

Ward 2 Informer

Councilman Kevin L. Bishop / Winter 2021-22



Engage with Councilman Kevin L. Bishop:

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216-664-4945

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kbishop@clevelandcitycouncil.org

WEB

www.clevelandcitycouncil.org/ward-2



A MESSAGE FROM Councilman Kevin L. Bishop

Greetings Ward 2 constituents,

I hope everyone has a safe and joyous holiday season as we get ready for another Cleveland winter and an exciting 2022.

During the holiday season, take extra precautions against the Covid-19 virus. Vaccines are available for everyone five years of age and older.

City Council has been busy budgeting federal money from President Biden's recently passed **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)**. The rescue act is aimed at helping Cleveland and other major cities recover from bottom line beatings caused by Covid-19, as well as helping families and businesses hurt by the pandemic. **Cleveland is getting \$511 million to invest in its families, small businesses, non-profits and industries impacted in the city by Covid-19.**

The \$511 million must be spent by December 31, 2024. Council has been meeting regularly to discuss the allocation of these dollars, which will greatly help every ward in the city as well as our local economy.

The city is moving forward. Even so,

"I look forward to seeing you in person as I continue organizing community meetings."

I urge you to keep your eyes peeled for any suspicious behavior in our neighborhoods. Remember the adage "See something; Say something."

And, as always, if you have any concerns regarding any issues, please don't hesitate to call my office at 216-664-4945. I look forward to seeing you in person as I continue organizing community meetings.

Above all, stay healthy. Stay warm.

Regards,

Kevin L. Bishop

Cleveland City Councilman, Ward 2

Innovative Learning Lab Opens at Miles Park School



Students can now step into a classroom at Miles Park School and instantly be transported to New York City, a tropical rainforest or to outer space to witness the formation of gas clouds into planets.

The school hosted a grand opening November 3, 2021 for a new Verizon Innovative Learning lab that is equipped with virtual reality technology, 3D printers and more.

The vision is designed to engage students more deeply and give them greater control of their learning.

Students may be able to experience "augmented reality" that pays homage to history's unsung heroes – like Odetta Holmes, Ella Sheppard, Florence Mills and Tiny Davis and experience key milestones from these figures' lives.

The lab, part of Verizon's digital inclusion strategy, is one of three to be opened in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District. Miles Park School is located at 4090 East 93rd St.

MORE INNOVATION LAB PHOTOS INSIDE

Live Burn Training on Goodman Avenue



Councilman Kevin Bishop recently attended a controlled "live burn" in his ward that was used in training for the current Fire Cadet Class to fight a live fire. Division of Fire supervisors were also on hand during this fire training exercise.



Protect yourself and your family:

WEAR A FACE MASK



GET A FREE COVID-19 VACCINE



The City of Cleveland Department of Public Health offers **FREE COVID-19 vaccines every Tuesday at J. Glenn Health Center** (11100 St. Clair Avenue), 9:00 am to 6:30 pm and Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays - 9:00am-3:00pm. **Walk-in or pre-register at gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov** or call the **City's vaccine help line at 216-664-2222**.

Free vaccines are also available at many drugstores, including CVS, Rite Aid and Walgreens, as well as at Giant Eagle.

Appointments for Free Tax Preparation Available Now

The Cuyahoga Earned Income Tax Credit Coalition is now accepting appointments for **FREE tax preparation**. Maximize your tax return and keep every penny of the refunds you've earned. Free tax preparation appointments with the Coalition can save you hundreds of dollars over a paid preparer. **Eligible hardworking families can receive up to \$6,600 at tax time.**

All returns are completed by IRS-certified volunteer tax preparers at tax sites located across Cuyahoga County. When you schedule an appointment, you can easily find the tax sites closest to you. New this year, virtual appointments are also available. We've gone to great lengths to make



sure you can get your taxes done while also staying safe.

This service is available for those who qualify and make under \$57,000 a year.

To schedule an appointment, visit refundohio.org, or call 2-1-1.



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 January 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) or at bor.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/Complaint-Form.aspx

Crossing Guard Positions Available



Crossing Guards are recruited by the City year-round and currently, there are multiple positions available to serve for one of our Ward 2 schools. Guards will earn \$20.50 each day and are required to work two 45-minute shifts during the school year- one in the morning and another in the afternoon. **Call 216-623-5080 for more information and for an application.**

Eligible Customers Can Save Money on Their Sewer Bills

Any time you flush the toilet or send water down the drain, that dirty water is sent to the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, where it is cleaned and returned to either Lake Erie or the Cuyahoga River. The bills you receive each month help support this and all other clean water investment in the region.

Did you know the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District offers five cost-saving programs that can help eligible customers pay a reduced rate?

- **Homestead Program:** Available to customers aged 65 or older (or customers under 65 who are totally disabled), this program offers a 40 percent discount. Total household income must not exceed \$34,500 in 2021. The City of Cleveland administers this program and, once applicants are enrolled, they receive an annual renewal form from Cleveland. Applications are available by calling the Sewer District's Customer Service Department at 216-881-8247.
- **Summer Sprinkling Program:** For some customers, residential water use increases during the summer months because of lawn sprinkling and other seasonal use. But most of this additional water does not return to the sewer system. For this reason, the Sewer District offers the Summer Sprinkling Program, in which summer residential sewer bills are based on either average winter water consumption, or actual summer water consumption, whichever is lower.
- **Wastewater Affordability Program:** A 40 percent discount for customers whose annual income is at or below 200 percent of the federally-established poverty level. Qualifying customers can be enrolled in the Homestead Program, or the Wastewater Affordability Program, but not both.



- **Crisis Assistance Program:** Available to customers affected by a major life event such as sudden medical expenses, job loss or divorce. The Program offers financial assistance of 50 percent of sewer bill balance (up to \$300) toward your account.
- **Plumbing Assistance Program:** Eligible homeowners may receive emergency service line replacements and other plumbing repairs. You must be a homeowner in the Sewer District's service area and meet income guidelines.

The Wastewater Affordability, Crisis Assistance and Plumbing Assistance Programs are administered by CHN Housing Partners (formerly Cleveland Housing Network). CHN can be reached at 216-574-7100.

New rates going into effect in January 2022. For Cleveland residents, the Sewer District charges a monthly base rate of \$9.70 plus \$106.50 for each "MCF" (1000 cubic feet, or 7480 gallons of wastewater) used. A typical household used 0.5 MCF and an average bill is approximately \$63 monthly.

Beginning in 2022, we have expanded our Cost-Saving Programs to include options for renters.

More information about the Sewer District is available online at www.neorsd.org.

Age-Friendly Home Investment Program 2021-2022



The Cleveland Department of Aging has a program to help seniors age 60 years and older and adults (18-59 years) with a disability address one home maintenance or home repair need. The program will also assist with referrals to other home repair programs.

There is limited funding per ward for this program. It is expected that the Age Friendly Home Investment 2021-2022 Program will serve nine to twelve households per ward. Applications will be processed in the order in which they were received. **This is not an emergency program. It is expected that home repairs will be completed in 2022.**

For program details and to download the application, visit clevelandohio.gov. If you need assistance in completing the application, please call the Department of Aging at 664-2833.

The Ward 2 Residents

Email List

Residents on the list will receive information on what's happening in our ward, plus press releases from Cleveland City Council and the City of Cleveland.

TO BE INCLUDED, SEND AN EMAIL TO: kbishop@clevelandcitycouncil.org
Be sure to include the following in the body of the email: your name; physical mailing address; phone number.



Images From The Grand Opening of the New Verizon Innovative Learning Lab at Miles Park School



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Ward 2 Informer



WARD 2 COUNCILMAN

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Cleveland Officials Credit ShotSpotter for Saving Lives and Ensuring a Safer Community

With an increase in shootings and many gun-related crimes going unreported, police found it difficult to know when, where or even if an incident occurred. This prompted the city officials to adopt new technology to address gun violence.

Already, the CDP's increased response efforts are estimated to be at least two times as fast as prior to ShotSpotter and helped them to provide critical first aid to save three lives.

Says Councilman Kevin Bishop, "I will continue to be a supporter of technology that saves lives and makes my community safer."

30% Reduction in Shootings Per Day in First Four Months
3 Known Lives Saved in Just Four Months
2X Faster Response to Life-Threatening Incidents

CHN Programs

Income restrictions apply to all of the programs listed below. Give us a call for program-specific income guidelines.

Utility Assistance

HEAP, PIPP Plus and Fuel Funds
216-350-8008

We offer programs to help you catch up on past-due utility bills, address a shut-off crisis and establish affordable monthly payment plans.

Water & Sewer Bill Assistance

216-774-2349

Receive discounts on your Cleveland Division of Water bill and/or Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District bill.

Rental Assistance

Northeast Ohio Rent Help
833-377-RENT (7368)

CHN is administering Rental Assistance to Northeast Ohio residents who have been financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This program is funded by the City of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County. Eligible Clevelanders and Cuyahoga County residents must be facing a pandemic-related hardship.

Energy Services

Energy Conservation & Weatherization
216-574-7100 x270

CHN Energy Services programs are primarily to provide energy conservation measures to eligible clients in order to lower their energy bills. Services may include furnace repair, hot water tank repair, sidewall insulation, attic insulation, wiring repair, plumbing repairs and refrigeration and light bulb replacement.



29999 Payne Ave., Ste. 134
216-574-7100
chnhousingpartners.org

Winter Snow Plan for City Streets

Plowing is provided to primary and main secondary streets throughout the city.

Service is directed first at main streets until they are passable, then service is redirected to residential streets as soon as possible.



As soon as snow plow drivers report road conditions, supervisors direct trucks accordingly. The goal is to plow all streets within 24 to 72 hours after a major snow event depending on the actual amount of snow fall and weather conditions.

Residents should find OFF STREET PARKING in advance of snow plows coming down the street; for cars and vehicles which have not moved, pose a serious hazard to traffic and make it difficult to clear the roadway. For abandoned or snowed-in cars on your street call 216-623-5400 and provide as much information as possible to the Fourth District Police. For more information or to report hazardous road and snow conditions please call Snowbird at 216-664-2510.

Don't forget to clear your sidewalk of snow for pedestrians!

Urban myths that property owners are liable if a pedestrian slips and falls on a shoveled sidewalk are false. On the contrary, the City Code requires property owners to clear their walkways. Clearing sidewalks prevents pedestrians from walking in the street.

WINTER WEATHER PREPAREDNESS TIPS:

- ❖ **CoderED:** Winter weather brings many challenges for our citizens and in order to stay informed of emergencies during this winter season, the City encourages everyone to sign up for CoderED or to install the free app on the Apple or Google Play stores. It is simple and easy to access. Click on this link and follow the instructions to subscribe by email.
- ❖ **Check Emergency Supply Kits:** Do you have extra winter clothes, sufficient food and water, extra batteries, flashlights and a battery or hand-crank radio? What about medications, toys for the kids, pet food, and copies of important information such as numbers for your local utilities? While checking on your own supplies, take some time to check on your neighbors and the elderly. Ensure that all smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors in your home are working properly.
- ❖ **Take personal precautions and check on the vulnerable:** The cold weather may put a strain on your heart. Follow your doctor's advice about shoveling snow or other strenuous work. Many injuries result from falls on ice-covered surfaces. Keep steps and walkways clean and free of ice. Infants
- ❖ **and the elderly** are most at risk for cold-related illness. Keep in touch with elderly or at-risk neighbors or relatives, making sure they are safe and that their homes are adequately heated.
- ❖ **Pay attention to snow parking bans:** If snow accumulation exceeds 2 inches or more, a Snow Emergency Parking Ban may be enacted. The ban allows plows sufficient time to remove snow and ice and move through city streets at a good pace. When a snow ban goes into effect, stopping, standing and parking of vehicles will be restricted and prohibited on City streets with posted red and white signs. Anyone who fails to comply will be ticketed and towed.
- ❖ **Power Outages:** If you're experiencing power outages call/ contact:
 - Cleveland Public Power (CPP)**
Call 216-664-3156 or visit CPP.org.
 - The Illuminating Company**
Call 888-LIGHTS5 (888-544-4877) or visit firstenergycorp.com/outages
 - Cleveland Water Department**
Issues: If customers experience a water service emergency, please call 216-664-3060

Division of Waste Collection services for your convenience:



3600 Carnegie or 3727 Ridge Rd, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
DO NOT leave computers, tires, trees, hazardous waste, or other debris at the drop off boxes. These items must be taken to the service garages on the designated round up dates.

Set Out Guidelines for Waste Collection

RULE OF THREE: Remember that the limit for bulk pick-up is three items. Residents may leave out for collection items such as appliances, tables, chairs, mattress box springs, couches and furniture. All mattresses, box

springs and cloth furniture must be wrapped in plastic. In addition to the three items, residents may leave out up to four tires. The City does not accept construction material, boxes and loose bags are not bulk items. Carpet must be cut and rolled into 3-foot long pieces and must not exceed 40 pounds.



WASTE SET OUT RULES: The Division of Waste also reminds residents of the following waste regulations:

- Only waste in officially issued City carts will be accepted, and loose trash or bags outside City roll carts will not be accepted.
- Construction materials, hazardous waste, bricks, dirt, concrete, cinder blocks, auto parts, loose metal items, medical waste or fluorescent tubes WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED in or outside of roll carts.
- Residents can put up to 20 bags of yard waste out every week.
- No wet paint should be placed in roll carts. Remove the lids to the paint cans to allow the paint to dry then place cans into roll carts.
- Do not place hot charcoal ashes in roll carts. For further information regarding waste collection, please call the Division of Waste Collection at 216-664-3771 or visit www.clevelandohio.gov.