



2015 / Annual Report
Washington Township



Partners for a Safe
and Healthy Dublin

Dear Residents,

The year 2015 was a time of progress for Washington Township. With a focus on streamlining services, building organizational capacity, and improving our efficiency, the Board of Trustees, Fiscal Officer, staff and I have an ongoing commitment to providing you the best services for your tax dollars.

The Township successfully partnered to transition parks and recreation to other agencies. This resulted in a cost savings while maintaining the accessibility of these resources for all residents in the region. Further, the Township worked closely with other agencies to move to a contracted model for road maintenance and thereby reducing the expenses for these services.

Voter approval, in November, of the fire department's levy, and the 98% satisfaction rating from residents on the National Citizen Survey indicates that residents have been pleased with the quality and level of services the fire department has provided. We have every intention of maintaining this positive momentum.

As you review this report, I hope you are pleased with the work we have done, our accomplishments, and the direction we have set for the future.

Please always feel free to call, visit, or email with your thoughts on our services.

Sincerely,



Sara G. Ott
Township Administrator



Washington Township is a blend of what's best about both a small town and a thriving city. Comprised of unincorporated and incorporated regions, the Township's character is defined by its rural past and its tech savvy future with a richly diverse, yet closely knit community.

The Township's three Trustees maintain a management philosophy of simplicity, efficiency, transparency, and approachability. Accessible by phone, email or face-to-face at public meetings, Washington Township Trustees and staff make residents' questions, issues and concerns a top priority.

over
48,000
People

27.5
Square
Miles



Customer Satisfaction

Residents spoke loudly and clearly about their views of township services in the 2015 National Citizen Survey. Residents' overall satisfaction with their safety services were noted, with the Fire Department receiving high marks in all of the three service categories residents evaluated:



..... Fire
98%

Fire Prevention
93%

Ambulance/EMS
98%

Of the EMS patients surveyed about the emergency care they received, **95%** rated paramedics' performance as excellent

Maintain ISO-2 Rating

Washington Township maintained its excellent Public Protection Classification of 2 (1-10 scale), a rating defined by The Insurance Services Office Inc. (ISO), which is designed to assist the insurance industry in establishing premiums for fire insurance. The evaluation criteria used to assign Public Protection Classifications are based on nationally recognized standards in fire and alarm communications, fire department operations, and water supply. Having an excellent Public Protection Classification like Washington Township's can translate to lower insurance premiums for homeowners and businesses.



The Township's website was redeveloped to improve user experience. Six months after it was launched (Sept. 29, 2016), site analytics showed a nearly **400% increase** in the number of visitors and the length of visits, a **1000% increase** in the number of page views, and a **200% increase** in the average length of user sessions.

National Accreditation

Washington Township Fire Department has been accredited by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) since 2007, a distinction shared by only nine other Ohio fire departments and 220 worldwide. The CFAI accreditation is awarded for a five-year period and requires high marks on a set of performance indicators that are based on nationally accepted criteria for the delivery and quality of fire, EMS, and other services. Indicator categories include operations, training, equipment, disaster response planning, human resources, inspections, investigations, public education, and finance.

Services

Washington Township is funded primarily by a five-year operating levy. In 2015, 78% of Washington Township and Dublin voters approved a renewal of the 8.25 millage levy to ensure continued fire and EMS. In addition to fire and EMS, Washington Township managed the following services for its residents: **zoning, roads maintenance, and parks and recreation.**



Emergency Response

On average, firefighter/paramedics were dispatched on emergencies:

14 times a day **OR** **117** calls / **1,000** residents

Average emergency response time **4:52**

Annual call volume increased **7.8%** from:

4,940 calls in 2014 **TO** **5,357** calls in 2015 / **72%** were for emergency medical services

Fire Prevention & Community Education

Addressing fire and life safety issues and minimizing property loss due to fire are top priorities for the Township's four fire inspectors and Fire Marshal. Fire safety inspections help ensure fire code compliance which promotes a safer environment for employees and customers who use any commercial building in the Township.

Estimated property loss due to fire (building, cooking, chimney, trash, vehicle, heavy equipment, outdoor equipment) in 2015 was **\$744,751**.

Fire prevention and life safety education is offered through schools, businesses, organizations, and community groups. Classes are an important part of the Township's safety education strategy.

2,610 /
inspections completed

853 /
were of existing buildings

2,367 /
violations were identified and remedied



Education Event / Adults / Youths / Total

First Aid Certification	308		308
CPR Certification	884		884
CPR in the Schools		979	979
CPR for Healthcare Providers	223		223
Fire Extinguisher Training	342		342
School Presentations*	1,569	3,323	4,892
Community Events**	4,837	4,488	9,325
Child Car Seat Checks	453		453
All Program Participation	8,616	8,790	17,406

*Includes fire station tours, first aid awareness, school assemblies, classroom fire safety talks, Dublin Safety City program, and fire truck tours.

** Includes block parties, Fire Prevention Week open house and poster contest, Dublin and Washington Township Touch-a-Truck, and fire exit drill simulations. Not included are Dublin Spooktacular and Christmas tree lighting ceremony, local parades, and Columbus Library Dublin Branch Grave Tales.

On-Site EMS and First Aid

The Fire Department provides on-site emergency medical services for Dublin's largest festivals and community events. In addition to staffed first aid tents, a mobile EMS bike patrol team reduces emergency response times and, in some cases, helps prevent emergencies altogether at the Dublin Irish Festival, The Memorial Tournament, 4th of July Celebration, Blarney Bash, Dublin high school home football games, and select local marathon races.

Citizen Fire Academy

In 2015, twelve members of the community completed the Citizen Fire Academy, a hands-on, adult outreach education program designed to promote awareness of the scope of a Washington Township firefighter/paramedic's job. During the six-week experience, participants learned from specialists in a variety of fire, EMS, and rescue disciplines including fire department operations, fire fighting, EMS training, and special rescue procedures including auto extrication and rappelling.



Financial Report

Combines statements of receipts, disbursements and changes in balances. Governmental fund types and similar fiduciary funds – For the year ended December 31, 2015.

Revenue Receipts

	Total
Taxes	18,485,646.94
Charges for Services	14,494.76
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	38,666.47
Intergovernmental Receipts	2,073,940.49
Interest	154,579.00
Proceeds from Notes	-
Transfers In	231,417.00
All Other Revenue	112,233.00
Total Revenue Receipts	21,110,977.66

Expenditure Disbursements

General Government	763,847.91
Public Safety	18,334,622.92
Public Works	-
Capital Outlay	954,611.57
Debt Service - Bond Principal Payment	-
Debt Service - Note Principal Payment	-
Debt Service - Interest and Fiscal Charges	-
Transfer Out	231,417.00
Total Expenditure Disbursements	20,297,917.06
Total Receipts Over (Under) Disbursements	813,060.60

Other Financing Sources (Uses)

Proceeds of Notes	-
Advances- In	-
Other Financial Sources	-
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	-
Total of Receipts and Other Sources Over (Under) Disbursements and Other Uses	813,060.60

Fund Cash Balances, Jan. 1, 2015	25,628,522.20
Fund Cash Balances, Dec. 31, 2015	26,441,582.80
Reserve for Encumbrances, Dec. 31, 2015	

2015 Cost Savings

Partnered with the Franklin County Engineer's Office, City of Dublin, and Jerome Township for road maintenance and snow removal on the Township's 1.9 miles of roadway.

Transferred ownership of the Township's two parks, Homestead and Kaltenbach, to Franklin County Metro Parks and the City of Dublin, respectively. This change resulted in an annual operating cost savings of \$530,000, which was redirected to the Township's primary mission of Fire and EMS.

Pursued a renewal of the 8.25 millage fire levy rather than a replacement levy. The renewal of this levy allowed taxpayers to avoid a 12.5% increase in property taxes, an outcome of the elimination of State of Ohio property tax rollback and homestead exemption that would have occurred with a replacement levy.

Fully implemented a high deductible health plan for employees to reduce premium costs and encourage employee accountability for their personal wellness.



2016 Goals

Research and evaluate potential sources of revenue for the Fire Department, including EMS billing, to help alleviate the anticipated revenue shortfall expected to begin in 2017.

Develop and implement a cost recovery philosophy for services and programs.

Examine and implement contract options for providing zoning services.

Analyze the impact of tax increment financing on Fire Department revenue and services and engage key stakeholders in finding solutions.

Update and implement an employee compensation philosophy to ensure compensation is fair and consistent with market conditions.

Establish partnerships with local agencies and organizations to identify opportunities for shared services that have the potential to result in cost savings.

Board of Trustees

Gene Bostic | gbostic@wtwp.com

Denise Franz King | dking@wtwp.com

Charles Kranstuber | ckranstuber@wtwp.com



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Fiscal Officer

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Township Administrator

Sara Ott | sott@wtwp.com



Zoning Commission

Marvin Briskey

Tom Frazier

R. Bruce McLoughlin

Becky Princehorn, Secretary

Bruce Robinson

Pat Wilkerson

Board of Zoning Appeals

Jason Huffman

Richard Kear, Chair

John Nash

Rebecca Princehorn, Secretary

Julie Skolnicki

Ron Wallace

Facilities

Administration and Training Center

6200 Eiterman Road

Dublin, Ohio 4306

Fire Station 91, 6255 Shier Rings Road

Fire Station 92, 4497 Hard Road

Fire Station 93, 5825 Brand Road

Fire Station 95, 5750 Blazer Parkway

