

City of Powell

ANNUAL REPORT



2014



Powell



GREETINGS,

We are pleased to present the 2014 Annual Report, noting major projects, facts and figures, as well as our latest financials. There were several top moments in 2014 as we started updating the Comprehensive Plan, launched the biennial Community Attitude Survey, began developing a master plan for our ninth park and completed work on Capital Improvement Projects.

Powell City Council continues to make progress on achieving goals set forth for 2014-2016. These goals are focused on safety, fiscal responsibility, outstanding City services, quality of life, sustainable infrastructure, planning excellence, economic prosperity and cooperative intergovernmental relations.

The City also began the process to update the 1995 Comprehensive Plan with the support of an active and engaged group of residents and business owners in the community. A Comprehensive Plan captures a community's current state and provides a guide to achieve a future roadmap. Powell will be revising the Comprehensive Plan over the next year and will address topics such as traffic, land use, annexation, downtown revitalization, fiscal health, economic development and more.

Additionally, the City received several accolades throughout the year. In late 2014, the City was recognized as the fifth safest small town in Ohio by Movoto Real Estate Group. This speaks to the hard work of the City's Police Department and the Liberty Township Fire Department.

You're at Home in Powell. Welcome Home.



Mayor
Jim Hrivnak



City Manager
Steve Lutz



Mayor
Jim Hrivnak



City Manager
Steve Lutz



City Council

Bottom row (l-r):
Jon Bennehoof
Vice Mayor Brian Lorenz
Frank Bertone

Top row (l-r):
Richard Cline
Mayor Jim Hrivnak
Tom Counts
Mike Crites

www.cityofpowell.us/government

YOU'RE AT HOME IN POWELL. WELCOME HOME.

- 12,000+ residents
- 1,200+ businesses
- 8 parks and a new one being planned
- 13+ miles of bike paths
- Lowest income tax rate in central Ohio
- Average safety response time of 2 minutes and 17 seconds
- Top-rated schools

PLAN YOUR PLACE.

Creating Tomorrow's

Plan P

City Compr





COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE GETS UNDERWAY

In just 20 years, Powell's population has grown to more than 12,000 residents and 1,300 businesses. A vital tool in planning for growth and establishing a framework for a community's direction is through a Comprehensive Plan. A Comprehensive Plan captures a community's current state and provides a guide to achieve a future vision and often establishes a roadmap that can be executed in a community for 20 years.

Powell began revising the 1995 Comprehensive Plan in 2014 with the assistance of a Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. The Committee was created in June and meets monthly with consultants to discuss updates to the Plan and provide feedback on different portions of the project. This committee is comprised of residents, business owners, members of City Council and City staff.

The vision statement in the 1995 Comprehensive Plan reads that the Village of Powell is a small, rural, Greenbelt town, located off the beaten path, along the west bank of the scenic Olentangy River valley, in Delaware County. The Plan sought to renew old Powell to develop a Village Center, improve the quality of life for residents, minimize local taxation, increase property values, establish an array of civic design features to create community identity, adopt a specific land-use plan and more. The Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee along with the assistance of the public is evaluating the vision statement and the long-term goals to see where Powell is 20 years later and where the community is heading over the next several years.

The project is expected to conclude in the fourth quarter of 2015 and will address topics such as traffic, annexation, downtown revitalization, funding sustainability and economic development.

Join the conversation at planpowell.mindmixer.com. The Comprehensive Plan is the people's plan and its success relies on the feedback of the community through online engagement and public workshops.

Steering Committee Members

Mike Beirne, Stacy Borowicz, Richard Cline, Michael Crites, Shoreh Elhami, Donald Emerick, Richard Fusch, Wayne Jenkins, Jeff Kirby, Regan Koivisto, Jaymie Kottenstette, Bill Little, Gary Mittendorf, Keith Poss, Carol Stillman, Jane Van Fossen and Stefanie Fox.

Visit www.cityofpowell.us/planpowell to learn more about the Comprehensive Plan.



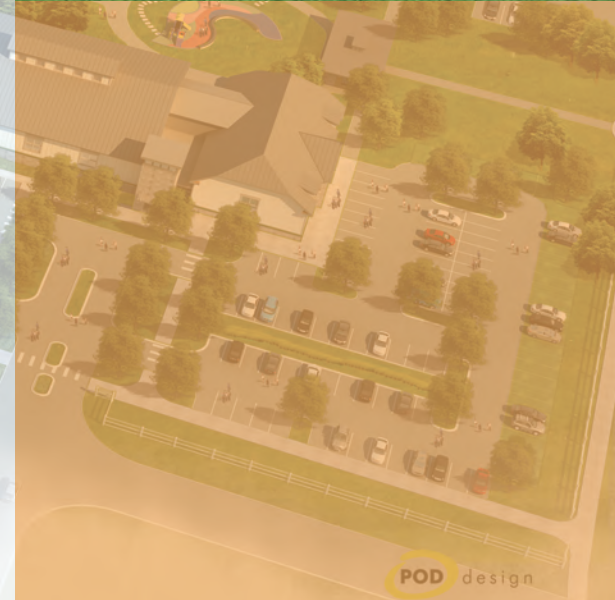
PLANNING THE NINTH PARK

The Park at Seldom Seen is a proposed 23-acre park site along the north side of Seldom Seen Road west of the railroad tracks. This park will feature several athletic fields, multiuse paths and an extensive nature preserve. The Park at Seldom Seen also will be home to the City's Public Service Department.

Proposed Amenities

- Five soccer fields
- Two 200 ft. ball diamonds
- Two playgrounds
- Nature preserve
- Public service operations facility
- Potential 13,000 sq. ft. indoor athletic field facility
- 291 parking spaces
- Multiuse paths
- Summer shelter with restrooms

The Park at Seldom Seen is one of the key components of the City's 10-year capital improvement projects plan. A final park master plan was adopted by Powell City Council in early 2015. The City will proceed with the preliminary engineering of the park to determine a cost estimate to construct the park as well as a proposed phased construction schedule. Once this is completed, the City will begin investigating possible construction funding alternatives.



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Traffic Solutions

As the population continues to blossom in Powell, so do the needs for roadway improvements and solutions. A key project in the City's Capital Improvement Projects Program is the Murphy Parkway Extension. This project extends the existing Murphy Parkway to Liberty Street and serves as another downtown Powell bypass, improving traffic flow along Olentangy Street. The City's Development Committee presented the proposed design for the extension to the public in December for discussion and input. Construction is slated to begin this fall.

Connectivity

Powell is home to nearly 13 miles of bike paths, providing connectivity to residents throughout the City.

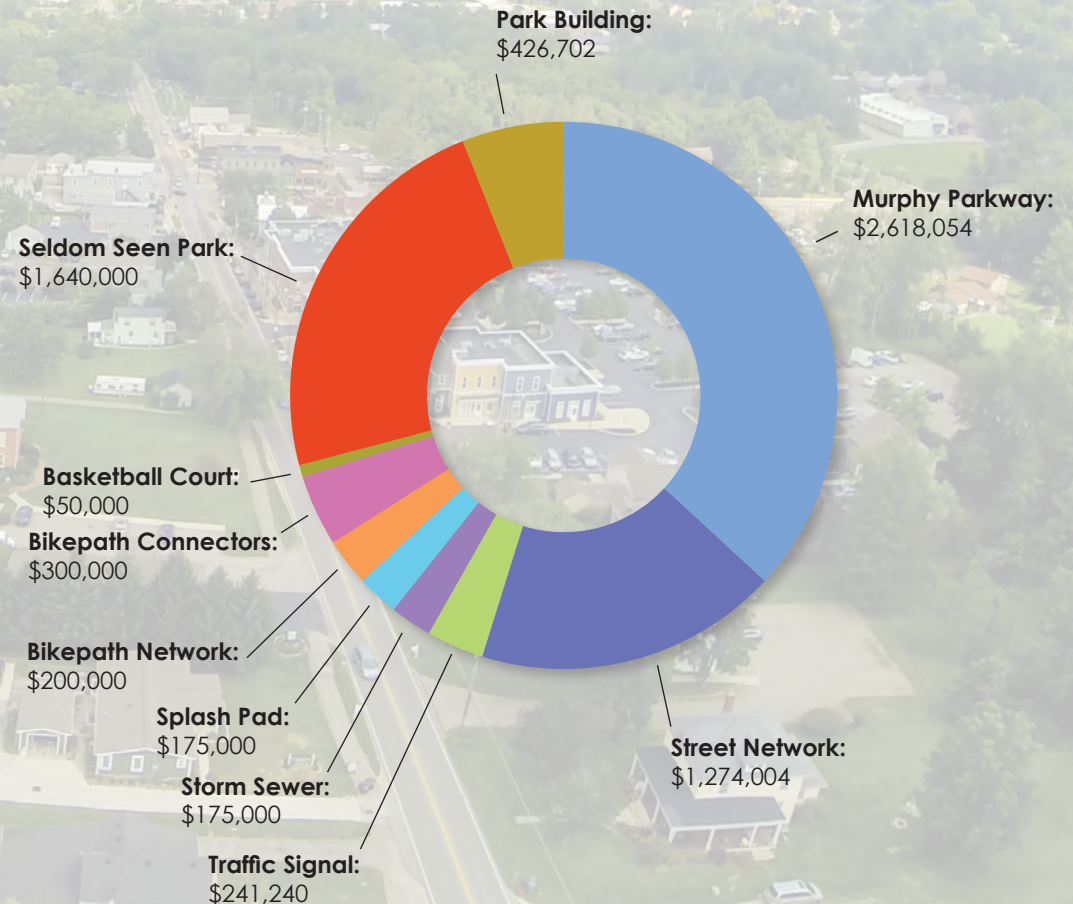
The community will find new stretches of bike path over the next year on the north side of Rutherford Road from Sawmill Parkway west to Tricia Price Drive and along the west side of North Liberty Street (north of Brookhill Drive to Seldom Seen Road). Easements for the new bike paths were secured by the City's Development Department in 2014 and paths will be constructed in 2015.

Signals

Another significant Capital Improvement Project are traffic signals. The City embarked on the traffic signal project during the fall with light activation anticipated in the first quarter of 2015. As you drive along Sawmill Parkway, you will see two new traffic signals at the Galloway Drive and Village Club Drive intersections. Additionally, a new pedestrian signal was placed at the Rutherford Road and Sawmill Parkway intersection. Studies indicated these areas as high priorities for traffic signals.

Powell voters passed a 1.8-mill bond levy to fund a portion of the capital improvements needed in the City for the next 10 years during the Nov. 2012 election. The bond levy took effect on Jan. 1, 2014 after an existing 1.8-mill park levy expired.

Proposed Capital Improvement Projects Budget



SURVEY RESULTS PROVIDE CITY COUNCIL, STAFF DIRECTION

The City of Powell and Saperstein Associates conducted a biennial Community Attitudes Survey over the phone with a cross-section of approximately 400 residents in May, 2014.

Participants were asked about a variety of topics related to Powell, from what they like most about living in the City to what public officials should consider to be top priorities for the future. Survey results assist Powell City Council in establishing priorities for projects and funding.

Survey Demographics

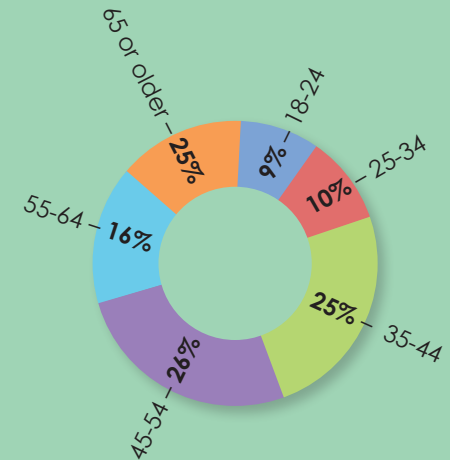


Male – 51%



Female – 49%

Survey Respondent Ages



Residents consider Powell to be an exceptional place to live.

More than half of the residents surveyed consider Powell as an exceptional place to live and indicated they were very satisfied with City-managed amenities, including parks and open spaces, events, roads and more. Additionally, eight out of ten residents feel that Powell is headed in the right direction.

What do people like the most about living in Powell?

Small-town atmosphere is the top reason residents like living in Powell. Other reasons include convenient location, numerous amenities, quality schools, friendly residents and a sense of safety.

Managing local traffic is a major concern.

Only one resident in three (35 percent) is satisfied with the City's efforts to manage local traffic. A majority of residents (57 percent) feel that mitigating traffic is more important for downtown Powell than retaining the area's charm.

As the City continues to grow and develop, traffic solutions and improvements are a top priority. In fact, the City will develop an extensive traffic plan as part of the Comprehensive Plan update. Additionally, the City will begin construction on the Murphy Parkway extension in 2015, which will serve as another bypass to downtown.

People feel safe.

More than nine out of ten residents (94 percent) are satisfied with the Powell Police Department and most residents continue to agree that police keep neighborhoods safe, treat residents courteously, and are well-trained,

competent, professionals. Additionally, nine out of ten residents are satisfied with the Liberty Township Fire Department and EMS.

More Restaurants

Expanding the assortment of restaurants and specialty food shops topped the list as ways to make downtown Powell more appealing. Closely following include adding more pedestrian-friendly features, parking and opportunities for family entertainment.

Final thoughts

Many residents see little need to expand the housing options available in Powell and the City should continue its efforts to communicate with residents in a variety of digital formats.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS PLACE SPECIAL EVENTS INTO MOTION

The City organizes several events throughout the year. You can bring the children to a toe-tapping performance at the Lolli-Pops! Summer Children's Concert Series, roast marshmallows over one of the roaring fires at the Community Bonfire or pay tribute to those who have served in the military during Veterans Day.

Special events are self-funded in the City of Powell through sponsorship dollars. Increasing sponsorship allows the events to sustain and provide an even better event experience for the Powell community. The City's 2014 events were presented thanks to our community partners City Barbeque, Giant Eagle and Goldfish Swim School.

2015 Special Events

Arbor Day Ceremony

4 p.m.
Friday, April 24
Village Green Park

Touch-a-Truck

11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Friday, May 1
Adventure Park

Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony

10 a.m.
Monday, May 25
Parade:
Downtown Powell
Ceremony:
Greater Powell Veterans Memorial

Lolli-Pops! Children's Summer Concert Series

10:30-11:30 a.m.
June 8, July 13 &
Aug. 3 (Mondays)
Village Green Park

Powell Festival

5-11 p.m.
Friday, June 26
Noon-11 p.m.
Saturday, June 27
Village Green Park

Mystery Night Out

5:30-8 p.m.
Tuesday, Aug. 4
Village Green Park

Community Bonfire

7-9 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 10
Village Green Park

Candy by the Carload

5-7 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 24
Village Green
Municipal Building
Parking Lot

Trick or Treat

6-8 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 31

Veterans Day Ceremony

11 a.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 11
Greater Powell
Veterans Memorial

Holidays in Powell

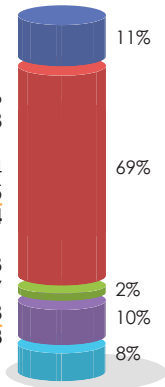
Noon-5:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 5
Village Green
Municipal Building



FINANCES

2014 Revenues

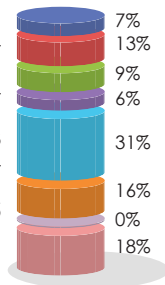
Local Taxes	\$ 766,866
Income Taxes	\$ 4,881,628
Charges for Services	\$ 145,381
Development Related Revenue	\$ 692,274
Other	\$ 591,965
Total	\$ 7,078,114



Income Taxes	\$ 1,724,923
Individual Income Taxes	\$ 2,852,847
Withheld Income Taxes	\$ 303,858
Corporate Income Taxes	\$ 4,881,628

2014 Expenses

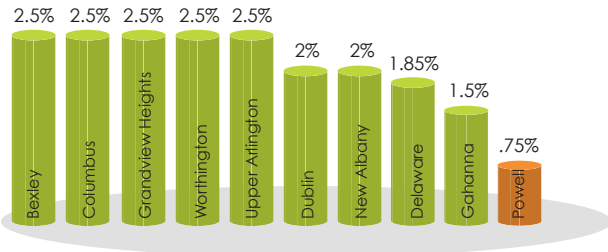
Administration: Council & Public Information	\$ 573,499
Building: Development & Engineering	\$ 1,016,864
Finance: Lands & Buildings	\$ 739,554
Information Technology & Other Charges	\$ 439,903
Police Department	\$ 2,471,494
Public Service:	
Parks & Recreation	\$ 1,223,545
Contingencies & Adding to Restricted Reserve	\$ 25,000
Transfers to Other Funds*	\$ 1,408,421
Total	\$ 7,898,280



Income Tax

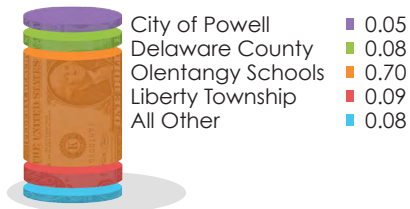
Powell maintains the lowest income tax rate in central Ohio. The City of Powell has a three-quarter percent (0.75) municipal income tax that is imposed on anyone who earns income in the City of Powell and on residents who earn income elsewhere.

Central Ohio Municipal Income Tax Rates Chart



Property Tax

How a 'Dollar' of Property Tax is allocated in the City of Powell Chart



FACTS & FIGURES

Building Department



- 3,763 inspections
- 104 single family dwelling unit permits
- 242 commercial permits

Parks & Recreation



- 1,767 participants
- 166 programs

Development



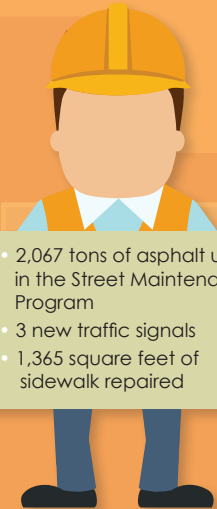
- 19 proposals before Planning & Zoning

Public Service



- 1,004 tons of recycling collected
- 891 tons of yard waste collected

Engineering



- 2,067 tons of asphalt used in the Street Maintenance Program
- 3 new traffic signals
- 1,365 square feet of sidewalk repaired

Clerk



- 104 public meetings
- 67 ordinances
- 136,195 words typed in City Council minutes
- 97,138 words typed in Planning & Zoning minutes

Public Safety



- 934 fire runs
- 1,491 EMS runs
- 437 fire inspections
- 7 Citizen Police Academy Graduates
- 411 vacation house watches
- 18,628 calls for service



STAY CONNECTED

Top 5 social media posts of 2014

Village Green Park is full of snow rollers today – a rare weather occurrence when large snowballs are formed from ice, snow and wind.

Jan. 27, 2014 | 23.9K people

SR 750 is now OPEN at SR 315.

June 20, 2014 | 10.2K people

Delaware County ranked the 15th healthiest and wealthiest county in the United States, according to The New York Times.

July 29, 2014 | 20K people

Congratulations to Target on their ribbon cutting ceremony! The store is set to open this Sunday, Oct. 12.

Oct. 7, 2014 | 6.5K people

Powell was recently named the 9th best suburb to live in the U.S. by Business Insider!

Oct. 25, 2014 | 8.7K people



Join the conversation

 www.cityofpowell.us/discoverpowell-eneewsletter

 www.instagram.com/cityofpowelloh

 www.twitter.com/cityofpowelloh

 www.facebook.com/cityofpowell

 www.linkedin.com/company/city-of-powell-ohio

 www.pinterest.com/cityofpowelloh

AWARDS

Ranked the Fifth Safest Small Town in Ohio by Movoto Real Estate

Named the 9th Best Suburb to Live in the United States by Business Insider

Distinguished Budget Award for Fiscal Year 2014 from the Government Finance Officers Association

Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for Fiscal Year 2013 from the Government Finance Officers Association

Auditor of State's Award with Distinction for Fiscal Year 2013 Financial Reporting



Powell



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Office Hours: M - F, 8 am - 5 pm