

**MAYOR'S REPORT  
SEPTEMBER 25, 2013**

**1. STRUTHERS / CAMPBELL DAM REMOVAL PROJECT**

The City of Struthers submitted a Program Year 2014 Project Nomination Form under the Ohio Water Pollution Control Loan Fund, Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program (WRRSP). This project nomination form is requesting a grant in the amount of \$5,498,500.00 for the removal of the Struthers/Campbell Dam on the Mahoning River just upstream of the Bridge Street bridge and approximately 35,000 cubic yards of sediment upstream of the dam. The Project Nomination Form will be reviewed and evaluated by the Ohio EPA and the project will be placed on a priority list for the year 2014 and 2015. The Ohio EPA has limited funds available under the WRRSP and the City's position on the priority list will determine if the City receives the funding in 2014 or in future years. Mayor VanSuch of the City of Campbell is in support of this project.

**2. BOB CENE WAY – Casey Drive Lighting Project**

The project will begin the bidding phase on September 13, 2013 with the bid opening will be on October 4, 2013 at the Mayor's office at the City of Campbell. This project is for the construction of roadway safety lighting along Bob Cene Way from the Cene Park Parking Lot west along Bob Cene Way, then across the Low Level Bridge over the Mahoning River, then west along Casey Drive. A total of 15 lights will be installed. It is anticipated this project will be completed by the end of 2013.

**3. YEAR 2013 PAVING PROGRAM**

The City received an OPWC grant for the resurfacing of short sections of eight different roads within the City. Butch & McCree Paving was the low bidder for the project. It is anticipated that the project will be completed by the end of October 2013.

**4. CDBG PROJECT FY 2012**

The City will replace sidewalk on Poland Avenue and on Sexton Street. Removal of large trees is also included where needed in project areas. It is anticipated that this project will be completed by the end of October 2013. Foust Construction was selected as the contractor.

**5. TRANSPORTATION ENCHANCEMENT/CDBG PROJECT UPDATE**

Lowellville Road Transportation Enhancement & the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Project has neared completion. A few finishing touches such as signage and plaques will be put into place for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony that will be held in late September. The grant was a collaboration effort between the City of Struthers,

Mahoning County and Mill Creek Metro Park. The bridge upgrades, park lookout, sidewalks and lighting have given the area a major lift.

6. **CRACK SEALING PROGRAM**

Crack Sealing of existing road surfaces will begin this month by Penn Ohio Sealing whom was awarded the sealing contract. Street Foreman Tim Daley will direct Penn Ohio on which roadways that needs to be addressed.

7. **2013 SPECIALIZED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM - DISALLOWED**

In a letter dated August 21<sup>st</sup> from Ohio Department of Transportation; the city was informed and saddened that they were unable to fund our request for a new elderly van. They stated that unfortunately, there were an extraordinarily high number of requests and our application did not score high enough relative to other applications to be funded. The city's elderly van is long standing and enduring many repairs and maintenance expenses. Our elderly citizens of the City of Struthers depend highly on this van as their only source of transportation to get to the store and doctor appointments and we very much want to continue to accommodate them. The City will continue to explore other funding alternatives for the purchase of a new van.

8. **FY2013 COMMUNITY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CHIP)**

The City of Struthers has successfully competed for a FY2013 Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP) grant award. The application submitted has been recommended to receive CHIP funding for FY2013 and we have acknowledged receipt of the Conditional Award Letter for the above on September 10<sup>th</sup>. The grant amount award is \$400,000 and will be utilized for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds, Home Funds and the grant amount will also include administration fees to the city's engineering consultant for the above.

9. **LEAF BAG PROGRAM NEWS**

The Mahoning County Solid Waste Green Team has informed the city's Litter & Recycling Manager; Shirley Sepesy that the leaf clean-up program (leaf bags) will not be available this year due to lost revenues of the closing of the landfill in Smith Township. **However, the Street Department will continue to pick up leaves at the curb during fall months but they must be in biodegradable bags. These bags are available at various stores in the area such as; Lowes, Home Depot, Marc's, etc.**

I certainly hope that our citizens will continue to clean up their leaves as in the past and doing a great job; so that we can continue to maintain our storm sewers to be free of leaves and debris.

The Drop Off Recycling Center at City Hall will close at years end; the Bridge Street locations will be expanded to offset the City Hall site closing.

**10. CDBG DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION GRANT – DISALLOWED**

The City of Struthers submitted an application for \$300,000 in June to be used to construct a downtown parking area on State Street across from the Hone Savings Bank and **unfortunately the city was denied**. The grant was competitive throughout all the counties in the State of Ohio.

I would like to thank the Struthers Rotary for their ongoing support in our attempt in seeking these grant monies and also the Struthers Businesses whom took the time to provide the information that we needed for the above grant.

Currently I am exploring other funding opportunities concerning the above project because I feel it is extremely critical to the revitalization of our downtown area.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Terry P. Stocker  
City of Struthers Mayor