



CITY OF SPRINGBORO

# ANNUAL REPORT

# 2020



**LIVE. WORK. PLAY. LEARN. GROW.**

320 W. CENTRAL AVENUE, SPRINGBORO, OH | 937-748-4343

## From Mayor John Agenbroad



We are pleased to present the City of Springboro's Annual Report ending December 31, 2020. Our goal is to share what your City government has

accomplished over the past year and how your tax dollars are being utilized.

As we are now in the second year of this pandemic, none of us could have imagined the tremendous impact of COVID-19 on our world. Our community has been faced with coming up with new ways to work, go to school and keep businesses afloat. We've lost friends, neighbors and loved ones. Our daily routines now include wearing masks and keeping physical distance, and yet we continue to move forward.

I am proud of the efforts of our community in fighting COVID-19 and remain optimistic thanks to our citizens coming together to support one another. Your City Council and staff have

responded to the pandemic by working to keep our community safe while maintaining the highest level of service you expect, as it is important that we carry on City business as best we can.

2020 will be a year we will all remember—for many reasons. We started new projects, completed others and delayed a few because of the pandemic. We continued to enhance City amenities by opening Phase 2 of Kacie Jane Park, adding an Art Gallery in the Performing Arts Center and creating a gateway entrance. We managed to present seven entertaining concerts throughout the summer at North Park and enjoyed fun music and delicious food at the Boro BBQ Fest. We brought back a free Shred Day for people to dispose of personal documents and provided dumpsters in our parking lot for recycling, large items and yard waste—and we offered all these events in a safe manner, following state and county health protocols.

In addition, we welcomed more than 20 new businesses, provided reliable and safe water, repaired and repaved

many of our streets and upgraded our park facilities—always keeping our fiscal responsibilities to you—our residents—a priority.

These are just a few of the accomplishments of your City government. We are proud of the benefits they will bring to our residents, businesses and visitors today and for years to come.

Your City Council and staff are committed to the future of Springboro and promise to continue to lead on important issues and focus on resident satisfaction, safety and security, quality of life and financial health.

This is our home, the place we Live. Work. Play. Learn and Grow.  
#stayconnectedspringboro.

Sincerely,

### Property Tax Revenues

|           |           |  |
|-----------|-----------|--|
| 2013      | \$596,174 |  |
| 2014      | \$602,921 |  |
| 2015      | \$611,988 |  |
| 2016      | \$658,192 |  |
| 2017      | \$665,959 |  |
| 2018      | \$688,743 |  |
| 2019      | \$775,561 |  |
| 2020      | \$790,817 |  |
| 2021 PROJ | \$799,102 |  |

### Property Tax Rate (In Mills) for South Suburban Cities

Lebanon 11.82

Oakwood 10.05

Franklin 9.32

Miamisburg 7.03

Mason 6.72

Kettering 6.63

Springboro 1.11

### Property Tax Rate Comparison

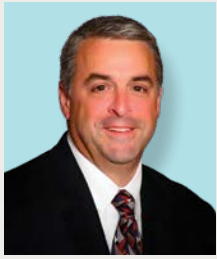
|  |                    |  |                 |
|--|--------------------|--|-----------------|
|  | City of Springboro |  | Clearcreek Twp. |
|  | \$4,107.25*        |  | \$4,353.13*     |

**Springboro residents pay 6% less than township residents!**

\*Based on 2020 property tax figures on a \$250,000 house in the Springboro Community City School District



## From City Manager Chris Pozzuto



As I reflect on 2020, it certainly wasn't the year anyone had expected. The devastating effects of COVID-19 impacted our

entire community and presented many challenges to our City staff. However, we refused to let the pandemic define us, instead, we came together as a team to create new and innovative ways to get the job done—determined that Springboro would move forward.

Our goal each day is to maintain Springboro's status as a premier community. We do this by providing outstanding City services, fostering a safe and engaged community, keeping our business community strong and acting in a fiscally responsible manner. The pandemic did not affect our goal.

We continued to lead the way in programs and services. We recognized the need for our homes and businesses

to have access to high speed internet and are investing \$2.4 million to bring fiber optics to every neighborhood. We established a DORA (Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area) at Wright Station. We were one of the first communities to provide grants to our businesses and city schools through CARES Act funds and offer Zoom and other options for our taxpayers. In addition, we are developing a proprietary online tax filing program. We live-streamed many of our concerts and other events. When our former waste hauler stopped picking up large items and yard waste, for four weeks we provided dumpsters in our Municipal Building parking lot for residents to drop-off those items until our new hauler, Rumpke, took over the routes.

As we look to 2021, good things are happening. Wright Station continues to grow with the opening of Warped Wing and additional tenants Luminous Nails, Jersey Mike's Subs and Cassano's coming on board soon. The former Kmart will be redeveloped into a new

90,000 sq. ft. Kroger, set to open in November. Businesses like Thaler Machine and Woodhull expanded their footprints, Tomco Machining opened shop here and other companies like Hardy Diagnostics continued to invest in new equipment and resources.

I'm pleased to report that the debt on Heatherwoode Golf Club was paid off early, resulting in a \$50,000 savings. Heatherwoode continues to be the favorite spot for golf and had a record year in 2020.

Our focus in 2021 will remain on delivering core services while keeping your taxes low. We will invest in our roads, neighborhoods and historic downtown, support our business community and remain fiscally responsible. We are Springboro and we will continue to step up to new challenges.

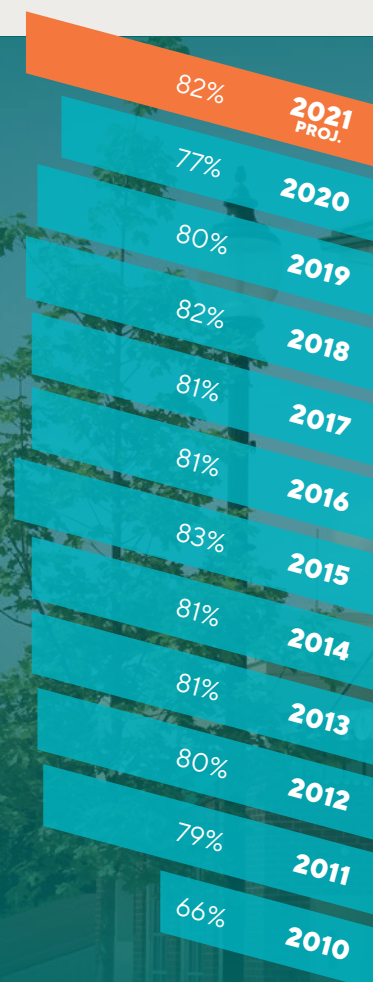
Sincerely,

## City relying more on income tax, property tax rate is lowest in region

The largest single source of revenue for the City is income tax generated from employee withholdings, taxes on the earnings of Springboro businesses and taxes paid by individuals, which comprises 77 percent of the City's total revenue. As Columbus continues to cut funding to cities, Springboro has increased its reliance on income tax revenue.

Our municipal property tax rate—at 1.11 mills—is the lowest in the region. The Springboro municipal government realized just over two cents from every property tax dollar collected. Of the balance, 61 cents supported the school district, 18 cents was allocated to Clearcreek Township, Warren County received almost 11 cents, and Special Districts (Warren-Clinton Community Health, Warren County Health District and Franklin-Springboro Public Library) and the Warren County Career Center each received about 4 cents.

With those tax dollars, your City protects its citizens and property, provides quality road maintenance and offers an array of quality-of-life features that truly make our community unique. As our City's landscape expands and changes, our residents and businesses can continue to expect quality services delivered in a professional manner.



### Income Tax Revenue

Percent of Income Tax Revenue from Total General Fund Revenue

# The Year in Review: 2020

Despite the pandemic, the City of Springboro continued to move forward with many projects.

## Wright Station

- Welcomed Warped Wing Barrel Room & Smokery, joining the Performing Arts Center in the development, a partnership with Synergy & Mills
- Finalizing construction on two new buildings with three tenants already named: Cassano's, Luminous Nails and Jersey Mike's Subs
- Installed free public WiFi
- Completed infrastructure includes:
  - Installation of storm sewer, water main and sanitary sewer main
  - Construction of internal streets along with curbs, sidewalks, lighting and landscaping

## Performing Arts Center (PAC) at Wright Station

- Opened Art Gallery in the lobby, featuring changing exhibits by local artists
- Offered Springboro Community Theatre productions in the Premier Health Theater
- Installed state-of-the-art video screen and projector in theater
- Presented free Speaker Series
- Co-sponsored Styles on Main fashion event with Historic Springboro

## Kacie Jane Park

Opened Phase 2 with two, age-appropriate playgrounds and an interactive electronic playground surrounded by musical sensory elements. Named in memory of Kacie Hausfeld and made possible through a generous donation from the Hausfeld families, the park is located at Lytle-Five Points and Crosley roads. Phase 1 opened in 2019 and features a splash pad with several water features, restrooms and shelter.



KACIE JANE PARK  
This park is dedicated  
in loving memory of  
Kacie Jane Hausfeld and  
Tom Hausfeld  
Two lives that inspired many,  
loved more, and laughed often.  
It is our hope that this park will be  
filled with laughter and love  
for years to come.  
The Hausfeld Families

## Citizens' Survey

Every three years, in partnership with Miami University Center for Public Management and Regional Affairs, the City conducts a "Citizen Attitudes and Public Opinion Survey." Surveys were mailed randomly to residents in early March. Although COVID-19 cut short the survey period, there were still 342 residents who responded to the survey—242 via mail and 100 via the online option. Highlights included:

97%

97% of respondents were either "Very Satisfied" (57%) or "Satisfied" (40%) with living in Springboro.

According to the facilitators at Miami, this is the highest rating of ANY community surveyed.



50%

50% of respondents said that Springboro has become a better place to live over the past five years, versus 39% stating the same during the last survey.

96%

96% of respondents said Springboro is either an "Excellent" or "Good" place to live, while 94% stated it is an "Excellent" or "Good" place to raise a family.

86%

Public Safety: 86% of respondents "Strongly Agree" or "Agree" that they are satisfied with the current level of police protection.

89%

Parks and Recreation: 89% of respondents "Strongly Agree" or "Agree" that they are satisfied with the current level of parks, which is up 3% from the last survey three years ago.

91%

Public Service: 91% of respondents stated that snow and ice removal has "stayed the same" or "become better", and 78% stated street and road conditions have "stayed the same" or "become better."

When asked to indicate what they liked about living in Springboro, nearly half (46%) responded with quality of life issues such as, "small-town feel," "community spirit," "like their neighborhoods," and "feel safe." The entire survey and results area can be found at [www.ci.springboro.oh.us](http://www.ci.springboro.oh.us).

## Business Outreach

- Hosted second annual Business Appreciation Golf Outing
- Welcomed 20 new businesses
- Provided \$200,000 in grants from CARES Act funds to nine mid- to large-size businesses affected by COVID-19
- Created a DORA (Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area) in Wright Station
- Gave \$106,000 in grants from local funds to 38 small businesses

## Business Expansions

- Thaler Machine
- Woodhull
- Hardy Diagnostics



## Business Announcements

Kroger announced it would redevelop the former Kmart as a new 90,000 square foot store to feature a drive-thru pharmacy, pick-up lanes, Starbucks and 14-pump fueling center. The new Kroger is expected to be open in November 2021 with the existing store remaining operational until that time.

## Road/Infrastructure Improvements

- Paved Lytle-Five Points and Yankee roads
- Resurfaced approximately 5 miles of streets (13 streets) along with concrete repair to curbs, sidewalk and driveway aprons
- Resurfaced S. Main Street from St. Rt. 73 to the south corporation limit and added decorative crosswalks
- Replaced water mains on Maple Drive and McVey Place
- Resurfaced S. Pioneer Boulevard
- Added new traffic signal timing on S. Main Street to help alleviate school traffic
- Repaired nearly 5,000 linear feet of asphalt joints on various streets
- Widened a section of Lytle-Five Points Road—west of Country Club Lane and installed a pedestrian crossing east of Country Club Lane. The project also included re-striping the west and north crosswalks at Yankee and Lytle-Five Points roads for better visibility.
- Awarded \$4.5 million in Federal Safety Grants to complete three traffic safety improvement projects over the next several years (2021- 2024). These grants will cover 100% of the cost of each project.

## Smart City Initiative/Technology Upgrades

- Installed three traffic cameras along St. Rt. 73
- Offered Zoom appointments and online services from the Tax Office
- Partnered with seven Miami Valley Communications Council cities to develop 35-mile high-speed fiber ring between the cities
- Implemented project management software
- Installed free public WiFi in Wright Station and City Building/Library parking lot



### Fiber to Home project:

As part of the City's Fiber Master Plan, in partnership with the Warren County Port Authority, Springboro will invest \$2.4 million to build a broadband fiber network to provide high-speed internet service. The City will not provide internet services, instead, the fiber network is expected to attract additional Internet Service Providers (ISPs). Visit [www.ci.springboro.oh.us](http://www.ci.springboro.oh.us) for more information about the Fiber Master Plan.

## Safety and Security

### Springboro Police Department

- Increased Police staffing by adding two new officers
- Accompanied Blue, our comfort dog, to numerous community events
- Taught DARE program to 5th grade students
- Maintained Boro Watch, a video camera safety program
- Collected more than 50 pounds of pills during DEA Drug Take Back Day
- Coordinated Operation Santa, assisting 6 families and a total of 22 children



## Heatherwoode Golf Club

- Continued to make a name for itself as Tom West, Heatherwoode General Manager, is the golf instructor for Springboro High School player Jordan Gilkison, Boys Ohio State High School Champion
- Provided personalized custom golf-fitting and saw 30% increase in custom golf club sales
- Paid off debt early, saving \$50,000 in interest
- Built new Greeter Station
- Added new landscaping
- Leased new golf carts and utilized their GPS system to take food orders from the golf course
- Added two new single-seat golf carts, bringing total to 12 single-seat carts

### Heatherwoode By the Numbers

- Average Pace of Play for 18 holes: **4:15**
- Ranges balls hit: **843,875**
- Total rounds played: **40,551**
- Hamburgers and hot dogs sold: **5,698**

## Parks Projects

- Installed synthetic turf lacrosse and soccer field (CJS Heating & Air Field) at Hazel Woods Park
- Named Logan's Bark Park at Hazel Woods Park in memory of Logan Turner, a Springboro resident who was tragically killed in the Oregon District shootings
- Installed Fitness Court at North Park with a grant from the National Fitness Campaign
- Opened Phase 2 of Kacie Jane Park, with two age-appropriate playgrounds and an interactive electronic playground system with musical sensory elements

## Housing Developments

Oversaw construction projects for 56 single-family lots and 39 condo units including: Sawgrass Pointe, Beck Ridge, section 3, The Springs, section 15, Waterside Condos, section 6

# The Year in Review: 2020

## Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects

- Earned Bicycle Friendly Community Bronze status from the League of American Bicyclists, 2020-2024
- Awarded \$250,000 grant from State of Ohio to complete a multi-use trail connecting Clearcreek Park to Hazel Woods Park for construction in 2022
- Adopted the updated Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan
- Coordinated four bicycling and walking events with local businesses
- Sponsored Speaker Series with the Springboro Library
- Offered Bike the Boro, giving cyclists opportunity for 2-, 10- and 16-mile rides throughout the city
- Painted bike lanes green along N. Main Street and Lytle-Five Points & Yankee roads

## Awards and Recognitions

- Tree City USA, 24th consecutive year
- 5th Best Place in Ohio to Raise a Family by Wallethub.com
- 7th Safest City in Ohio by the National Council For Home Safety and Security
- 22nd Best City in Ohio for Fit Lifestyle by BarBend.com
- **Finance Office:**
  - Auditor of State Award with Distinction
  - Certificate of Achievement of Excellence in Financial Reporting (CAFR) from the Government Finance Officers Association
  - Recognized by the Ohio General Assembly for Auditor of State Award
  - STARs highest award from the Ohio Auditor's Office for transparency in government
  - Aa1 Bond rating—the highest rating for a community our size

## City Events

We offered free community events in a safe manner, following all state and county health department protocols.

- 5 Hike and Ride events, in partnership with Mr. Boro's Tavern and Crooked Handle Brewing Company
- Boro BBQ Fest
- Bike the Boro
- Doggie Day at Kacie Jane Park
- 7 Concerts at North Park
- Shred It Day, with Clearcreek Township
- Logan's Bark Park Grand Opening
- Kacie Jane Opening Day



## Community Partnerships

We are pleased to partner with various community organizations for events and special activities including:

- Clearcreek Township: Kacie Jane Park, July 4th Fireworks, Shred Day
- Historic Springboro: Styles on Main fashion event at the PAC
- Springboro Community Schools: Celebrated graduating seniors, DARE program, Career Day, Logan's Bark Park Grand Opening ceremony
- Springboro Public Library: Imagination Library, Bicycling Speaker Series
- Premier Health: Speaker Series at the PAC
- Springboro Chamber of Commerce: Grant program for businesses affected by COVID-19
- Warren County Foundation: Imagination Library
- Springboro Pastors Association
- Warren County Solid Waste Management District: light strand recycling
- Springboro Community Theatre



## Community Outreach, Response to COVID-19

- Funded a stimulus program to distribute \$106,000 to 38 Springboro businesses
- Utilized CARES Act funds and:
  - Gave nine businesses a total of \$200,000 from the City's Employer Grant Program to help absorb costs associated with hiring new employees and/or rehiring former employees whose jobs were cut because of the pandemic
  - Contributed \$100,000 to Springboro Schools for technology upgrades and to provide Chromebooks for students in need
- Transported food for distribution through the Springboro Community Assistance Center during early response to COVID-19
- Created resource lists with restaurants and grocery stores hours and restrictions, available on our website and social media sites
- Partnered with Warren County Community Services and the United Way of Warren County to collect and distribute senior citizen care packages
- Extended the City's tax filing deadline to coincide with the state and federal extension, and offered virtual tax appointments—the first in the area to do so!
  - Celebrated Springboro High School graduates with banners, yard signs and gateway signage
  - Provided dumpsters in the City building parking lot for four weeks to collect yard waste, recyclables and bulk item drop-off because that service was suspended by waste collection provider. 45 large dumpsters were filled and emptied.

## Going virtual

Because we couldn't meet in-person, we went virtual, offering many interactions online:

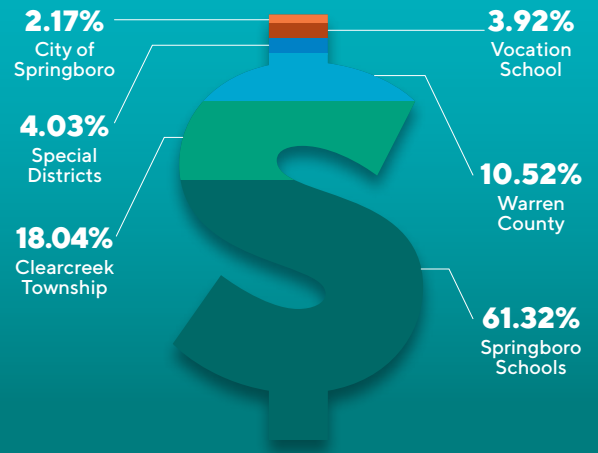
- City Council meetings
- Board and Commission meetings
- Friday night summer concerts and live on Facebook
- Nature walks at E. Milo Beck and North parks
- Springboro Schools Career Day
- Master Plan meetings
- BBQ Fest entertainment and live on Facebook

## New in 2020

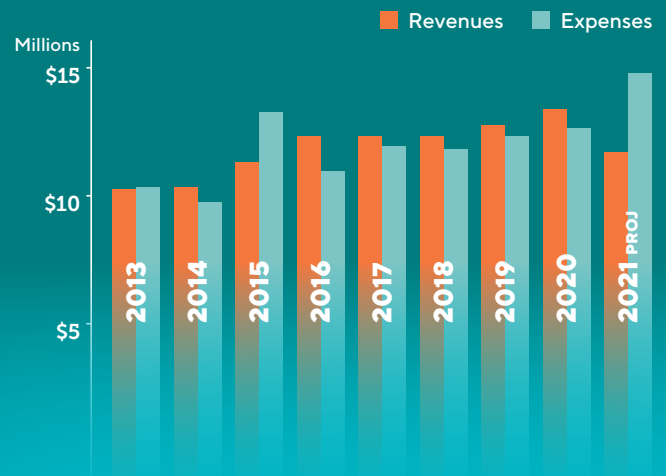
Making their debut as first-time events and services

- Art Gallery in the Performing Arts Center
- Rumpke for waste and recycling services
- Kacie Jane Park Playgrounds
- Speaker Series at the Performing Arts Center
- Fitness Court at North Park
- "Boro Buzz" City video events calendar
- Zoom Tax appointments
- Free Shred It Day (returning after several years)
- Logan's Bark Park at Hazel Woods Park
- Gateway sign and digital board
- CJS Field at Hazel Woods Park
- Traffic cameras on St. Rt. 73
- Free public WiFi at Wright Station, City/Library parking lots
- Imagination Library

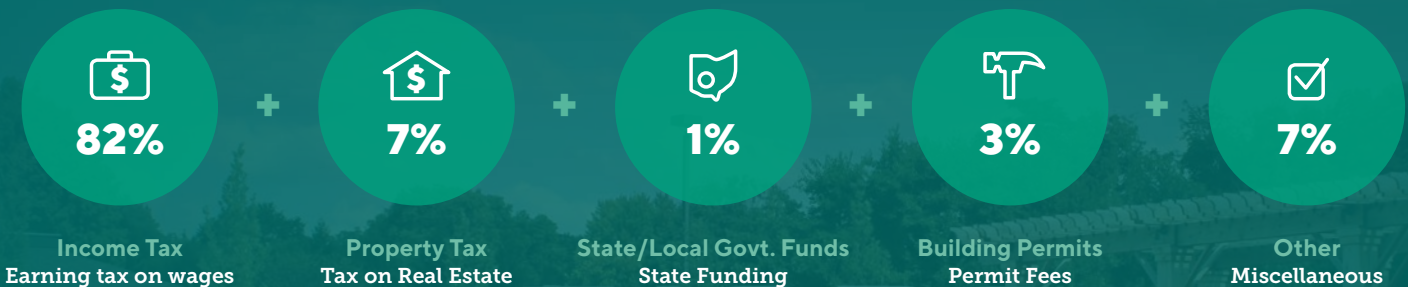
## Property Tax Distribution



## General Fund Revenue and Expenses



## 2021 General Fund Revenue Sources



## 2021 General Fund Expense Distribution







320 W. Central Avenue  
Springboro, OH 45066  
[www.ci.springboro.oh.us](http://www.ci.springboro.oh.us)



PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
SPRINGBORO, OH  
PERMIT #29

## LIVE. WORK. PLAY. LEARN. GROW.

### Engaging our citizens through communication

In addition to City-sponsored and community events where City Council and staff are in attendance, Springboro offers the following communication efforts:

#### Newsletters

- City Notes
- E-Newsletter

#### Websites

- City of Springboro: [www.ci.springboro.oh.us](http://www.ci.springboro.oh.us)
- Heatherwoode Golf Club: [www.golfheatherwoode.com](http://www.golfheatherwoode.com)

#### Social Media

- Facebook: four pages: City of Springboro, Springboro Ohio Police Department, Heatherwoode Golf Club, Heatherwoode Events and Banquets
- Twitter: @cityofboroOH, @borodispatch, @heatherwoodegc
- Instagram: city\_of\_springboro
- YouTube: City of Springboro, Ohio

**Video programs:** available on our website, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube channel, mvcc.net and Spectrum Channel 6, AT&T U-Verse 99:

- City Council monthly meetings
- "Springboro 45066"
- "Springboro: Here & There"
- "Springboro Business Matters"
- "Business Matters"
- "Boro Buzz"

#### Emergency Messaging

- Code Red: message sent via phone call from City

#### Community Satisfaction Survey

- Conducted every three years by Miami University Center for Public Management and Regional Affairs

### By the Numbers

9  
parks



20  
new  
businesses



4  
water towers



85  
miles of  
streets



40  
citizens serving  
on boards and  
commission



400  
acres of  
green space



3  
art  
exhibits



45  
dumpsters  
filled during  
drop off days

\$4.5  
million  
in federal  
safety grants



7  
concerts at  
North Park



\$406,000  
distributed  
to businesses in  
COVID assistance



1,309  
flowers  
planted in medians  
and on City  
properties



151  
City videos  
on our City of  
Springboro  
YouTube Channel



5,619  
followers of City  
of Springboro Municipal  
Government Facebook page



56  
single-family  
residential building  
permits issued



1  
comfort  
dog, Blue



1 Great Community!

