Councilwoman Deborah A. Gray / Fall 2025 Vard 4 News





Engage with Councilwoman

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A MESSAGE FROM

Councilwoman Deborah A. Gray

Happy Fall, Ward 4 Residents!

As you know, in January 2026, most of Ward 4 will become Ward 3, and some parts of the current Ward 4 will shift to other wards. As the General Election for Council members approaches, I want to reassure you that my commitment to serving Ward 4 remains strong. Throughout 2025, I will continue to work hard for you-because it's both my promise and my responsibility.

Over the past few years, Ward 4 has made real progress. We've seen new housing, revitalized homes, and businesses choosing to invest here. Together, we've created a community master plan, and we continue to build on that vision.

In September alone, we've had two ribbon cuttings for new homes in Ward 4. Both Habitat for Humanity of Greater Cleveland and CHN Housing Partners see the promise in our ward.

A special shout-out goes to the young people who participated in my Job Beautification Program, now in its third year. This initiative engages youth in their own community, provides them with valuable work experience, connects them with local organizations, and teaches them how to identify and pursue employment opportunities.

I know the ongoing issues with the Shaker Square apartment developments have been frustrating. I remain closely involved and continue to monitor the legal process, with the goal of resolving these matters.

We have a lot to look forward to this fall, including our annual Halloween pool party and the Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners. I will continue to host community meetings, and I look forward to seeing you all there.

The new ward boundaries will be an adjustment for us all, but I want to express my deep appreciation to the residents, children, and families of Ward 4 for your trust and partnership.

Together, we've accomplished a great deal-and I look forward to continuing this important work with you.

Warm regards,

Deborah Gray Ward 4 Councilwoman







OCT | Early In-person/ Absentee Voting Opens

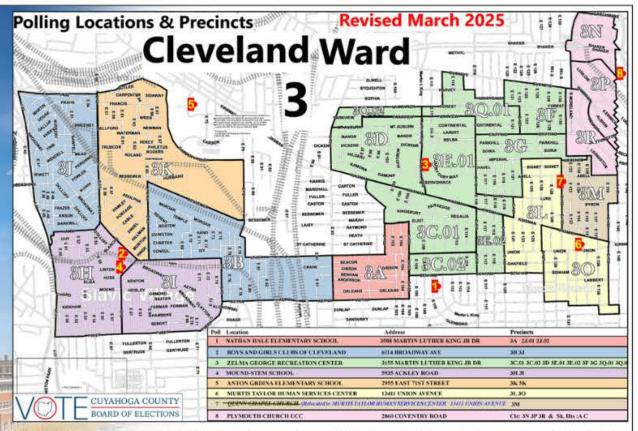
OCT Absentee Ballot Applications Due (by 8:30 pm)

NOV In-person Voting Ends (by 5 pm)

NOV Absentee U.S. Postmark Deadline

Hills

NOV Election Day (6:30 am - 7:30 pm)



THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS HAS MOVED ITS HEADQUARTERS!
ALL OPERATIONS, INCLUDING REGISTRATION AND VOTING,
will now take place at 1803 Superior Ave.

boe.cuyahogacounty.gov • 216-443-VOTE(8683)

TRANSFORMING THE BUCKEYE-WOODHILL COMMUNITY

We've completed the first three phases of the Buckeye-Woodhill Transformation Plan are now complete, and three additional phases are underway. To fully realize the revitalization of Woodhill Homes and the surrounding Buckeye-Woodhill community.

The Buckeye-Woodland revitalization effort is a \$46 million investment in new affordable housing and a stronger, more connected community that instills a sense of pride, belonging, and opportunity for the Buckeye-Woodhill neighborhoods.

PHASE 1 WOODHILL STATION WEST

An empty lot in the Buckeye-Woodhill neighborhood has been transformed into Woodhill Station West, a modern apartment community offering 120 affordable homes. The development features outdoor gathering spaces and a variety of resident amenities that foster community engagement.

PHASE 2
WOODHILL
CENTER
EAST

Phase Two was the construction of a four-story apartment building with 61 units and 19 townhomes along Woodland Avenue between East 110th Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. Together, they provide a diverse range of housing options for local families.

PHASE 3
WOODHILL
STATION
EAST

Phase Three was the development of a 69-unit apartment building and an on-site early childhood education center at the intersection of Buckeye and Woodhill Roads, across from the RTA station and adjacent to Phase One. Residents benefit from shared amenities such as a community room, fitness center, and patio space for gatherings and events. The mix of one-, two-, and three-bedroom units accommodates households of varying sizes.

Councilwoman Deborah Gray congratulates Ward 4 residents who recently opened "RoadPrintz" a robotic pavement marking system in Cleveland.

RoadPrintz has developed an operatordriven, truck-mounted mobile robotic pavement marking (painting) system.





BRINGING BACK BUCKEYE ROAD

After struggling for years, Buckeye Road is on its way back. Buckeye Road was designated a high-priority investment area under former Mayor Frank Jackson's Neighborhood Transformation Initiative, and an \$18 million investment is planned for the street.

The city has already invested **\$4.5** *million* in road resurfacing and sidewalk repairs along the Buckeye corridor, and Cleveland City *Council recently approved a \$3.88 million forgivable loan* to help breathe new life into several vacant properties, including the historic Moreland Theater, which is envisioned as the anchor of a new district celebrating Black culture, arts, and innovation.

The Moreland, which opened in 1928 as a vaudeville house and movie palace, has languished for decades, and its once-grand lobby is marred by peeling paint and water damage.

Construction to fix these problems is already underway.



The theater's roof has been replaced, and properties owned by Burten, Bell, Carr Development are being renovated to welcome new businesses. Part of the City's forgivable loan will restore the building's northern section, reviving street-level storefronts and upper-floor offices. Renovating the performance hall itself will require additional resources and time, but the theater's listing on the National Register of Historic Places makes it eligible for valuable state and federal tax credits.

Funding for the remaining work will come from a mix of public, private, and civic sources. Burten, Bell, Carr is preparing a capital campaign to fill the gap.

Buckeye is located just south of Shaker Square, which is itself under renovation. When a revitalized Buckeye connects with a reenergized Shaker Square, the surrounding neighborhoods will feel the impact.



The Future of **Shaker Square** is Taking Shape

After years of planning and longoverdue repairs, Shaker Square is beginning its next chapter. Once at risk of being auctioned off, Cleveland Neighborhood Progress and Burten, Bell. Carr Development Inc.-with the Council and the City's supportstepped in to save the nearly century-old shopping center.

Since then, neighbors have watched the Square come back to life. Crews replaced roofs, added new HVAC systems, lighting, awnings, and security cameras - the first steps in reversing two decades of neglect.

Now, a reimagined Shaker Square is starting to take shape. The plan calls for filling storefronts with more restaurants and shops, adding patios for outdoor dining, and creating redesigned walkways. New additions also include:

- wellness services
- co-working spaces
- appointment-based shops
- pop-up shops and events

"I'm so excited we're making progress on Shaker Square,' said Councilwoman Deborah Gray. "This project is so vital to the community and the residents.



Shaker Square will soon become a destination again. Improved bike lanes, sidewalks, and parking - plus stronger transit connections - will make the Square easier and safer to reach. A redesigned central green will host daily activities and special events. The area will also feature murals, sculptures, and performances, thanks to partnerships with local schools and artists.

A reenergized Shaker Square needs to be inviting, inspiring, and connected, with new nearby housing to boost foot traffic, more cultural programming, and small businesses that reflect the community's creative spirit.

There's still a long way to go, and another \$5 million is needed to complete the transformation. But for the first time in years, Shaker Square's future can be as vibrant as its past.



On September 14, Pope Leo XIV's birthday, Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity held a groundbreaking ceremony for Pope Leo Village, a project to build fifteen affordable single-family homes in the Buckeye-Woodhill neighborhood of Cleveland.

The project is sponsored by the generosity of an anonymous donor who was inspired by Pope Leo's vision and commitment to serve others, and Habitat affiliates across the country have launched similar Pope Leo Village efforts. Pope Leo Village will allow families to build and purchase homes with affordable mortgages, while also honoring the papacy of Pope Leo XIV, the first American

"Habitat was founded on the belief that faith in action can change lives," said John Litten, President and CEO of Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity. "Pope Leo Village is a chance to live that out in Cleveland. Families, youth, and faith partners of all traditions will join us in building a neighborhood rooted in stability and hope."

Work on Elwell Avenue in Ward 4 is already underway. Cleveland City Council's commitment of \$5 million to Habitat helped catalyze construction. Eleven homes are scheduled for completion in 2026, with the remaining homes to be completed by 2027.

"These new homes mean so much to Ward 4 residents. They're truly needed and have lifted the spirits of our community," said Councilwoman Deborah Gray. "And Habitat is bringing positive change through other nearby housing projects as well."

Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity plans to hold a dedication ceremony to celebrate the naming of Pope Leo Village and honor the individuals and families involved.

Project, turning a former condemned house into a community-designed structure using its deconstructed materials. This pivotal project has communal space for Ward 4 along with a public art installation.



gathered with





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WARD 4 COUNCILWOMAN

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Ward 4 News

CLEVELAND, OH PERMIT NO. 2893

PRESORT STD. U.S. POSTAGE

Goodbye Ward 4, Hello Ward 3!

New Ward Boundaries Take Effect 2026

At the beginning of the year, Cleveland City Council released ward maps that represent 15 wards, down from the current 17 as required under the City Charter.

Visit clevelandcitycouncil.org/ward-redistrictinginformation for answers to questions you may have about the redistricting process and to check which ward you'll be part of starting in 2026. View the maps at right and below for a comparison of Ward 4's current boundaries to the new ward boundary lines that will be in effect in January 5, 2026.



SCAN ME



