



City of Bucyrus

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BRUCE. D. TRUKA
MAYOR

TOMMY E. STARNER
SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR

Dear Citizens of Bucyrus,

January 19, 2026

As we begin a new year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the progress our city made in 2025 and to share the initiatives ahead as we move confidently into 2026. Our community continues to face challenges, but together we've achieved measurable growth and laid a strong foundation for the future of Bucyrus.

Strengthening Community Trust and Partnerships:

At the beginning of 2025, discussions arose around the partial internet services and camera systems provided by Wavelinc, a company owned and operated by former City Council President Kurt Fankhauser. Unfortunately, rumors from prior administrations created unnecessary distrust regarding Wavelinc and Mr. Fankhauser's intentions.

To be clear: Mr. Fankhauser cooperated fully and honorably throughout the transition process. His donations saved the City more than \$30,000, a meaningful contribution during a time of financial strain. We extend our sincere thanks to Mr. Fankhauser for his generosity and his assistance in ensuring a smooth transition to a new service provider.

Economic Development & Local Business Growth:

Bucyrus continues to attract new enterprises and foster entrepreneurship:

- **J.C. Wellness Solutions, LLC** opened at 201 W. Charles St., Suite B, offering individual, couples, and group therapy services both in person and via telehealth.
- **Forge Fire & Company** has joined our growing business community.
- **Spots Rolling Bean Coffee Company** opened its doors, and we wish them much success.
- Samuel Katz and Lee Chase purchased the **former Swan Building** at 428 E. Mansfield St., signaling renewed investment in our downtown area.
- Our Administration remains committed to supporting all local employers and thanks them for participating in the Rapid Response Hiring Event, hosted by **North Central State College and the Crawford Success Center**. The event was attended by more than 100 job seekers and put together immediately after Diamond Wipes suddenly closed their doors leaving 40 employees without work.
- In a further measure of support, area residents and businesses worked together to provide food and Thanksgiving meals to those affected.
- **IB Tech** announced the creation of 170 new jobs through planned expansion.

City Services, Projects, and Recognitions:

Plans remain on track for the new airport terminal, and discussions are advancing with the Ohio EPA regarding the new wastewater treatment plant, which will enhance efficiency and environmental protection for years to come.

In 2025, the Arbor Day Foundation once again recognized Bucyrus as a Tree City USA, celebrating our dedication to planting and maintaining trees that make our city greener and more welcoming.

We also proudly re-launched the Bucyrus Access Channel, funded by Spectrum, as a public access network providing local programming and community updates to residents.

Additionally, we celebrate the groundbreaking of Norton Bicentennial Inc. (Norton Park), an exciting addition to our city's recreational spaces.

We also recognize Captain Ryan Sparks, who retired from the Bucyrus Fire Department after 28 years of dedicated service. His leadership and commitment to protecting our citizens are deeply appreciated.

Technology, Security, and Infrastructure:

As part of our ongoing modernization efforts, the city is implementing critical technology upgrades to improve operations, cybersecurity, and inter-departmental coordination.

We are partnering with KOSI to provide IT support across all departments, including City Hall offices (Mayor, Zoning, Council Clerk, Civil Service, Utilities), as well as the Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants, Water Distribution, and Street Department.

With KOSI's support, we will:

- Keep systems operating efficiently and reliably
- Respond promptly to technical issues
- Safeguard against cyberattacks and data breaches
- Ensure consistent security and IT best practices across all departments
- Maintain secure, backed-up information
- Given the sensitive data and essential services our departments manage, cybersecurity is not a luxury, it's a necessity. By extending KOSI's oversight citywide, we'll ensure stronger protection, continuous monitoring, and minimize risks of costly disruptions.

In parallel, we're standardizing internet service citywide through Spectrum. This step will allow KOSI to secure and monitor all systems. Beginning January 1, 2026, every city department will operate on a unified, secure network.

Together, these actions will keep Bucyrus technologically resilient, efficient, and ready to meet the needs of modern city management.

Looking Ahead:

Our city continues to evolve—not without its hurdles, but always with purpose and pride. Through collaboration, transparency, and dedication, we are strengthening Bucyrus for future generations.

I remain deeply grateful for the trust, patience, and partnership of our residents, business owners, and civic organizations. It's an honor to serve as your Mayor, and I look forward to another productive year of service, growth, and community progress.

With sincere appreciation,



Bruce D. Truka, Mayor
City of Bucyrus