

GENERAL FUND

2020 Revenue Sources

Sales Tax	\$30,732,721	45.9%
Charges for Services	\$10,186,247	15.2%
Property Taxes	\$8,917,590	13.3%
Intergovernmental	\$6,313,161	9.4%
Investment Income	\$2,210,207	3.3%
Licenses & Permits	\$1,390,121	2.1%
Other Revenues	\$1,371,009	2.0%
Fines & Forfeitures	\$771,557	1.2%
Total Operating Revenues	\$61,892,613	92.5%
Non-Operating	\$5,004,513	7.5%
Total General Fund Revenues	\$66,897,126	100%

2020 Expenses by Function

Criminal Justice	\$22,372,466	38.1%
Judicial Services	\$13,982,870	23.8%
General Government	\$11,998,863	20.4%
Public Safety	\$3,844,562	6.5%
Health & Human Services	\$2,915,142	5.0%
Total Operating Expenses	\$55,113,903	93.8%
Non-Operating	\$3,664,036	6.2%
Total General Fund Expenses	\$58,777,939	100%

General Fund Operating Revenue Growth*

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
General Fund	\$49.65	\$50.49	\$53.16	\$55.53	\$56.61	\$57.57	\$60.71	\$61.89
Operating Revenues								

*Shown in millions

The General Fund is the largest discretionary source of funds in the county, and finances 20 of 21 elected offices in Clermont County.

FROM THE COMMISSIONERS



Claire Corcoran
President



David Painter
Vice President



Bonnie Batchler
Member

2020 presented many challenges for Clermont County, with arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic in late winter. Thankfully, proactive planning and careful fiscal management allowed the county to continue to provide services without major cutbacks.

We're proud of the county employees who demonstrated amazing innovation, flexibility and dedication during these extraordinary times. Many adapted their processes, serving customers via drop boxes, online forms and Zoom meetings. At times, they worked remotely and did what it took to safely provide services.

Clermont County pulled together to support those struggling during the economic downturn resulting from the pandemic. The county allocated millions of dollars of federal CARES Act funds to small businesses, schools and governmental entities.

In the midst of this challenging year, Clermont County chalked up one of its largest economic development wins ever when Nestlé Purina announced plans to build a huge pet food plant in Williamsburg.

Thanks to news like this, the future looks bright for Clermont County.



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MOVING FORWARD DURING A PANDEMIC

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



CLERMONT COUNTY OHIO

2020 MONTHLY MILESTONES

JANUARY

New Sheriff's Office Safety and Training Facility

Local officials broke ground on an \$852,000, 4,585-square-foot Clermont County Sheriff's Office Safety and Training Facility in Batavia. The building houses open and private offices, single-user restrooms, a kitchen, a training room, an exercise room and mechanical spaces.



FEBRUARY

County upgrades strengthen election security

The Clermont County Board of Elections completed security upgrades required by Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose. On June 11, 2019, LaRose issued Directive 2019-08, a comprehensive, multi-faceted security strategy for local boards that provides the redundancy required of a strong election system infrastructure. Counties had until Jan. 31 to complete the secretary's requirements. The effort has made Ohio the national leader in election security. The directive included a checklist of 34 separate requirements that must be met in order to be considered compliant. The specifics of the checklist essentially serve as Ohio's detailed defense plan against adversaries who seek to disrupt our elections.

MARCH

Pandemic prompts State of Emergency

The Board of Commissioners declared a State of Emergency in Clermont County in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. "Extraordinary times require extraordinary action," said David Painter, president of the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioners Ed Humphrey and Claire Corcoran concurred. The emergency declaration, along with a previous resolution delegating disaster functions in event of an absence of a quorum of the Board, spelled out succession of leadership and the authority of the County Administrator in an emergency.

APRIL



Innovation helps county endure shortages

Faced with shortages of hand sanitizer, anti-bacterial disinfectant wipes and sprays, Clermont County went ahead and made its own products. Director of Facilities Management Wade Grabowski and Chris Turner, facilities coordinator, tapped local sources for ingredients, looked up mixtures on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website, and conferred with a chemist at Clermont County Water Resources.

MAY

Many improvements to sewer and water

The Clermont County Water Resources Department's 5-year capital improvement plan (2020-2024) called for many improvements to water mains, water tanks and sewers. Lyle Bloom, the department's director, explained the plan to the Board of County Commissioners. The plan identified 58 water works capital improvements valued at \$35.4 million, including 25 water main replacement projects (\$22.5 million), elevated water tank inspection, rehab and painting projects (\$3.1 million), water treatment plant and well field improvement projects (\$3.4 million), new infrastructure/expansion projects (\$6.2 million) and petition/assessment projects (\$167,000).

JUNE

Pandemic affects county budget

Effects of the COVID-19 pandemic were estimated to reduce Clermont County general fund revenues from \$64.1 million in 2019 to \$58.4 million in 2020, said Mary Rains, director of the Clermont County Office of Management and Budget. Rains gave an overview on June 17 during a public hearing on the proposed annual tax budget for 2021. Fortunately, the county had kept a strong fund balance and reserves due to its responsible management of the budget.

JULY

County improves emergency communication

The Board of County Commissioners approved a License Agreement with the Great Oaks Career Campus Board that allowed Clermont County to build a 450-foot radio tower for the public safety radio system. Commissioners allocated \$782,000 to construct the tower, part of a system that provides coverage for police, firefighters, emergency medical services, buses, engineers and the like. There is no cost to lease the land. "This will allow us to continue communications without any dead zones," said John Kiskaden, Director of the Clermont County Department of Public Safety Services. "This tower is critical to the communications infrastructure. If we would have to move it, we would have a chain reaction of coverage issues, costing the county additional money to regain the existing coverage."



AUGUST



Grants assist small businesses

Thanks to Clermont County's Small Business Relief Program, \$1 million in Coronavirus Relief Act (CARES Act) grants were made available to struggling businesses. "We hope these funds will help small businesses during these extremely challenging times," said David Painter, president of the Board of County Commissioners. "Small businesses are vital to our economy, providing much-needed services and employment to many."

SEPTEMBER



New economic development director

Michael McNamara sees a bright future for Clermont County as he surveys the economic development landscape. McNamara joined the county as Director of Community and Economic Development. He had served as Butler County's Development Administrator for five years.

OCTOBER

Nestlé Purina to build \$500-million plant

Clermont County celebrated one of the biggest economic development wins in county history – a victory in terms of good jobs, tax revenues for schools and services, and an environment where secondary industry will thrive. Nestlé Purina Pet Care Company purchased the remaining 193 acres at South Afton Industrial Park in Williamsburg Township for \$6.9 million. This will bring 300 quality jobs. Nestlé Purina will invest more than \$500 million in capital improvements at the industrial park site as construction crews and vendors move in to build its new manufacturing plant. Nestlé Purina's investment will result in monetary gains to the Village of Williamsburg and Williamsburg Township in income tax revenue. Williamsburg Schools will also benefit from negotiated payments in lieu of taxes over the proceeding decades. Likewise the sale of property at South Afton recouped the taxpayers' investment for infrastructure. The impact of those working at the plant will result in millions of dollars being infused into our county each year.



NOVEMBER

Election draws large number of voters

Thousands of citizens took advantage of early voting at Board of Elections offices in Batavia, with lines stretching along the block for days leading up to the Nov. 4 election. In addition to the presidential election, voters approved levies for services for abused and neglected children, senior citizens and those with mental health and addiction problems.

CARES Act funds help many in community

Clermont County allocated nearly \$10 million in Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding. Another nearly \$10 million in CARES Act funding had been allocated for local municipalities and townships. Funds went to Clermont County Public Health, Clermont County Park District, public and private schools, Clermont County Community Services, Clermont Senior Services and YWCA of Greater Cincinnati. Funds also were allocated for the \$1-million Small Business Relief Program.

Major improvements to SR 32

Travel from Eastgate to Batavia without a traffic signal is a big step closer to reality thanks to a recent award from the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments (OKI). At their October board meeting, OKI approved a \$5.4 million grant to the Clermont County Transportation Improvement District (CCTID), which will fund a significant component of the construction work planned for SR 32 between Eastgate and Batavia.

DECEMBER



Hamilton Safe Company broke ground on a \$14-million manufacturing plant on Round Bottom Road in Union Township. The 180,000-square-foot plant will make security products as well as pneumatic tube and audio/video systems.