



# Office of Mayor Fletcher Berger

## Greetings from the Mayor

As I begin my third term as Mayor of Bedford Heights, I want to express my appreciation and gratitude to our residents for allowing me to continue serving this community. I truly understand the magnitude of your trust and faith in my ability to manage and lead our community.

We continue to work diligently on behalf of the residents of Bedford Heights to ensure that we are providing the community with a level of service and upkeep residents have come to depend and rely on. There have been a number of recent changes designed to improve our level of service and our economic stability. I am grateful for the support of the residents, as I recognize how challenging change can be. To date, the Southeast Emergency Communication Center (*911*) has met and performed up to our expectations. The recent change in our rubbish and recyclable collections received positive responses from the residents. The process was not without its challenges; however, to date we have seen a meaningful reduction in our landfill costs, which is due in part to residents taking the time to separate their recyclable materials into the much larger bin.

We now have the ability to communicate with and notify you of emergencies and non-emergencies (*local citywide events and/or community-related activities*) via the recent addition of a County-based notification system. This system came at no cost to the city; and has proven to be an extremely valuable tool. We look forward to the day when we will be able to reach and share information at a moment's notice with the vast majority of our residents. If you would like more information regarding the virtues of this system and to sign up to receive notifications, please go to the September page of this calendar.

In the event you were not aware, the City produces its own programming via our local government access channel BHTV Channel 20 (*supported by Time Warner*). We are now in the process of making upgrades to our onsite technology that will in the very near future, enable us to reach both Time Warner and AT&T customers. Our goal is to bring residents up-to-date news and weather, emergency notifications, council minutes, programming and more.

This year (*2016*), the Ohio Department of Transportation (*ODOT*) will commence construction to widen Interstate 271 from two to three lanes north and southbound. The express lanes will be extended from where they end at the Interstate 480/Interstate 271 interchange south to Macedonia. Noise barriers will be erected within our city's borders along Interstate 271. Once underway, this project will take upwards of 4 years to complete.

With respect to the former Bedford Heights hotel site, we will continue to make every effort to ensure that the best possible company, with the greatest potential for long-term stability and growth, will ultimately develop on that site. We have had many discussions with a broad spectrum of interested parties; however, our primary desire is to have the current structure demolished and a new multi-purpose structure erected in its place.

Plans for 2016 include:

- Resurfacing of Solon Road from the east city limits to the west city limits
- Northfield Road at Interstate 480 between Meuti Drive and Miles Road (*subject to State and County funding*)

Melva and I wish everyone a Happy Holiday and a joyous and prosperous New Year!

Thank you for your continued support and do not hesitate to contact me.