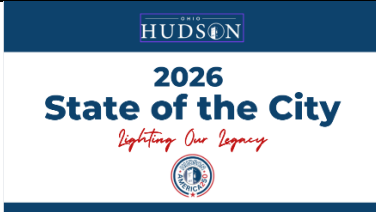


2026 Lighting Our Legacy

State of the City Address - Council

February 12, 2026

Presented by Thomas J. Sheridan



1

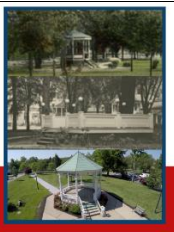
This year our theme is '**Lighting Our Legacy**'.

It is a commitment to honoring the **history** that shaped us, while **illuminating** the new paths that will define us!

We celebrate 3 monumental milestones of our **legacy** in Hudson this year -

1. Our **Nation's** 250th birthday. *The Semi-quincentennial.*
2. **Western Reserve's** bicentennial.
3. ...And the brightest **light** of all: Hudson's **transition** from a volunteer fire department to a fully staffed, **24/7 department!**

We also celebrate the beautiful **WRA Bicentennial Tree**, with its 70,000 lights, **which is a beacon to learning and innovation**, along with the **Fiber to the Home** initiative, which is bringing information, near the speed of light, to homes in Hudson!



Agenda

- Introduction
- Finances
- Economic Development
- Public Safety
- Capital Projects
- Events
- Closing Remarks

2026 Lighting Our Legacy

2

On the left side of this slide, you will see historic **photos of the gazebo** over the past 100 years.

Later in this presentation, I will show you our conceptual plans for this structure!

On the right side of this slide, is the "**roadmap**" for the speech today.

and I promiselike our fiber .. I will make this speech very fast!

Mayor-Council-City Manager

3

Before I begin, I want to **Thank the City Council & the Mayor** for your dedication and time in making Hudson a better place to **live, ...work & ...play!**

I also want to recognize the **80 volunteers** who serve on the **14 boards & commissions**. We appreciate your service to the City!

City Organization

4

The City's **organizational chart** helps to define the connections between **our community; its elected officials; the boards; and our city departments**. *I want to take this opportunity to **Thank all the city staff, they are truly the 'Heartbeat' of the city!***

Now onto the State of the City....

2025 Financial Year in Review

5

FINANCES

We ended 2025 with a balanced general fund budget, despite the loss of a **major employer** and the added operating cost in the **Fire Department staffing in 2025**.

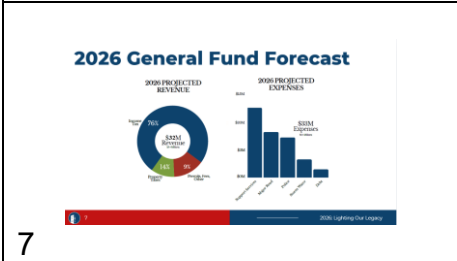
- We maintained a **AAA bond rating**. *Which less than 5% of the cities in Ohio can say this!*
- **The State Auditor** issued us a **clean audit** and for the **last 11 years!**
- We entered **2026 with a 56% General Fund carryover**.
- ...And we secured **\$15 million in grant funding, which was a record for grants!** *Typically, we average \$2 million in grants/annually.*



6

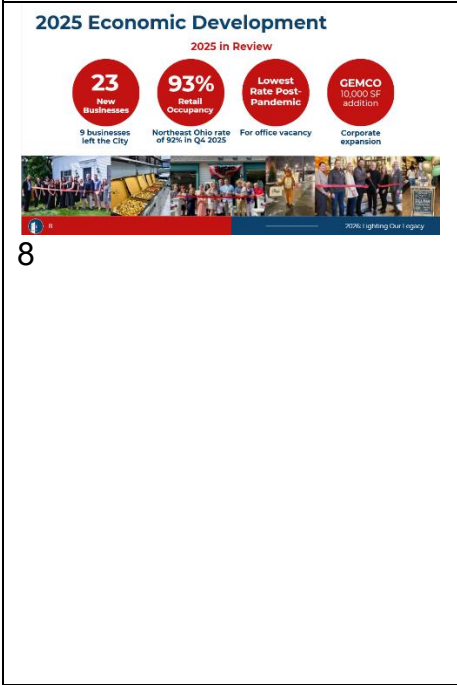
In early 2025, we adjusted our projected revenues to **\$31.1 M**, and we ended the year at **\$34.2 M**, even with the losses in revenue noted above! *We continue to be good fiscal stewards of our tax dollars!*

Our projected expenses last year were **\$33.8 M**, and the final actual expenses were down at **\$33.1 M**.



7

For 2026 we are projecting revenues at **\$32 M** and expenses at **\$33.0 M**. We have a carryover from 2025 that we could use to close this gap if needed.



8

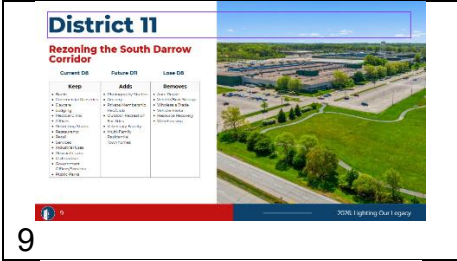
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In 2025, Hudson welcomed **23 new businesses** and celebrated a large expansion at GEMCO.

...We currently have a **93% retail occupancy** in our stores, and our **office vacancies are at their lowest since the pandemic**.

...unfortunately, in 2025 we lost **9 businesses in Hudson**, including JoAnn's.

But we are resilient, and almost immediately we began planning a new zoning district for this area called **District 11!**



9

The new Zoning District 11 at the former JoAnn site, was created to provide a more vibrant mix of retail, health, medical, and residential options for this area of Hudson. *We are working on this new District and hope to have it completed in the coming months.*



Hudson is solidifying its status as a thriving industrial hub in Summit County for 2026, driven by a massive 180,000-

10

square-foot expansion by Ceia in the Hudson Crossing Development, and the creation of over **400 new jobs** at **Keltec Technologies, Spectrum, Ramco, and Temprecision**. *This is great news!*

Clinton Crossing

- Design to advance in 2026
- 50+ residences
- 20,000 SF Market Hall
- 10,000 SF Community Space
- Co-working facility featuring cafe & restrooms

Van Alen Market Hall in Shelton Heights



2026 Lighting Our Legacy

11

The **Clinton Crossing Development** (formerly known as *Phase II*) was created out of the 2024 Comprehensive Plan. The development is a **proposed** residential neighborhood of **50+ homes** that will be anchored by a 20,000-square-foot **Market Hall** and a 10,000-sf community space. *We hope to have the plan for this development to Planning Commission later this year!*

New Residential Neighborhoods in 2026

- 18 new downtown townhomes (new phase of Fairmount Properties)
- 10 new single family homes (The Cottages at Pine Ridge on W Streetsboro Rd)
- 20 new Darrow Rd townhomes (Preserve of Hudson, across from Drug Mart)
- 11 new single family homes (Hudson Preserve, LDA on Norton Road)



2026 Lighting Our Legacy

12

We are also excited about the **68 new houses** currently in **design or construction** that will be coming to Hudson. These homes will increase our housing stock & provide different

Best Places to Live

Cleveland Magazine's 2025 Rankings



1. Chagrin Falls
2. Rocky River
3. Oak Village
4. Pepper Pike
5. Highland Hills
6. Bath
7. Beachwood
8. Brecksville
9. Hudson
10. Shaker
11. Hocking Township
12. Chester Township
13. Highland Heights
14. Kirtland
15. Solon

- Great Schools
- Safe
- Parks

2026 Lighting Our Legacy

13

Lastly, **It is no surprise** that *Cleveland Magazine* continues to rank Hudson at the top of their list for **schools, parks, and a safety!**

Public Safety: Fire & EMS

- In 2025, celebrated **176 years** of an incredible volunteer fire service
- Transitioning to a **fully staffed 24/7/365 station** in 2026
- In 2026, Fire/EMS **remodel project**

713 2025 Total Fire Calls	39 2025 Total Fires	2,615 2025 Total EMS Calls	36 2025 EMS Critical
----------------------------------	----------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------



2026 Lighting Our Legacy

14

PUBLIC SAFETY

In **2026**, after **176 years** of dedicated service to Hudson, we will be transitioning from a volunteer fire department to a fully staffed **24/7** department, which will make

Hudson safer for the **next 100 years!** We are also investing **\$ 5 M** into our Fire & EMS facility to provide a safer & efficient work environment for our safety staff.

*To every volunteer that has worn the **HFD badge**, we want to **Thank you** for your dedication & service!*

Public Safety: Police

- Continue to be one of Ohio's safest cities
- Reinstated the **Bike Patrol** with 11 bikes
- Chief Tabak recognized with **Patriot Award**



15

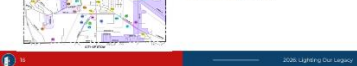
In 2025, our police department handled over **26,000 calls** for assistance. *Great job to our Dispatchers on the massive amount of calls!*

We also re-instituted the **E-bike patrol**, which makes us more efficient and approachable in our patrols, vs. a police vehicle, and especially at events.

*I also want to **congratulate** our Chief on receiving the **Patriot Award**, which is given to cities for supporting our deployed staff & our nation's veterans!*

Capital Projects

- **120 active projects** over next 5 years
- **70+** projects for 2026
- **\$18 million** on 2026 projects
- **37 streets** for resurfacing (25 in 2025)
- **16 new adaptive signals** in downtown
- **2 Watershed studies**
- Sanitary **sewer upgrades** on SR303
- **Sidewalk** projects



16

CAPITAL PROJECTS

This **map shows** we have **projects** planned **everywhere** in Hudson!

We have **70 projects** this year alone—everything from resurfacing **streets**, **2 major watershed studies**, **multiple pedestrian and utility projects**. *We are putting the tax dollars directly back into the City!*

2026 Public Works Facility



- Largest city-owned facility ever built
- \$28 million project

17

This month, we are beginning the construction of the **New Public Works facility on Hudson Drive**. This much needed facility will be the **‘Engine room’** of our city! It will help **us** keep the **lights on & the water flowing!** The facility will be located on Hudson Drive, and it will open **in 2027!**

Public Works Infrastructure

- **Water Security** new Hudson Water Well for future capacity
- **Energy Innovation** Hudson's first Battery Storage System
- **Connecting Our Community** Hines Hill Bridge



18

To reinforce our utility grids, we are launching **two major Public Works projects**: A water well replacement at our Water Plant, and A proposed Battery Storage System on Stow Road. This new electric storage system allows us to **capture power at off-peak rates** and then distribute it during peak hours, ensuring reliable electrical service, while keeping costs low for our customers.

We are also in the middle of designing the bridge over the railroad tracks at Hines Hill Road, which will provide faster response times to the NW quadrant of Hudson for our safety forces; improve safety at this crossing; and **NO** more stopped trains for school buses and motorists! This project received the largest single grant in Hudson’s history at **\$17 million!** It is scheduled to open in 2030!

Fiber-to-the-Home

- **\$18 million** investment over 4 years
- **1-gigabit (Gb)** speeds Citywide
- **Phase 1** of 2026
- **Business Fiber**, 50% take rate



11 years providing high speed fiber

Our Fiber to the home project is an \$18 million investment over 4 years! Fiber lines will enable our

19

seniors to access critical **telehealth & virtual medical appointments**; it allows **citizens** to work from home in Hudson; and it allows students to engage in **virtual learning** with no limits!

High-speed fiber is NO longer a luxury; it is a vital utility to our residents.



20

The parks had a number of improvements in 2025 including

- **We installed an ADA accessible Kayak Ramp at Hudson Springs Park,**
- **A new paved trail** through Barlow Farm Park to Wood Hollow Park,
- and new **sunshades** at the splash pad!



21




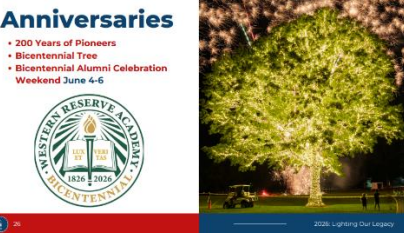
The **NEW Inclusive Playground at Oak Grove Park will open later this summer.** Thanks to **\$1.4 million** from the State, County, and Private donations, along with city funds, this playground is now a **reality!**

Now every child —regardless of ability—will be able to play together!



22



The course is booming! We saw **51,000 rounds of golf** last year. We opened our new **6,000-square-foot**

	<p>facility, featuring simulators, a pro shop, a dining room & a patio, with great views of the course!</p>
<p>Events in 2025 Supporting businesses with 187 public events in 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yoga Lounge Farmers Market Yoga Flow • Heart and Home Marketplace • Hudson Wellness Collective • 311 Stair Climb • Merry on Main Street • Expansion of the Winter Fireworks to Celebrate Hudson Community Foundation.  <p>23</p>	<p>EVENTS</p> <p>In 2025, we supported 187 public events in Hudson that helped support businesses! With the all of the anniversaries this year that number is only going up!</p>
<p>America250</p>  <p>24</p>	<p>For the nation's 250th, we are planning a year of fun in Hudson; from a community picnic - to the July 4th celebration & festival! A stair climb is planned in remembrance of 9/11, <i>which was 25 yrs. ago!</i></p>
<p>Gazebo Legacy Project</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widen Stairway • Improve Landscaping & Flooding • Update Concrete Pad • Upgrade Electrical • Provide Accessibility <p>25</p>	<p>Our Legacy project for the nation's 250th anniversary is the renovation of the Gazebo! The project will improve accessibility; accommodate events; improve utilities; and ensure that it stands for 50 more years!!</p>
<p>Anniversaries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200 Years of Pioneers • Bicentennial Tree • Bicentennial Alumni Celebration <p>Weekend June 4-6</p>  <p>26</p>	<p>Imagine David Hudson planning the Western Reserve school in 1826 by candlelight, and TODAY it is a beacon of light known all over the nation! Western Reserve consistently is ranked as one of the top boarding</p>

schools in the nation! The school has events planned throughout the year to commemorate their bicentennial!

Thank you WRA for being in Hudson for 2 centuries!
*We wish you all the best in the **next** 200 years!*

Anniversaries

What we do for ourselves dies with us; what we have done for others & the world lives on!

Peg Morgan

PEGs

2020: Lighting Our Legacy

27

Peg’s Foundation is celebrating **25 years** of philanthropy in mental health and the arts.

Peg’s restoration of the **1825 Baldwin-Buss House** and the new headquarters have connected our historic past of the greens to the vibrancy of First & Main.

Congratulations!

Closing Statement



Thank You!

28

In Closing, Hudson remains resilient and strong!

We continue to remain fiscally good stewards of our citizen’s tax dollars.

We continue to honor the past and look to the future - from celebrating milestone anniversaries this year, to installing fiber lines to connect our citizens to the world!

We are ‘lighting our legacy’ everyday!

Thank you and I wish you all the best in 2026!