



Welcome to the

State of North Ridgeville Address

February 25, 2025



Kevin Corcoran
Mayor,
North Ridgeville



Roxann Caserio
Superintendent/CEO,
North Ridgeville City
School District

“Breaking Ground”

Breaking It Down

Early Childhood Learning Community (ECLC)

Enrollment

- Preschool: 16 half day classes
- Kindergarten: 8 full day classes, 6 half day classes

Registration

- 2025-2026 academic year
 - Currently open for Preschool
 - Will open on March 3, 2025

Recognitions

- Step Up To Quality Gold Rated for Preschool Program

Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

- Silver Status
- Activities Include:
 - Andy Paws
 - Fancy Lunch



Breaking It Down

Liberty Elementary

Literacy

- Title teachers planned a Literacy Night - “Donut Forget to Read!”
 - Families visited different stations and participated in literacy related activities
 - Donut NV Food truck donated proceeds to our curriculum department

School Culture

- Lunch with the Principals and Counselor
- Positive Phone Call Challenge

Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

- Bronze Status
- Activities include:
 - Ranger Strong STORE
 - Basketball with Mr. Ayers



Breaking It Down

North Ridgeville Academic Center (NRAC)

Academics

- 312 students are currently taking accelerated courses
- 175 students receiving high school credit

Student Advisory Leadership Team (SALT)

- This team meets once a month with a principal and mentor to discuss the current culture and climate in the building and create activities to support Ranger STRONG
- Collaborates with the Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports teams and other student groups

Positive Behavior Interventions & Support (PBIS)

- Bronze Status
- Activities include:
 - Ranger STRONG Bucks
 - Grades 3-4: School Store
 - Grades 5-8: Raffles



Breaking It Down

Ranger High-Tech Academy (RHTA)

Recognitions

- Only accredited public STEAM school in Lorain County
- 5 Stars on the Ohio School Report Card
- Tour site for other Ohio schools

Project-Based Learning (PBL)

- PBL is a teaching method that involves students working together to solve real world problems
- A large part of the RHTA curriculum incorporates PBL

Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports

- Silver Status
- Activities Include:
 - Ranger STRONG Tickets
 - Daily Raffles
 - Quarterly and Anytime Stores
 - Ranger STRONG Assembly Once a Month



Breaking It Down

North Ridgeville High School (NRHS)

Honors, AP, and CCP Courses

- 14 Honors Courses
- 20 Advanced Placement Courses
 - 359 AP exams taken in the 2023-2024 school year with an average score of 3.46 and 80% passage rate
 - In 2020, 291 AP exams were taken with an average score of 3.08 and 71% passage rate
- 16 College Credit Plus Courses

Class of 2024

- 72% of students are currently enrolled in college
- 26% of students are seeking employment/apprenticeship opportunities
- 2% of students enlisted in the Military



Breaking It Down

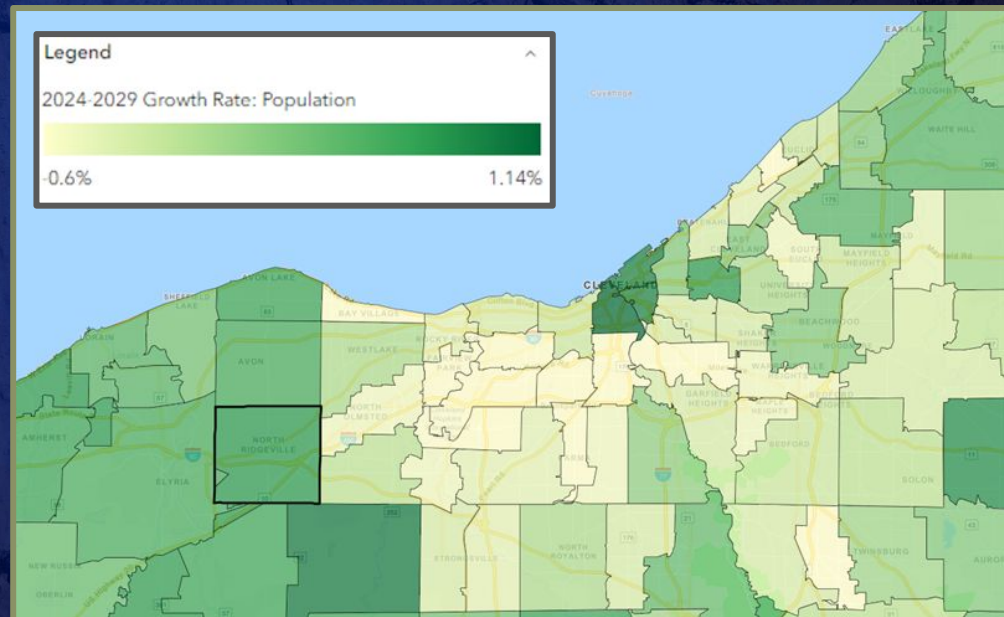
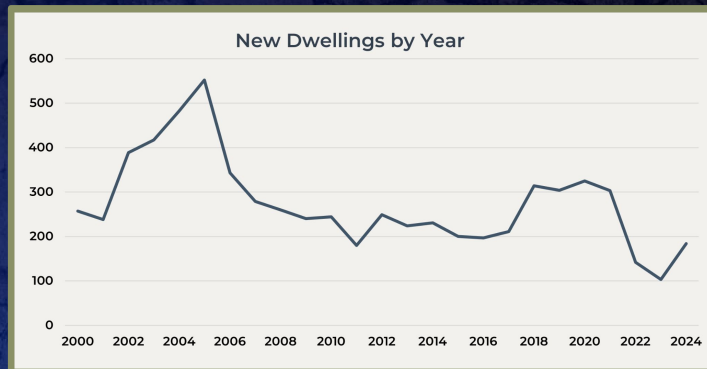
Community Overview

General Statistics

- 23.44 square miles
- Over 37,000 residents
- About 73% of land in the city is zoned for residential use

Housing

- Approximately 15,000 housing units
- 90% owner occupied
- Over 44% of housing stock constructed since 2000
- Still growing, but not as fast



Breaking It Down

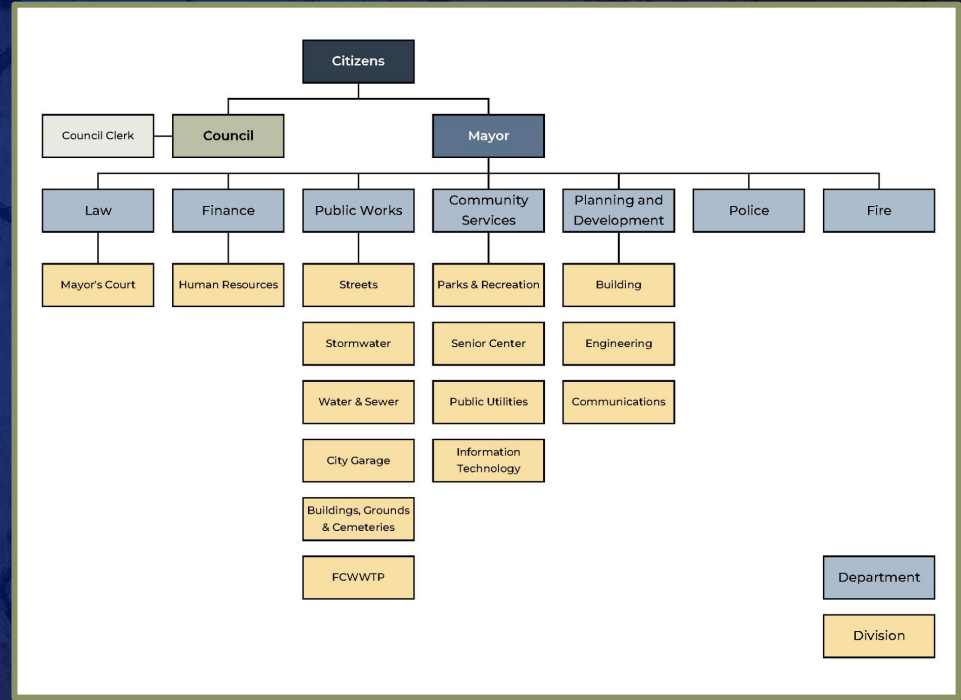
Community Overview

Organizational Structure

- 22 Departments and Divisions
- Approximately 200 full time employees

Largest Employers

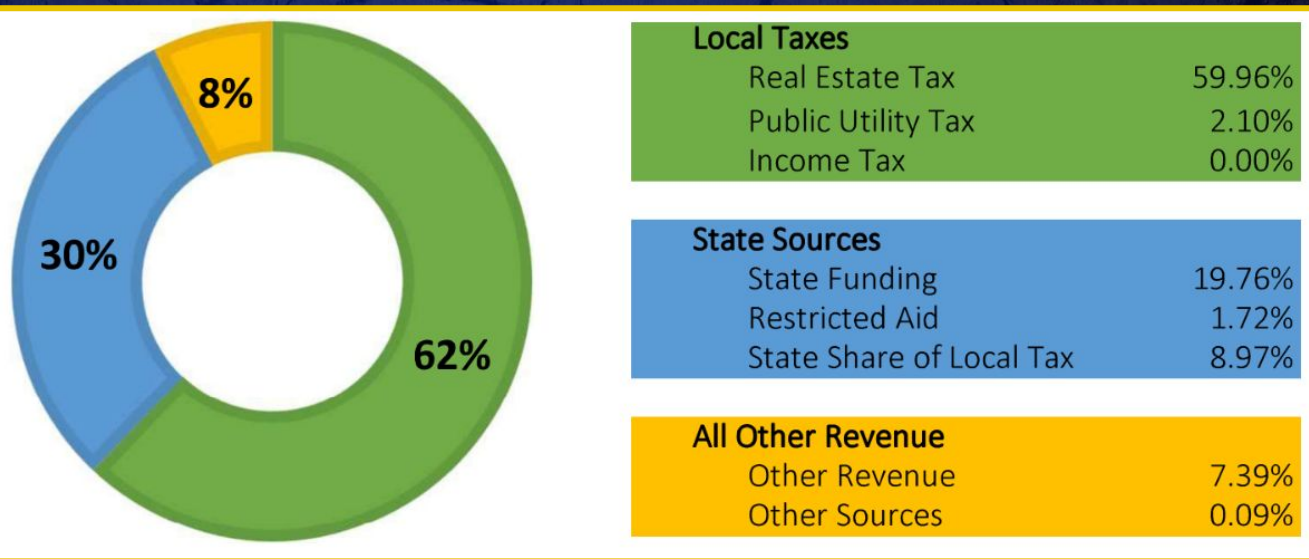
- All American Sports/Riddell
- North Ridgeville City Schools
- Beckett Gas & Air
- University Hospitals
- O'Neill Management
- City of North Ridgeville
- Cleveland Clinic Foundation
- R. W. Beckett
- Beckett Air



Breaking It Down

Revenue

- Local Taxes: 62%
- State Sources: 30%
- Other Revenue: 8%

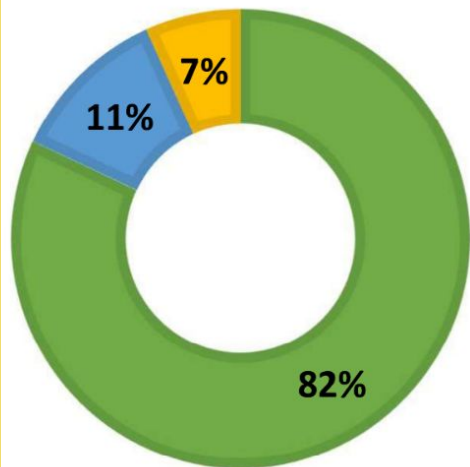


Breaking It Down



Expenditures

- Personnel: 82%
- Purchased Services: 11%
- Other: 7%



Personnel Costs

Salaries	61.19%
Benefits	20.77%

Purchased Services

11.29%

All Other Expenditures

Supplies, Capital, Debt, Other Obj	6.75%
Other Uses	0.00%

Breaking It Down

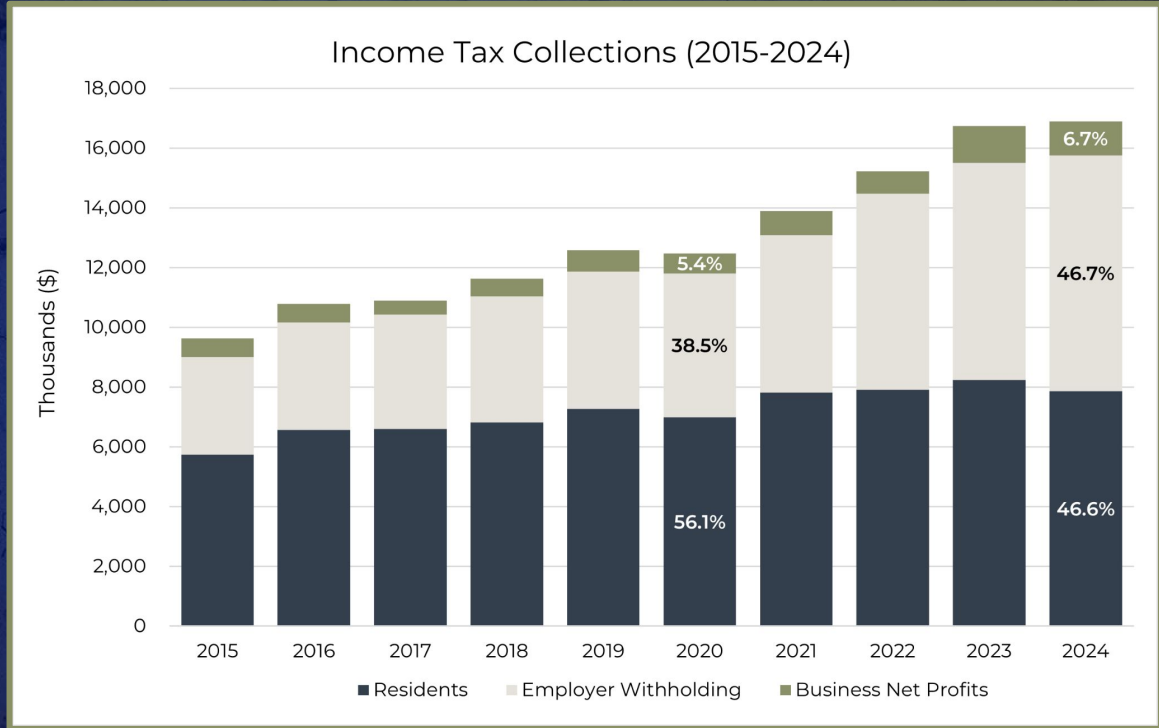
Income Tax Collections

Trends

- Income tax represents 73% of the general fund
- Proportion of revenue from residents is declining, reflects growth in jobs

Comparative Tax Rates

- North Ridgeville - 1%
- Avon Lake - 1.5%
- Avon - 1.75%
- Sheffield Village - 2%
- Elyria - 2.25%
- Lorain - 2.5%
- North Olmsted - 2%
- Westlake - 1.5%

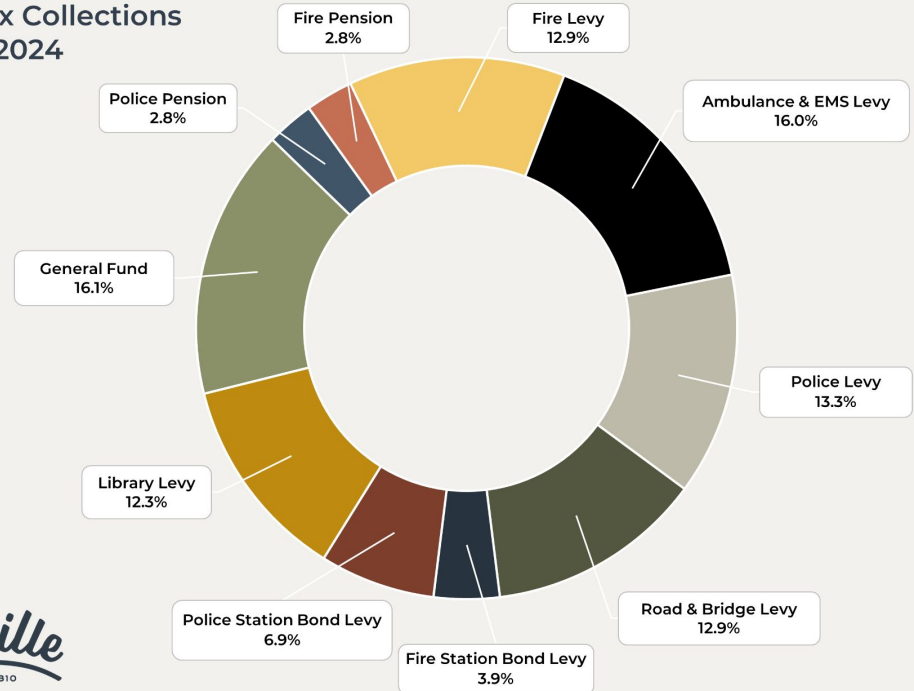


Breaking It Down

Property Tax Collections

- Second largest source of city revenue
- Most of \$12.9 million collected annually are restricted and support a specific purpose
- About \$2.1 million in property tax are unrestricted, which goes to the general fund
- Three levy renewals this year: Police, Fire, Road & Bridge

Property Tax Collections
FY 2024

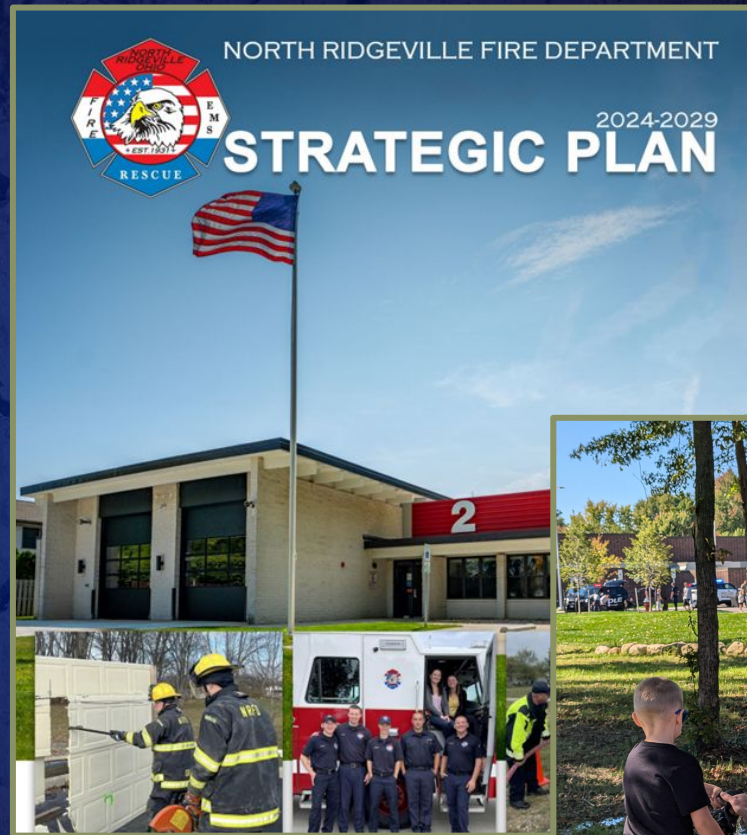


Breaking It Down

Fire Department

2024 Highlights

- Paramedic/EMS Levy Renewal
- Calls for Service
 - 1,008 fire related emergencies
 - 4,652 EMS calls
- 2024-2029 Strategic Plan
- Fire Prevention
- Community Outreach
 - Fire Education
 - CPR Training
 - Child Safety Seat Installation



Breaking It Down

Police Department

2024 Highlights

- New Police Station
 - Improved safety features
 - Technology and equipment upgrades
 - Onsite training and storage facility
- Responded to 12,456 Calls for Service
- Added Third K9 Unit
- Drone Program
- Community Outreach
 - Safetyville
 - School Resource Officers
 - Community education
 - Events, tours and other outreach activities



Breaking It Down

Public Works

Quick Facts

- Public Works maintains 174 miles of streets, 141 miles of sanitary sewer, 147 miles of water line, 130 miles of storm sewer, 75 miles of drainage ditches

2024 Highlights

- Crews used 8,000 tons of asphalt in street paving
- Ridgeway Creek ditch cleaning
- Krebs Ditch cleaning
- Created city arborist position
- Property on SR 83 housing Water/Sewer equipment and materials
- Replaced 40 hydrants



Breaking The Mold

District Wide Events and Programs

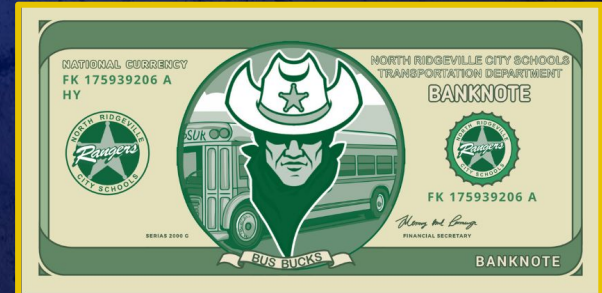
Mock Election

- Students at ECLC voted on their favorite animal while Liberty voted on the newest playground addition
- Grades 3-8 voted using a simplified ballot from Kids Vote Ohio
- High school students had to check in, sign their name, wait in line, cast their ballots, and then received an “I Voted” sticker



Bus Bucks and Riders of the Ridge

- To promote safe behavior and kindness while riding the school bus
- Bus bucks are a reward system and are an extension of Ranger Bucks used in the classroom
- Students collect bus bucks and can exchange for rewards determined by the building
- Riders of the Ridge tickets are collected by the buildings and a drawing is held at the end of each month. The winner receives an award from the Transportation department



Breaking The Mold

District Wide Events and Programs

Start With Hello Week

- Part of the Sandy Hook Promise Initiative
- “Welcome Home” theme
- Spirit week included different themes each day
- Aimed to help students make connections, be part of a team, and seek help from a trusted adult when necessary

Project Lead The Way (PLTW)

- Program for STEM pathways that lead to student readiness for college, career, and future innovation
- Expanding programming to include elementary school
- Offerings for middle school students include Flight and Space and Automation and Robotics
- Offerings for high school students include an engineering pathway with courses like Principles of Engineering, Introduction to Engineering Design, Robotics, and Unmanned Aircrafts (Drones)



Breaking The Mold

Early Childhood Learning Community

American Sign Language

- NRHS ASL students visited ECLC
- Taught Kindergarten students how to sign “Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?”
- Worked in groups to complete an ASL activity



Liberty Elementary

Friendship Club

- Principals Mrs. Puleo and Mrs. Pinzone worked to created the first ever Friendship Club
- This includes students from grades K-2 from all different classrooms
- Read a book, talk about the importance of friendship and kindness, and do a shared activity



Breaking The Mold

North Ridgeville Academic Center

Amazing Shake

- All 7th grade students participate focusing on social skills like handshake, eye contact, active listening, interviewing, making appointments, customer service
- Eventually, four winners will be named
- Brings our community into our buildings. This event requires over 75 judges and gets the community involved



Patriot's Pen Essay Contest

- Ms. Koehler's students in grades 6-8 participated
- Brynnley Cole placed 1st, Colin Cleary placed 2nd



Power of the Pen

- Out of 100 writers, two students placed in the most recent competition. Felecia Stahl (11th) and Lynn Beshears (3rd).
- Six students have advanced to Regionals on March 8



Breaking The Mold

Ranger High-Tech Academy

Project-Based Learning (PBL)

- 6th grade students learned how to test and analyze soil samples and created a brochure to provide suggestions on improving soil health
- 8th grade students researched head injuries with Riddell and created keychains with a QR code linked to an infographic to pass out at sporting events



2025 Greece Trip

- This year, students finally get to take a trip they planned and presented to the Board of Education two years ago
- As part of a PBL lesson, students chose a location, planned an itinerary connected to specific course standards, budgeted and made a financial plan
- A trip to Greece was presented to our Board of Education and approved



Breaking The Mold

North Ridgeville High School

Academic Opportunities

- Added several courses to our curriculum including:
 - Arts in Action, Contemporary Crafts, Film Appreciation, Sports in Literature, British Literature, Introduction to Engineering Design, Principles of Engineering, Digital Electronics, Genetics, Geology, Women's Studies, Comparative Politics, African American Studies
- Hoping to grow our theater and music departments by offering Acting, Shakespeare, Theater Production, Set Design, Costume Design, and Orchestra courses
- Our goal is to offer a variety of courses so our students can truly explore all possibilities and feel empowered to design their preferred future



Breaking The Mold

North Ridgeville High School

Academic Opportunities

- **Pre-Apprenticeships**
 - Partnerships with local businesses provide students with real-world experiences in the workplace
 - Available for IT/Engineering, Finance, Health Science, and Hospitality
- **Industry-Recognized Credentials (IRC)**
 - Qualification for a specific set of competencies related to an industry or occupation
 - Certificate, certification or license
 - NRHS offers pathways for Business, Marketing, and Finance
- **Career Based Intervention (CBI)**
 - Serves as a pathway guiding students towards meaningful careers
 - Instills essential life and employability skills through classroom instruction, hands-on experience, and workplace exposure



Breaking The Mold



Ridgeville Ready Master Plan

- First Citywide Master Plan in 15 Years
- Many Initiatives Underway
 - Updating Zoning Code and Subdivision Regulations
 - Preserving land for employment uses
 - Enforcing property maintenance
 - Improving mobility, connectivity and pedestrian safety
 - Enhancing communications
 - Leveraging planning work of other governmental agencies

NORTH

RIDGEVILLE
READY!

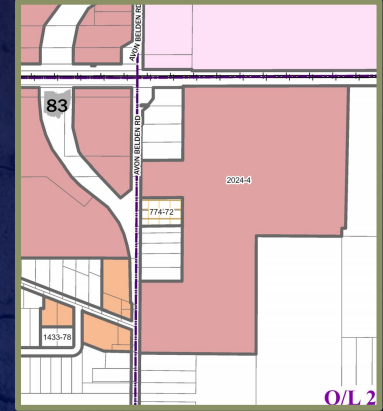
Planning together for a better tomorrow



Breaking The Mold

Economic Development

- North Ridgeville Industrial Park
 - 46 acres of R-1 land rezoned Light Industrial
 - Creating site and business attraction strategy
- Cypress Avenue Extension
 - Construction in 2025 will open land for economic development
 - Received \$700,000 in state funding
- Town Center
 - Activities include property acquisition, environmental remediation, utility planning
- Expanding Employment Opportunities
 - Dayton Freight
 - RUF Briquetting Systems
 - Leveraging JobsOhio funding for Taylor Parkway resurfacing



Breaking The Mold

New Businesses

Welcome to North Ridgeville!

- Chase Bank
- Lorain County Health & Dentistry
- Italian Coffee
- Jenni Pops
- Fujisan
- Niko's Gyros To Go
- Paws Spa & Pet Salon
- Pulp Smoothie and Juice Bar
- Ridge Barbershop
- ShipMe
- Sittoo's
- Tacos del Pueblo
- The Point Spa and Salon



Breaking The Mold

Communications

2024-25 Highlights

- Transitioned to Monthly eNewsletter
- Launched Hometown Heroes Banner Program
- Created Branded Apparel Team Shop for Employees
- Hired Communications Coordinator
- Created Employee Newsletter
- Refreshed City Website
- Developed Communications Plan



Breaking Barriers

Liberty Facility Improvements

Modular Unit

- 8 Classrooms
- 3 Small Group Rooms
- Conference Room and Workspace

Dedicated Gym Space

- Created a gym from the Media Center space
- Helps with noise reduction
- No longer a shared space with the cafeteria
- Easier day to day operations

New Partition Walls

- Old accordion walls were replaced with dry erase partition walls
- This acts as a sound barrier, but also provides educational space
- Can be opened if classes are collaborating



Breaking Barriers

The ABLE Shop at North Ridgeville High School

Partnership with RGI Creative

- Collaborating to design an extended space for the Able Not Label Store at NRHS

Enhancements

- Incorporate student artwork, logos, and slogans into the store facade

Other features may include:

- Wall-mounted folding tables and open shelving
- Addition of LED lighting for a modern look
- Installation digital touch screen to showcase merchandise

Future Planning

- RGI Creative is assisting with plans for The ABLE Shop in the new high school



Breaking Barriers

City Facility Improvements

Old Town Hall

- Building repairs made in 2024
- Old Town Hall “Renaissance”
 - Address building code and ADA deficiencies
 - Propose improvements needed to restore building to productive use
 - Identify funding sources and partnerships to achieve vision

City Hall Campus

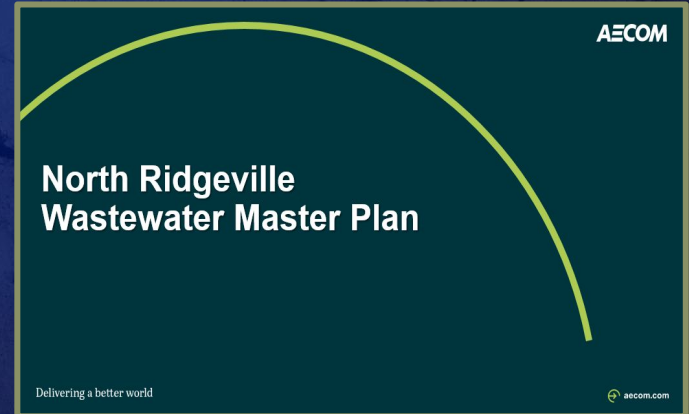
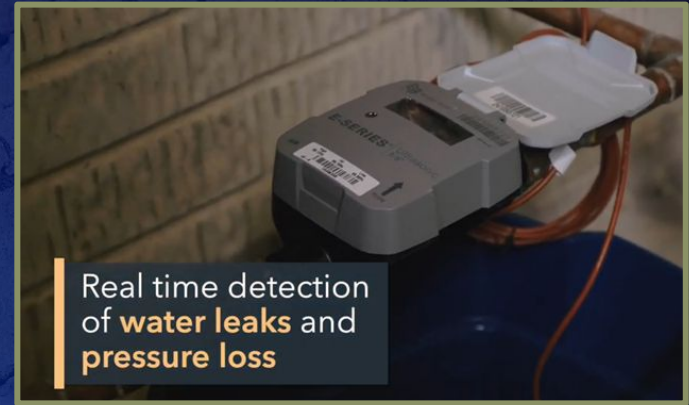
- NOPEC Foundation grant was used to make ADA improvements at Senior Center in 2024
- Renovation of former police station is underway for Planning, Building, Engineering and Law staff



Breaking Barriers

Public Utilities

- French Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant
 - Blower Tank - significant savings on electricity
 - Super Hut - improved operation, cut cost
- Water Meter Replacement Project
 - Improve billing accuracy
 - Identify water leaks
 - Empower customers with real-time water usage data
- Wastewater Master Plan
 - Address needed capacity improvements in sanitary sewer system
 - Identify target areas to combat I/I
 - Support city's economic development goals



Breaking Boundaries

Community Involvement

North Ridgeville High School

- Pulp Mural
 - Art students designed, sketched, and painted a North Ridgeville themed mural
 - Led to the creation of a new course, Arts in Action,
 - New course will be dedicated to student led art projects to enrich the community
 - Focus on the positive impact art can have outside the classroom
- Veterans Day Assembly
 - Honored staff and community members who served in all military branches
 - Included a luncheon, assembly with all students, speakers, and performances from the NRHS choir and band

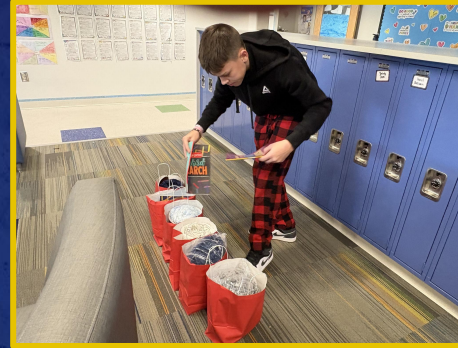


Breaking Boundaries

Community Involvement

North Ridgeville Academic Center

- O'Neill Healthcare Donation Drive
 - Led by 5-8 Student Council
 - Collected word search books and blankets
 - Wrapped all the gifts
 - Delivered them to the residents to wish them happy holidays
- Rake-A-Difference Day
 - 6th Annual Event
 - 8 Green Students
 - Raked leaves for those in our community



Breaking Boundaries

Awards and Recognitions

National Honors

- Alyssa Hlavacs and Levi Bailey are Semi-finalists for a National Merit Scholarship
- Mitchell Stewart is a National Merit Commended Scholar
- John Bowden, Stephanie Trimbitas, Andrea Hamilton, Morgan Weppelman have been nationally recognized by CollegeBoard for their academic success

Scholastic Art Awards

- National competition that showcases young artists and writers
- Over 1,600 submissions from Lorain County Students
- North Ridgeville students earned several awards including:
 - 6 Gold Keys
 - 15 Silver Keys
 - 12 Honorable Mentions

2024 TECHCORPS Hackathon

- Nearly 300 Ohio high school students participated
- Daniel Lowe and Alvin Zheng were both on winning teams
- Both seniors plan to attend college to pursue STEM careers



Breaking Boundaries

Athletics

Men's Soccer

- Back to Back SWC Titles, advanced to the OHSAA Final Four
- George Panagiotou named SWC Soccer Coach of the Year for the second year in a row

Women's Tennis

- Finished with a 14-4 Record and two tournament championships
- Lily Sante had a 16-1 singles record and a gold medal in the LCAAA Tournament
- Chuck Grant named SWC Tennis Coach of the Year

Bowling

- Women's Varsity Bowling named SWC Champs
- Junior Jakob Holland rolled a perfect game in a match against Avon
- Men's Varsity Bowling advanced to the State Tournament



Breaking Boundaries

Parks & Recreation

2024-25 Capital Improvements

- Shady Drive Complex
 - New playground
 - Field and parking lot improvements
- South Central Park Playground
 - Rotary and Kiwanis donations
- Root Road Park Improvements
 - Received \$500,000 State funding award
- Water bottle filling stations in all parks
- New sound system in park buildings

Future Planning

- Recreation Master Plan Update
- Mills Creek Conservation Nature Park



Breaking Boundaries

Office for Older Adults - Senior Center

2024 Achievements

- Designation of Dementia Friendly Community
 - One of seven in Ohio, first in Lorain County
- 40% increase in average daily attendance
- 27% increase in program and event participation
- 418 pounds of produce from North Ridgeville Community Garden distributed to seniors
- Doubled meals distributed through Meals on Wheels
- Obtained ODOT grant for wheelchair accessible modified minivan
 - Will expand OFOA's transportation program
 - Anticipated arrival Q4 2025



Breaking Boundaries

Community Events

Increasing Our Engagement

- Police Station Grand Opening
- Fishing Derby
- Touch-A-Truck
- Lorain County Pride Day
- Summer Concert Series = 37.5% increase
- Fall Fest = 50% more attendance
- Safety Fair
- Tots Trick-or-Treat
- Cleveland Stache Dash
- Tree Lighting



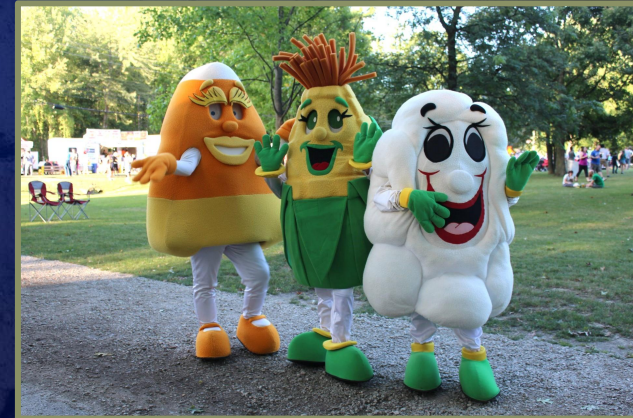
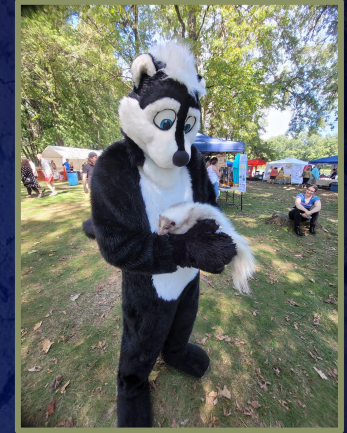
Breaking Boundaries

Community Events

Celebrating Our Partnerships

- Corn Festival - 50th Anniversary
- Chamber of Commerce/Visitors Bureau
 - Discover the Ridge
 - Holiday on the Ridge
- Harvest Ridge Church Harvest Palooza
- Heart & Sole Scavenger Hunt
- NRCS Back to School Kickoff Event
- Teal Arts Festival
- Spaghetti Dinner Sponsors: Rotary Club, VFW, Lions Club and Liston Funeral Home
- Skunk Festival
- Victory Park Freedom Festival and Fireworks

...and many more!



Breaking Limits

Construction Project

New High School Design Process

- Design Development drawings were submitted in January
- The Design Team and Hammond Construction are working through the project estimate
- The design team is focusing on developing the interior finishes and materials while also working on construction details for the new school
- They will be engaging teachers and students to review options for new furniture in March



Breaking Limits

Construction Project

New High School Features

- Modern Educational and Academic Environment
 - A “collegiate feel” with classrooms coupled with larger collaborative spaces
- Athletics Spaces
 - Large, competition gymnasium
 - Auxiliary gymnasium with an elevated walking track
 - Natatorium
- Performing Arts Center
 - Lobby and a 1,600 seat auditorium
 - Adjacency to music rooms



Breaking Limits

Construction Project

Maintenance/Transportation Facility

- Early site work will begin in March
- Groundbreaking Ceremony will take place on April 1, 2025
- Project expected to be completed early 2026

TIMELINE: MARCH 2025



Breaking Limits

Construction Project

New High School

- Paving new parking lots and early site work will begin this summer

TIMELINE: SUMMER 2025



Breaking Limits

Construction Project

New High School

- Construction will continue for two full years
- During this time, the current high school will be fully operational
- Events: Beam signing, construction tours, ribbon cutting

TIMELINE: SPRING 2026 – SPRING 2028



Breaking Limits

Construction Project

New High School

- The new building will be open for the start of the 2028-2029 academic year
- At this time, the current high school will be demolished
- The current transportation and maintenance facilities will be demolished and will become additional parking

TIMELINE: START OF 2028-29 SY



Breaking Limits

Construction Project

New High School

- After demolition, that area will be seeded for practice fields

TIMELINE: FALL 2028



Breaking Limits

Stay Connected



Save the Date!



BACK TO SCHOOL KICK-OFF EVENT



 **AUGUST 15, 2025**

 **4:30-6:30PM**

 **RANGER STADIUM**
34620 BAINBRIDGE RD,
NORTH RIDGEVILLE, OH 44039

**Food Trucks,
Bounce Houses,
First Day of School Signs,
and MORE!**

4:30PM

Event Begins



5:00PM

Groundbreaking Ceremony



5:30PM

Wilcox Time Capsule



Breaking Limits

Transportation System Improvements

2024 Capital Improvements

- Peanut Roundabout
- Chestnut Ridge Bridge over Dixon Ditch
- Maddock Road Culvert

Funded and Upcoming Projects

- SR 83/Chestnut Roundabout
- Race Road Overpass - \$26.25 million awarded
 - Improvements to traffic circulation, safety and emergency response
- Sugar Ridge Road - over \$4 million awarded
 - Sugar Ridge/Bender Roundabout
 - Sugar Ridge Rehab Bender to Waterbury



Breaking Limits

Transportation Plans and Studies

Envisioning Our Future

- Active Transportation Plan
 - Bike and pedestrian focus
- Safe Routes to School Plan
- Lorain County Safety Action Plan
 - TRAINFO
 - Center Ridge Road Multi Purpose Path
- SR 83/Bainbridge/Root Traffic Study
 - Application for Bainbridge/Root Roundabout
- Lorain Road/Lear Nagle Area Traffic Study
 - High traffic, high accident intersection
 - Solution requires broad approach
 - Public meeting this spring



Breaking Limits



Thank you for attending the
State of North Ridgeville Address

