoovler and Mayor Spalding agreed that he had seen a lot of changes and growth. Mayor Spalding read the proclamation.

July 7, 2020

Chief Hoovler told council of his pride in wearing the uniform and passing that on to his firefighters and staff. He was confident in Chief Rupp's leadership and the team were hard workers. Chief Hoovler couldn't say there was a better place in the world to work thanks to the people. He tipped his hat to Police Chief Jones.

Council Member Briscoe told council that Chief Hoovler was the fire chief when she was elected back in 1995. He was one of the easiest people to work with. Always helpful, informative, and supportive. She thanked him for all the help he gave her during her time as mayor.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

PLANNING COMMISSION: Mayor Spalding reported that the PC held an advisory meeting to informal review of zoning change for a motor enclave located south of the Mount Carmel surgical center. He passed out the plans to council.

PARKS AND TRAILS ADVISORY BOARD: No meeting.

ACHITECHTURAL REVIEW BOARD: No meeting.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS: No meeting.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION: No meeting.

PUBLIC RECORDS COMMISSION: No meeting.

CEMETERY RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD: No meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATION:

Mayor Spalding noted that the city had received a lot of the correspondence and communication from the public relating to a possible mask or face covering ordinance. Municipalities around central Ohio were adopting rules. At the Governor's press conference at 2pm that day, Governor DeWine named certain counties to be under mask requirements, including Franklin County. In addition, the Franklin County Board of Health was considering legislative or other requirements for facial coverings for all districts within their jurisdiction, including New Albany. Mayor Spalding opened the discussion starting with council.

Mayor Spalding told the public that New Albany had been engaged with the COVID-19 issue from the beginning. The New Albany COVID Task Force was formed with New Albany Schools. The task force was comprised of citizens, many of them medical and health professionals. They helped guide decisions by the city, township, and schools as they responded to the COVID outbreak. A series of educational videos was put out to the public. From the very beginning, the city had been consistent in its messaging to the community about the important of using all of the tools, the layers of intervention, to protect themselves, their families, and their communities from COVID. The first tool was – if you were sick, stay home. The second was good personal hygiene, washing your hands thoroughly and not

July 7, 2020

touching your face. The third was cleaning off surfaces that might carry the virus. The city had strongly recommended to wear masks, especially folks who had symptoms or who were vulnerable to the infection. In light of the new requirements from the state and county happenig in the last few hours, Mayor Spalding solicited further comment from council members.

Council Member Durik supported mask guidelines for everyone for the protection of all parties involved. Given the governor's mandate, he asked if it was necessary to pass an additional ordinance. Mayor Spalding agreed that city requirements could be preempted by or redundant to the governor's or county public health department's orders. It was hard to say not having seen these orders in writing yet.

Council Member Briscoe agreed that an overlap of orders was possibility, however, there were people who rode the city's mass transit through Franklin County into Licking County. Licking County wasn't covered by these orders. She wanted to read and determine whether they would be effective and how they would be enforced. Would the onus fall on businesses? She didn't want the police officers having to enforce this, however, if someone was violating the order and misbehaving inside a business – and the business needed assistance – she wanted to make sure the city could assist. Council Member Briscoe was willing to wait until the next meeting to have a chance to review the new orders – making sure whatever action the city took was coherent and made sense. She had been ready to act, but today's announcements have added new considerations.

Council Member Shull agreed with Council Member Briscoe's point about public transportation. He wondered whether riders would take off their masks when crossing the county line into Licking County. Council Member Kist believed COTA had a system-wide mandate that riders had to wear face coverings which predated any of these mandates. Council Member Brisk noted that council didn't know if the orders included ride shares like Lyft or Uber. She echoed Council Member Briscoe's comments about being prepared to have the discussion now. The city didn't know how to implement the new orders or what the obligations were because it hadn't seen them.

Council Member Kist stated that the draft Amendment to the Declaration of the State of Emergency in New Albany contained a mask mandate. Council had had individual discussions with the city manager. Council was prepared to iron out this document and take action tonight. He had always felt New Albany was a leader on these types of issues. He thought, regardless of what the state or county did, the city needed to do its own thing – to make a statement of where it stood and how it wanted to protect its community. Council Member Kist doubted the state or county would be any more specific that the city had already been, especially regarding enforceability. Whether it happened tonight or the very near future, he thought the city needed to make a statement on a mask mandate. Council had heard from the community that this was desirable. It was something the city needed to do to protect the community. In regards to Council Member Briscoe's concern over non-compliance in stores, as a business owner in New Albany, one of Council Member Kist's main concerns was enforceability on disruptive customers. A lot of times at his restaurant, there was a 17 year old behind the cash register. It made him anxious to put restaurant employees in the position of telling non-compliers that they could not eat there unless they wore a mask. He was fully prepared to offer masks, to offer to bring

July 7, 2020

food out to their car, to mitigate those conflicts. In this climate, it scared him that might put a high school senior in a position where they had to deal with an angry adult over this issue. He thought the city needed to make statement of what it believed in.

Council Member Brisk asked whether council could pass legislation that evening. Law Director Banchevsky recommended that council not go forward with the drafted changes to the Declaration. He thought it was an absurd result to have the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) order go into effect the next day apply only to cities in Franklin County but not Licking County. It made sense to him to be conservative and pass a motion that the governor's ODH order apply city-wide. Then, over the next two weeks, council could figure out if more was needed. He did not anticipate a whole lot of enforcement issues right off the bat. The city could at least prevent potential hot spots from occurring in its business park in Licking County. Some council members supported this idea.

Mayor Spalding reminded everyone that the economy had previously been shut down. There was a shelter-at-home order. As the governor and ODH director started reopening businesses, those businesses had to meet certain safety requirements. Every business in the city's health and beauty campus that re-opened was meeting those requirements under an active order from the ODH and OSHA. He would be shocked and disappointed to learn that the Licking County business were not complying with the state's order.

Mayor Spalding asked and City Manager Stefanov answered that the city had canceled the SmartRide program based on COTA's curtailment of buses going to New Albany. Therefore, a mask order for city-provided transportation was not applicable at this time. When the city reinstated the program, the city could make an administrative rule requiring riders to wear a mask regardless of political jurisdiction.

Mayor Spalding observed that city restaurants had signs reminding patrons to wear masks in common areas. That was their choice. They wanted to make customers feel safe and welcome in that environment. Mayor Spalding asked if there was any reason why the city, no matter what was decided that evening or what the ODH order said, couldn't supply a city-branded sign for its merchants and retailers - making a strong suggestion to patrons that they should be wearing a mask. City Manager Stefanov told council the city could implement this suggestion, and had developed similar signage when it passed its Tobacco 21 legislation.

Council Member Brisk supported signage which was also present in the Declaration amendment. She wanted to see the city offer masks to business to hand out at the door. Mayor Spalding asked if the city had a sufficient supply for that measure. City Manager Stefanov stated he would check. Council Member Brisk said she was assured that the city could get them. City Manager Stefanov understood masks were more readily available now compared to a few weeks ago. Council Member Kist thought it would be a nice gesture if the city could make masks available for pick-up for 1-2 weeks, if masks were available.

July 7, 2020

Council Member Kist offered, whatever signage the city developed, it would be great if it included a non-emergency number if someone had a question or issue. He didn't want to inundate the New Albany Police Department (NAPD) with 911 calls where people reported on minor misdeeds. If there was an issue, the city could direct a customer or someone with an issue to dial the non-emergency number at the city and talk through it. He didn't want to put 100% of the enforcement onus on the businesses. There had to be some support from the city that wasn't just putting police officers on the scene – he wanted some other outlet.

City Manager Stefanov said that he proposed in the drafted document to make mask enforcement more of an administrative function versus a law enforcement function. If a business patron were to become unruly or would refuse to leave a business, then it would become a police matter. It would become a disorderly conduct or trespassing charge which was clearly in the wheelhouse of the NAPD. There could potentially be another mechanism in order to enforce the rule in the event council adopted it.

Council Member Briscoe supported the municipality creating the sign for merchants. The sign should be clear that this was the law, not just a suggestion. People tended to obey laws versus just the store asking. Council Member Brisk agreed that the sign should read, "by order of Franklin County" or "by order of the governor," and state that masks were mandatory if the patron walked into the premise. Council Member Shull added "and the City of New Albany." Council Member Brisk concurred and indicated that a city order would then be needed. These were all part of the order council was already working on, but that Law Director Banchevsky was advising not to proceed on yet. Mayor Spalding proposed, "the law requires that you wear a mask entering these premises." Council Member Brisk was hoping to endorse that order officially, but not being able to read the ODH or county order made that difficult to do. It was possible the city would want to enhance or clarify how the city would handle issues in its jurisdiction.

Council and staff discussed adding an emergency or special meeting to council's schedule. They further discussed when they anticipated receiving the ODH and Franklin County orders. They discussed potential actions they could take. Council asked to open up the matter to the public attending the meeting remotely.

Mayor Spalding solicited public comment.

Dawn Justen stated she was against the forcing of wearing of masks in the city. She had a box of them that she bought from Meijer's - which was enforcing a mask in-store. On the side of the box, on the warning, it said "this does not eliminate the risk of contracting any viruses, disease, or infection – change mask immediately if contaminated with blood or bodily fluids" which would be the saliva that got on the mask when you talked. She didn't know how many got a fresh new mask out for the meeting and used one that hadn't been used before, but most people were probably re-wearing their mask. They were adjusting and touching their mask. They were actually opening themselves up to having more bacteria and germs on a mask - then getting in contact with their face - than if they probably

July 7, 2020

would just focus on washing their hands. She reminded council that she sent an email in earlier and thanked them for allowing her to speak.

Council Member Brisk observed she had never seen this level of citizen input on any of the board or commissions she had served on, nor during her time on council. Council members discussed the numbers for and against a mask mandate that staff had received that day. One set of numbers showed 216 for and 26 in opposition.

Betsy Mable, - *after having difficulty unmuting, Ms. Mable addressed council by calling Council Member Shull and speaking through his cell phone into a microphone* -, thanked the mayor and city council and all of the governing officials for their leadership and dedication to their community during this time of uncertainty. She didn't think anyone expected to be in the position they were in today. She certainly appreciated all of council's time and energy spent on making sure the community was safe. As it related to the specific issue, she wanted say, as a mother and active resident in the community, she fully supported council's support of a mask ordinance. She certainly understood that it did require people – maybe frequently – to change masks, but there was a lot of evidence-based medicine that suggested that wearing mask reduced the spread of COVID-19. It was not just about protecting the individual who was wearing the mask, but those who were around them. As a community that was ultimately super-focused on being healthy – whether it was being physically active and eating healthy and being a healthy community – she thought that New Albany needed to be leaders. New Albany shouldn't be the last community or suburb of Columbus to institute mask regulations. While she understood that it may take some time to figure out how to enforce this rule, she thought that New Albany needed to establish its stance with its community that people should be wearing masks, not just to protect themselves, but to protect all citizens of the community. She again thanked council for the opportunity, for their service, and for Council Member Shull's flexibility in allowing her to call in.

Council Member Briscoe stated that Ms. Mable made an excellent point. An individual wore a mask to protect "the other guy." Hopefully, that other guy was wearing the mask for you. It was about respect and care for ones neighbors. They were not fool proof, but they were another tool. Council Member Brisk added that another point Ms. Mable made was that the city needed to be very clear that it endorsed this, that it supported this.

Brad Griffith - *Mr. Griffith from Buckeye Interactive typed a comment into chat which Clerk Mason read aloud to council* - wrote that he was in favor of New Albany requiring masks so that the regulation stayed in place even when state regulations eased, which they would automatically when the county alert level dropped from 3 to 2. It was also important to protect the Licking County portion of the city, including the whole business park. The exponential growth of the virus meant that a 1 week delay in a decision on this matter could make a big difference in infections. New Albany didn't want to be in the news as the suburb that waited too long to protect its residents and employees.

Michelle Giganti, stated that she was having difficulty hearing council's comments and replies. Ms. Giganti said she was opposed because there were many that held another stance that we were not even looking at - that we quickly censor - but there were dangers of the mask. She thought it was crucial

July 7, 2020

that we bring that into light and not pretend that it was not there. We knew that – you could research this all on your own – but this was a false sense of security. We very quickly want to listen to what the so-called – and she was not saying everyone was not an expert – but what the experts say – that it was protective – but we could look and we could all do our due diligence research and truly see that this virus was so microscopic that those masks, those cloth masks that people are wearing, it could go through it very easily. You could very quickly raise something right in front of your nose and, if you smelled it, that was a great indicator that, guess what, your mask was not working. This false sense of security was really keeping everyone from truly understanding what does did protect us, and it wasn't putting more toxins on your body in the way of –*unknown*– hand sanitizer. It was not wearing a mask. It was strengthening your immune system and using wisdom that we all should have and use in our day-to-day lives, not only during this pandemic. We were looking at the numbers in Ohio - all we heard about was the numbers were rising. But if you did the math, if you did a whole graph, it was pretty amazing when you looked at cases in Ohio, the deaths were on a drastic decline. But that was not what you are told. That is not what you hear. You can go to the CDC site for yourself, quickly – actually not quickly – it actually took a great deal of time – but the fear that was running rampant, to Ms. Giganti, was very alarming when, in fact, we should be rejoicing that the deaths were on a decline right now. We also have a –*unknown*– what herd immunity was. Herd immunity was when we, whether it was from the vaccine or whether it was from people sharing this with each other and being around each other, it was going to inevitably – more people would get sick. But, let's look at the fact that people were recovering. That was a beautiful thing. She didn't want the city living in fear. Someone said to her, do we really want to be the embarrassment or the city where it went rampant? Ms. Giganti felt otherwise. Let's get some leadership. Let's use courage. Let's really show people that we didn't have to live in fear like so many were doing. That was her stance. She found many articles that she had already sent earlier and she would have liked to talk for hours on this. But she would leave it at this. Council could respond if they wanted to do so. She thanked council for the opportunity.

Council Member Kist noted that Ms. Giganti brought up a good point with the false sense of security with the mask. He thought when people put the mask on, a lot of them thought that they could touch you and get within the 6 feet of social distancing. If the city rolled this mask mandate out, he did want to reiterate that this was not the end-all-be-all that made us safe from everything. There were other precautions to take in addition to wearing a mask. Council Member Brisk agreed that the mask did not nullify any of the other things individuals needed to be doing. Council Member Shull stated that the CDC guidelines recommended the uses of masks, the use of hand washing, and staying 6 feet apart, among other recommendations. There were no mandates stating that one was better than the other, but, all together, they would help better prevent the spread.

Council Member Kist noted that council could debate the efficacy of a mask – there would be people on both sides. He went bike riding with four doctors who were split on the mask issue, however, none said a mask made the situation worse. As a business owner in New Albany, Council Member Kist wanted everyone to feel safe to go out. If we wanted the economy to get started again, everyone had to feel comfortable. If the sacrifice of the people who may not believe masks work was having to wear a mask in a business, and that meant that the economy didn't go back into a lockdown, he thought that was an acceptable sacrifice to make – even if an individual didn't fully believed it helped. His

July 7, 2020

argument to those who said it didn't work was that he needed, not just 50% of the people out there, but 100% of the people out there to feel comfortable to get us back to normal. Council Member Shull understood that was what Ms. Giganti was talking about with herd immunity. He did not know the specific percentage needed for herd immunity.

Council Member Briscoe stated that herd immunity meant something different to a 68 year old. Council Member Kist stated, as a business owner, he needed Council Member Briscoe to feel comfortable going out to shop. Council Member Brisk noted that same applied to those who had people close to them with health problems. Council Member Kist offered he was still waiting on herd immunity from the flu.

Ms. Giganti stated she wasn't hearing much of what council was saying and apologized if she was supposed to be responding. Council Member Brisk apologized for the technological problems making being heard difficult.

Council Member Briscoe asked if would make sense to decide now if council was going to have a special meeting next week so that staff could iron out the technical problems for people who wanted to contribute to do so effectively. Council Member Brisk stated that the matter was not now in council's hands, it was mandated in Franklin County to wear a mask. The only thing council needed to address was whether to extend that to Licking County and that should be addressed at the present meeting. The city would be putting up signs. That didn't require a vote. Council Member Briscoe said setting a meeting for next Tuesday could be a better time to comment so that the public could hear council with less difficulty.

Council Member Durik stated that Law Director Banchefsky had drafted a motion in support of the governor, the ODH, etc. that council could address and potentially approve that evening. Council discussed an additional meeting.

Clerk Mason read Debra Lowrey's note in chat announcing her presence and stating, "I agree with everything Michelle just said."

Clerk Mason read Betsy Mable's note in chat stating "I agree with Brad. Time is of the essence."

Loretta Jennings stated she agreed that maybe council should table this until the next meeting because the mandates that were coming out - before the city made a rash decision. She thought everybody had made really good points as far as the mask goes. Her stance was people were going to wear them if they wanted, those who didn't were going to not wear them, so we could kind of wait until we heard what the mandates were going to be before we made a choice for all of New Albany. She thought that would probably be an advantage to the city. Then we'd have more people that might want to participate and actually get the word out so that we could get some more feedback from others in the community.

July 7, 2020

Council Member Durik stated council could debate the issue of whether masks worked or didn't work for a long time. There would be pros and cons on both sides of it. Bottom line was – if the governor issued a mandate that they were to be worn in Franklin County, citizens had to comply with that. Not argue whether it was right or wrong. The city could deal with the Licking County issue relative to the businesses in the community, but the governor said you had to wear masks, it was not a debate of whether or not they worked, it was the rule.

Dawn Justen asked – she wasn't sure if it was possible, she knew a friend of hers, she had been texting him, Joel Anders was an ER doctor, he said that he did send in an email that was to be read tonight at the council meeting. She wanted to find out if council would be doing that.

Clerk Mason said that council was not having emails read out at council meetings. She did receive his email and it was distributed to council members, the city manager, and some staff. However, if he wanted to participate in the council meeting, he would need to do so. She invited Dr. Anders to participate in the future meetings if he was not available at this time.

Mayor Spalding asked, in these unusual times where it was difficult to communicate with council because of the health restrictions, would it be okay to take the mails that were received today and make them part of the minutes? Council and staff discussed that matter noting they were having sound difficulties, either all or no emails would have to be admitted, and also putting into the record the count of the calls received, or any other documentation. Council Member Shull wanted to verify if they were New Albany residents. Council took comments from anyone who wished to address them, although it was good to know how constituents felt. Clerk Mason stated staff would do the best they could to get residency information.

Council Member Briscoe made a motion expressing council's support of the governor and the Ohio Department of Health's anticipated mandate that face coverings must be used in public. This mandate included Franklin County, and 12 other counties designated in the Red Alert Level 3 Public Health Emergency category, becoming effective Wednesday, July 8, 2020 at 6 pm. Further, Council Member Briscoe moved that the provisions of this public health emergency mandate for facial coverings also extend and apply uniformly throughout the City of New Albany, including the portions of the city located in Licking County and Franklin County. Council Member Brisk seconded and council voted with six yes votes to adopt the motion. Motion was adopted.

Council Member Briscoe moved to set a special council meeting the following week to consider how the new mandates from the county and state were applied and to determine whether council wished to pass any amendment, declaration, or further legislation, next Tuesday, July 14 at 6:30 pm. Council Member Kist seconded and council voted with six yes votes to approve the motion to set a special council meeting on Tuesday, July 14 at 6:30 pm. Motion was adopted.

Mayor Spalding moved that the various emails and call logs prepared in response to public inquiry regarding the face covering ordinance be submitted into the minutes by attachment. Council Member Kist seconded.

July 7, 2020

Council Member Briscoe asked if that included emails and calls council would continue to receive or was that record just to-date? Mayor Spalding clarified: by the end of the July 7th council meeting. At the next meeting, if council wanted to incorporate the same level of response, it could do so. Mayor Spalding withdrew his original motion and restated it.

Mayor Spalding moved that all the emails received up until the end of this council meeting and any call log prepared from inquiries from the public in regards to the facial covering ordinance be incorporated into the minutes of the meeting by reference. Council Member Kist seconded. Council voted with six yes votes to approve the motion. Motion was adopted.

Council Member Shull asked if he needed to amend the motion. He wanted to know if those who called or emailed were New Albany residents or from outside of New Albany. If staff could find that out, that would be helpful. He just wanted that information present at the next meeting. Clerk Mason stated staff would try to communicate with the public who was calling in to please indicate if they were residents of New Albany and to remind some that although they may have a New Albany mailing address, they may still be in the township or the City of Columbus. Staff would make their best effort to gather more information.

Mayor Spalding thanked everyone for assisting council in going through this process

SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE O-11-2020

Mayor Spalding read by title AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT A TAX BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY, OHIO FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021.

Director Staats told council that the Franklin County Budget Commission required this tax budget. Franklin County used it as a tool to establish the local need for property tax revenue. The tax budget did not change from first reading. Staff was estimating \$1.24 million in property tax revenue, which accounted for 5.5% for the General Fund. This ordinance satisfied Ohio Revised Code section 5705.30. It needed to be adopted by council by July 15th and submitted to the county by July 20th.

Mayor Spalding opened the Public Hearing. Hearing no comments or questions from the public, he closed the Public Hearing.

Mayor Spalding moved to adopt the ordinance. Council Member Shull seconded and council voted with six yes votes to approve Ordinance O-11-2020.

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE O-12-2020

Mayor Spalding read by title AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020 AND TO ESTABLISH THE LOCAL CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND.

July 7, 2020

Director Staats reported that staff completed a review of the 2020 budget and determined it necessary to amend several funds appropriations. Within the General Fund, increases were made as set forth on the legislation, including those to accommodate unanticipated expenditures. Other areas within the General Fund were analyzed to determine available budget so as not to increase the overall budget within the General Fund. The pandemic meant that the economy was uncertain and there was strain on income tax revenue. Overall, with the requested adjustments in the budget, it was estimated that revenues would exceed expenditures by approximately \$2 million, which would provide a significant cushion if there was a reduction in income tax revenue. The current amount budgeted for income tax revenue in the General Fund was around \$22 million, which represented a moderate increase of 2.1% from 2019. From 2017 to 2018, the city experienced an increase of 17.3% increase. From 2018 to 2019, the city saw an 8.2% increase. Staff would continue to monitor income tax revenues.

Director Staats reviewed various increases by department, and a decrease in appropriations in the General Fund related to decreasing amounts appropriated previously for COVID-19 and moving them to the Local Coronavirus Relief Fund established by this ordinance. Staff was reducing the appropriations for RITA fees as it was anticipating a lower revenue. The city generally estimated RITA fees high and then adjust down accordingly. Overall, total appropriations within the General Fund would remain at the \$24.5 million.

Various increases within other funds were requested. One such increase was related to the Local Coronavirus Fund (LCF). The deposit was received and was waiting to be deposited in to the LCF. Currently, the city had \$45,000 in coronavirus-related expenses that were in the General Fund and would be moving to the LCF. In March of 2020, the city received its first distribution of the Oxford TIF Fund, so an appropriation was included to appropriate the revenue to pay the auditor and treasurer fees and start to pay back an infrastructure loan. Capital Funds reflected an increase related to the Police Department's boiler system failing. The city was almost ready to move forward with the purchase of the electric bus. Staff was appropriating the entire amount although it was receiving a grant which would put the city's cost at \$265,000. Director Staats summarized the amendments, total appropriations, and estimated available balance by the end of 2020.

Council Member Shull commented on RITA's cost of \$440,000. Council asked and Director Staats answered that a portion of the fee was collected by the state net profits. RITA's cost was a retainer of 2%. Ultimately, the city received a sizable portion back after a true-up. Council Member Shull thought the city could assume that job at some point.

Mayor Spalding asked and Director Staats replied that the city's distribution of COVID monies was based off of the Local Government Fund. The city had received \$65,253. She was not aware of additional funds at this time. Whatever the city didn't spend by October had to be returned. Then there would be a redistribution of the remaining funds to the best of her understanding.

Council Member Shull asked about the amount of available cash at the end of 2019. Director Staats stated she would have to get back to him with that number. It would depend on Rose Run and some other Capital Funds. Council Member Shull was interested in the COVID 19 impact.

July 7, 2020

Mayor Spalding set the ordinance for second reading at the July 21, 2020 council meeting.

READING AND PUBLIC HEARING OF RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION R-24-2020

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A GRANT AGREEMENT AND ASSOCIATED CONTRACTS WITH AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER AND ITS APPROVED CONTRACTOR EV UNITED FOR THE ACQUISITION AND INSTALLATION OF ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS TO BE LOCATED IN PUBLIC PARKING LOTS ADJACENT TO THE ROSE RUN PARK.

City Manager Stefanov reminded council that this resolution was amended at their request to remove the slow chargers and proceed with the rapid chargers at the Heit Center parking lot. The legislation authorized the city manager to enter into the necessary contracts with AEP and related companies to purchase and install the equipment. The total cost was adjusted in case of unexpected expenses, but the maximum city outlay was unchanged. The local contribution remained \$6,000 for the rapid chargers. The AEP grant was capped at \$150,000. If there were any additions or extras the city wanted to take advantage of to maximize the grant, the updated language in this resolution enabled the city to do so. He had sent council an email regarding the location. Abby Roen from EVUnited was available to answer questions.

Council Member Briscoe asked and City Manager Stefanov replied that data collection was statistical information on the number of users and amount of electricity. The data was anonymized, no private information was gathered.

Mayor Spalding opened the Public Hearing. Hearing no comments or questions from the public, he closed the Public Hearing.

Council Member Briscoe moved to adopt the resolution. Council Member Kist seconded and council voted with six yes votes to approve Resolution R-25-2020.

RESOLUTION R-25-2020

Mayor Spalding read by title A RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BUDGET COMMISSION TO GRANT THE .74 MILLS IN AVAILABLE INSIDE MILLAGE TO THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY.

Director Staats told council this was a companion piece of legislation with O-11-2020. Franklin County required it to request excess millage. As a result, the city would receive a total of 1.94 mils instead of the statutory 1.2 mils which accounted for an approximate \$475,000 variance within the General Fund.

Mayor Spalding opened the Public Hearing. Hearing no comments or questions from the public, he closed the Public Hearing.

July 7, 2020

Council Member Brisk moved to adopt the resolution. Council Member Durik seconded and council voted with six yes votes to approve Resolution R-25-2020.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Finance Committee: No report
- B. Safety Committee: No report.
- C. Public Utilities: No report.
- D. Service and Public Facilities Committee: No report.
- E. Planning and Economic Development Committee: No report.
- F. Administration Committee: No report.
- G. Grants and Non-Profit Funding: No report.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES:

- A. Council Representative to MORPC: No meeting.
- B. Council Representative to Joint Parks and Recreation: Council Member Shull reported that the Joint Parks met but nothing pertained to council.
- C. Council Representative to New Albany Plain Local Schools: No report.
- D. Council Representative to Plain Township: No report.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS:

- A. Mayor: Mayor Spalding congratulated city staff and Community Events Board for the July 4th event.
- B. Clerk of Council: Clerk Mason thanked the Community Events Board, Chief Communications Officer McAfee and Public Information Officer Poland, Accounts Payable Technician Candace Cook, and council for their participation in the July 4th Parade. She related how a resident felt a part of the community for the first time in a long time.

Council Member Brisk stated she had never received more positive feedback than she did for this parade. She received texts from residents asking her to share their appreciation and saw posts

July 7, 2020

about how great the event was. She wanted to thank everyone again for their efforts. The result was fun, positive energy. Council Member Shull agreed that he had received a lot of positive feedback. He applauded the Police Chief Jones for having officers at every intersection. Council agreed that, next time, they'd need an escort on State Route 62 back to Village Hall.

C. Finance Director: No report

D. City Manager:

City Website Update

Chief Communications Officer McAfee and Information Officer Poland shared the new homepage design with council. The news section was more prominent, a community calendar was reintegrated, the Find Answers section was simplified, the map was updated, a Rose Run Park page was added, and more videos were featured. Community beauty was emphasized. The new website was more mobile friendly. The PowerPoint slides from this presentation are attached. Information Officer Poland told council the new webpages would be live soon. Council thanked the communications team.

E. City Attorney: Law Director Banchevsky stated he would have a report for council at the special council meeting regarding the Ohio Department of Health order and what flexibility council would have. He encouraged council to contact him with questions.

POLL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

NONE.

**** Council took a brief break then resumed the meeting. ****

POLL FOR COUNCIL COMMENT:

NONE.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Spalding reported that the executive session was no longer needed.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Strategic Plan Update: Community Well-being and Sustainability

Administrative Services Director Adrienne Joly introduced Dr. Lisa White, Leadership Consultant at Integrated Leadership Systems. Staff had talked to 1,200 people throughout the community engagement process during the past year. This happened by going to people's living rooms, showing up at city events, holding focus group roundtable meetings, and establishing a 41 member steering committee that met four times. Staff was proud that the public engagement had guided the plan and recommendations brought to council. Director Joly told council that identifying new topics

July 7, 2020

highlighted the importance of master planning and checking in frequently with the community. Director Joly presented from the PowerPoint slide show attached.

Dr. White talked about possible next steps for the city. Dr. White said that she started back in February. Then events happened which really opened people's awareness - making for a rare opportunity. Dr. White outlined some priorities - (1) inclusive events, (2) volunteer opportunities, (3) advisory committees for council and/or the police department, (4) getting community involved with law enforcement at an early age, and (5) promoting a partnership between the police department and public. She wanted to create a continuing conversation through consulting with New Albany to bring these issues to the forefront.

Director Joly stated that sustainability and now diversity, equity, and inclusion had become topics as a result of the city's outreach effort. Director Joly asked council to give their input before the draft Strategic Plan was put together. She invited them to reach out to anyone on the planning team including herself, Community Development Director Jennifer Chrysler, Planning Manager Stephen Mayer, or the folks at MKSK..

Mayor Spalding thanked staff and their consultants' efforts to engage the community on these important topics that were new in the city's survey results. The city took civic planning and community engagement seriously. When the city heard feedback, early in the process, that some were not feeling engaged and embraced, there was a need to increase the outreach and inclusion. Council Member Brisk met Dr. White at a community engagement event and started talking about these issues - which drove this conversation. The tragic death of George Floyd had heightened the community's awareness of the impact of racism on black Americans. New Albany stood ready to answer the call to action, to embark on this journey together. He saw the city's role as providing leadership and facilitating this effort, but it was important to receive input from key collaborators.

Any effort would involve the city, New Albany Plain Local Schools, Plain Township, the Joint Parks District, the New Albany Community Foundation, the New Albany Chamber of Commerce, Healthy New Albany, and perhaps the McCoy Center Board of Trustees and Columbus Metropolitan Library. This had to be a community driven effort, and leadership needed to make sure they were hearing the community's concerns. Through these conversations, the best way to facilitate this would be for the city to create a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Board. The city would view this board's role predominantly in addressing the issues that had come about through the Engage New Albany Strategic Plan process - to increase inclusion and diversity within New Albany as Dr. White stated. He felt that the issue of race was predominating conversation. While Mayor Spalding viewed this inclusion effort to be a comprehensive approach, in the short term he thought the immediate focus would be racism.

They reviewed diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts in other municipalities including Decatur, Georgia, Bellevue, Washington, and King County, Washington. The challenges and needs in those communities were different than New Albany's, but they provided a good foundation for the groundwork. Mayor Spalding anticipated the approach the Advisory Board would take would be a three phase continual improvement process. The first phase would dive into education and learning,

July 7, 2020

reaching out and understanding what the community wanted from this board. The second phase would be planning and programming, including recommending changes to council, to other boards and commissions, and to planning processes for lasting impact. The third phase would be taking action. At the end of the process, the board could start over and possibly change the focus. He looked at it like the speaker series brought in by the New Albany Community Foundation (NACF) where they picked yearly themes. Perhaps this board's efforts could follow a similar path.

Other ideas included a NACF speaker series focus, creating workshops, bringing in national experts to increase the community's collective education, hosting a thematic film festival, talking to the schools about the curriculum and address issues with students, creating guides for home-based discussion, providing counselling resources for those impacted by racism and discrimination, and organizing and hosting multicultural city events. In order to move this program forward, Mayor Spalding recommended the city create the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Board which would advise city council. He also recommended having a facilitator who would guide this conversation, help the board to organize and elect officers, set agendas, set a meeting schedule, and support them. Dr. White had been involved from the beginning. The city manager would want to follow the competitive process to select a vendor.

Council Member Brisk told council that Director Joly and Mayor Spalding said most of what she wanted to say. She reemphasized a big thank you to Lisa White because Dr. White got the ball rolling and had helped give impetus and direction. The journey started for Council Member Brisk when she saw diversity showing up in Strategic Plan engagement meetings. SOAR, a strong organization run by parents of African American students in the New Albany schools, provided great feedback. Other residents along the way wanted to talk about diversity and offered ideas. Part of the goal was to make sure the city expressed what was already happening. There was always room for improvement and better communication would let residents know about existing efforts and on-going programs. More recently, Council Member Brisk had been in contact with other city organizations who were interested in putting this together. Everyone should be participating, and the city needed to take some ownership. Council Member Brisk was very excited for some of the potential programs.

Council Member Kist expressed support and found this to be an exciting group. Mayor Spalding noted the momentum in the community.

Council Member Brisk moved that the City of New Albany establish an advisory board for the purpose of learning more about the enhancement of diversity, equity, and inclusivity and providing a welcoming sense of community. Mayor Spalding seconded and council voted with six yes votes to approve the motion. Motion was adopted.

Mayor Spalding said council would work with city staff to reach out to each of these key collaborators, viewing the board as possibly 16 members, with 5 members of the public appointed by the city. He wanted to get them to work as quickly as possible on the identification and selection of a facilitator for the creation of the board. Dr. White volunteered that she would love to help and be involved.



Council Minutes – Regular Meeting

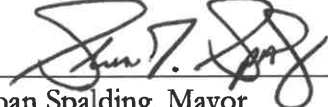
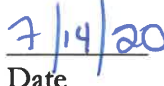
July 7, 2020

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further comments and all scheduled matters attended to, Mayor Spalding moved and Council Member Briscoe seconded to adjourn the July 7, 2020 regular council meeting at 9:26 pm.

ATTEST:


Jennifer H. Mason, Clerk of Council

 
Sloan Spalding, Mayor Date

From: Mary Kazan
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 10:35 AM
To: Jennifer Mason
Subject: [EXT]Question for City Council

Dear New Albany City Council,

As a concerned citizen, I do hope our city council will follow the lead of other OH cities and implement a mask mandate in all businesses immediately. The virus is clearly spreading and the science is incontrovertible - masks help reduce the spread. It is a bit embarrassing to be living in a town that calls itself "Healthy New Albany", yet has not voted on a mandate for masks to protect its citizens. Columbus, Bexley, Hilliard, Upper Arlington, etc. - all have already voted on this mandate and I truly hope that New Albany will do the right thing and follow their lead.

Best,

Mary Kazan

From: Mary Kazan
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 11:10 AM
To: Jennifer Mason
Subject: [EXT]Re: Question for City Council

Thank you Jennifer! As a note that you are free to pass on, in addition to the science supporting masks to reduce virus spread, I believe we actually make our town LESS safe if word gets out that New Albany is the place to go if you don't want to wear a mask - then the percentage of people wearing masks at local businesses will actually decrease. Case in point - instead of going to Kroger New Albany to do my weekly shopping, I headed over to Meijer on North Hamilton, as they come under the mask mandate - and how refreshing (and safer) it felt to do my shopping in a store where everyone was wearing a mask!

Thanks again, and I really hope our city council does the right thing in trying to protect the citizens of New Albany, as well as our businesses.

Mary

From: Dan Shepherd
Sent: Monday, July 6, 2020 10:50 PM
To: admin
Subject: [EXT]STUPID "OPTIONAL" MASK POLICY FOR CUSTOMERS

This is our Mayor's ignoramous policy to make masks "optional" for customers:
<https://newalbanyohio.org/COVID-19/>

I am a 70-yo Vietnam Era Navy Veteran. My wife and I are both high-risk, and I have a pre-existing respiratory history. Are you stuck on stupid? Are you looking at the numbers, and listening (you're not) to doctors? Beyond irresponsible.

Please don't "thank me for my service." Thank me for bringing this ignorant-assed joke of an example of "leadership" to your attention.

You're welcome. Now grow up. Idiot.

Respectfully,

Dan Shepherd
6918 Rothwell Street, New Albany.

P.S. If you don't like this wording, you wouldn't have liked the first three drafts. People are dying because of people like you.

From: Dan Shepherd
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 9:24 AM
To: Alicia McGovern
Subject: [EXT]New Albany online meeting this evening.

Alicia,

Thank you for your prompt response and timely invitation to the online meeting. If you would, please read my statement, below, into the record.

"I am a 70 year-old Vietnam Era Navy Veteran. My wife and I are both high-risk, and I have a pre-existing respiratory history. Are you looking at the numbers, and listening to doctors?

Your policy is beyond irresponsible.

Please don't 'thank me for my service.' Thank me for bringing this unconscionable lapse in leadership to your attention." ~ Dan Shepherd

Respectfully,

Dan Shepherd
6918 Rothwell Street
New Albany, OH 43054

From: Sharon Fancher

Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 8:20 AM

To: Sloan Spalding ; Marlene Brisk ; Colleen Briscoe ; Mike Durik ; Chip Fellows ; Jennifer Mason; Matt Shull; Kasey Kist

Subject: [EXT]Mandatory Masks?

Good Morning,

My family moved to New Albany two years ago and we absolutely love living here. My family has moved a lot in the last 15 years and we have never lived in a city that cares so much about its community members. We feel incredibly fortunate to live in this community. Yet, recently I've been confused as I see other cities near us mandating masks out in public why New Albany has been publicly silent on the subject. Coronavirus is a real threat to the health and well-being of all of us and I would implore that the city of New Albany to quickly consider mandating masks for everyone out in public.

I appreciate you taking the time to read this and look forward to hearing your thoughts and next steps on this matter.

Warmly,
Sharon Fancher

From: Sloan Spalding
Sent: Monday, July 6, 2020 2:58 PM
To: Allan Wool
Cc: Jennifer Mason
Subject: Re: [EXT]RE: [EXT]Face mask

Noted. We are trying to keep track, so thank you.

Sloan T Spalding, Mayor
City of New Albany

On Jul 6, 2020, at 2:46 PM, Allan Wool <awool@outlook.com> wrote:

Definitely a proponent. It's not political, but rather, life or death.

Allan Wool

From: Sloan Spalding
Sent: Monday, July 06, 2020 2:36 PM
To: Allan Wool
Subject: Re: [EXT]RE: [EXT]Face mask

No problem. City Council is considering/debating a proposed resolution at tomorrow night's meeting.

What are yours thoughts for or against a mandatory mask requirement?

Sloan T Spalding, Mayor
City of New Albany

On Jul 6, 2020, at 2:31 PM, Allan Wool wrote:

Sorry, am referring to all of New Albany public spaces. Sorry I did not make myself clear.

----- Original message -----

From: Sloan Spalding
Date: 7/6/20 2:25 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: Allan Wool
Subject: Re: [EXT]Face mask

Allan -

Thanks for your note. When you say Healthy New Albany, are you referring to the not for profit organization or the building they work out of (Heit Center)?

Sloan T Spalding, Mayor
City of New Albany

Where is the face mask policy for "HEALTHY NEW ALBANY"?

Allan Wool

From: Poonam Rodrigues
Sent: Saturday, July 4, 2020 5:12 PM
To: Jennifer Mason
Subject: [EXT]Masks

Hello,

I am a resident of New Albany and am writing to voice my strong support for requiring face masks in all public places in New Albany.

Face mask use shows that we care about each other and are willing to be slightly inconvenienced to protect our own health and the health of our friends and neighbors in the community.

I urge the city council and mayor to pass a mask mandate at the upcoming council meeting.

Best Regards,
Poonam Rodrigues

From: JAYASHREE BALIGA
Date: Fri, July 03, 2020 4:56 PM -0400
To: Jennifer Mason
Subject: Face over mask in New Albany

Hello;

Hope this finds you in good health. I am writing to support mandatory face cover masks on the New Albany area.. with Bexley/ columbus Abd Dublin enforcing the mandate , I Am sure we all realize how crucial this is for us all .

Thank you for your consideration .

Jay Baliga
New Albany resident

From: Purnima Dubey
Sent: Thursday, July 2, 2020 2:22 PM
To: Jennifer Mason
Subject: [EXT]Fwd: Mask mandate

Hello,

Thank you for speaking with me a few minutes ago. I am writing to voice my strong support for requiring face masks in all public places in New Albany.

The use of face masks, along with hand hygiene is the most critical and documented method of reducing the spread of infectious diseases, especially the novel coronavirus.

Face mask use shows that we care about each other and are willing to be slightly inconvenienced to protect our own health and the health of our friends and neighbors in the community.

I also support penalties for ignoring a mask mandate.

I urge the city council and mayor to pass a mask mandate at the upcoming council meeting. Feel free to contact me by phone or email if I may be of help. My contact info is below.

Best regards,
Purnima

Purnima Dubey, PhD
7217 New Albany Links Dr.
New Albany, OH 43054

From: Melissa Darby
Sent: Wednesday, July 1, 2020 8:16 PM
To: Jennifer Mason
Subject: [EXT]New Albany Mask Policy

Hello!

I was wondering if the City of New Albany was contemplating a measure to require the wearing of face masks in public places. I see that Bexley has just done so, and Columbus is contemplating it (<https://www.10tv.com/article/news/local/bexley-passes-emergency-order-to-require-face-coverings-for-indoor-areas/530-28e401fc-8b40-428f-b435-0a5211c6a1be>). Personally, I would support this 100%! I hope the Council and Mayor Spaulding will consider it.

Thank you,
Melissa Darby
Windsor Resident

From: Adam DellaCroce
Sent: Thursday, July 2, 2020 2:11 PM
To: Info
Subject: [EXT]New Albany stance on masks

Mayor Spaulding:

It seems that New Albany's public response listed on the website is very out of date and does not address the recent spike in Covid cases. Additionally this is not in alignment with the state of Ohio or city of Columbus. As a member of the New Albany community this is concerning and needs attention as since the re-opening very few residents have been wearing masks even in common sense situations. What is the status and progress of your decision been made on mandatory masks in businesses in public spaces in which social distancing is not possible?

Best Regards,

Adam DellaCroce

From: ArchiveSocial
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 10:28 AM

To: Scott McAfee
Subject: [EXT]Alert: COVID-19



Kamilah Dixon-Shambley MD, MA, FACOG

Waiting for @[NewAlbanyOhio](#) to follow suit in protecting it's citizens from COVID and require masking like so many other cities in Ohio.

[#WearAMaskSaveALife](#)

at 14:27:22 on 7/07/2020 UTC

From: Mark Lemmon
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 5:30 PM
To: Jennifer Mason
Subject: [EXT]Order requiring wearing of face coverings

Good afternoon,

Although Governor DeWine stated this afternoon that the Ohio Department of Health will issue an order today requiring that Franklin County residents wear face coverings when in any indoor location that is not a residence and when unable to consistently social distance outdoors, I encourage our city to also issue an order with the same language to reinforce the importance of this public health measure in New Albany.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration,

Mark Lemmon
8044 Loomis Drive
New Albany

From: Joel Anders
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 12:42 PM
To: Jennifer Mason
Subject: [EXT]Doctor insight / Comment for council

To Mayor Spaulding and the entire NEW ALBANY city Council:

I am a Plain County resident and an ER doctor. I am writing to inform you of my strong opposition to any local mandate to wear a mask. I see more Covid patients in one day than most will see in a lifetime. This hysterical reaction by the public to Covid which includes face mask wearing among other things, is unproven and frankly ridiculous.

I am longing for the day when we actually see people react to data and science rather than play copycat. The death rate in Ohio has gone DOWN daily for the last two weeks, yet we are still talking about being more restrictive?

I could go into a long discussion on all sides of this issue regarding the public overreaction to the virus in general, and the lack of any scientific data about wearing masks, but I will spare the details and let my profession and experience speak for itself. Additionally, all of the doctors I worked with yesterday, agree with me, not the media or the few Talking Heads that act like they speak for physicians

I have been in medicine for more than 21 years and have seen more than 95,000 patients in the ER. Myself or my family wearing a mask around town is futile and does more harm than good.

I would be glad to discuss further.

Thanks
Dr Joel Anders

From: Lew Justen
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 2:24 PM
To: Jennifer Mason
Subject: [EXT]Questions/Comments for Council

Dear New Albany City Council,

I am emailing in regard to your vote on requiring that face masks be worn in New Albany. I do not believe that this would be a positive move for the city. Mandating the wearing of a face mask is merely copying the reactionary, uninformed actions of other communities. Requiring people to wear a mask makes them susceptible to stifled breathing and coming into contact with many germs. Most masks are not used properly, either being disposed of or washed each time it is

taken off and become full of germs and the masks quickly become the most infected object that individuals carry around.

The more important thing would be to make hand sanitizers more prevalent in the community and encourage people to frequently wash their hands to kill germs. If people want to FEEL comfortable then they are more than welcome to CHOOSE to wear a mask, but I strongly encourage you not to mandate face coverings for everyone only to make some people feel like they are safer.

Sincerely,
Lewis Justen, Jr.

From: Dawn Justen
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 2:10 PM
To: Jennifer Mason
Subject: [EXT]Questions/Comments for Council

Dear New Albany City Council,

I am emailing in regard to your vote on requiring that face masks be worn in New Albany. I do not believe that this would be a positive move for the city. Mandating the wearing of a face mask is merely copying the reactionary, uninformed actions of other communities. Requiring people to wear a mask makes them susceptible to stifled breathing and coming into contact with many germs. Most masks are not used properly, either being disposed of or washed each time it is taken off and become full of germs and the masks quickly become the most infected object that individuals carry around.

The more important thing would be to make hand sanitizers more prevalent in the community and encourage people to frequently wash their hands to kill germs. If people want to FEEL comfortable then they are more than welcome to CHOOSE to wear a mask, but I strongly encourage you not to mandate face coverings for everyone only to make some people feel like they are safer.

Sincerely,
Dawn Justen

From: Michelle Kreuzer Kreuzer

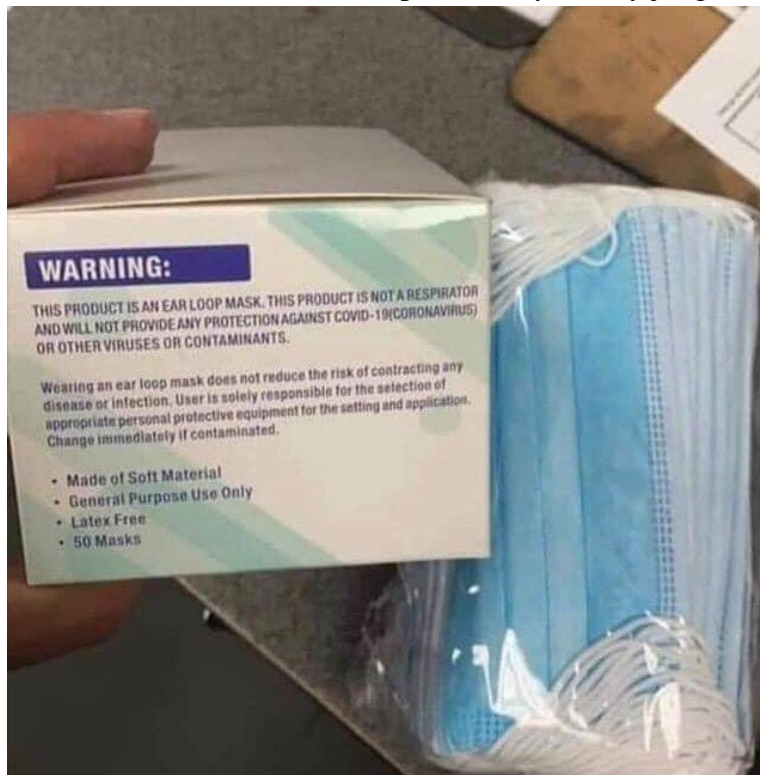
Date: July 7, 2020 at 3:20:37 PM EDT
To: Council

Subject: MEETING REGARDING MANDATE OF MASK WEARING

To whom it may concern,

Good afternoon! My name is Michelle Giganti and I am writing with concerns of a possible mask mandate in the city of New Albany in which we are residents.

For a variety of reasons I have valid concerns with the unjustifiable, in my researched opinion, mandate of masks. I will begin with an individual's health. Not only are there literal warnings on the boxes of masks sold in stores stating that the masks do not keep viruses from entering the mask (and cotton masks work even less) but we know that the size of the virus is microscopic enough to enter these materials. Here is a picture so you may judge for yourself.



It is documented that aside from breathing in carbon dioxide the individual is also receiving less oxygen, necessary for breathing and many other functions of the body. Viruses may become trapped in these masks thus recirculating in the air one is breathing. As an onlooker, I see the number of times people are fiddling with their masks and find it ironic that this is a measure of safety since these same people have been touching unclean surfaces. Pay for your groceries, fiddle with the mask, touch the payment pad again. This also brings to attention the inadequate education of how to keep oneself safe from viruses as well. Many of these same people have their carts filled with foods that are inflammatory, filled with sugar and will most certainly aid in their bodies inability to protect itself from viruses of any kind. It seems to me that encouraging mask wearing and the incessant use of hand sanitizers, as our main method of protection, is quite lacking.

I am only sharing a few of many links for you to read. It is my hope that you will consider why mask wearing in and of itself is not preventative but is more harmful than many truly understand and are led to believe. Let us be leaders in the charge of leading without fear. This takes true leadership to make these courageous, fact based

decisions. <https://childrenshealthdefense.org/news/the-risks-vs-benefits-of-face-masks-is-there-an-agenda/>

The CDC has changed their stance on this position on several occasions. Once upon a time we will remember that one would be shamed for their decision to wear a mask but suddenly this position changed to quite the opposite. Now people are shamed for their decision to NOT wear a mask albeit for known health measures. Even Fauci at one point shared the public's misinformed ideas about the wearing of masks. If you would like I am happy to send this video to you, as well. He, as well, is not able to have a solid and consistent opinion on this matter.

Here are only a few thoughts from those who work in virology and have nothing to gain of a monetary value or otherwise. "The average healthy person does not need to have a mask, and they [shouldn't be wearing masks](#)," says Dr. Eli Perencevich, a professor of medicine and epidemiology at the University of Iowa's College of Medicine, according to Forbes. "There's no evidence that wearing masks on healthy people will protect them," Perencevich said, the publication reported. "They wear them incorrectly, and they can increase the risk of infection because they're touching their face more often."

This brings me to another few points. If we want to take the charge in helping people to become healthier, shouldn't we first begin with supporting, encouraging and teaching citizens how to strengthen their immune systems? We have amazing bodies that when treated with care have the ability to protect us from viruses. Let's encourage the eating of organic foods so the pesticides and genetically modified organisms do not kill all of our healthy bacteria making up roughly 80% of our immune system. Let's encourage people to lessen their sugar consumption as research and logic give us a clear picture of how sugar impacts our immune system and overall health in a multitude of ways.

It is well known that this virus has been here for quite some time. Acton stated January and many of us believe even earlier. Regardless, why would we wait until 6 months later, when we see the death toll declining, to mandate the use of a mask that's protective measure is not only misleading but harmful, as well?

I hope and pray the city in which we have called home for roughly 13 years will make courageous decisions that are founded on unbiased fact based information and concern for the overall health and wellness of it's citizens.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my thoughts as I shared them with you.

Gratefully,

Michelle Giganti

Supporting

Dan Shepherd *

Nancy Greenwald *

Dawn Balopole *

Elenor Sedluk

Resident

Resident

Bridget Rosen

Janice Brillson

Leonard Brillson

Diana Rife

Adam DellaCroce

Virginia Golato

Peter Golato

Don Katz

Phyllis Katz

Susie Rozanczyk - except during exercise

Sheryl Heit

Phil Heit

Marcia Wool - inside and out (unless 6ft+ can be maintained outdoors)

Allan Wool

Dr. Courtney Lynch

Elizabeth Mabel

Jeremy Mabel

Michelle Goodman

Lynda Nacht

Steve Nacht - same

Jennifer B. - inside (outside too if social distancing cannot be maintained)

Michelle Mansoor

Bob Mansoor

Susie Puleri

Tom Puleri

Dr. Leslie Mormol Green

Erica Green

Dr. Kamilah Dixon-Shambley

Kim Fortney

Address/Neighborhood

Goodheart Court

Goodheart Court

Berkley Sq. N.

Berkley Sq. N.

Straits Lane

Straits Lane

Alice Sadka
Rebecca Kopelman
Janice Wolman
Joerg Duebel
Viriginie Hough
Helene Duebel
Dr. Harold Green
Megan Johnson
Joel Altschule
Jody Altschule
Joyce Hallet
Michael Hallet
Cindy Simonet
Joe Simonet
Christine Rogers
Patrick Simonet
Caroline Simonet
Emily Simonet
Carol Scherker
Mike Scherker
Jolie Brams
Rachel Westrick
Craig Mohre
Lori Mohre
Sarah Mohre
Rachel Mohre
Don Barter
Linda Barter - same
Dr. Jeffrey Angart & office team members
Sheryl Angart
Lisa Gustafson
Emma Morgan
Maimoona Jan
Sarah Higgiston
Kauser Ahmad
Laura Stultz
Kathy Mancini

Goodheart Court

Loretta Jennings
David Jennings
Angela Walker
Karen DeLong
Katie Barnes
Janice Silver
Laura Ryzenman
John Ryzenman
Mindy Lowe
Brelyse Fuls
Michelle Webster
Heidi Peterson
Melissa Gould
Joe Gould
Divya Saratchandran
Shani Bank
Emily Culver
Maryanne McGrath
James Gould
Jodi Bering
Liz Romagnano
Dirk Stevens
Pratima Suravhrapu
Venkata Suravhrapu
Terry Brand
Jill Hall
Vanessa Bose
Laura Chamberlain
Gwendolyn Zaczepinski
Christine Chamberlain
Dr. Courtney Lynch - prof of epidemiology at OSU
Ashley Olikier
Lisa Freeman
Lauren Camper
Emma Barnes
Richard Szabo
Heather Hartley

Andre Vatke
Gary Brown
Adam Bering
Dr. Wando Olayiwola
Magen Arenschield
Ellin Travelle
Avery Banks
Kim Bader
Greg Bader
Heather Melick
Olivia Neff
Maureen Joyner
Charles Stringer
Angelina Helsel + family (6 total)
Allison Larivey
Susan Emig
Precious Singo
Stephanie Thompson
Eliane Mackey
Serbin Family (4 total)
Kimberly Kelly
Scott Kelly
Lorraine Pennyman
Amy Jacobs
Jeff Klingler
Heather Klingler
Linda DeWitt (thanks the mayor, council, CM for all that you do)
Mike DeWitt
Andrea DeSantis
Cathy Norton
Lori Pordum
Christoper McKee
Lyndsay Theibert
John Theibert
Kyle McCartney
Nick Romagnano
Denise Johnson

Goodrich Sq.
Griswold Dr.

Serina Shores

Samantha Fox

John Gray

Heather Sankovich

Damion Sankovich

Ron Kassoff

John McGrath

David Lippy

Pam Lippy

Ganish & family (left vmail but no last name)

Margaret Masser - Windsor

Doug Maxeiner

Lynne Maxeiner

Rodney Washington

Anne Lombardi

McKenzie McGrath

Katie Carroll

Aaron Carroll

Pat Huddle

Ellen Smith (indoors & when social distancing isn't maintained)

Kim Tarnapoll

Denise Johnson

Mike Pemberton

Charlotte Theibert

Angela Hooper

Amy Behnen

David Behnen

Esther Brody

Jarrold Skinner

Carol Pitts

Chris Lopez

Barbara Topolosky

Joel Topolosky

Susan Neville

Staci Okine

Suzanne Kotch

Amy Kallner

Olmstead Rd.

Windsor

Griswold Dr.

Pete Tarnapol	
David Goldach	
Eli Goldach	
Margie Goldach	
David Martin	Wilsonhouse Ct.
Pat Martin - same	Wilsonhouse Ct.
Jillian Savage	
Victoria Clark (in public places & outdoors only when social distancing cannot be maintained)	
Kimberly Minor	
Molly Stevens	
Allison Savage	
Jessica Gould	
Arunrad Deverevan	
Shaun McGrath	
Deborah Susi	
Daisy Sornacala	
Janet Kassoff	
Mark McCann	
Ginny Inlander	
Deforest Brown	
Robin Washington	
Kristina Jenny	
Emily Swanson	
Miller Herman	
Stephanie Onyejekwe	
Charm London	
Jaime Goldach	
Chontae Pennyman	
Julie Barnes	
Lori Lewis	
Roberta Meacham	
Al Gist	Blackstone Edge
Dr. Kristy Huffman - Links	The Links
Kamilah Dixon	
Paula Renker	
Dr. Leslie Green (VM) (indoors - outdoors if closer than 6 feet)	Meadway Drive
Crystal Berman	Hampstead Villgae

Mark Kazan
Natalie Monroe
Amy Via
Betsy Mable
Ronni Fiebel
Donald Fiebel
Lisa Sherck
Angie Haynes
Evan Beane
Richard Irving
Joyce Harris
Elizabeth Gray (VM)
Lauren Bar Lev (VM)
Heather "Longbrook" (VM)
Sean Silver (VM)
Maria ??Carmen (VM) (entire household of 4)
Michelle Waltman (VM)
Janet Deans

Planter's Grove
Hampstead-Tottenham

Straights Farm
Straights Farm
Headington Place
The Preserve
Keswick Dr.
W. Main Street
The Links

Waverly Drive
Stonegate
New Albany Links Drive

Opposing

Michele Lavon*

David Waltuch

Tavia Dickerson

Alan Klodell - not outside, inside **yes**

Tricia Bhat

Sunil Bhat

Zoie Bhat

Dr. Joel Anders (ER doc and Plain Twp resident)

Romer Family

Nicole Carter (opposes mandatory mask wearing & outdoor requirements)

Ann Gunzenhaeuser

Antoinnette Mallow

Julie Baldwin

Sherry O'Connell (wears a mask but opposes mandating it & outdoor requirements)

Sheila Defelice

Carrie Bussewitz

Michael Smith

Jay O'Connell

Davidee Doss

BJ Doss

Rita Pirro

Shawn Pirro

Kim Taneff

Kelly Brown

Julie Given

Allison Johnson

Dawn Justen

Lew Justen

Michelle Giganti

Sarah Smith (VM) (message states does not support wearing masks outside)

Lisa Messner (VM)

Julie Alexandrunas (VM)

Michelle Giganti (also sent an email to council)

Melissa Evans (VM)

Address/Neighborhood

Dean Farm Rd

Dean Farm Rd

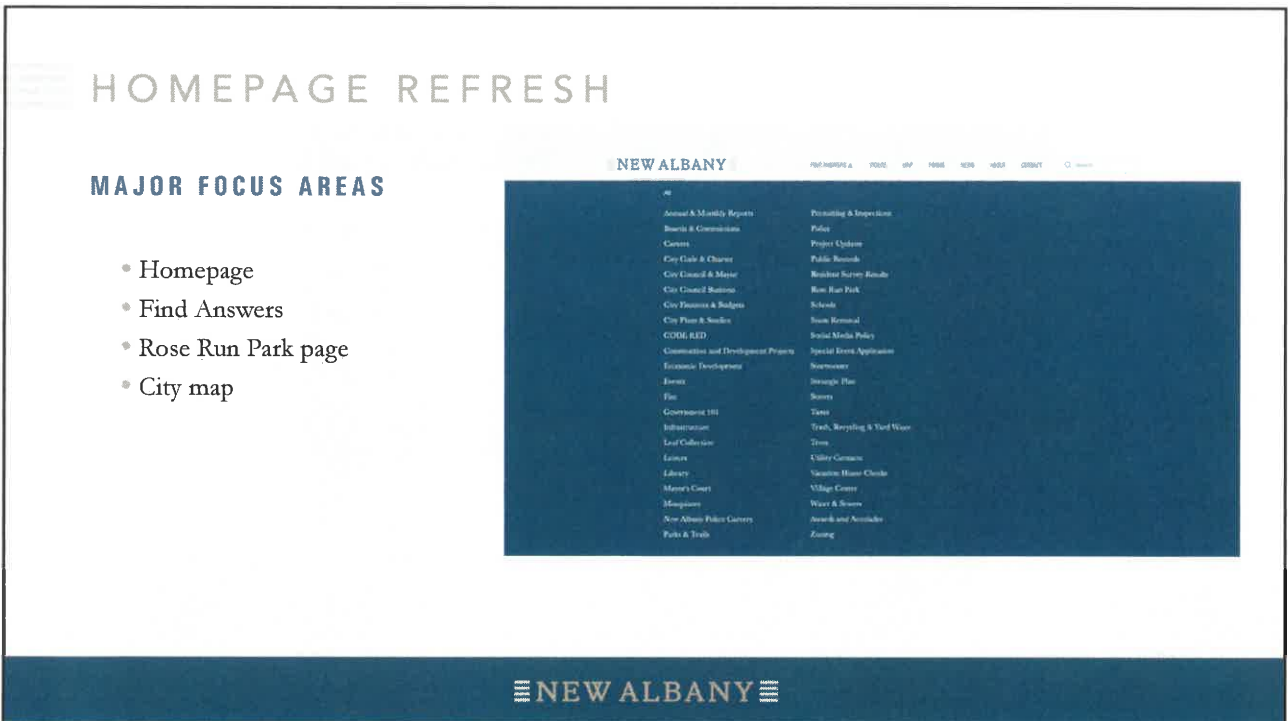
Plain Township

Windsor

Hays Town

Ackerly Farm

Ella Guehl (VM) (only left message to say against mask requirement for exercise)



HOMEPAGE REFRESH

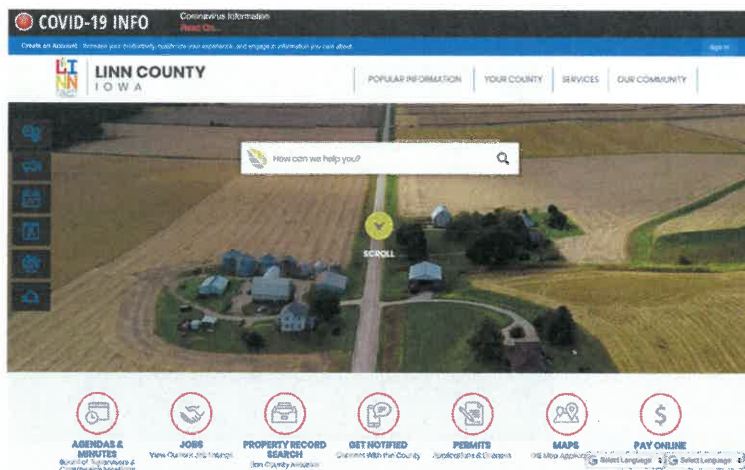
REASONS WHY

- Layout is outdated
- Needs to be more mobile-friendly
- Should keep the residents in mind and make it easy for them to find what they need



NEW ALBANY

SOURCES OF INSPIRATION



NEW ALBANY

SOURCES OF INSPIRATION



NEW ALBANY

SOURCES OF INSPIRATION



NEW ALBANY

SOURCES OF INSPIRATION



NEW ALBANY

MOBILE WEB TRAFFIC



16.2%
IN 2013

53.3%
IN 2019

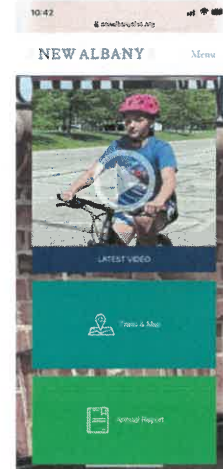
222% jump
IN LAST 7 YEARS

*We must adopt a
mobile-first
mindset.*



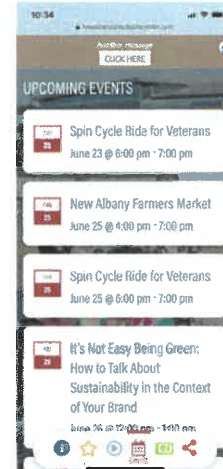
NEW ALBANY

CURRENT HOMEPAGE MOBILE VIEW



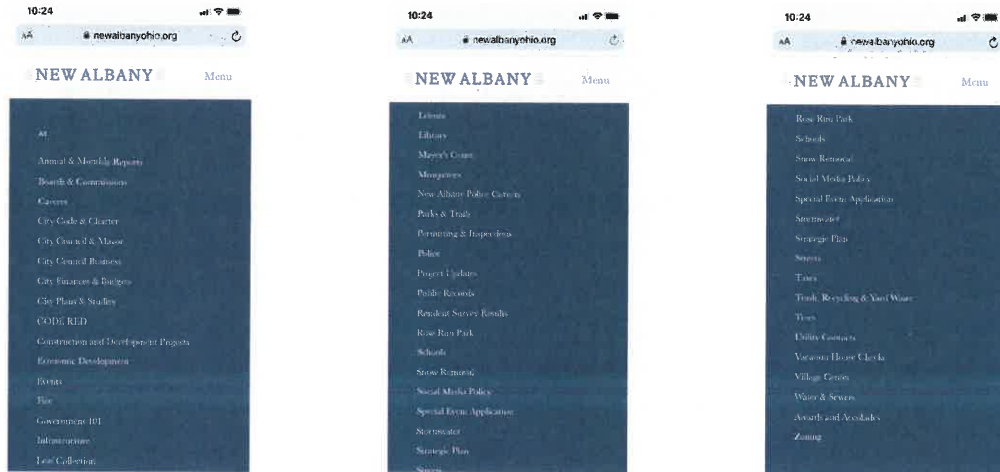
NEW ALBANY

HOMEPAGE REFRESH MOBILE VIEW



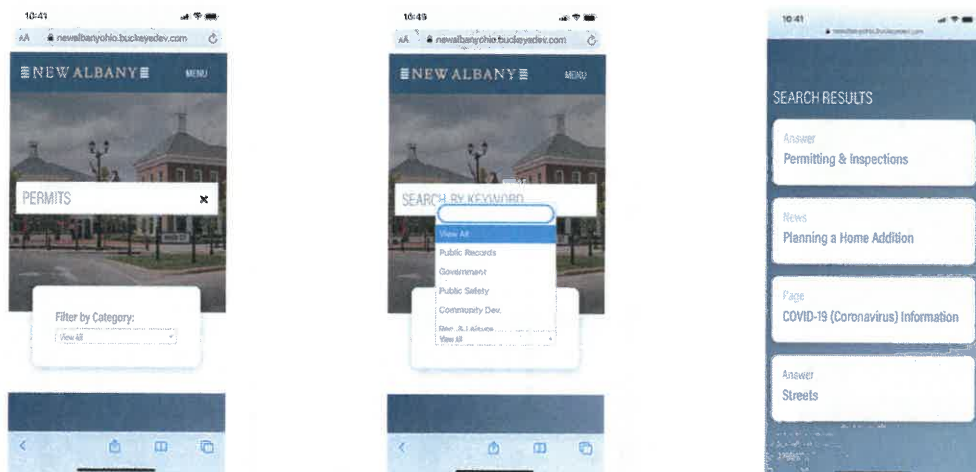
NEW ALBANY

CURRENT MOBILE FIND ANSWERS



NEW ALBANY

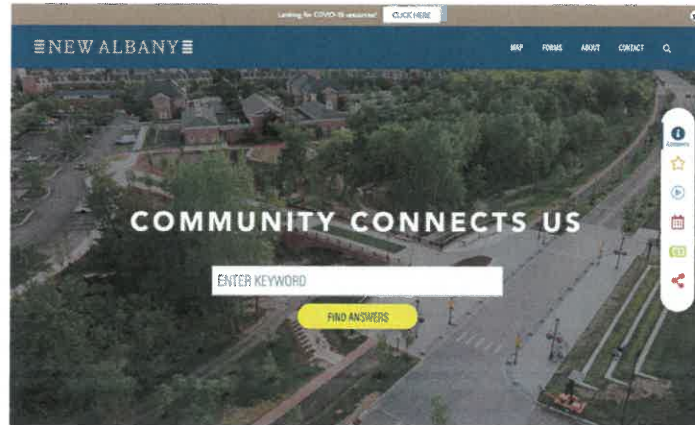
REFRESH MOBILE FIND ANSWERS



NEW ALBANY

HOMEPAGE REFRESH

LET'S EXPLORE!



NEW ALBANY

WE HEARD FROM THE COMMUNITY

ENGAGE
NEW ALBANY



657
Online survey
responses

50+
Roundtable
participants



41
Steering Committee
members

75+
Neighborhood Gathering
attendees

150
Community Update Chamber
Luncheon participants

1,200+
People engaged in the first phase
of Engage New Albany

115
Mobile meeting
participants



WHAT WE HEARD | COMMUNITY INPUT

ENGAGE
NEW ALBANY

WHAT ARE NEW ALBANY'S STRENGTHS?

- Quality of schools
- Sense of community & small-town feel
- Legacy of master planning
- Safety
- Aesthetics and maintenance

WHAT ARE NEW ALBANY'S WEAKNESSES?

- Traffic and congestion
- Lack of diversity
- Limited selection of restaurants and retail nearby
- High taxes
- Parking is an issue in Village Center

WHAT ARE THE PRIORITIES FOR NEW ALBANY?

- Enhance diversity and welcoming sense of community
- More entertainment options, especially for families and teens
- More diverse community programming
- Improved parks and open spaces





WHAT WE'VE HEARD - STEERING COMMITTEE

ENGAGE
NEW ALBANY

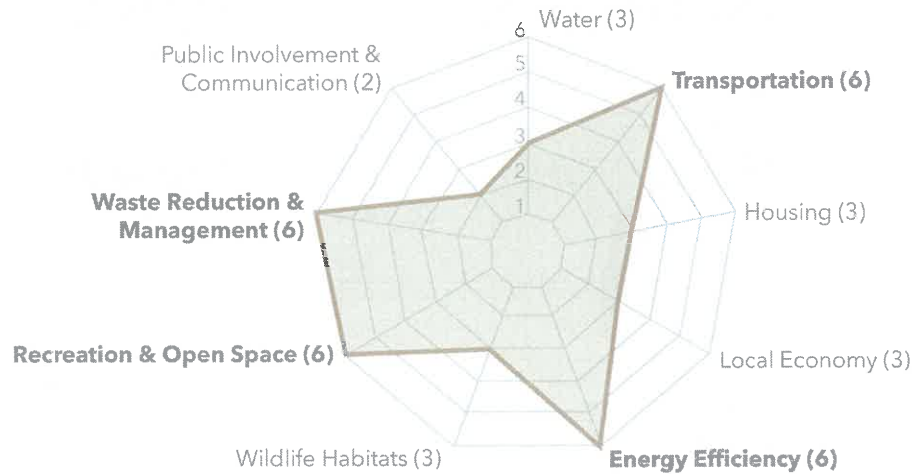
HOW IMPORTANT TO YOU ARE EACH OF THE COMPONENTS THIS PLAN WILL ADDRESS?



WHAT WE'VE HEARD - SUSTAINABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE RECAP

ENGAGE
NEW ALBANY

TOP SUSTAINABILITY TOPICS TO FOCUS ON IN THIS PLAN



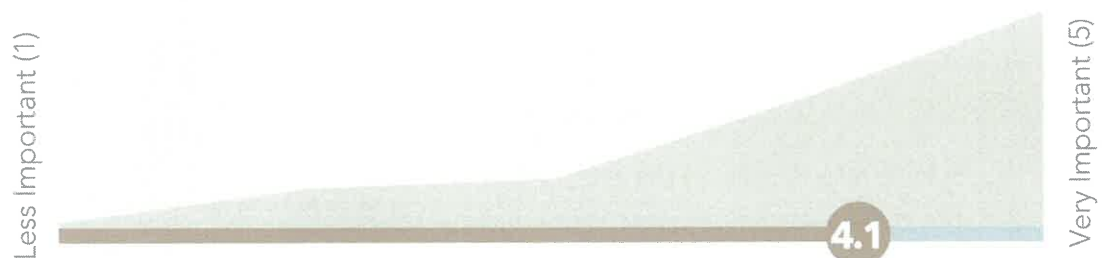
5

WHAT WE'VE HEARD - COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #2

ENGAGE
NEW ALBANY

IMPORTANCE FOR THE CITY TO ADDRESS AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABILITY

n = 183



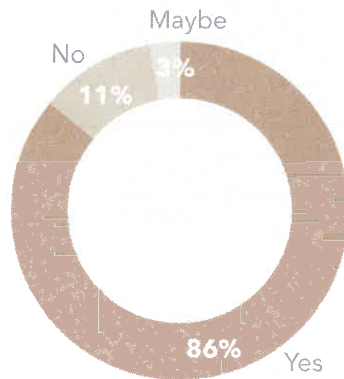
6

WHAT WE'VE HEARD - COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #2

ENGAGE
NEW ALBANY

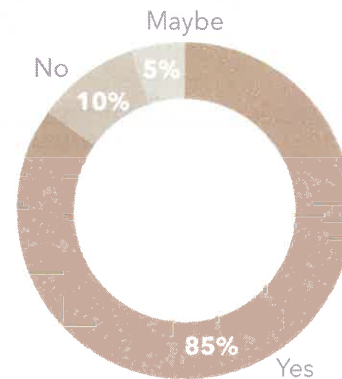
SUPPORT FOR **CONVERTING SOME TURF GRASS ALONG ROAD CORRIDORS TO NATIVE PRAIRIE MEADOWS OR WOODED AREAS:**

n = 167



SUPPORT FOR THE CITY TO **PROMOTE SOLAR PANELS AND GEOTHERMAL SYSTEMS** IN THE COMMUNITY:

n = 175



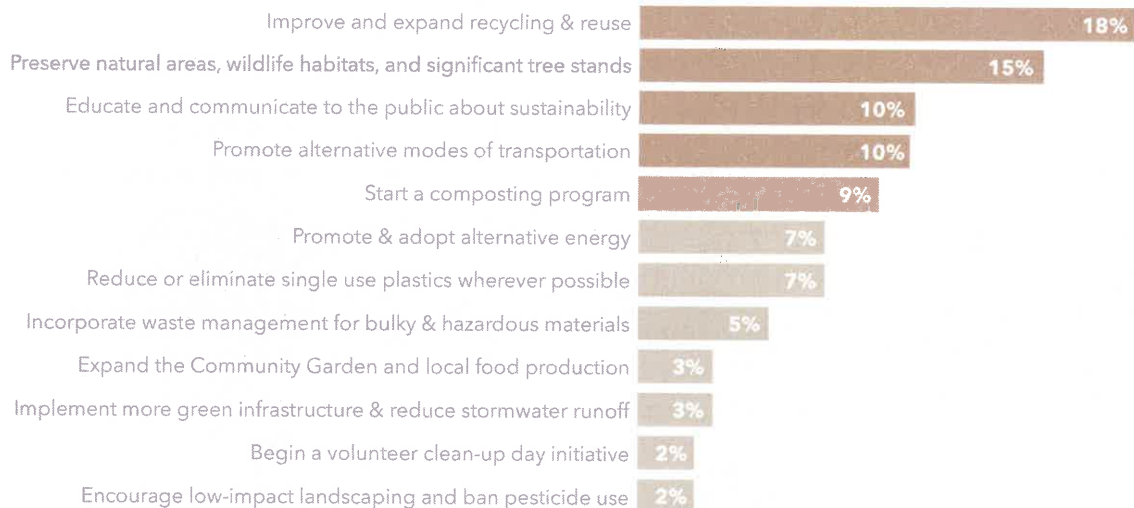
7

WHAT WE'VE HEARD - COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #2

ENGAGE
NEW ALBANY

OTHER IDEAS FOR THE CITY TO IMPROVE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY:

n = 147



8



EXISTING CONDITIONS

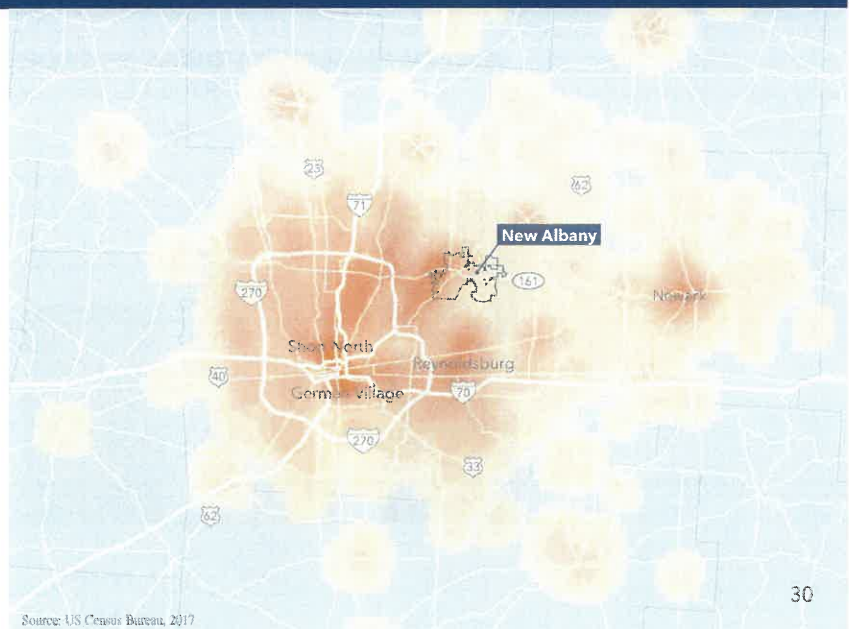


VEHICLE ORIGIN & DESTINATION - NEW ALBANY WORKFORCE

ENGAGE
NEW ALBANY

• Where New Albany's Workforce Lives:

- » Northeast Columbus
- » Newark
- » Reynoldsburg
- » Short North Area
- » German Village



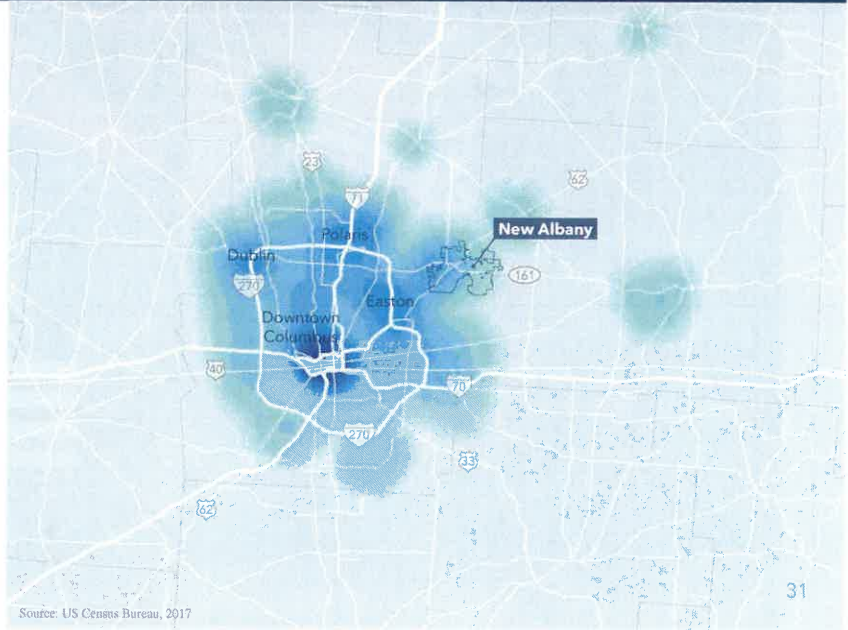


VEHICLE ORIGIN & DESTINATION - NEW ALBANY RESIDENTS

ENGAGE
NEW ALBANY

• Where New Albany Residents Work:

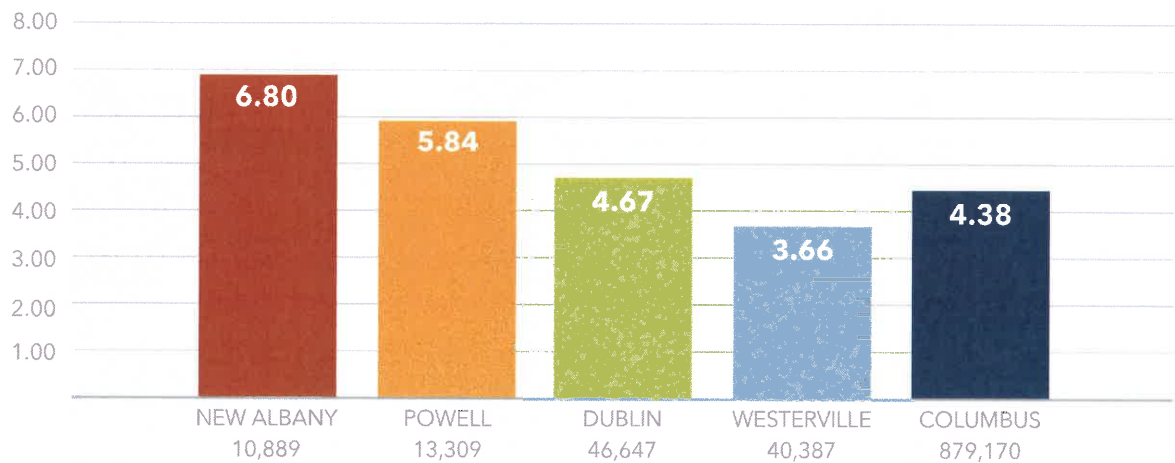
- » Downtown Columbus
- » Easton
- » Polaris
- » Ohio State University
- » Dublin
- » Gahanna



PEER COMPARISON - TRANSPORTATION

ENGAGE
NEW ALBANY

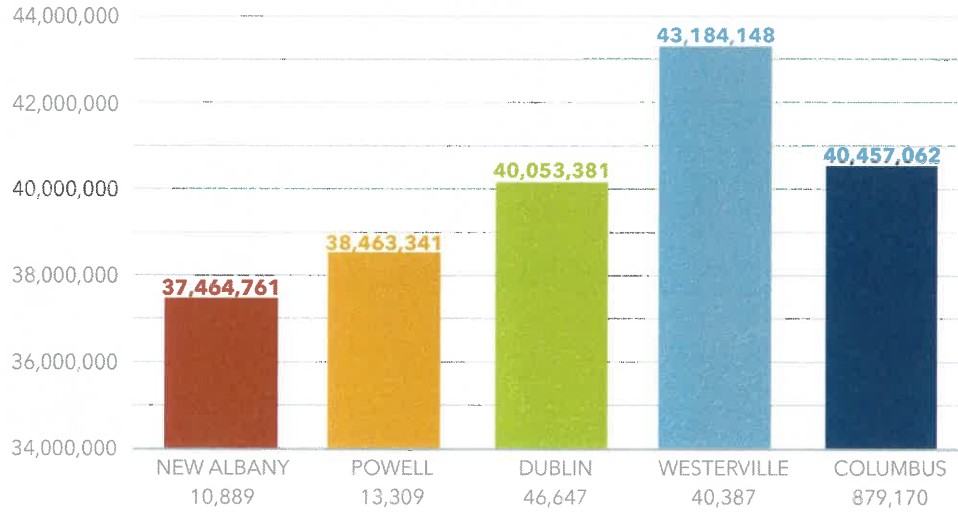
ANNUAL PASSENGER VEHICLE EMISSIONS PER HOUSEHOLD METRIC TONS/YEAR



PEER COMPARISON - ENERGY USE

ENGAGE
NEW ALBANY

TOTAL ANNUAL RESIDENTIAL ENERGY USE PER CAPITA
BTU/YEAR (BILLIONS)

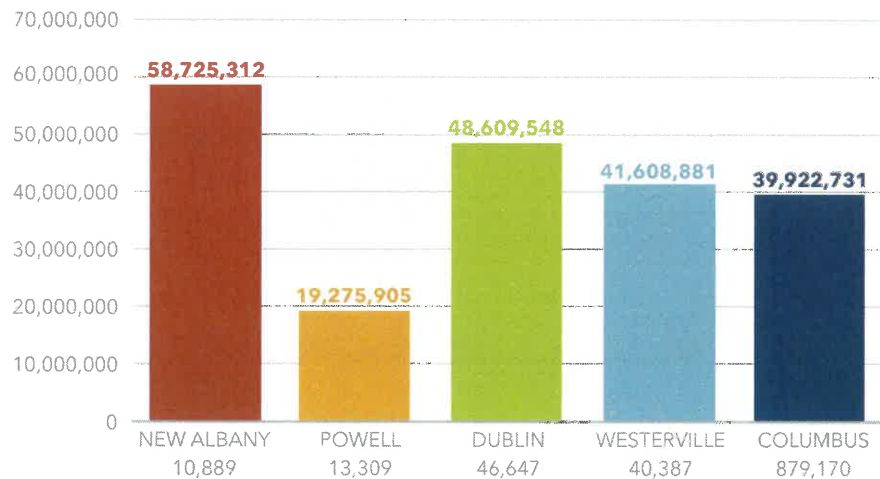


25

PEER COMPARISON - ENERGY USE

ENGAGE
NEW ALBANY

TOTAL ANNUAL COMMERCIAL ENERGY USE PER CAPITA
BTU/YEAR (BILLIONS)

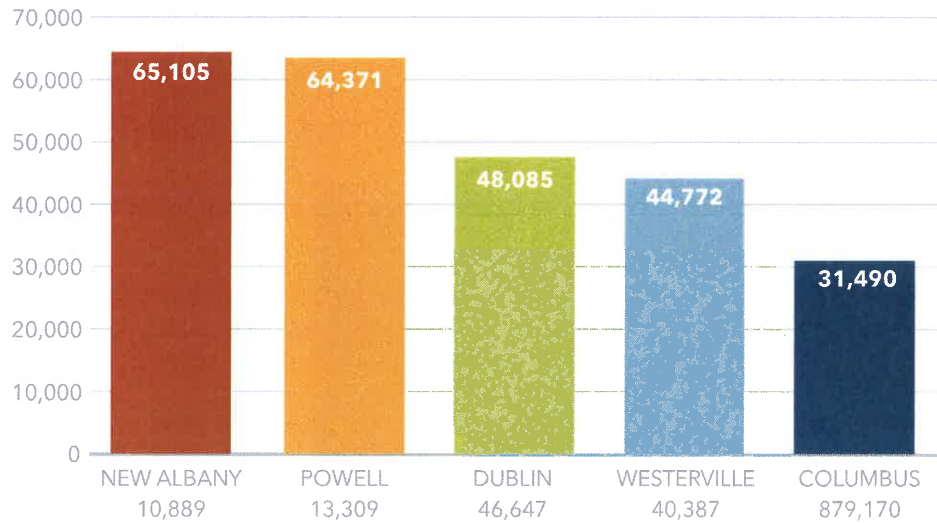


26

PEER COMPARISON - WATER

ENGAGE
NEW ALBANY

RESIDENTIAL OUTDOOR WATER USE PER HOUSEHOLD
(GALLONS/PERSON/YEAR)



27

Summary Table of Insight2050 Scenario Metrics

		GROWTH SCENARIO			
		Past Trends	Planned Future	Focused Growth	Maximum Infill
METRIC (TO 2050)	Cumulative New Land Consumption (sq mi)	495	270	45	15
	Cumulative Residential Water Use (gallons)	3.19 billion	3.12 billion	3.03 billion	3.01 billion
	Cumulative Residential and Commercial Building Energy Use (in BTU)	4.27	4.23	4.15	4.12
	Annual Vehicle Miles Traveled	15.9 billion	15.4 billion	12.0 billion	11.1 billion
	Cumulative Fuel Costs (in 2014 dollars)	\$116.0 billion	\$113.4 billion	\$97.5 billion	\$93.3 billion
	Cumulative Residential and Commercial Tax Revenues per Acre (2014 dollars)	\$32k	\$87k	\$213k	\$474k
	Annual Automobile Pollutant Emissions (tons)	24,573	23,675	19,486	17,085

Source: Insight2050, MORPC

CITY INITIATIVES

ENGAGE
NEW ALBANY

BUILDINGS & FACILITIES

- Recycling at all City building facilities
- LED bulb replacement at Village Hall, Public Service facility, and in all of the City's traffic signals
- LED bulb conversion in all existing City streetlights (expected by end of 2020)
- Commercial fan installation in Service Department garage to reduce heating bills in winter
- Three "green streets," which provide sustainable stormwater management (Third St., Miller Ave. extension, Second St. extension)
- Recycled asphalt used on rural roads

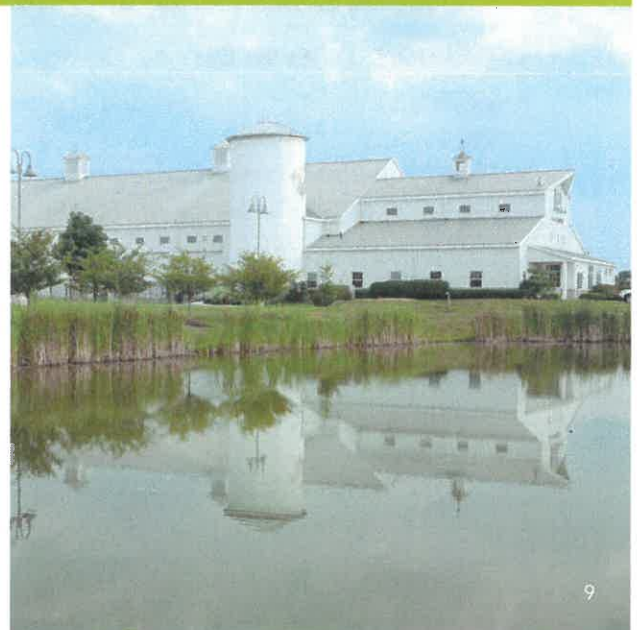


CITY INITIATIVES

ENGAGE
NEW ALBANY

PARKS & GROUNDS

- Green stormwater management practices at Public Service facility (swales, filtration pond)
- Organic fertilization program pilot through Service Department to determine viability of commercial fertilizer reduction
- 20% open space & parkland requirement in all new subdivisions per City zoning code
- Adoption of floodplain regulations
- Land use plan designates areas to be preserved green space
- City zoning code requires existing trees to be preserved when feasible

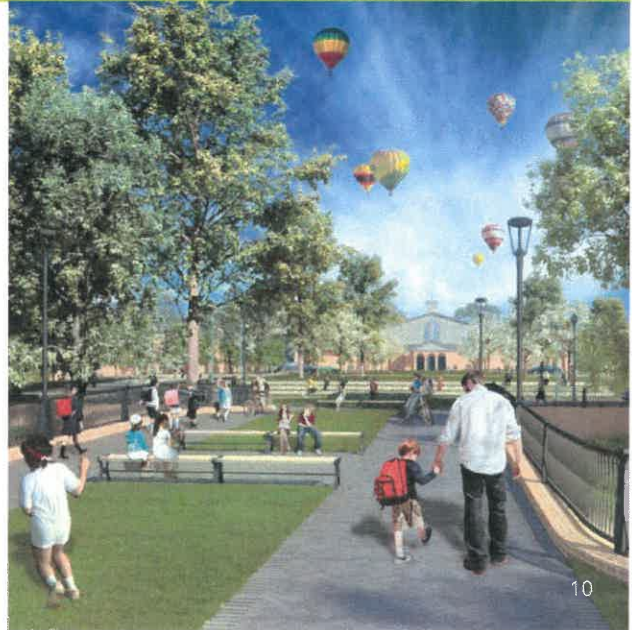


CITY INITIATIVES

ENGAGE
NEW ALBANY

PARKS & GROUNDS

- Rose Run Phase 1:
 - » Stream restoration completed for Phase 1 and planned for Phase 2
 - » Bank stabilization completed for Phase 1 and planned for Phase 2
 - » Invasive tree removal completed for Phase 1 and planned for Phase 2



CITY INITIATIVES

ENGAGE
NEW ALBANY

OPERATIONS & SERVICES

- Recycling collection service for all public events
- Monthly sweeping of all curbed streets, which prevents sediment and pollutants from entering streams and waterways
- Residential curbside leaf collection from October to December
- 500,000 lbs. of leaves collected composted and converted to topsoil
- Annual street tree pruning and removal. Branches and tree trunks composted and converted to mulch
- Service Department fleet runs on bio-diesel
- Tree City USA Community designation since 2010



CITY INITIATIVES

ENGAGE
NEW ALBANY

OPERATIONS & SERVICES

- Service Department purchased electric vehicle for use in its fleet in 2018
- City is in process of purchasing an electric bus for Smart Ride transit program
- Service Department utilizes natural Beet Juice to help melt snow and ice, which reduces need for chemicals
- City is taking part in MORPC's Sustainable 2050 program
- City may participate in pilot project for a hybrid police cruiser
- ECOS tax abatement to encourage green building practices within manufacturing and production buildings
- Solar code research being conducted



12

SUSTAINABILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

ENGAGE
NEW ALBANY

Goal:

Define a path to the future that reinforces New Albany's commitment to ecological, social, and economic sustainability

Objectives:

- Protect and improve biodiversity and water and air quality.
- Foster and encourage the adoption of alternative energy sources within the city.
- Continue to reduce waste through the provision of city services and the encouragement of local partners.
- Communicate to and educate the public about the sustainability initiatives in the community.
- Develop mechanisms for implementation and tracking progress.



Creek Clean-up Events



Green Streets



Solar Panels on Public Buildings



Interpretive Sustainability Signage



Curbside Composting



EV Charging Stations

59

SUSTAINABILITY RECOMMENDATIONS

ENGAGE
NEW ALBANY

Goal:

Define a path to the future that reinforces New Albany's commitment to ecological, social, and economic sustainability

Top Four Recommendations:

1. Complete a Sustainability Action Plan for the city that advances this work and establishes benchmark targets, more detailed policies, potential incentives, and a dashboard to measure progress.
2. Work to provide more convenient, sustainable renewable energy supply choices to the New Albany community.
3. Promote the use of solar panels and geothermal systems and adjust the city regulations to appropriately permit them within the community.
4. Communicate to and educate the public about the City's sustainability initiatives.

60



COMMUNITY WELL-BEING



COMMUNITY WELL-BEING - WHAT WE'VE HEARD

ENGAGE
NEW ALBANY

- Desire to be a more diverse and inclusive community
- Celebrate diversity through cultural programming
- Lack of some supportive services for our community members
- More free and family-friendly programming
- Need for connections between volunteer opportunities and community members, especially youth

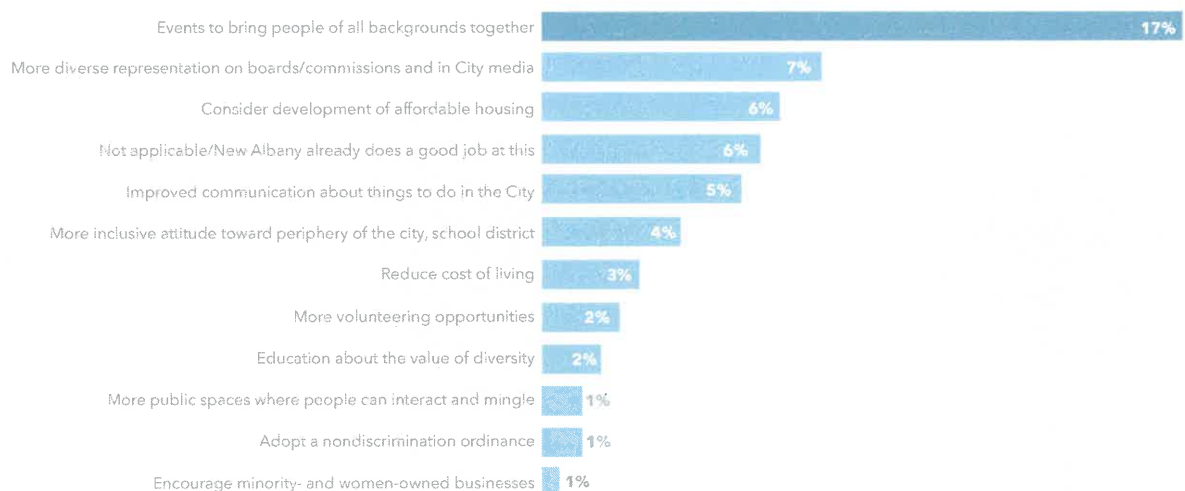
"The **lack of representation on decision making groups** for the community and discussion around that. We should make a **concerted effort to let POC know they are welcome in NA.**"

"Create more **family centric activities** in the community"

COMMUNITY WELLBEING | WHAT WE HEARD

ENGAGE
NEW ALBANY

*What are some ways that New Albany can improve as an inclusive and welcoming place for all people? (n=142)**



COMMUNITY WELLBEING RECOMMENDATIONS

ENGAGE
NEW ALBANY

Goal:

Foster a more healthy, supportive, livable, and inclusive New Albany for all community members.

Objectives:

- Foster an inclusive and welcoming sense of community.
- Continue open City communication with the public.
- Encourage programming to support the needs of all residents.
- Support community initiatives that enhance the community's well-being and happiness.



Community Dialogues



Support Existing Diversity Initiatives



Supporting Existing Community Organizations



Youth Volunteer Program



Mental Health First Aid Training



Supporting Existing Initiatives