

Report of the Mayor
Benjamin Holbert, III
August 5, 2020
Year-three / Month 7

Census 2020

As of August 4, 2020, the Census 2020 response rate in Woodmere Village is 50.1%. Participation rates, are defined as the percentage of questionnaires returned to the Census Bureau. The response rate in Cuyahoga County is 63.6%. If the response rate in Woodmere does not increase, Woodmere's undercount will have a significant impact financially. Every person **NOT COUNTED** amounts to a loss of \$1800 annually in federal funding to Woodmere Village.

- COVID-19 continues to have a fatal impact on Ohio and the country. On July 16, Woodmere resident Gladys Faye Callahan died from COVID 19. She was asymptomatic and was transported to the hospital by Woodmere Village paramedics. Her funeral service was July 25. The Mayor provided a proclamation of condolences to the family.
- The safety and service departments continue to protect our citizens and employees the best way they can against the Corona virus. Our chiefs continue to request the maximum allocation of personal protection equipment (PPE) from county resources. However, the "burn rate"-or usage rate – is significant. The ability to project required inventory is not an exact science.
- The Ohio Department of Health reports a total of 93,963 cases of COVID-19 that includes 3539 deaths. Governor DeWine mandated wearing face coverings in all counties designated as "Red Level 3; Cuyahoga County is in the high-end of the Red Level 3 designation.

Credit card/Grant concerns

- The suspension of the use of credit instruments continues to hamper operations. Employees are using their personal resources to purchase materials for Village use.
 - Officer Christopher Dotson, the handler for Officer Raven, has been forced to purchase dog food from his personal funds. The dog food vendor does not accept purchase orders as a method of payment.
 - Employees are purchasing PPE and other gear from their personal funds to ensure the Village is sanitized or provided with appropriate protection in the workplace.
- The administration is receiving numerous invitations for grant opportunities including grants available for law enforcement training. Without a qualified grant writer, the Village is unable to vie for the money.
- Council requested the application submitted by McCaulley and Company through the Biennial budget process. Received correspondence from McCaulley and Company to address the request.

The Mayor followed up on a complaint from a Maplecrest resident about coyotes entering her property from Orange Village. We spoke with Mayor Kathy Mulcahy. Together, we assigned the matter to our building commissioners for recommendations. The issue of farm animals at a residence on Irving park is being investigated.

The administration continues to use all available outreach mechanisms to serve the community and be responsive to the needs of Village residents. This concludes a report in progress.



Benjamin I. Holbert, III
Mayor/Safety Director