



# Ward 12 News

Anthony Brancatelli, Councilman | FALL 2021 | [www.clevelandcitycouncil.org](http://www.clevelandcitycouncil.org)



## Engage with Councilman ANTHONY BRANCATELLI

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## A message from Councilman Brancatelli

### Dear Ward 12 neighbor:

As we enter into the cool-weather months my thoughts turn inward.

There's a slight sadness when saying goodbye to those lazy, hazy, crazy, days of summer – the days of outdoor fun; the days of talking to people walking around the neighborhood; at the butcher store; getting a shake at Daisy's; meeting up with residents in their backyards; or having front porch conversations.

But when the sun starts sinking earlier in the day and a hint of winter chill sets in, that's when I think of all the successes we have had in Ward 12, working together to advance the quality of life in our neighborhoods. None of our accomplishments could have taken place without dedicated, hard-working residents believing that no challenge is too tough to conquer. I also think about the challenges ahead and ways to face and conquer them.

Unfortunately, the pandemic still rages and continues to hurt residents and our small businesses. Even so, many have persevered and now Cleveland is in line to receive \$512 million from the federal government's American Rescue Plan Act, some of which can be used to help residents and small businesses.

Meanwhile, the ward is getting greener. **Brighton Park** in Old Brooklyn, once a 25-acre dumping ground, has been cleaned up and is now open to the public with more trail connections being added to the Zoo and the Towpath Trail.

In Slavic Village, we've partnered with the Western

“We still have a lot of work to do, surely, but I see breaths of new life lifting our community.”

Reserve Land Conservancy to plant trees in different parts of the neighborhood including the Warszawa Historic District and at the Boys & Girls Club. Volunteer residents are getting their hands a little dirty, but they are dedicated to reforesting the city one tree at a time.

Residents are helping in other ways – a **new children's playground** recently opened at Haven Home, a **temporary homeless women and children's shelter at Elizabeth Baptist Church** in Slavic Village. Thank you to my fellow Southeast Kiwanis members who helped make this possible.

Throughout Ward 12, restoration and reclamation are revitalizing our neighborhoods. We still have a lot of work to do, surely, but I see breaths of new life lifting our community. The work ahead is a labor of love; the struggle is The Good Fight.

Anthony Brancatelli  
Councilman, Ward 12

## Councilman Brancatelli Honored for Advocating for Cleveland Economic



Councilman Brancatelli with IEDC Board Chair and President Tom Kucharski (left) and IEDC Board Member Tracey Nichols (right).

Councilman Tony Brancatelli recently received the Leadership Award for Public Service from the International Economic Development Council. This award recognizes elected officials who have served as committed advocates for economic development for at least 10 years in the public sector.

Councilman Brancatelli has been the chair of the Development, Planning and Sustainability Committee since 2009, a position which

Continued on page 2

## November 2, 2021 General Election VOTE Early In-Person Voting Hours

CUYAHOGA COUNTY  
BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Weekdays*	October 5 - October 8	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Weekdays*	October 12 - October 22**	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Weekdays*	October 25 - October 29	8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Saturday	October 30	8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday	October 31	1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Monday	November 1	8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

\*Weekdays are denoted as Monday through Friday.

\*\*We will be closed on Monday, October 11, 2021 in observance of Columbus Day.

2925 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115 | (216) 443-VOTE (8683) | [www.443vote.us](http://www.443vote.us)



### Visit [www.443vote.us](http://www.443vote.us) to:

- Register to vote or update your address
- View a sample ballot
- View the Early In-Person Voting hours
- Request a Vote-by-Mail ballot
- Track your Vote-by-Mail ballot
- Verify your Election Day polling location



### Prepare for the Election

- Polls are open from 6:30 am - 7:30 pm
- Bring valid identification



### Work with us!

- Call 216-443-3277 for Election Day work or 216-443-3200 for temporary jobs.

# Lead Hazard Control Program Available for Homeowners & Renters

The Lead Hazard Control (LHC) Grant Program is designed to ensure residents have safe, affordable housing while eliminating the possibility of childhood lead poisoning. **The program provides lead risk assessments, identifies lead-based paint and provides grants to control lead-based paint hazards.** The program strives to use a single approach to address various housing, health, and safety needs for low- and very low-income families with children under the age of six.

## APPLICANT AND ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION ON FREE LEAD HAZARD REPAIRS AND LEAD HAZARD REPAIR GRANT

Residents of the City of Cleveland living in older homes with children 6 years of age or younger and whose incomes are included in the guidelines below may participate in this program. Landlords are required to pay a minimum of \$600 towards the cost of the project.

### REQUIREMENTS:

- Home must be in Cleveland and built before 1978
- A child under age six must live in or visit 20+ hours each week, or a pregnant woman must live in the home
- The family must be low income
- Lead hazards must be identified (all eligible families get a free lead inspection)

There are income eligibility requirements, for example a family of four in their own home can make up to \$62,900 and still qualify. For renters, a family of four can make up to \$39,300 and still qualify. To find out more, including the income requirements go to: [www.clevelandohio.gov/CityofCleveland/Home/Government/CityAgencies/CommunityDevelopment/DivisionofNeighborhoodServices/LeadHazardControlProgram](http://www.clevelandohio.gov/CityofCleveland/Home/Government/CityAgencies/CommunityDevelopment/DivisionofNeighborhoodServices/LeadHazardControlProgram)

**Additional information is available from the Lead Hazard Control Program at 216-664-2929, or 601 Lakeside Ave., Room 302, Weekdays, 8 am - 5 pm.**

# Appealing Property Taxes

**If property owners disagree with the new value, they can file a complaint with evidence to support the claim.**

The types of evidence residents can submit include photographs of the property, appraisals and documents related to recent sales.

The complaints can be filed online or in person between Jan 1st and March 31st of 2022. If complaints are sent prior to the start date, it will be sent back to the resident.

**To get the forms to file an appeal go here: [Complaint Forms and Appeal Forms \(cuyahogacounty.us\)](https://www.cuyahogacounty.us) or at [bor.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/Complaint-Form.aspx](https://bor.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/Complaint-Form.aspx)**



## NORTHEAST OHIO COVID-19 RENT HELP

This lifeline, funded by the City of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County, is for residents who are facing financial hardships due to COVID-19 and need help paying rent. *Income restrictions apply.*

### How Does it Work?

- CHN is the entry point to access rental assistance, a broad array of housing, financial counseling and referral resources. Depending on the nature of your financial hardship, you may be referred to EDEN for longer-term assistance, at which time you may be asked for additional information and documentation.
- If you qualify, your landlord may receive up to three months back rent.
- CHN will screen all applicants for utility assistance programs that may help make your electric, gas and water/sewer bills more affordable.

### Who Qualifies?

- Residents of the City of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County who are having difficulty making rental payments due to the economic impact of the pandemic and who meet income eligibility requirements.
- If you qualify for rental assistance, you may be required to attend more in-depth financial counseling, provided by CHN, as a condition for payment of the rental assistance.
- Priority is given based on criteria such as eviction status, accurate information and complete documentation.

**NORTHEAST OHIO RENT HELP**

CHN Housing Partners

EDEN EMERALD DEVELOPMENT & ECONOMIC NETWORK, INC.

LEARN MORE AND APPLY AT **NEORENTHelp.ORG** FUNDED BY:

OR CALL **833-377-RENT**

### Leadership Award Continued

requires him to focus on development not only on his ward, but on the entire City.

"I'm proud of the work I've done for my ward and for the city of Cleveland, but also the guidance and help I've given to my council colleagues in helping developments in their wards," Councilman Brancatelli said.

As chair, he works closely with the City's Department of Economic Development to attract new businesses and investments and "has aided in the creation of tens of thousands of jobs," the nomination noted. "As a result of his work, neighborhoods have experienced a new era of investment and development as more people look to move into Cleveland."

"On behalf of the IEDC board of directors and Honorary Awards Committee, congratulations to Anthony Brancatelli," said 2021 IEDC Board Chair and President and CEO of Invest Buffalo Niagara, Tom Kucharski. "His outstanding achievements, hard work and dedicated service to the profession goes

above and beyond to improve the quality of life for others."

**Councilman Brancatelli, a national expert on the foreclosure crisis, recognized as it hit Cleveland early that this would threaten the economic viability of the city and region, devastating residents and create problems for the business community.** He worked with the Federal Government to develop funding programs such as the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) to help communities across the country who faced these issues. He also recommended the establishment of a "land bank" to help deal with aftermath that left large swaths of vacant and blighted homes and businesses.

"In his role on the Cleveland Citywide Development Corporation, a public-private organization dedicated to advancing development in the City, he championed an effort to spur redevelopment in the city's Glenville neighborhood, a low income, predominantly minority area," the nomination noted. "To rebuild the neighborhood and

attract new residents, the City planned for ground floor retail to bring back neighborhood amenities."

**Councilman Brancatelli led a similar effort for Fleet Avenue in his ward, including leading the effort in creating the only "Complete and Green Street" in the city, with special sustainable bioswales to capture stormwater and a sustainable streetscape.**

The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is a non-profit, non-partisan membership organization serving economic developers. With more than 5,000 members, IEDC is the largest organization of its kind. Economic developers promote economic well-being and quality of life for their communities, by creating, retaining and expanding jobs that facilitate growth, enhance wealth and provide a stable tax base

Councilman Tony Brancatelli has been selected as the recipient of the Leadership Award for Public Service from the International Economic Development Council.

# Helping Cleveland's Middle Neighborhoods

The city of Cleveland's Community Development team, brought to the table by Councilman Tony Brancatelli, told council earlier this year that it is working on a plan to shore up some of Cleveland's neighborhoods that can still compete with middle-class suburbs.

Council members argue that such a plan – an aggressive approach to fund repairs and improvements to housing stock and to code enforcement – is needed immediately.

The so-called middle neighborhoods still have tracts of mostly owner-occupied housing. Residents are mostly working class with low- and middle-class incomes. And they resemble neighborhoods in adjacent suburbs, such as Brooklyn, Lakewood, Garfield Heights, Warrensville Heights or Cleveland Heights.

The challenge is that similar properties in suburban communities often will provide a greater return for the homeowner when they sell.

Community Development – under the leadership of middle neighborhoods manager Jason Powers – is working up a package of targeted measures to help maintain and improve homes, hoping to close that gap in investment return.

City Council President Kevin Kelley, prefers calling them critical neighborhoods, saying that “middle neighborhoods” sounded bland. “I think that there's enough of a plan developed that we could come up with something quickly.”

Kelley and Brancatelli represent Old Brooklyn, Cleveland's most populous neighborhood with more than 34,000 residents.

City officials believe the comprehensive plan will require buy-in from non-profits, such as the Cleveland Foundation, and the city's major lenders, the same strategy the administration took with its neighborhood transformation initiative. A plan launched in 2017 targeting specific corridors – East 105th Street and East 93rd Street on the East Side and the Clark-Fulton area to the west. Cleveland put up \$25 million and got banking institutions to contribute another \$40 million for neighborhood lending to spark development.

The plan has had some impact in Glenville, where growth progressed up East 105th Street north of the Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center and University Circle and new homes are being built nearby. The same is happening in the Clark-Fulton neighborhood, which is also seeing a huge uptick in private redevelopment of buildings new businesses moving in, home restoration as well as new housing being built.

The same is being seen in parts of Slavic Village with Third Federal helping new housing developments open. And a downtown trail connector is under way after years of work by Councilman Brancatelli. The councilman is advocating for more demolitions to help stabilize neighborhoods.

Middle neighborhood issues include a need for housing code enforcement, programs to help residents maintain the older housing stock and cracking down on absentee landlords who don't keep up their properties.

**Cleveland put up \$25 million and got banking institutions to contribute another \$40 million for neighborhood lending to spark development.**

**New market rate homes are being developed in Tremont, Brooklyn Centre, Old Brooklyn and Slavic Village.** Some are products of a new partnership that came together to establish the Near West Land Trust in Tremont to both create and preserve permanently affordable homeownership opportunities for low- and moderate-income families. Those homes are targeted for individuals and families in the 60-120% range of Areawide Median Income, which translates to a family of four making less than \$61,000 annually, for example. Third Federal is also working with a developer to add more homes and condos to the Trailside development.



**Old Brooklyn**



**Trailside Homes Slavic Village**

**If you are interested in finding out more about homes available in Ward 12, contact:**

**Old Brooklyn CDC**

216-459-1000 • [www.oldbrooklyn.com](http://www.oldbrooklyn.com)

**Metro West CDC**

216-961-9073 • [www.metrowestcle.org](http://www.metrowestcle.org)

**Tremont West CDC**

216-575-0920 • [www.experiencetremont.com](http://www.experiencetremont.com)

**Slavic Village Development CDC**

216-429-1182 • [www.slavicvillage.org](http://www.slavicvillage.org)

## CSU Student Intern Assists Local Museums Preserve Their History



*By Maggie Phillips*

My name is Maggie Phillips and I am currently a senior at Cleveland State University, serving as an archives intern in Ward 12. After graduating in December, I plan to pursue a career in library and information science. Through this internship, I've learned valuable archiving skills that have both prepared me for my future and exposed me to the rich culture and history of the Ward 12 neighborhoods.

Beginning in June, I began assisting the Historical Society of Old Brooklyn and the Czech Cultural Center at Bohemian Hall with various projects. At the Historical Society of Old Brooklyn, I've worked on tasks such as repairing damaged books, creating a digital index for the museum's physical files, and using museum software to digitize historic photos and artifacts. I also collaborated with the Cleveland Memory Project on behalf of the museum to share historic photos of Old Brooklyn's Archwood Church, which can now be viewed by the public on their website. At the Czech Cultural Center, I helped complete a digital catalog for the library's books, and will be helping prepare for their annual Holiday Fair on November 13th.

I look forward to my continued work with the Historical Society of Old Brooklyn and the Czech Cultural Center, and can't wait to meet more members of this vibrant community!

# Ward 12 News



WARD 12 COUNCIL MEMBER  
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Road-work crews have been busy this year with resurfacing projects throughout Ward 12, totaling \$3.4 million. Here is a breakdown of projects and costs so far:

STREET	FROM	TO	INVESTMENT
W. 14	CLARK	QUIGLEY	\$428,000.00
W. 15TH	DENISON	END	\$76,202.67
W. 32ND	LOUISIANA	BRADWELL	\$43,725.33
SOUTH MEADOW	FERMAN	END	\$87,000.00
SPRING	BROADVIEW	JENNINGS	\$700,000.00
ARDOYNE	WEST 15TH	VALLEY	\$85,652.00
DENLEY	BRETON	WEST 16TH	\$45,448.00
HINKLEY/SPRING	TRAFFIC	ISLAND	\$65,562.00
BROADDALE	TAMPA	SOUTH HILLS	\$65,398.00
BROADDALE	SOUTH HILLS	HILLAND DR	\$61,446.00
BROADDALE	HILLARD DR	WEST SCHAAF	\$118,332.00
JENNINGS R/R	R.R. CROSS	(AT DENISON)	\$250,000.00
MAY	INDEPENDENCE	KIMMEL	\$44,185.56
INDEPENDENCE	BADING	CRETE	\$376,320.00
UNION	BROADWAY	EAST 82ND	\$728,000.00
E. 53RD	FLEET	MOUND	\$40,288.44
SEBERT	EAST 65TH	EAST 69TH	\$174,124.44
E. 71ST	UNION	END	\$31,927.60
E. 73RD	RATHBUN	HASTINGS	\$43,759.53

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- Connection to employers who will hire those with records
- Renewed confidence, coaching and a supportive TE network to help you succeed
- Opportunity to build skills and income with work experience and technical training

## Start Your Career Today!

AND earn industry certifications and credentials in...

- CNC Machine Operation
- Welding (AWS)
- Culinary Arts
- IT A+
- Construction, along with apprenticeships
- Your GED

...and more!

## About Towards Employment

Connecting people to careers.

Towards Employment (TE) is a Cleveland-based nonprofit organization whose mission is to empower individuals to achieve and maintain self-sufficiency through employment.

Towards Employment helps people prepare for jobs, get jobs, keep jobs, and advance into a career.



## TE can help you if...

- Your criminal justice involvement stops you from getting a good job or career.
- Your current job is not challenging you.
- You are interested in a career in Construction, Culinary/Hospitality, Healthcare, IT, Manufacturing, or Welding.
- You want to earn industry credentials or your GED (see back for credentials).
- You want to advance in your career.
- You are 18 to 24 years old and need help getting started in the job market.
- You want to be able to better support your family - with a steady schedule and better wages.

**Towards Employment**  
[www.towardsemployment.org](http://www.towardsemployment.org) | 216.696.5750  
 1255 Euclid Ave., Suite 300 Cleveland, OH 44115



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