

Columbus City Bulletin



2006

ANNUAL REPORT

Andrea Blevins, City Clerk
COLUMBUS, OHIO

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2006 ANNUAL REPORT

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**CITY COUNCIL
2006 ANNUAL REPORT**

2006 City Council Annual Report

The City of Columbus – now home to more than 768,000 residents – continued in 2006 to face the local challenges of a nation waging war abroad, a domestic economy stumbling through slumps, federal funding being put at risk, and state budget cuts looming ominously. However, income tax revenues, which pay for two thirds of city services, improved from a 3.7% to better than a 6.62% increase. The Local Government Fund, the City's second largest income stream, held steady as the Ohio General Assembly refrained from making cuts. And the City began realizing returns on its investment in the Solid Waste Authority, providing needed relief to the Rainy Day Fund.

Confronted with those issues, the seven elected members of the Columbus City Council prioritized their efforts in 2006 around four key areas of local government: expanding economic opportunity, safety, improving the social fabric, and meeting the needs of people and neighborhoods.

Serving his seventh year as President, Matt Habash continued his leadership of City Council, with Michael C. Mentel serving his fifth year as president pro-tempore. Council voted to retain Angie Blevins as City Clerk.

Chairing Council's eleven committees were: Council President Matt Habash – Rules and Reference, and Recreation and Parks; Kevin L. Boyce – Finance, and Administration; Mary Jo Hudson – Jobs and Economic Development; Michael C. Mentel - Safety and Judiciary, and Zoning; Maryellen O'Shaughnessy - Public Service and Transportation, and Development; Charleta B. Tavares - Health, Housing and Human Services; and Patsy A. Thomas – Utilities.

In 2006, Columbus City Council considered 2,026 total ordinances (2,014 Passed, 11 Defeated). 177 Resolutions and 18 ceremonial resolutions were also considered and adopted.

PRIORITY: SAFETY

Safety remained a top priority for City Council, with approximately 75% of the City's General Fund budgeted to police and fire protection, emergency response, and support services (\$467 million). Council continued to set aside funds in a special for Public Safety Initiatives, a decision first implemented in the 2005 budget, Council amended the administration's proposed 2006 budget to set aside \$1,786,000 to address specific public safety concerns. Some of the Initiatives funded in 2006 included:

- Expanded Fire class (\$460,000)
- Fire Turnout Gear (\$250,000)
- Digital Cameras for Police Cars (\$175,000)
- Expanded Police class (\$150,000)
- Community Crime Patrol expansion (\$135,000)
- Animal Abuse and Family Violence Task Force (\$86,000)
- Columbus Coated Fabrics site assessment (\$75,000)
- Municipal Court Clerk management study (\$64,840)
- EMS equipment (\$33,000)

New Safety Equipment and Resources

Council continued its commitment to public safety with the allocation of capital dollars to secure needed equipment. Major items purchased in 2006 included a \$1.125 million mobile command center for Police, a \$2.6 million investment in the division's McKinley Avenue training complex to improve the facility for use by the SWAT team, and to allow the relocation of Precinct 1 into space currently occupied by SWAT, a \$205,000 upgrade to the division's audio communications recording system and a \$237,000 for communications test equipment.

City Council also provided capital funds to the Division of Fire. Major purchases included \$1.7 million for new ladder trucks, \$443,000 for communication equipment, and \$250,000 for thermal

imaging cameras. The cameras help firefighters see through smoke to enhance rescue efforts and improve safety.

Additional Safety efforts:

- Council joined the Administration to dedicate the new Fire House in Linden. The new station, replacing one built in 1926, cost \$4.3 million. It contains four bays and initially houses an engine and medic companies.
- The Community Crime Patrol was expanded in the Franklinton neighborhood following a survey of 5,000 area residents and businesses. CCP staff now supplements City Code enforcement efforts. The Franklinton initiative also included community-wide training to improve cardiac arrest survival rates through the use of AEDs and CPR.
- Recognizing the link between animal abuse and domestic violence, Council again allocated \$86,000 of its Public Safety Initiatives fund in 2006 to support the Animal Abuse and Family Violence Task Force. The project facilitates a multi-disciplinary response to the prevention of family violence by increasing awareness among animal welfare, child welfare, and domestic violence professionals. Council also continued to support investigatory efforts by the Capital Area Humane Society with a \$25,000 grant.

PRIORITY: ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

In the City's 2006 Budget, City Council identified additional funds to spur job growth. Creating a targeted Jobs Growth Fund, councilmembers set aside another \$895,000 to fund strategic investments in jobs and economic development. Combined with a carryover of over \$1 million from the prior year, some of the initiatives funded included:

- Summer Youth employment program (\$600,000)
- Support for the Center of Science and Industry (\$250,000)
- TechColumbus (\$218,000)
- Young Professionals Initiative (\$85,000)
- Hamilton Road Study (\$50,000)
- Columbus Coated Fabrics site assessment (\$50,000)

Research and Technology Corridor

In a collaborative endeavor, City Council continued working to leverage the resident assets in the Research and Technology Corridor for economic development purposes. The area includes nearly 10,000 acres stretching from Ohio Health's facilities at State Route 315 and East North Broadway, south and west along Kinnear Road and into The Ohio State University campus, south through Battelle to COSI, west to Mt. Carmel, and then east to Children's Hospital. The Corridor already has more than 15,000 employees and generates \$1-billion in research.

In 2006, City Council set aside funds to produce a CD Rom of area assets to facilitate marketing efforts and begin needed area infrastructure improvements. The goal is to build upon the existing foundation to turn the Corridor into a premier international research destination. In addition to facilitating unique business partnerships, councilmembers sought the support and partnership of the three other local government jurisdictions in the Corridor area, as well as state and federal offices and agencies.

Greater Parsons Avenue Economic Vision Plan

Recognizing the need for strategic action to jump-start redevelopment in the city's South Side, councilmembers initiated the Greater Parsons Avenue Economic Vision Plan in 2005, a community-driven project aimed at pulling private and public investment together to spur growth. In the first use of Council's Jobs Growth Fund, \$80,000 was directed to creating a redevelopment strategy around South Parsons Avenue. A consultant, selected by representatives of South Side neighborhoods and the City, delivered its recommendations in April 2006. In 2007, the City will move to secure the former Techniglas site and work with a developer to convert the 48-acre site into a mixed-use project with the potential of 1,500 jobs. This site was identified as a prime candidate for redevelopment in the consultant's report.

Additional Job Creation efforts:

- The redevelopment of the RiverSouth District continued as the RiverSouth Authority used bond proceeds, previously authorized by City Council, to complete work on the old Lazarus Building and future planning for 500-700 new housing units to join the 3,500 already being developed downtown.
- Continuing the City's investment in smaller neighborhood businesses, \$468,700 from the 2006 Community Development Block Grant Fund was directed to the successful Neighborhood Commercial Revitalization Program, as well as \$464,000 for the Neighborhood Support Fund, a funding source for the development and implementation of neighborhood economic development projects, initiatives, and services.
- Working in partnership with the Columbus Regional Airport Authority and Franklin County, City Council supported efforts to create a new port authority housed at Rickenbacker to create jobs and serve the economic development interests of the area. Council matched Franklin County's \$200,000 contribution to get the port authority up and running. Able to issue debt, it will be another funding mechanism for economic development projects.
- Council established an Arts Policy Task Force, an expert panel, to conduct a comprehensive review and make recommendations for strategic policy for the City that grows and strengthens the City's and the region's vital arts communities. Particular attention is aimed at three components: creative vitality, financial sustainability, and overall public benefit. The City annually contributes over \$4 million in bed tax revenue to culture and arts. The Committee's work will not be complete until 2007.

PRIORITY: IMPROVING THE SOCIAL FABRIC

In every neighborhood, an element of safety exists that nearly equals police, fire and emergency services in importance: environmental safety - all of the issues that contribute to healthy, safe communities. In 2006, City Council continued its efforts to strengthen the environmental health of neighborhoods.

Supporting Social Service Agencies

Council's 2006 budget amendments secured funding for indirect safety programs which protect families and households. Restorations to social service programs are prime examples, with more than \$2.7 million of general fund and \$507,000 of Emergency Human Services funds directed at the access to critical life services: including childcare, senior care and housing referral, material assistance, counseling and mediation, transportation, youth programs, and treatment services.

Additional Social Fabric efforts:

- In 2006, Council added \$120,000 to the Community Shelter Board's allocation, taking it to \$2.4 million, to maintain the safety net for homeless families. Other housing programs included the Emergency Shelter Rehabilitation effort to assist homeless shelters with major repairs and equipment needs; and the Home Safe and Sound, Infill Housing Development, and Acquisition/Rehabilitation/Resale efforts expand services for seniors and residents on fixed incomes.
- Council again restored funding at \$125,000 to the Poison Control Center housed at Children's Hospital. This vital service, left unfunded by the administration, handles over 42,000 human exposure calls annually.
- In November, City Council kept its promise to voters for neighborhood capital investments, with a bond sale of nearly \$275 million. Bond proceeds funded a multitude of projects included in the 2004 voted bond package and the adopted capital improvements program.
- Council funded a \$100,000 effort entitled Access Columbus to improve access to health care for the most needy in the community. The funds helped recruit professional medical staff as volunteers.

- City Council joined in the dedication of the new, replacement Dodge recreation center downtown. At \$5.5 million, it marks the fourth multi-generational recreation center in the City system. City bonds financed the project.
- Dedicated the new recreation center in the Far North on Lazelle Road. The \$5 million, multi-generational center should serve about 20,000 area residents.
- Council continued to direct the administration with passage of the 2006 rates for water and sewer service to establish improved programs to help low-income families with water and sewer utility expenses. Financial assistance efforts include a more equitable distribution of costs, a life-line rate for low volume users, and a low-income discount program.
- Council continued its partnership with the Fisher College of Business of the Ohio State University to promote the Earned Income Tax Credit program. Council has been actively involved in this effort since 2003. In 2006 over 196 families took advantage of the Council-led effort, seeking free tax-preparation services. The program helps the low-income families make ends meet and fuels the local economy.
- Allocated over \$10.6 million in CDBG grant funds to a variety of neighborhood groups and individuals in the form of grants and loans to spur housing and job growth.

PRIORITY: MEETING THE NEEDS OF PEOPLE AND NEIGHBORHOODS

In 2006, City Council led efforts to better serve the public. It added three positions to the budget for plan review activities in the Development Department to accelerate service to the building industry, and added three code enforcement officers to help neighborhoods deal more quickly with code violators and litter issues. This action supplemented the City's continued effort to rid neighborhoods of dilapidated structures which can serve as havens for illegal activities.

Additional efforts to MEET the NEEDS of PEOPLE and NEIGHBORHOODS:

- Council enacted the City's first lobby registration law to make City government even more transparent. A web-based database enables the public to see which companies and groups are talking with Council members and on what issues.
- Work continued apace on an unprecedented cooperative accord to protect the Big Darby watershed. In 2005 Council contributed \$179,000, joining several local governments, who collectively devoted \$500,000 to develop a common vision for future development. On the heels of several prior Council efforts to protect the Big Darby and its tributaries, including imposing moratoriums on sewer and water line extensions, eight of ten political jurisdictions, including Columbus, adopted the Plan in 2006.
- Following its strong leadership with passage of the Clean Indoor Air Act in 2005 for the City of Columbus, Council helped lead the charge and endorsed State Issue Five on the November ballot, which in effect, prohibited indoor smoking throughout Ohio. The Issue passed.
- Continued to champion the installation of sidewalks throughout the City. Since 1999, Council has appropriated \$5.26 million to build 6.3 miles of walkways as part of the Sidewalks to School Project, benefiting children at 24 Columbus Public Schools.

**CITY TREASURER
2006 ANNUAL REPORT**

ANNUAL REPORT
DEPARTMENT OF CITY TREASURER
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2006

The authority and responsibilities of the City Treasurer are set forth in Sections 88 through 96 of the Charter of the City of Columbus. Section 88 specifically states that "the treasurer shall be the custodian of all money belonging to the city and subject to the provision of any trust, of all money held in trust by it".

Specific regulations concerning the deposit of public funds are contained in Chapter 321 of the Columbus City Code, while rules regarding the investment of public funds are covered under Chapter 325.

The average daily balance of investments in 2006 was \$ 943,366,053.12 with investment earning of \$ 42,562,649.89 for a yield of 4.512%. The investment balance at year end was \$1,124,171,924.59. Schedules of all investment activity for the year, and the portfolio composition as of December 31, 2006 are presented later in this report.

The City Treasurer is also responsible for the administration of the Parking Violations Bureau, this was established in March of 1983, pursuant to Ordinance 2410-82, passed on December 6, 1982. The Bureau, which is located at 400 West Whittier Street, is responsible for the issuance and collection of parking tickets, the collection of moneys from parking meters, and the the impounding and storage of vehicles. Effective January 1, 2007 the Parking Violations Bureau was transferred to the Division of Public Service.

Columbus City Treasurer's Office
Balance Sheet as of 12/31/06

ASSETS:

Cash in Banks	2,964,912.89
Cash-in-Payroll Account	382,848.84
Cash-on-Hand	175,653.63
Receivable Items	10,949.22
Sinking Fund Coupons	4,018,181.18
Returned Checks	80,203.76
Treasury Investments	1,124,171,924.59

Total Assets	\$1,131,804,674.11

LIABILITIES:

Auditor's Warrants Payable	30,432,505.54
Sinking Fund Warrants Payable	4,077,970.82
Payroll Checks Issued	382,848.84
Advance Receipts	10,060,388.99

Total Liabilities	44,953,714.19
City Fund Balance	1,086,841,980.84
Sinking Fund Balance	8,979.08

Total Fund Balances	\$1,086,850,959.92
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$1,131,804,674.11

Columbus City Treasurer
Investment Earnings
Cash Basis
1986-2006

Year	Investment Earnings
1986	\$19,973,398.79
1987	\$28,388,518.85
1988	\$22,060,069.73
1989	\$25,936,181.69
1990	\$25,462,770.85
1991	\$21,972,435.31
1992	\$14,630,762.90
1993	\$14,078,568.03
1994	\$14,407,539.40
1995	\$21,167,207.89
1996	\$24,328,056.80
1997	\$26,925,897.15
1998	\$29,599,645.25
1999	\$31,525,495.24
2000	\$36,981,982.63
2001	\$40,300,193.79
2002	\$26,027,402.32
2003	\$16,136,402.90
2004	\$10,336,025.03
2005	\$18,399,091.67
2006	\$40,591,894.60

CITY OF COLUMBUS
INVESTMENTS BY TYPE
DECEMBER 31, 2006

Type	Amount	Yield	% of Portfolio
FHLB Coupon Notes	59,820,546.72	5.11%	5.32%
FHLB Coupon Notes-Callable	272,662,004.10	5.03%	24.25%
	-----		-----
Federal Home Loan Bank	332,482,550.82		29.58%
FHLMC Coupon Notes	43,655,132.41	5.12%	3.88%
FHLMC Coupon Notes-Callable	120,492,187.25	4.96%	10.72%
FHLMC Discount Notes	4,790,252.78	4.90%	0.43%
	-----		----
-			
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.	168,937,572.44		15.03%
FNMA Coupon Notes	116,301,327.62	5.22%	10.35%
FNMA Coupon Notes-Callable	188,916,065.27	4.85%	16.80%
FNMA Discount Notes	9,685,875.00	5.19%	0.86%
	-----		-----
Federal National Mortgage Association	314,903,267.89		28.01%
U.S. Treasury Notes	4,962,952.61	5.16%	0.44%
Certificates of Deposit	120,000,000.00	5.38%	10.67%
Star Ohio	37,987,731.80	5.33%	3.38%
Bank One Bank Account	29,710,507.21	5.43%	2.64%
Huntington Account	50,564,560.99	2.25%	4.50%
Fifth Third Account	23,310,174.21	5.43%	2.07%
National City Account	19,042,484.03	5.34%	1.69%
Key Bank Account	20,433,122.59	5.44%	1.82%
Street Lighting Projects/ Brewery District	1,837,000.00	5.49%	0.16%
Total Investments	1,124,171,924.59	5.11%	100%

2006 PARKING VIOLATIONS BUREAU ANNUAL REPORT

The Columbus Parking Violations Bureau (PVB) was established in March, 1983 and is located at 400 West Whittier Street in downtown Columbus. The hours of operation are from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm Monday through Friday; 8:00 am to 7:00 pm on Saturday; and closed on Sundays. The bureau employs 37 full time employees and 1 part time employee whose main responsibilities include: parking enforcement and issuing of parking related citations; releasing impounded vehicles; parking meter collections; residential parking permit sales; and all related cashing and accounting functions for parking citations and the Division of Police Impound Lot operation. The PVB provides a central location for citizens to pay their parking tickets; file a complaint about a parking violation; request, and attend, an adjudication hearing for a parking violation; report a broken parking meter; discuss a parking violation; and retrieve impounded vehicles.

The Parking Violations Bureau maintains all parking violation tickets issued by an in-house staff, as well as, the Columbus Division of Police officers. The PVB also provides and maintains an on-line inquiry and payment system for fast response to the public's needs and wants at www.columbuspvb.com.

The Parking Violations Bureau successfully employs a vigorous program of noticing to encourage prompt payments by violators, as evidenced by an 89% collection rate. The bureau has partnered with the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles DETER program in applying license and registration holds for delinquent violators. In 2006, the PVB collected \$442,430 as a result of this program.

In 2006, the PVB's electronic payment system brought in a record \$1,933,334 from its pay-by-web and pay-by-phone systems from over 47,200 transactions. This represents 36% of all ticket payments received for the year. Over 8,100 emails were received and answered for the year. The parking enforcement officer's electronic hand held ticket writing computers helped identify, and cause for the subsequent impoundment of, 392 scofflaw vehicles (chronic repeat parking violators with large outstanding debts to the City).

For 2006, the PVB and Division of Police issued 175,682 parking related citations. The PVB employees accounted for over 86% of this issuance. Revenues in 2006 were as follows: \$5,338,461 from parking citations; \$3,183,202 from impound and storage fees; \$3,162,050 from parking meter revenue; \$100,565 from residential parking permits; \$21,752 from parking meter debit card sales; and \$850 from returned check fees for a grand total of \$11,806,880 deposited into the City's General Fund.

There were 1,632 adjudication hearings held at the PVB in 2006, with 927 violations being upheld and 705 being dismissed.

Finally, in 2006, the City hired an architect and engineering firm to start the process of relocating the PVB and the Division of Police Impound Lot from their Whittier Street Peninsula address to make room for a Columbus Metro Park and for other economic development of the site.

**CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
2006 ANNUAL REPORT**

Columbus City Attorney
2006 Annual Report
Richard C. Pfeiffer, Jr. – Columbus City Attorney
www.columbuscityattorney.org

During calendar year 2006 the Columbus City Attorney employed on a daily average 30 part-time employees and 124 full-time persons, 58 of whom were attorneys. The office's operations were funded from the general fund, land acquisition fund and grant funds. The combined total expended from these funds was \$11,206,953.

Civil Division – Business & Regulations Section
Daniel W. Drake, Chief Counsel and Section Chief

This section serves the function of general counsel to the City's elected officials and administrative offices, as well as to the Franklin County Municipal Court and the Clerk of that Court. Daily the eight attorneys in the office field requests for advice and counsel. In addition the office reviews as to form all legislation that goes before City Council, and reviews all contracts entered into by the City. This section reviewed 2,509 ordinances and resolutions that were considered by Columbus City Council and reviewed 5,019 contracts for various City Departments. Additionally this section worked with the Department of Development on various economic development agreements.

Civil Division – Labor & Employment
Sherrie Passmore, Section Chief

Following the November 7, 2006 General Election victory of Richard A. Cordray as Treasurer of the State of Ohio, Ms. Passmore moved over to Mr. Cordray's office. In January 2007 Pamela J. Gordon was appointed Section Chief.

This section handles all labor and employment-related litigation involving the City and daily renders legal advice to City administrators on labor and employment matters. At the beginning of 2006 the attorneys in this section were handling one hundred, twenty two litigation matters. Over the course of the year one hundred, eight new lawsuits and/or administrative charges were filed against the City. One hundred cases were closed out during 2006 by this section.

Civil Division – Litigation Section
Glenn B. Redick, Chief

This section deals with those litigation matters where the City and/or its employees are named as a defendant and monetary damages are sought. In 2006 there were forty-seven new lawsuits filed against the City and its employees, requesting a total of over \$21

million in damages. Fifty-six cases were resolved during 2006 in which over \$189 million in damages had been demanded. Of the fifty-six, eighteen were resolved by settlements, two were won at trial, five were dismissed on summary judgment and thirty-one were dismissed in favor of the City by way of motions, affirmations by an appellate court or some other dispositive manner. In 2006 the City paid out just over \$865 million to resolve litigation matters. As of the end of 2006, ninety active litigation cases were pending in this section.

Claims Division

Nancy L. Weidman, Division Chief

This division is responsible for the collection of delinquent debt owed to the City and for the investigation and payment of personal injury and property damage claims for and against the City. In 2006 this division's personnel filed 1,293 tax collection cases and collected \$1,445,641.42 in delinquent city income taxes. This personnel also filed one hundred twenty-seven non-tax cases and collected \$192,209.58 in non-tax monies owed the City. The division's collaboration with two outside collection agencies resulted in 2006 with the collection of an additional \$812,093.18 in delinquent income taxes and the collection of \$53,128.07 in other monies owed to the City.

Considering the subject of claims against the City, the division is the second tier of claims investigation. City departments and agencies handle claims against them that do not exceed \$2,500. This division handles claims above that amount. In 2006 there were fifty-three claims against the City in amounts in excess of \$2,500. During 2006 thirty-five such claims were settled, nine were denied and two resulted in lawsuits when settlements could not be achieved. In total the Division paid \$283,817 on behalf of the City to settle property damage of personal injury claims, an average of \$8,109.05 per claim.

Police Legal Advisor's Office

Jeffrey S. Furbee, Chief

This three-attorney-one-support staff office is housed within the Division of Police's Central Headquarters. The attorneys are on call seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day answering legal questions that arise from the patrol officers working the streets, and during regular working hours, from the various other officers who have other duties. The office, with assistance from others within the City Attorney's office, provides the legal training to all police recruit classes. With regularity this office publishes Legal Updates that keep officers current on developments in the law that affect what police officers do. The attorneys in this office also provide Roll Call training and go out to precincts during roll calls.

Real Estate Division

John C. Klein, III, Chief Real Estate Attorney

This division handled twenty-five acquisition projects for the Departments of Public Service, Utilities and Development involving 302 parcels of real estate. Additionally, the division processed 480 parcels arising from either donations or other acquisitions. Major negotiations and acquisitions included the purchase of 1111 East Broad Street for \$5,150,00, the former Columbus Coated Fabric property on East Fifth Avenue for \$385,000, the purchase of twelve parcels on Parsons Avenue near the former Schottenstein store for \$1,361,000, a maintenance facility for the Department of Public Utilities' Water Division for \$800,00 and ten acres for a major storm water retention area off Brice Road for \$1,301,000.

Prosecutor Division

Stephen L. McIntosh, Chief Prosecutor

This division is responsible for the prosecution of criminal misdemeanor offenses in the Franklin County Municipal Court. In addition to prosecuting offenses initiated by the City of Columbus, this division, through contractual agreements, prosecutes on behalf of fifteen additional Franklin County political subdivisions. Within this division are several sections.

At the November 7, 2006 General Election Mr. McIntosh was elected to the General Division of the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas. In January 2007 Lara N. Baker was appointed Chief Prosecutor.

Prosecutor Division – Trial Staff

Lara N. Baker, Chief Counsel, Prosecutor Division

This staff is responsible for the management of cases in the fifteen municipal court rooms and the two criminal arraignment courtrooms that are in the Franklin County Municipal Court building. In 2006 a total of 145,505 criminal misdemeanor cases were handled in that Court. When a judge sits in her or his courtroom on an assigned criminal docket day, on an average there are between forty-eight and fifty-two cases to be prosecuted. On occasion that number has been as high as one hundred, twenty-seven, with the number being in the sixties on a frequent basis.

In an effort to provide earlier resolution of cases, the division began in 2006 to assign a permanent prosecutor to the criminal arraignment courtroom (4-C) where defendants appear on a summons. Because of the skill and experience of the assistant prosecutor assigned, Robert B. Levering, 24% of the 4,328 Operating a Vehicle While Under the Influence were resolved at the first court date. Other efficiencies are also occurring with other charges.

In the two traffic arraignment courtrooms (1-A and 1-B), which are staffed by law clerks under the direction of the attorney who leads the Appellate Unit, on a daily average 153 defendants appear, and approximately 49% of these cases are being resolved at arraignment.

Prosecutor Division – Intake Unit

Bill R. Hedrick, Director

This unit interviews persons who believe they may be the victim of a crime. The unit evaluates whether there is sufficient evidence to file charges, to recommend mediation or to resolve in some other way. In 2006 this unit evaluated 6,624 complaints that resulted in the filing of 1,930 criminal charges. This unit also assisted 401 citizens in the clearing of criminal records which resulted from someone having stolen their identities.

Prosecutor Division – Night Prosecution Mediation Program

Richard Ortiz, Coordinator

This program operated five nights a week with eight contract mediators mediating 319 matters out of 459 that were referred to mediation. 277 of the 319 were resolved with an agreement.

Prosecutor Division – Check Resolution Program

Barbara Williams, Coordinator

This program is designed to divert cases from the criminal justice system through mediation. In 2006 there were 26,146 hearings scheduled for cases where checks totaling \$1,589,505.74 were dishonored for insufficient funds. As a result of those mediations, the merchants who accepted checks that were at first dishonored, recovered \$598,291.76. 869 criminal complaints were filed, diverting 25,277 from the criminal justice system.

Prosecutor Division – Domestic Violence/Stalking Unit

David Coleman, Director

This unit consists of a director, scheduling coordinator, four specialized prosecutors, eighteen victim advocates, three support staff and liaisons from CHOICES, Franklin County Children Services, Southeast Mental Health, Inc., the Legal Aid Society of Columbus, and Capital University Law School's Family Advocacy Clinic.

In 2006 this unit provided advocacy services for 4,143 victims. 724 protection orders were issued and 4491 cases of domestic violence were prosecuted, 2713 by the four specialized prosecutors and the balance by the general trial staff prosecutors.

Prosecutor Division – Appellate Unit
Matthew A. Kanai, Director

This unit completed thirty-two briefs (twenty-six filed in 10th District Court of Appeals, five contra certiorari in the Ohio Supreme Court and one in opposition of certiorari in the United States Supreme Court) and made twenty-nine oral arguments before appellate courts. Of the thirty decisions that were rendered or where cases were terminated in 2006, the City's position prevailed in three Ohio Supreme Court matters where the City urged denial of certiorari, the City won twenty-four appellate arguments in the 10th District Court of Appeals, the City sustained two substantive losses in the 10th District and made one concession.

The law clerk staff of this unit responded to 2,160 motions filed on behalf of defendants. This staff also conducted traffic arraignments as described earlier.

Nuisance Abatement Team

In 2006 the City Attorney reorganized what was once referred to as the Environmental Section into a new unit called the Nuisance Abatement Team. This unit focused on aggressively addressing the reality that the City has many vacant and abandoned residential structures. It also addressed problem bars, carry-outs and "boot joints." Working closely with police, fire, health, code officers and liquor control, this unit has succeeded in closing several problem establishments, one of the most visible being a problem carry out behind Columbus South High School. A total of one hundred seventy-five complaints for injunctive relief were filed in the Environmental Division of the Franklin County Municipal Court. Additionally, seven-hundred twenty criminal complaints were filed, and three hundred fifty seven Prosecutor Letters (last warning letters to seek compliance) were sent resulting in one hundred forty-two orders being complied.

Submitted March 30, 2007
Richard C. Pfeiffer, Jr. – Columbus City Attorney
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www.columbuscityattorney.org

**CITY AUDITOR
2006 ANNUAL REPORT**



HUGH J. DORRIAN

CITY AUDITOR

614 / 645-7615

City of Columbus
OHIO

90 WEST BROAD STREET
COLUMBUS, OH 43215

ROBERT L. MCDANIEL

DEPUTY CITY AUDITOR

FAX: 614 / 645-8444

March 12, 2007

Mr. Michael Mentel
President
City Council
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear President Mentel:

Submitted herewith is the annual report of the Department of City Auditor, City of Columbus, Ohio, in accordance with Section 231 of the Columbus City Charter for calendar year 2006.

The Auditor is the City's chief accounting officer. He keeps in accurate, systematized detail, a record of the receipts, disbursements, assets and liabilities of the City and presents such facts periodically to officials and to the public in summaries and analytical schedules as prescribed in the City's charter.

An independent audit is conducted of the City and its chief accounting officer. This audit for 2006 is now in progress. An annual financial report of the total City for the year ended December 31, 2006 containing the independent auditor's report will be issued on or about May 16, 2007.

The following report simply details certain data applicable to the Department of City Auditor, Accounting and Reporting Division 22-01. A separate report will be filed with the Council by the Department of City Auditor, Division of Income Tax 22-02.

Very truly yours,

Hugh J. Dorrian
City Auditor

HJD/rlm
Enclosure

City of Columbus, Ohio
 Department of City Auditor
 Division 22-01
 Years ending December 31

Total Expenditures

	<u>2006</u>
Personal service	\$ 2,384,339
Materials and supplies	50,390
Services	1,776,704
Other disbursements	-
Capital outlay	-
	<u> </u>
	<u>\$ 4,211,433</u>

Hotel-Motel Tax Collections

Chapter 371 of the City Code provides for the collection of an excise tax on transient lodging accommodations. The City Auditor administers the collection of the tax. The following table shows the gross receipts of the last ten years.

(in thousands)

2006	\$13,948	2001	11,140
2005	13,073	2000	11,426
2004	11,731	1999	10,841
2003	11,441	1998	10,275
2002	11,046	1997	9,571

Miscellaneous Data

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Vouchers paid	98,985	90,255	88,071	106,083	97,500
Receiving warrants written	7,915	7,695	7,249	6,926	6,560
Disbursing warrants written	77,345	77,133	72,356	74,330	79,384
Funds and sub-funds accounted for:					
General	7	6	5	4	4
Special Revenue	46	44	43	44	40
Trust & Agency	19	19	19	19	19
Debt Service	15	19	15	14	11
Internal Service	6	6	7	7	7
Capital Projects	37	33	33	29	31
Enterprise	42	34	40	40	38
	<u> </u>				
Total	<u>172</u>	<u>161</u>	<u>162</u>	<u>157</u>	<u>150</u>

2006 ANNUAL REPORT COLUMBUS INCOME TAX DIVISION

The Columbus Income Tax Division is charged with the collection, audit, and enforcement of the 2.0% municipal income tax pursuant to Chapter 361 of the Columbus City Codes.

Financial data contained in this report reflects actual collections, refunds, etc., as recorded by the Income Tax Division of the City of Columbus. Such data may vary from that contained in the Auditor's official fund accounting records due to the normal time requirements for processing documents prior to being recorded with the City Auditor. A reconciliation of the data appears below.

The following is a report of Columbus income tax collections for 2006:

Gross collections in 2006 via Income Tax Division	\$519,706,132
Transfers to other cities	(558,651)
Collections in transit 12/31/2005	+ 1,077,776
Collections in transit 12/31/2006	(2,622,065)
Refunds paid in 2006	<u>(15,553,550)</u>
Income tax revenues (budgetary basis per Auditor's annual report)	<u>\$502,049,642</u>

The funds collected from the tax are allocated for municipal purposes as set forth in Chapter 361.36 of Columbus City Codes.

The Columbus Income Tax ordinance provides that 25% of the total collection of income tax to be set-aside for the payment of principal and interest on bonds and notes issued by the City. The remainder provides the General Fund with its major source of revenue.

Withholding accounts made up	82.8% of the total tax revenue for Columbus in 2006.
Business accounts made up	12.5% of the total tax revenue for Columbus in 2006.
Individual accounts made up	4.7% of the total tax revenue for Columbus in 2006.

By contract, this Division administered the collection of the municipal income tax for the following municipalities in 2006: Brice, Canal Winchester, Groveport, Harrisburg,

Lithopolis, Marble Cliff, and Obetz. For the administrative service of collecting the income taxes for these suburbs, Columbus General Fund received collection fees based on the gross income tax collections for each of these communities. Fees collected during 2006 for administering the income tax collections of the administered suburbs amounted to \$338,157.00. This is to be compared to \$294,779.00 in fees collected in 2005. The collection fees charged to the suburbs are based on a four-part formula that is specifically designed to recover only the cost of administering the tax.

The total expenditure to operate the Income Tax Division during 2006 was \$6,653,298.78. This includes salaries, fringes, income tax forms, new equipment, and miscellaneous supplies including postage. This represents administrative service for income tax collection for Columbus and seven satellite communities. The authorized strength of the Income Tax Division in 2006 was 82 full-time and 1 part-time employees.

City Income Tax receipts processed in 2006 through the Delinquent Section amounted to \$7,429,195.29. This amount included delinquent tax, penalty and interest charges for Columbus and all administered cities.

During 2006, the Income Tax Division referred 1,608 cases to the City Attorney's office for filing civil suits on delinquent assessments totaling \$4,873,071.00.

On December 31, 2006 the Division had 651,547 accounts on its tax files. This total is comprised of 559,039 "Direct" and 92,508 "Withholding" accounts.

	ACTIVE	INACTIVE		
CORPORATE	18,085	50,007		
FIDUCIARY	255	1,749		
INDIVIDUAL	44,916	404,514		
PARTNERSHIP	0	4,848	Required to file as entities.	
ENTITY/PRTSHIP	7,286	12,765		
COURTESY	-0-	14,614		
TOTAL – DIRECT	70,542	488,497	TOTAL	559,039
- WITHHOLDING	21,609	70,899	TOTAL	92,508
GRAND TOTAL	92,151	559,396	TOTAL	651,547

The total number of accounts on the tax database increased by 25,922 in 2006.

Submitted by: Melinda J Frank
Income Tax Division Administrator

MJF/MDJ

**MAYOR'S OFFICE
2006 ANNUAL REPORT**

Mayor Coleman's Office 2006 Annual Report

The City of Columbus continues to grow and thrive, recovering successfully from the economic downturn of a few years ago while continuing to invest in top-quality neighborhood services under the direction of Mayor Michael B. Coleman. 2006 saw continued economic improvement both in cutting spending and increases to revenue, and continued momentum for initiatives to increase the quality of life, add affordable housing stock, build neighborhood pride, leverage regional planning and economic development, and ensure public safety. A series of national rankings released in 2006 continue to support our success, including the ranking by CNN and Money Magazine placing Columbus as one of the nation's top 10 places to live and work, and the nation's safest big city.

By building partnerships with City Council, the Franklin County Commissioners, residents, neighborhood associations and local businesses, Mayor Coleman moved forward his agenda of neighborhood improvement in 2006 with specific results.

While economic challenges continue to face Ohio, Columbus is still the state's economic power. Mayor Coleman's fiscal restraint has included cuts of more than \$190 million from continuation levels in the City budget. Significant cuts were made to all City Departments except Public Safety in recent year, but largely without reducing essential neighborhood services. Despite cuts in many areas, the 2007 Budget is once again balanced and ensures the continued delivery of key services, and funds new recruit classes in the Divisions of Police and Fire.

Major initiatives continue, including: Neighborhood Pride, which has now helped clean up 48 areas, the Columbus Franklin County Affordable Housing Trust, which has helped drive construction for thousands of new units, improvements to the Morse Road Corridor's infrastructure and on-going redevelopment of the Northland Mall site, a neighborhood improvement plan for the Hilltop, King Lincoln District and South Parson's Avenue, the Downtown Business Plan, and on-going investment in efforts to improve pedestrian safety. The Mayor's Get Green Columbus campaign, Anti-Gang and Summer Strike Force Initiatives all continued to work toward their goals as well.

In 2006, the Mayor also set forth several new initiatives, including a partnership with the Columbus Chamber, Experience Columbus, GCAC and others to attract and retain young professionals for the workforce, a program with Franklin County to employ more than 1,200 youth in summer jobs, and a focused effort to address vacant and abandoned housing called HOME AGAIN, which included a \$25 million commitment over six years to address 1,000 blighted properties.

The Office of the Mayor continues to implement innovative new policies to ensure sustainable growth in the future. This includes the implementation of the Darby Accord, the Inward Growth strategies and the Pay As We Grow strategy, to ensure that Columbus and private partners are investing in quality neighborhood amenities as the area is developed, not later. These policies were put in place as the City and region prepare for continued population growth, predicted to be more than 400,000 additional residents by 2025. By establishing growth plans and early investment standards requiring private development to fund critical infrastructure needs, the City will protect

the endangered Darby Watershed, continue to improve the quality of life in urban neighborhoods and reduce the burden on the existing capital budget to ensure that new growth areas don't monopolize investment instead of older neighborhoods. The Pay as You Grow policies will allow new neighborhoods to be built at the same time as needed infrastructure of roads, schools, parks and safety services are developed. The policy will also ensure that all parties in the new development pay their fair share for the cost of the infrastructure and City operations.

The City has also entered into a historic partnership with Whitehall and Gahanna to create an economic cooperation district around Port Columbus International, where some 400 acres of land could be redeveloped to build the region's economy. The City continues to work with the jurisdictions of Pickaway County and Harrison Township, to create a Joint Economic Development District and facilitate the growth of logistics and distribution companies around the Rickenbacker Airport. These partners and the Federal Government are helping build the Advanced Logistics Hub which will help position Columbus and Central Ohio as one of the world's leading sites for the distribution of goods, and allow for the creation of 69,000 jobs.

Responsible budgeting, neighborhood investment and regional cooperation are all important to ensure the future success of Columbus. The Mayor's commitment to partnerships and sound policies will allow for Columbus to continue its stable and sustainable growth and will ensure that the City can protect the quality of life that has earned the community a national reputation.

(mbrown)

**MAYOR'S OFFICE OF EDUCATION
2006 ANNUAL REPORT**

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Mayor's Office of Education 2006 Report

Capital Kids Accomplishments

The Mayor's Office of Education operated the four original Capital Kids programs at four recreation centers (one on each side of Columbus); Sawyer, Sullivant, Fedderson, and Marion Franklin. The maximum capacity for each site during the school year is 35 students per site. We were proud that parents found the program worthwhile and all four sites operated at maximum capacity. Additionally, one site won the Hannah Dillard Award for excellence in after school programming. Capital Kids is proud to partner in after school with Girl Scouts, the Columbus Health Department's YES program, Children's Hunger Alliance, Mid-Ohio Food Bank, Columbus Fire Department, Lowe's, the Columbus Foundation, Limited Brands, and a host of other donors and providers.

With the assistance of an evaluator, the students, parents, teachers, staff and site directors participated in a comprehensive evaluation of each site. As part of the evaluation, a data base was developed that will enable us to have a snapshot view of the overall success of the program as well as the individual success of the students enrolled. An electronic version of the evaluation is available for public perusal.

In addition to the school year program, each Capital Kids site operated a six week summer program, and again each site served 35 students during the summer months.

As has long been the responsibility of the OOE, we provided after school funding to approximately 15 agencies in the Columbus community. This afforded those agencies to serve more than 500 unduplicated students during the school year. In addition to several agencies that have been funded since the inception of the OOE, we also expanded our funding to include a few new agencies that provide valuable after school programs for youth.

Columbus/Franklin County Youth Works

In collaboration with the City of Columbus (headed up by the Mayor and Council members Boyce and Hudson), Franklin County (supported by FCDJFS and the County Commissioners), and the Central Ohio Workforce Investment Corporation (COWIC), the OOE created the Columbus/Franklin County Youth Works program (CFCYW), which was a summer youth employment program serving youth between the ages of 14 – 18. Using two temporary coordinators and 23 part-time temporary supervisors, we served 1082 youth. The youth were employed in the private, public and non-profit sectors in 142 locations across the City. They were paid \$6.50 per hour and worked 20 hours per week for eight weeks.

As part of CFCYW, we were able to use the CDBG funds that were allocated in the amount of \$155,287 to employ 102 youth on the City's Clean Teams. Further we employed a part-time coordinator and ten supervisors. The students were employed for the same length of time as the other CFCYW students for the same rate of pay. Essentially, we increased the number of students employed by 47, expanded the rate of pay by \$.50 per hour and extended the length of work time by 2 weeks for the exact amount of money that had been allocated in previous years. The student evaluations for the Clean Teams were very positive.



City Student Tech Corps

In partnership with Tech Corps Ohio and with generous financial support from the FCDJFS, the OOE piloted the City Student Tech Corp program from February – August , 2006. Initially, we enrolled 100 high school students in a technology based program. Each student was required to attend session one day per week. For class attendance, they received a stipend of \$7 per hour. Those students who completed the program with 90% attendance received a completion stipend of \$250 and summer employment. Of those students enrolled 84% of the students completed the program and 82% were placed in technology jobs for the summer. Council member Mary Jo Hudson was the commencement speaker for the program. Due to the success of the pilot program, we were awarded funds to conduct the program for the 2006-07 academic year and the summer of 2007.

Columbus Youth Commission (CYC)

The Columbus Youth Commission lost it's longtime coordinator, Heidi Yoakum in September, 2006. Upon the announcement of her resignation, Council member Boyce, in consultation with Mayor Coleman, moved the Columbus Youth Commission from the Community Relations Commission to the Office of Education in October 2006. After an extensive search that had more than 250 applicants, in direct consultation with Council member Boyce and the Youth Commissioners, we hired a new Coordinator in mid-December. Charity Martin-Via assumed the coordinator position in January 2007. Under the leadership of the Director of Education, the Youth Commission is moving to model its structure after the Area Commission model. The coordinator has been meeting with Area Commissions to discuss having a young person for their areas represent each Commission on the Youth Commission and having that same young person be a representative to the Area Commission.

Other OOE Accomplishments

- Launched “Education Is Everybody’s Business” in June 2006 on GTC-3
- Diane Berinato chaired oratorical contest for NMA
- Director represented the City of Columbus as a speaker in 13 schools, and at six programs/conferences
-

**CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
2006 ANNUAL REPORT**

Civil Service Commission - 2006 Report to Columbus City Council

The Columbus Covenant identifies peak performance as one of its seven goals. The Civil Service Commission plays an integral role in helping the City achieve the peak performance goal for its over 8,000 full-time employees. City employees serve the public in a wide variety of jobs, such as refuse collectors, public health nurses, and sewer maintenance workers. Other City employees work in jobs as customer service representatives and water plant operators. Still other employees provide the support that keeps the front-line workers moving. These jobs include computer operators, accountants, and office assistants. For about 97 percent of all City jobs, the Civil Service Commission reviews and assesses the qualifications of applicants to help ensure they are capable of delivering quality services to the public. The more competent the workforce, the greater the quantity and quality of services that can be provided to the public with the same tax dollars.

Recruitment

The City's primary recruitment tool is an automated job interest database. This service can be utilized over the Internet at the Commission's website, by mail, or in person at the Commission offices. A potential applicant can indicate an interest in a particular job and when the City is taking applications for that job, the applicant receives a notification to apply. During 2006, 95 percent of these requests for service were filed using the Internet. The Commission website also provides applicants comprehensive access to City of Columbus job information including current vacancies, job descriptions, qualification requirements, and salary information. During 2006, the Commission received over 24,000 job interest forms that triggered the mailing of over 19,000 notices of either job vacancies or testing opportunities to potential applicants. More than 19,000 applications for vacant City jobs were filed with the Commission during the year; over 14,000 of these were filed through the website.

Applicant Testing

One of the primary ways the Commission supports the peak performance goal is to administer the City's competitive testing system. For approximately 43 percent of the City's job classifications (276 of 635 job classes), the Commission staff develops and administers exams designed to measure important knowledge, skills, and abilities needed for successful job performance. These tests are conducted at the Commission's testing centers, one located downtown at the Commission offices and the other at the City's Piedmont facility. By testing, applicants compete for jobs by demonstrating their qualifications through performance tests, written tests, training and experience assessments, and other ways. This system guarantees the public access to City jobs and ensures tax dollars are spent hiring highly, rather than marginally, qualified employees.

The current practice for most jobs is to conduct a test when there is a vacancy. This practice provides better service to applicants who are not wasting time testing when there are no vacancies. It provides better service to the departments as they can recruit from the current labor pool. The overall result of the testing system is that the City can more easily hire the highest qualified applicants available to serve the public and meet its peak performance goal.

During 2006, 89 tests were completed, including 16 promotional exams and 3 qualifying exams. Additionally, the Commission conducted qualification reviews for noncompetitive vacancies. The names of 653 applicants were certified, resulting in 569 such appointments.

At the end of 2006, less than one percent of all full-time City employees held provisional status in their job classification. The number of full-time provisional employees dropped from 2,240 in 1990 down to 14 in 2006.

Class Plan Maintenance

The Civil Service Commission maintains the City's class plan to provide a sound structural framework for all personnel actions, including an equitable compensation plan. The Commission's five-year review standard for City job classes means that if the Commission, during the preceding five years, reviewed all the City job classifications, the class plan would be considered up-to-date. Regular class plan reviews and revisions are necessary to make the classifications consistent with ever-changing technology and the needs of the City agencies.

During 2006 the Commission took action on 246 job classifications, including making 122 revisions, 21 creations, 29 abolishments, and 73 reviews with no change. These efforts brought the total number of classes in the City's class plan to 635. Further, 100 percent of the City's classes were current at year end using the five-year standard.

Related to its classification responsibilities, the Commission also conducts job audits. The purpose of these audits is to ensure that City employees are performing the duties for which they were hired and are being compensated. During 2006, the staff completed 20 job audits. Seven of the audits resulted in a determination that no change was warranted. Thirteen resulted in a determination the position required a reallocation or appropriate duties needed to be reassigned to the position. In addition, another forty positions were randomly reviewed and were determined to be properly classified.

Payroll and Personnel Actions

Another City Charter responsibility conferred upon the Commission is the monitoring and certification of the entire bi-weekly City payroll. This means that no City employee can be paid until the Commission certifies that the individual was hired and continues to be employed in accordance with the Charter and Civil Service Commission Rules. The monitoring process includes verifying personnel transactions such as appointments, changes in pay status, leaves of absences, and residency compliance. During 2006, the Commission processed an average of 1,400 transactions per month before the payroll was certified as correct and paychecks issued.

Over the course of the year, the City hired 1,112 new employees, 474 in full-time and 638 in part-time positions. A total of 236 City employees received upgrades or promotions during the year. Employee separations totaled 570, which included 420 resignations and 85 retirements.

Columbus Public Schools

In addition to overseeing the classified service of the City, the Ohio Revised Code provides that the Commission oversees the approximately 2,000 employees in the classified service of the Columbus Board of Education. As of December, there were 171 job classes in the Columbus Public Schools class plan. During the course of the year, the Commission created two new job classifications and approved recommendations for revisions to three classification specifications.

Civil Service Commissioners

The City Charter provides that the Mayor, with the approval of City Council, appoint the three Civil Service Commissioners. It is their responsibility to establish the rules that govern the selection, classification, promotion and termination of the classified employees of the City of Columbus and the Columbus Public Schools. During 2006, the Commission ruled on applicant appeals, heard employee disciplinary appeals, amended Commission Rules and Regulations and responded to personnel requests from department directors, elected City officials and the school board.

Throughout 2006, the full Commission held 15 public meetings, including 12 regular meetings and 3 special meetings. Additionally, one Commissioner and two Civil Service staff members held 10 trial board sessions to hear disciplinary appeals. On 3 occasions, a Commission staff member served as a hearing officer to investigate test security issues or other matters.

With respect to the Commission's docket, a total of 29 disciplinary appeals and 44 non-disciplinary appeals were filed during the year. The Commission ruled on 26 disciplinary and 40 non-disciplinary appeals. Additionally during the year applicants removed from eligibility lists as a result of background checks filed 225 new requests for administrative reviews. The Commission ruled on 229 administrative reviews, reinstating 96 applicants and denying 133 requests.

Civil Service Commissioners:

Priscilla R. Tyson, President

(Reappointed 2004, term expires 2010.)

Grady L. Pettigrew, III, Member

(Reappointed 2006, term expires 2012.)

Eileen Y. Paley, Member

(Appointed March 9, 2005, term expires 2008.)

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION
2006 ANNUAL REPORT**

2006 Annual Report

City of Columbus
Community Relations Commission
90 West Broad Street, Rm. 101
Columbus, Ohio 43215

(614) 645 – 1993

James L. Stowe, Executive Director

Nancy Collier, Chair

Building A Community For All

INTRODUCTION

Mayor Michael B. Coleman, City Council Members, and the citizens and residents of the City of Columbus, please accept this document as the official Community Relations Commission's 2006 Annual Report. During 2006, the Commission diligently worked to "Build A Community for All." Key program and activity highlights to help accomplish this included, the MLK program and March, Holocaust Remembrance Observance, Columbus African Cup and Festival and the Mayor Annual Community Prayer Luncheon. We believe that enhancing community relations and working to eliminate discrimination and prejudice through diversity education/training programs are the foundation for "Building a Community for All."

This report is divided into eight sections. Each section provides a description of activities performed by either an individual staff member or the staff as a whole.

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DIVERSITY EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The goal of CRC diversity education and training is to develop diversity awareness and appreciation among the residents of the City of Columbus. Appreciation and understanding of diversity will enhance community relations and help people to gain a better understanding of different cultures, faiths and lifestyles. Organizations and agencies that participated in CRC diversity education/training in 2006 included:

Columbus Fire Department, Columbus Health Department, Columbus Housing Division, Columbus Police Department Recruit Training, Columbus Recreation and Parks, Citywide training for all new hires through the City Human Resources Department, Ohio Department of Health, Net Care Inc., Hilliard City Schools (fee for service), United Way of Central Ohio
West Side Child Care

Successes - Reaching a variety of departments within City government and creating a consistency of approach in managing diversity as a customer service enhancement. Significant cost savings to the city in saved outsourcing fees.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS and COMMUNITY OUTREACH EFFORTS

- Provided outreach for all quadrants of the City of Columbus, complaints and disagreements among neighbors, homeless persons, immigrants/refugees, any resident needing linkage to city services and referrals to social service agencies, disputing organizations and businesses, libraries, churches, synagogues, temples and mosques. Provide diversity tours of Columbus for individuals and organizations upon request.
- Provided outreach to Columbus Jewish Federation and Holocaust Education Council, as curator and maintainer of Front Street Gallery and Cultural Display
- Coordinated several Public Educational Forums (Freedom of Speech, Freedom of the Press, and Eminent Domain) which were broadcast on GTC-3 TV.
- Coordinated Martin Luther King Day March and Celebration at Veteran's Memorial, provided Santa and 1000 pounds of candy for the Franklinton holiday parade.
- 7 Good Neighbor Agreements

- Society of Government Management Professionals, SGMP, Coordinated area hotels giving donations to those in need
- Participated in or provided coordination assistance for events & festivals: Gates Avenue Church El Día Los Niños, Hot Times Festival, Gladden Community House Christmas, Franklinton Board of Trade Auction, St. John's Christmas Homeless Lunch, Victim's Awareness, Santa in Franklinton
- Represented CRC on LEON (Latino Empowerment Outreach Network), SGMP (Society of Government Management Professionals) & Chair of Outreach Project, Clear Channel Advisory Board, Capital Area Humane Society, Celebrity Chief event, St. Patrick's Day Parade
- Coordinated CRC eNewsletter.
- Collaboration with Police and Fire presenting the ABC's of CPD and CFD to enhance communication and understanding of safety services and the communities they serve.

Successes - Set the groundwork to generate revenue for diversity trainings conducted by CRC.

Challenges - Providing outreach to all quadrants of the city. Providing new and updated training information and techniques without budgeted dollars for staff development, as well as keeping pace with culture training requests, due to the growing diversity in our community.

DISCRIMINATION INVESTIGATIONS and CASE SUMMARIES

The Community Relations Commission is charged with the enforcement of City Code 2331 regarding prohibition of discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, interfering with civil rights and ethnic intimidation. Protected classes under the City Code are race, color, religion, sexual orientation, ancestry and national origin. Below is a summary of the case management of the CRC for 2006 from approximately 418 inquiries/contacts.

- Total Perfected Complaints 29
- Opened Cases 13
- Closed Cases 09

Case Categories

- Race 16 (some in conjunction with other charges)
- Sexual Orientation 10
- Sex 05
- Religion 01
- National Origin 02
- Retaliation 05 (in conjunction with other charges)
- Racial Profiling 04
- Color 02
- Sexual harassment 00

Successes – Continued effort to change City Code to include disability and familial status as protected classes. Seeking substantial equivalency with federal standards in order to seek reimbursement for processing HUD fair housing cases.

Challenges – Inability for the current Commission process to assist individuals who have been discriminated against due to a disability and familial status. Procedural policy clarification on police cases needed from administration.

COLUMBUS YOUTH COMMISSION

The Columbus Youth Commission (YC) youth-in-government program provides a formal opportunity for substantive youth input into City of Columbus policies and decisions affecting youth and civic leadership development. 21 youth & young adults, ages 13-21, serve as Youth Commissioners. The YC is youth-driven and guided by one staff person and a 9-member Adult Advisory Board. The Youth Commission component of the CRC was formally moved under the auspices of the Office of Education in October 2006.

Highlights:

- 5th Annual MLK Youth Oratorical Contest – planned and implemented as part of the King Arts Complex MLK Holiday Open House event. 34 youth entered and over 300 people experienced the contest (1/17)

MAYOR'S NEW AMERICANS INITIATIVE

Program Goal

Provide coordination of resources with the City, County, State, and community in a culturally sensitive manner and to address the needs of our growing immigrant and refugee populations and maximize the impact of existing City of Columbus and Franklin County services. Working together as one Columbus, we can help empower new arrivals toward self-sufficiency and transition our city into a world community. This is the Columbus Way.

Objectives

- Increase awareness and promote understanding of diverse cultural and linguistic communities across the City of Columbus
- Educate New Americans about accessing City Services
- Provide coordination for Quality of Life Issues to include transportation, housing, employment, health, education, and language (LEP)
- Establish community plan for peak performance service delivery.
- Enhance the promotion of existing education and social activities that foster greater appreciation of diverse cultures.
- Develop and publish a civic guide for mainstream community, in general, and the immigrant/refugee communities, in particular.
- Organize a New American business forum in order to increase New American business participation in the City bidding process.
- Create and develop Emergency Management Response Special Needs Advisory Board
- Create Somali Health Task Force, with emphasis on TB.
- Establish New American professional Development program and create a resume bank to enhance job opportunities for new American populations.
- Organize and support New American festivals.

CRC PROGRAMS

CRC program highlights for 2006 include:

- Martin Luther King, Jr. March and Celebration
- Columbus Regional Martin Luther King, Jr. Oratorical Contest
- Mayor's Prayer Luncheon
- ENOUGH! Student Leadership Summit for Safe Schools and Communities
- Holocaust Remembrance program
- Columbus Culture Fest
- Community Tapestry and Conversations TV Programs
- Santa comes to Franklinton
- ABC's of CPD and CFD

SUCCESSSES AND CHALLENGES FOR 2006

Successes

- Ability to put in place several contracts to implement the New Americans Initiative.
- Able to obtain approval to hire Bi-Lingual outreach coordinator.
- The Youth Commission served well over 1500 youth in a variety of activities, training and outreach efforts

Challenges

- Decreasing economic resources resulting in increased tension between and among groups within the community
- Keeping pace with the needs of our very diverse community with declining financial resources.

KEY OBJECTIVES FOR 2007

- To enhance the amount and timeliness of community forums.
- To ensure that the City of Columbus is in compliance with Title VI-ensuring all of our residents who are LEP (Limited English Proficient) receive meaningful access to all programs, which are receiving federal financial assistance.
- Implementation of the new complaint status data base program.
- Complete the revisions to the Civil Rights ordinance for City of Columbus.

CRC COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF

Nancy Collier- Chair Elect
Rebecca Nelson, Vice Chair-
Dr. Ahmad Al-Akhras
Julia Arbin-Carbonell
Rabbi Harold Berman
Master Joon P. Choi
Elfi Dibella
William Dodson
Dilip Doshi
Frances Frazier
Nur Hussen
Mary Howard
Dr. J. S. Jindal
Hassan Omar
Alyson Poirer
Aaron Riley
Brian Shinn
Tykiah Wright

CRC STAFF

Napoleon Bell
Gale Gray
Nelson Hewitt
Karen Nolan Mitchell
Neal Semel
Abdirizak Farah
Guadalupe Velasquez

Ex-Officio Members:

Chris Cozad, Mayor's Office
Michael Gordon, Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce
Barb Seckler, Department of Public Safety
Dr. Patrick Royster, The Ohio State University

**EQUAL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY
2006 ANNUAL REPORT**

EQUAL BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION OFFICE

2006 ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Business Community,

The Equal Opportunity Commission Office (EBOCO) was established to administer and to enforce compliance with the Title 39 the City of Columbus' affirmative action code. Section 3921.03, City of Columbus Code mandates EBOCO to compile, to review and to analyze minority and female business utilization. The utilization is based upon the city contract awards, contract payments and vendor registration date. EBOCO is also responsible for the development and submittal of quarterly utilization reports to the Mayor and City Council. In addition, as a result, of Executive Order 96-02, EBOCO is charged with developing race and gender-neutral initiatives to assist small businesses in obtaining procurement opportunities with the City of Columbus.

In 2006, EBOCO continued to live up to the goals of Mayor Michael Coleman's Columbus Covenant. While our principal goal is the securing of opportunities for small, minority and women owned businesses, the rationale for that commitment is based on the "Covenant" principal to "promote a diverse and vibrant economy that offers everyone an opportunity to share in our prosperity."

EBOCO continued our work with our internal and external partners to promote the message of inclusiveness and achieved a historical record utilization rate for minority and female owned businesses.

The Office of Contract Compliance continued to certify companies to do business with the City and a new on-line application in conjunction with vendor services was developed and implemented in 2006.

EBO Specialists continued to work with departments by reviewing contracts and legislation, sitting on evaluation teams and working to ensure that the process is fair. Targeted bid specification reviews were conducted as well as other important customer service related functions.

EBOCO Operational Successes 2006

Increase in Utilization rates to 16.47% in 2006 which is a historical high.
Reported over \$39.7 million dollars paid to minority and female firms in 2006 which is approximately a 25% increase over 2005 (\$29.8 million dollars)
Recommended Improvements in Professional Services Process
Fully Implemented On-line Registration and Certification Process
Continued outreach efforts to increase our Hispanic/Asian Certification program
Implemented Certification Agreements with the State of Ohio MBE Program
Assisted in the development and implementation of the Rickenbacker Inter-modal Facility Inclusion Plan Strategy
Website Content Management Improvements: e-directory Hosted 1st Ever New Americans Business Outreach Forum
Created and executed Department Inclusion Plans
Participated in the Rotary Minority Business Development Forum
Participated in the Increase CDC Business Forum
Neighborhood Pride Partner
Continued improvements in the City Small Business Conference
Hosted a series of Director's Forums to Discuss City Contracting Issues

Participated in a number of outreach functions to promote doing business with the City.

- Do You Think EBO is holding you back
- Writing Bid Specs the Inclusive Way.”
- State Government Trade Show and Conference
- Ohio Small & Emerging Business Workshop
- City Small Business Conference and Seminars
- Rickenbacker Inter-model Project
- Survey tool implemented regarding services
- Small Business Guide, Daily Reporter
- Columbus Black Pages Ad/Reception
- SBA Small Business Outreach Forum at Col. Urban League
- Neighborhood Pride – King Arts Complex
- New American Business Initiative
- Conference Office of Contract Compliance registered 597 new businesses and renewed 1098.
- EBO Specialists reviewed 856 pieces of legislation and 259 contracts.
- EBO conducted internal meetings to eliminate barriers and improve customer service.
- EBO conducted bid specification and language reviews.
- EBO assisted entrepreneurs with business start-up questions and direction.
- EBO Reached out through sponsorships, seminars and conferences.

Communicated with constituents through forums, website and electronic newsletters to ensure that the City of Columbus continues to be inclusive and the best city in the nation in which to live, work and raise a family.

UTILIZATION SNAPSHOT REPORT
Equal Business Opportunity Commission Office
City of Columbus, Ohio
Reporting Period: January 1— December 31, 2006

Total Payments	\$ 241,368,942
Prime Minority/Female Dollars	27,517,798
Sub Minority/Female Dollars	12,238,538

Overall Utilization **16.47%**

<u>Category Breakdown</u>	<u>Total Payments</u>	<u>Minority/Female \$</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Construction	\$88,821,882	\$12,993,390	14.63%
Goods & Services	\$90,531,244	\$10,225,841	11.30%
Professional Services	\$62,015,816	\$16,537,105	26.67%

*For complete 2006 utilization report please view the EBOCO website at Columbus.gov

**DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
2006 ANNUAL REPORT**

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE & MANAGEMENT 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

Highlights from 2006 for each major program area within the department follow.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT DIVISION

The Financial Management Division consists of four functional operations: Budget Management, Debt Management, Grants Management and Performance Management.

Budget Management

The 2007 Mayor's proposed budget was submitted to City Council on November 15, 2006 pursuant to City Code requirements. The document's format was one that focused on achievement of the city's strategic plan to implement the Columbus Covenant. The budget process used was a "target" methodology, in which a pro-rated amount of 100 percent of the estimated available general fund revenue was allocated to city departments.

The budget management section monitored and reported the financial status of city agencies throughout the year. Three quarterly financial reviews were conducted, wherein the status of each of the city's major operating funds was reviewed and financial projections reported. Less intensive reviews were also conducted at the end of each month, to provide ongoing monitoring of revenue and expenditure trends in light of the continuing financial challenges.

A 2006 year-end report was published, which compared overall 2006 revenues and expenditures to 2005 levels as well as to the projections made in the third quarter financial review. The ten-year pro forma operating statements for the general fund and for most operating funds were updated. The city's three-year financial plan for 2006-2007-2008 for the general fund was updated. The budget section also provided cost analyses for labor negotiations as needed. Finally, the budget section continued procedures intended to monitor and control hiring and spending on goods and services.

Debt Management

The Debt Management section coordinated the 2006 capital improvements budget (CIB) and the 6-year 2006-2011 capital improvements plan (CIP). In cooperation with the City Auditor, the section participated in the issuance of \$2,398,593 in special assessment bond and note sales. In August, the city issued \$79.9 million of variable-rate general obligation bonds for sanitary sewer projects. In addition, \$200.2 million of general obligation bonds were issued in December 2006 to provide monies for new capital projects.

The city's long-term general obligation bond credit ratings of AAA by Standard and Poor's Corporation and Aaa by Moody's Investors Service were maintained

in 2006. Since 1995, both of these national rating agencies continue to give Columbus their highest long-term credit rating. The city also requested a bond rating from Fitch Ratings, Inc. for the first time for the variable-rate general obligation bonds. Fitch rated these bonds as "AAA". This rating was maintained for the December 2006 sale.

Work continued on the development of a centralized capital improvements tracking system to monitor the progress of various capital infrastructure projects throughout the city. Current tracking systems in use by other city divisions as well as those used by other governmental units have been reviewed. Meanwhile, monthly meetings with all departments continue to monitor the status and timelines for the city's capital projects, specifically those for which bonds have been sold.

Grants Management

The Grants Management section continues to coordinate the financial and regulatory aspects of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, the HOME Investment Partnership Fund, the Emergency Shelter Grant, and the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Grant.

The section's program management functions include preparing the annual Consolidated Plan budget, federal prevailing wage compliance, monitoring, performing regulatory and financial audits of Consolidated Plan funded programs, providing technical assistance to city departments, providing cash management and financial services, and submitting year end performance and financial reports to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Grants Management provided for the administration of HUD's environmental review requirements for all of the above-described grants as well as other HUD grants received by the public housing authority and non-profit agencies. In addition, staff administered the city's fair housing contract and its loan servicing contract for community development loans.

Performance Management

On January 4, 2006, the Office of Performance Management along with the Mayor's Office kicked off Columbus*Stat, a management strategy forum. During each Columbus*Stat meeting, the Mayor and key staff, along with three directors, meet with a single department or division's management team to review performance, projects, and business processes. These data-driven discussions are supported by Performance Management analysts, who review departmental operations and prepare a brief of topics to be covered at each meeting.

The Office of Performance Management gathered and maintained over 2,000 individual performance measures spanning nearly all city operations. The analysts reviewed trends in performance, reviewed progress-against-plans for

key projects, and evaluated business processes to identify effective practices and possible opportunities for improvement.

The section continued to assist departments and divisions in the development and refinement of performance objectives and measures. In 2006, all existing measures were entered into *Views*, the city's performance management software system. The system allows for the storing, tracking and reporting of the city's performance measures data, providing a tool for the city to manage its overall performance in relation to its strategic objectives.

PURCHASING OFFICE

Throughout 2006, significant work focused on the implementation of the new Vendor Services software application, a one-stop, 24-hour portal for vendor services and contract information. This new system modernizes the city's methods of providing public notice of procurement opportunities, detailed documentation of the basis of an award, and increased availability of bidding and financial records. Vendor Services was fully operational in early 2006.

With input from all city agency purchasers, in 2006 the Purchasing Office created 5,227 agreements to purchase nearly \$101.72 million of materials, supplies, equipment and services. The average turnaround time for formal bid purchases (those exceeding \$20,000) was 142 days. Turnaround time for informal bid purchases was 21.6 days. Purchase orders referencing universal term contracts (UTCs) were approved in less than one day. Overall in 2006, 30% more procurement documents were processed encumbering 22% more funds while processing time decreased by more than 10% compared to 2005. All procurement actions were accomplished without a single lawsuit.

The Purchasing Office designed and implemented a new procedure to enable the City to participate in State Homeland Security Grant awards administered by Franklin County as authorized in an Inter-governmental Agreement signed by Mayor Coleman and the Franklin County Commissioners (Ordinance #1917-2005). As a result 55 bids were processed for a total of \$3,777,000.00 in Homeland Security Grant Awards.

Procurement staff provided significant customer service outreach to several hundred prospective supplier businesses at events such as the Public Utilities Small Business Conference, the South Central Regional Minority Supplier Development Council (SCRMSDC) Forum, and Veteran's Small Business Outreach.

The Purchasing Office provided Performance Purchasing system and Vendor Services online bidding training to City agencies, as well as handling thousands of supplier inquiries regarding Vendor Services. In addition, after implementation of Vendor Services, individual agency onsite training was conducted to ensure agencies installations were working properly and those personnel responsible for

publishing bids were trained. Four Performance and Vendor Services training meetings were held with Equal Business Opportunity Office staff. A total of 1,211 training hours were provided to internal City users in 2006.

The Purchasing Office continued to provide training at the bi-monthly Performance Special Interest Group meetings. The importance of using appropriate procurement techniques was taught by Purchasing staff at three frontline supervisor training sessions and four internal cooperative purchasing group meetings with all city agency purchasers and/or fiscal personnel.

A goal for 2006, completing an online bid sale, was realized in November, as the Purchasing Office completed a sale utilizing the State of Ohio online surplus website. When appropriate to the situation, this mechanism will be used for future transactions. Sales revenue in 2006 totaled \$941,029.00.

The Finance & Management Department Print and Copy Shop continued to serve city agency customers in a timely and efficient manner.

ASSET MANAGEMENT GROUP

The Asset Management Group consists of the Facilities Management Division, the Construction Management Office and the Real Estate Management Office. The Construction Management Office was added to the Department of Finance and Management effective November 6, 2006. The Asset Management Group was formed in order for the city to better coordinate and manage city owned real estate and facilities used for city operations.

Facilities Management Division

The Division is charged with providing security, general maintenance, custodial services and capital improvements for facilities occupied by many departments of the city, including all downtown administrative buildings, the Franklin County Municipal Court building, all facilities used by the Divisions of Police and Fire, Refuse Division facilities, Health Department facilities, the Lincoln Theatre, and the I-71 North Complex.

Significant projects of the Division in 2006 include:

- Completion of security audit for City Hall. Recommendations include adding additional personnel, upgrading the camera and door systems and making physical changes to the building in order to improve access.
- Completed a comprehensive architectural, electrical, mechanical, and civil building evaluation of City-owned buildings, resulting in the creation of a Capital Planning Management System.
- Implementation of customer satisfaction surveys for custodial services to be used to better manage these services for the benefit of building tenants
- Completion of 6,422 building maintenance work orders throughout the year

Construction Management Office

The establishment of the Construction Management Office in 2006 was an important step in improving asset management within the City. The move consolidated the management of building construction contracts under a trained professional. It will improve the accuracy of project budgets as well as help ensure that projects are completed on time and within set funding parameters.

Significant projects in 2006, now under the Office, include:

- Completed a space needs study of current City-owned buildings and developed a master plan for space needs and allocation for the years 2006 through 2015.
- Completed the design of new Fire Station #10 at 1056 West Broad Street.
- Completed the design of a new joint City/OSU Neighborhood Policing Center at 11th Avenue and Hamlet Street.
- Began Design of a new Westside Family Health Center at 2300 West Broad Street.
- Began design of a new heliport for the Division of Police.
- Began design for a new impound lot and associated buildings
- Began construction of a new SWAT and Canine Unit facility at the old Police Training Academy.

Real Estate Management Office

The Office provides centralized management and stewardship of all real property (other than rights-of-way and utility easements) used in city operations and serves as a resource to all city entities for real estate research, negotiation, acquisition and leasing. The Office maintains databases of city owned property, leases, deeds and other instruments as evidence of title.

Significant projects of the Office in 2006 include:

- Site selection and acquisition of 1111 East Broad Street to house City operations for the Department of Recreation & Parks, Department of Technology and disaster recovery functions, and the 311 Call Center.
- Site selection for the new West Side Health Center.
- Site selection, design & construction assistance, and lease negotiations for Interim John Maloney Southside Health Center.
- Site acquisition of additional parcels required for City/OSU joint policing center project.
- Site acquisition of additional parcel required for construction of new Fire Station #10.
- Negotiated and completed fourteen (14) lease and lease renewal agreements.
- Conducted research of real estate and lease management software and selected new Harbor Flex database management system to efficiently and accurately manage the City's real estate assets and leases.

**COLUMBUS HEALTH DEPARTMENT
2006 ANNUAL REPORT**



COLUMBUS PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT 2006 Annual Report

Our Mission

Columbus Public Health is a leader in improving the health and safety of Columbus by monitoring community health status, identifying and addressing public health threats, enforcing laws that protect the public's health, and providing services to prevent and control disease.

Our Goals

- Provide visible **leadership** to effectively identify and respond to public health threats and priorities.
- Develop **sustainable community systems** for addressing public health threats and priorities.
- Establish greater **visibility and support** for Columbus Public Health among community leaders, other organizations, and the general public.
- **Provide tools & education** designed to empower people and neighborhoods to gain greater control of the factors that influence their health.
- Develop organizational **capacity and resources** to support department-wide efficiency and effectiveness.

In 2006, Columbus Public Health continued to face a world where the threat of terrorism, natural disasters and new public health threats such as pandemic flu are a way of life. This "new normal" of public health pushed us to evaluate how we can best help those we serve live healthier and safer lives in today's ever changing world.

Without a doubt, our work now is harder than ever before. And, core public health programs such as food inspections, immunizations, TB, and sexual health services will always be an important part of what we do. Last year, we continued to add new and better tools such as additional bilingual staff, improved technology, and innovative partnerships to deliver these services because they provide a foundation for improving the quality of life of all Columbus residents.

However, our new normal requires us to evolve, adapt and build on these necessary programs in order to revitalize public health and to address new community needs. 2006 highlights include:

- Received CDC Immunization Award for the highest childhood immunization rate of any urban area in the nation.
- Initiated new programming: New Americans Health Initiative, Healthy Places and pilot Rodent Control.
- Healthy Children, Healthy Weights Initiative is working to reverse childhood obesity trends by providing healthy tools and guidance for children birth to 5 years old and their parents.
- Community leadership in emergency planning, including participation in large scale exercises to see what works and how to better serve the community in a time of crisis.
- Talking about ourselves in a new way – Columbus Public Health – to more clearly convey our core purpose of healthier and safer people.
- Innovative initiatives such as the Communicable Disease Reporting System (CDRS) and Real-time Outbreak Detection System (RODS), which identify early signs of widespread community illness, helping us detect possible outbreaks or disease trends as they are happening.

Expanded and successful programming, tools, and partnerships to address our changing community and public health threats are a clear focus of Columbus Public Health and achieving our core purpose of **Healthier, Safer People.**

Healthier Families

Columbus Public Health provides a wide range of clinical services and programs that empower people to live healthier. All services are provided at low or no cost and include translation services for those who may not be proficient in English. Each day more than 500 – 1000 people are provided services at our main facility on Parsons Avenue. This site is also home to the Physicians' Free Clinic (of the Columbus Medical Association) and serves as a diabetes screening site for the Central Ohio Diabetes Association. Health Promotion activities are conducted throughout the community including schools and community centers. Staff also work throughout Columbus neighborhoods assessing health risks, developing strategies to address them, partnering with other health care providers and community groups to improve health outcomes and linking individuals to critical health and social services.

- Received the CDC Immunization Award for the highest immunization rate for children less than 35 months – the highest rate of any urban area in the nation.
- Registered 23,671 births and 10,043 Franklin County deaths.
- Completed the Food borne Illness Investigation Manual.
- Performed analysis and dissemination of 30 weekly flu surveillance summaries and one seasonal summary.
- Created two videos (Spanish and English) to assist minority populations in understanding their health care provider and receiving more effective care.
- Provided 122,376 certified copies of birth and death certificates to businesses, community organizations, agencies and the general public.
- Increased access to nutritious foods by providing education and food item vouchers to an average of 33,453 women, infants and children per month.
- Sponsored a farmers market at Columbus Public Health for 2,750 WIC participants, Near East neighbors participated as well, where the redemption rate of Farmers Market Nutrition Program vouchers was 86% -- above state and national averages.
- Provided prenatal care to 1,071 women with 5,786 visits.
- Provided Family Planning/Well Woman services to 932 clients.
- Linked 261 mothers and infants to primary care.
- Screened 6,091 children for lead poisoning and provided medical case management to 55 lead poisoned children.
- Administered 28,855 doses of vaccines to protect children and adults from vaccine preventable diseases.
- Investigated 1,456 confirmed communicable disease cases.
- Examined and treated 11,436 persons to control sexually transmitted diseases.
- Reduced primary and secondary syphilis cases in Franklin County by 6.7%.
- Performed 9,139 HIV tests and conducted 9,815 HIV counseling sessions.
- Provided community leadership to display 160 AIDS Memorial Quilt panels for World AIDS Day, reaching more than 1,000 people.
- Met customers' diverse linguistic needs with multi-lingual direct care Sexual Health Team staff members who speak Croatian, French, Twi, Hebrew, Russian and Spanish.
- Tested for and controlled tuberculosis with nearly 32,000 clinic visits.
- Facilitated hospitals and high use providers to receive flu vaccine for at risk patients.
- Provided 17,585 TB outreach and education visits to the community.

Healthier Families (continued)

- Treated and followed-up on 85 confirmed TB cases – a 10% increase.
- **Administered 3200 doses of flu vaccine.**
- Provided 5,281 visits for 2,440 patients in the dental clinic.
- Trained 153 childcare providers in strategies to promote healthy weight in young children, reaching more than 1,500 kids.
- Conducted 978 walk in pregnancy tests and provided follow-up information and referrals.
- Provided training conferences on vaccine preventable diseases for more than 150 local community health professionals in partnership with Project L.O.V.E. and the Ohio Department of Health.
- Sent 8,613 “Happy First Birthday” cards to new Columbus mothers reminding them to vaccinate their children.

Healthier Neighborhoods

- Implemented the New Americans Initiative Program with bi-lingual and bi-cultural nurses, a social worker and outreach worker to provide immunizations, TB testing, lead screening and health education to refugee and immigrant residents.
- Developed Healthy Places which links health and "built environment" interests to examine development policies, to promote increased physical activity as a part of everyday life and to reduce obesity and chronic disease.
- Provided leadership and advocacy in support of the Smoke-free Ohio initiative that was passed by Ohio voters.
- Participated in more than 35 community Wellness Events.

Safer Families

Columbus Public Health protects Columbus families and neighborhoods from a wide range of environmental hazards, monitors and coordinates community-wide efforts to reduce the impact of natural disasters and other emergencies such as bioterrorism, reduces the risk of injuries to pedestrians, and promotes the safety and well-being of babies in automobiles and other settings.

- Inspected 577 car seats and corrected 91% that were improperly installed, protecting children from injury.
- Conducted 288 in-home childcare safety inspections as referred by Action for Children, Children’s Hunger Alliance and the Child Development Council of Franklin County.
- Advocated for state legislation requiring kids 4-15 to be restrained in an appropriate car safety restraint.
- Conducted home visits to 2,156 mothers and infants.
- Provided interventions to 543 families whose children were identified as at risk for abuse/neglect.
- Initiated an Infant Safe Sleep Education Campaign at 7 birthing hospitals and Children’s Hospital to reduce the number of infant sleep-related deaths.
- Provided monthly case management services for an average of 263 families with children at risk for or with developmental disabilities or mental retardation.
- Provided 2,703 home visits for care coordination services to 321 families.
- Distributed 846 copies of “The Vaccinator” newsletter to health care and child care providers.
- Gave vaccinations to 1,276 children under the age of 3.

Safer Neighborhoods

- Introduced an Environmental Health Public Information Initiative that was approved by the Board of Health in late 2006 (Implementation in the spring of 2007). The new color-coded signage system gives the public expanded access to information on the current inspection or enforcement status of more than 8,000 restaurants, markets, public pools and spas, body art studios, manufactured home parks, solid waste facilities, campgrounds, and other licensees,
- Formed a Pandemic Influenza Team to educate and prepare community partners for the Unified Command and coordinated community-wide public information efforts, including media meetings.
- Investigated outbreaks, including: Acinetobacter in area hospitals and nursing homes; norovirus; TB in two high schools; pertussis; and e-coli.
- Hosted Pandemic Flu leadership forums for Chamber of Commerce members, United Way agencies, and Franklin County School districts.
- Had MMWR publication on the 2004 MRSA tattoo outbreak.
- Introduced 2 new diagnostic tests for TB clinic, Quantiferon and m. Tuberculosis Direct testing, providing more accurate diagnosis and treatment information to patients and physicians.
- Responded to nearly 160 calls on food borne illness and confirmed 14 food borne outbreaks.
- Developed the draft Pandemic Influenza Operations Plan.
- Distributed more than 6,000 MARK I kits (nerve agent antidote) to local responders.
- Investigated more than 111 public complaints regarding environmental health concerns.
- Logged more than 906 complaints, resulting in 541 inspections, 82 warning letters and 210 citations for non-compliance as part of Smoke-Free Indoor Air Act enforcement.
- Conducted 1,253 routine Smoke-Free Indoor Air Act inspections at licensed businesses.
- Created and distributed 800 Spanish Police translation cards to Columbus Police Dept., the Sheriff's Dept., Police Townships and the Union County Sheriff Department.
- Distributed 800 Somali Police translation cards to Columbus Police Dept., the Sheriff's Dept. and Police Townships.
- Participated in 3 full-scale hazardous materials exercises and 2 tabletop radiological exercises.
- Processed 638 Community Right-to-Know requests for chemical inventory information.
- Organized, led and participated in numerous pandemic flu emergency preparedness exercises.
- Cover story of MD News focused on Columbus Public Health and what physicians, health care workers, and community members can do to prepared for emergencies (over 5000 distributed).
- Investigated 1,630 animal complaints, including 1,293 animal bites.
- Conducted 5 rabies vaccination clinics on site, vaccinating 384 dogs, cats and ferrets.

Safer Neighborhoods (continued)

- Larvicided 1,309 potential mosquito breeding sites, trapped 33,404 mosquitoes at 618 locations and fogged most critical areas of Columbus to reduce the threat of mosquito related diseases.
- Licensed 735 public pools and spas and performed more than 3,977 public/private swimming pools and spas inspections to ensure swimming pool safety.
- Provided more than 6,267 food service licenses for restaurants, grocery stores, mobile food carts and temporary food operations at fairs and festivals and conducted more than 11,278 inspections.
- Conducted Food Safety Workshops in English, Chinese, Somali and Spanish for 1,661 participants.
- Participated in all 6 Neighborhood Pride Events.
- Coordinated a mercury thermometer exchange promotion with flu season and the development and distribution of Flu Ready Kits.
- Reinstated the Substance Abuse General Education Program for persons at risk for developing alcohol and drug related health or impairment problems, but not in need of treatment.
- Trained 430 internal staff on the National Incident Management System.
- Licensed 44 body art businesses and issued 73 temporary body art licenses, resulting in a total of 244 inspections.
- Responded to 14 hazardous material incidents.
- Inspected 197 infectious/medical waste generation facilities.
- Performed 4 maternity hospital inspections.
- Held Pool and Spa Operators workshops for 98 participants.
- Conducted Body Artists Blood borne Pathogen Certification workshops for 96 people.
- Held Food Security at Outdoor Events workshops for 65 people throughout the state.

For further information on how Columbus Public Health works towards *Healthier, Safer People*, visit our website: www.publichealth.columbus.gov

**HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
2006 ANNUAL REPORT**

<p style="text-align: center;">Human Resources Department 2006 Annual Report</p>

The success of any organization is dependent upon its workforce. The City strives to provide a work environment that promotes workforce development, recognizes excellence within its personnel, and ensures fair and equal treatment to its employees, applicants and customers. The City recognizes that in order for Columbus to be the best City in the nation in which, to “live, work and raise a family”, its’ employees must be valued as an important asset.

To this end, the Human Resources Department’s mission is to promote and support organizational excellence through effective human resources programming administered in an environment that embraces diversity, quality customer service and professional development.

In 2006, 33 full-time employees fulfilled Human Resources functions related to Administration; Labor Relations; Occupational Health & Safety; Employee Benefits & Risk Management; The Office of Equal Employment Opportunity; The Citywide Office of Training and Development, Employee Resources and Compensation Management Programs.

The Labor Relations program area houses the following functions: Labor Relations, Drug Free Workplace Programs (DFWP) and Quality of Working Life (QWL).

Labor Relations

The Labor Relations Section conducts grievance and disciplinary hearings for all AFSCME, CMAGE/CWA, OLC and MCP employees within the City. The number of grievances advanced to Step 2 of the grievance procedure by the unions was ninety seven (97) by AFSCME, Local 1632; twenty five (25) by CMAGE/CWA; and zero (0) from FOP/OLC. There were one hundred and ninety (190) disciplinary hearings conducted and seventy (70) fitness for duty hearings.

There were no negotiations scheduled or conducted in 2006.

The Labor Relations Section in conjunction with the other sections of the Human Resources Department and the Civil Service Commission utilizes the People Team committee to share information with the City representatives who perform the human resources and labor relations functions within City departments. This group, in conjunction with the HR “Best Practices” Committee, continues to bring consistency to the development and application of policies and the administration of collective bargaining agreements.

Drug Free Workplace Program

The DFWP is managed by the Drug and Alcohol Coordinator (DAC). This program oversees drug and alcohol tests of City employees in six categories: reasonable suspicion, random, post-accident, return to duty, follow-up and pre-employment testing. The program is also responsible for the development and implementation of the City’s policies and procedures for a drug free workplace. The DAC designs and coordinates

the training of all employees regarding DFWP.

Over 2100 tests were conducted in the above mentioned categories in 2006. The number of positive test results was lower in 2006 than in 2005. Education efforts continued in the following areas: New Hire Orientation, Frontline Supervision and division specific trainings.

Quality of Working Life Program

The Quality of Working Life (QWL) program continues to support labor\management cooperation in the workplace through the use of the QWL Committees. These committees are found in most departments and divisions in the City. The forum supports an open dialogue among employees and managers. There are currently twenty-six (26) facilitators who assist the committees in their meetings. Discussions in these meetings are aimed at consensus resolution to issues and concerns in the workplace. Training is provided for committee chairpersons and vice chairpersons four (4) times a year. A Fall Forum for the Chairpersons and Vice Chairpersons is held in September.

The QWL City committee and the facilitators normally have had an annual retreat to review the accomplishments of the current year and to plan goals for the next year, but at this time a date for the next retreat has not been established. The QWL Program has continued to grow and expand from its inception as a single committee in 1977 to 42 committees currently.

The Memorandum of Mutual Trust was revised recently in order to allow a working level committee at the department level to accommodate reorganization efforts. Also, the composition of the division level committees was changed.

The other six sections, under a central management structure, of the Human Resources Department include: Employee Benefits/Risk Management; Equal Employment Opportunity; Training & Employee Development; Employee Resources; Occupational Safety and Health Programs and Compensation Management.

Occupational Safety and Health Program

This program began operation in 2001 with the hiring of a Citywide Occupational Health and Safety Manager. It is the goal of the Department to promote a safe and healthy working environment for all City employees by designing and administering a comprehensive, integrated Occupational Safety and Health Program Citywide.

It is the responsibility of the City of Columbus to provide a safe work environment. While each agency is responsible for its own safety efforts we are all united in basing our programs and systems on one common safety philosophy.

The City's Philosophy and its success in the prevention of workplace injuries is grounded in the following fundamental principles:

1. The City holds safety as the highest core value.
2. All City employees are responsible and accountable for preventing injuries.
3. The City will extend its safety efforts beyond the workplace.

In 2006, the Citywide Occupational Safety and Health Advisory Committee (COSHAC) and the Technical Advisory Safety Committee (TASC) were pivotal in creating, implementing and reviewing safety policies, procedures and processes, with assistance from and in collaboration with department and division heads.

With the assistance, support and dedication of the safety professionals and designees in the departments and divisions and their safety committees, the City has consistently experience reductions in frequency and severity over the last five years.

Managers', supervisors' and employees' all played a key role in heightening recognition and awareness of workplace hazards and safe practices. This heightened awareness coupled with employee accountability resulted in a 15% reduction in injuries Citywide in 2006.

The support of the Administration, Council and the continuing efforts of Joint Union and Management Health Safety Committee's has contributed significantly to our success in making Columbus to be the best City in the nation in which to live, work, and raise a family.

Employee Benefits/Risk Management

Employee Benefits/Risk Management continues to administer injury leave, Workers' Compensation, unemployment compensation, COBRA and employee insurance programs in accordance with applicable laws and/or negotiated union contracts. Boiler and inspection services have been fully incorporated into this section. Property and liability insurance coverage's were renewed in 2006. Services for this contract remain with Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.

In a collaborative effort with the Bureau of Workers' Compensation and the City's MCO, workers' compensation claims have been strategically managed to reduce the number of days lost from work. These efforts, coupled with transitional work accommodations, resulted in 8,740 fewer days lost due to injury in 2006 than in 2005. Employee Benefits continues to work with various departments on the Transitional Work Duty program.

Risk Management participated in additional workers' compensation cost saving programs which resulted in refunds from BWC of \$2.2 million in 2006. These programs include: Participation in the Handicap Reimbursement program; Subrogation of BWC claims; and protests of inaccurate claims rating analysis performed by BWC.

Risk Management has completed an application with the Bureau of Workers' Compensation to participate in the BWC Retrospective Rating Program in 2007, a cost savings program which will result in a potential savings of \$11.3 million. The Retrospective Rating Program is an alternative rating plan that will allow the City to assume a portion of risk (workers' compensation claims cost) in exchange for a possible reduction in premium.

The Employee Benefits section began its initiatives on the "Healthy Columbus" Program. The Citywide wellness and disease management program will promote a healthy lifestyle with all employees and their families and provide education to reduce health risk factors. In addition to creating a healthy workforce, these efforts will result in a reduction of the City's health care costs. Several programs were conducted in 2006 including: The

employee health and wellness survey; personal health assessments campaign; and healthy eating classes.

The Employee Benefits section conducted a formal claims audit on its medical, prescription and dental claims in 2006. Periodic audits, conducted by a third party vendor, ensure that the City's claims are processed accurately and timely and result in a cost savings to the City. The Employee Benefits section continues to participate in union negotiations with respect to benefit plan changes.

The Citywide Employee Health Fairs were held in May and November, with increased wellness and health screenings and services being offered and participation levels exceeding previous years. An annual benefits fair was conducted during 2006, with increased employee participation. EBRM was an active participant in the Citywide Human Resources Conference held in October 2006.

Equal Employment Opportunity

In 2006, the City Equal Employment Opportunity Office continued to respond to EEO related inquiries and complaints on a timely basis and effectively resolved them at the lowest level possible. The EEO Office conducted one third more training sessions on EEO related topics for both supervisors and employees and the number of employees trained in 2006 exceeded the number for the previous year. As a result of these and other proactive measures, there continues to be considerable reduction in the number of significant or substantive EEO complaints received during the past year. The Office continues to maintain productive communications with the Human Resources Labor Relations Section, the City Attorney's Office and all City departments in regard to complaint resolution and training. Also, during the 2006 calendar year, the EEO Office devised and executed plans to produce a historically significant and well received DVD featuring the history of African Americans in Columbus, including the Lincoln Theater, a cultural venue for jazz and other performances.

Training and Employee Development

The Citywide Office of Training and Employee Development (COTD) is located at the Training Center at 750 Piedmont Rd. COTD is committed to offering quality courses to City employees that are cost effective to the City while helping to improve employee performance and service delivery to the citizens. In 2006, COTD offered over 1,000 classes in 130 different courses. The 11,000 attendees to City classes included City of Columbus employees from every Department and over 100 persons from local non profit agencies or local municipalities. Certified City instructors were able to train 750 employees in Microsoft Office products and over 425 employees in CPR/AED certification. These two courses alone saved the City over \$96,000 in instructional fees.

In conjunction with Community Relations, COTD was able to offer Somali culture, Hispanic culture, basic Spanish language, and Sign Language classes to improve communication with the New American population within Columbus. COTD maintains partnerships with local agencies such as Columbus Public Schools, Columbus State, Columbus Area Labor Management, and Columbus Housing Partnership to provide various supplemental trainings to employees such as GED, management classes, and information to help first time homebuyers. The City's Employee Assistance program provides on going training in communication and employee relation skills; and this year

offered a Quit Smoking class which was so successful they will continue offering classes in 2007.

In addition to regularly scheduled classes in Frontline Supervision, Leadership-Management, Sexual Harassment, and Violence in the Workplace, COTD offers a variety of safety courses such as Defensive Driving, First Aid and Pandemic Flu Preparedness.

Employee Resources

The Department of Human Resources, Employee Resources section, is responsible for the Citywide coordination of the Operation Feed and Combined Charitable Campaigns. In 2006, City of Columbus employees donated over \$220,000 to the Combined Charities Campaign and a record breaking 118,803.5 meals to the Mid-Ohio Food Bank.

In 2006 the Employee Resources section continued to focus on expanding its recruiting resources in order to attract diverse qualified candidates. Expansions included entering into an extended two year contract with an on-line recruiting company that tracked 31,246 views for the 202 jobs that were posted on it. An expanded partnership with GTC-3 TV enabled us to air job vacancies and testing announcements everyday numerous times a day. Additionally 16 strategically focused job fairs were attended with an increased distribution of 1,687 job interest packets.

In 2006 the Employee Resources section was able to utilize the newly revised legislation for the Employee Recognition Program. Highlights of those changes included higher payouts for larger cost saving ideas, recognition awards for individuals who are working hard to maintain a reduced or accident free work environment, and the expansion of longevity recognition to include employees who had achieved 5, 35, 45, and 50 years of continuous service with the City. 1,379 employees were recognized for longevity and hundreds of additional individuals were recognized for safety initiatives, cost saving ideas, Skills Development, and Mayor's Award of Excellence.

This section also kept employees abreast of the latest resources, discounts, activities and events available to them by way of paycheck stuffers, memos, posters, citywide voicemails, e-mails, newsletter articles and mailings.

Compensation Management

The Compensation Management Section of the Department of Human Resources is responsible for the development, implementation and administration of compensation policies, procedures and strategies that promote the development of a fair equitable and market driven compensation management systems. In addition, it is also responsible for developing and managing effective individual performance management programs.

Accomplishments included:

MPC Market Analysis; ASR Market Analysis; The creation of a web portal for MCP/ASR Performance Excellence Program (PEP); Development of recommendations for the Mayor's Strategic Recruitment and Retention Initiative.

**RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT
2006 ANNUAL REPORT**

2006 INTRODUCTION TO COLUMBUS RECREATION AND PARKS

The Columbus Recreation and Parks Department works to create and maintain an enjoyable, safe, and healthful environment to enrich the lives of the city's residents and visitors. The department also promotes the preservation and wise use of natural resources as well as the enhancement of the local economy through parks, recreation programs, and special events. All of this is accomplished through the department's vision of providing leisure opportunities for all, something for everyone...naturally.

ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging

The Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging (COAAA) provided services to older adults and families throughout an eight-county area. Some of those services included implementing the new Ohio Medicaid Assisted Living Waiver by participating on state policy and rules committees, recruiting homes to become certified and placing residents with the new waiver. It also included providing Medicare Part D education, enrollment or problem resolution services to 4,367 people through a team of specially trained staff members. In addition, COAAA took over the Access to Benefits statewide 800 number and acquired a Vista position to assist the team.

COAAA partnered with the Franklin County Office on Aging to successfully obtain grant funding from the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation for a caregiver registry, held a Caregiver Resource Fair in cooperation with AARP and The Ohio State University to provide information and advice to caregivers, and trained, placed and supervised five graduate students through a Hartford Grant designed to increase interest in rural gerontology. COAAA also offered 23 training programs for professionals, made 315 community health education presentations, and sponsored the 31st "Central Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame" ceremony.

Development

The Development Section had another successful year in promoting volunteer opportunities. In 2006, citizens provided over 25,777 volunteer instances for a total of 169,902 volunteer hours at a value of more than \$2,981,778, which is equivalent to the cost of an extra 82 full-time employees.

In addition, the section tracked, obtained, and/or assisted in the receipt of \$1,065,226 in sponsorships, and \$1,078,717 in grants. Development also coordinated 239 park cleanups for a contribution of over 9,124 volunteer hours at a value of \$160,902, enrolled 175 high school student volunteers in our Columbus Kids Care Program, and worked with 23 "Adopt-A-Park", "Adopt-a-Trail", or "Friends of" park groups throughout the year.

Furthermore, the Development Section raised \$54,101 for the P.L.A.Y. (Private Leisure Assistance for Youth) endowment fund to provide scholarships to children from low-income families to participate in a variety of our fee-based activities, dispersed \$47,902 in P.L.A.Y. grants to 1,930 participants, produced quarterly newsletters regarding volunteer recognition, contributions, safety, and senior programming as well as the department's employee newsletter, produced graphic and design work for the entire department, and coordinated displays for department participation at several community service events including The Ohio State University, Capital University, Ohio Dominican University, and Otterbein University.

Fiscal

Always looking for new and alternative options on saving money or efficiently enhancing operations, the Fiscal Section held the fifth, annual budget summit focusing on restoration and necessary funding levels for future budgets. The section also worked on efficiency in its warehouse operations by completing all responsibilities with one part-time and two full-time employees who provide storage, delivery and moving services for the entire department. In addition, Fiscal also provided training for staff in conjunction with the city's Purchasing Division's new online vendor services and contract processing.

Golf

During 2006, the Golf Division received \$4,519,035 in revenues and there were 268,622 rounds of golf played.

Capital improvements included a new irrigation system at Turnberry Golf Course, completion of continuous cart paths at Airport Golf Course, cart path renovations at Champions, Walnut Hill and Turnberry Golf Courses, removal of 50 dead trees at Walnut Hill and Airport Golf Courses, replacement of the concrete patio entrance at Walnut Hill, an addition of a concrete pad for golf cart parking at Mentel Memorial Golf Course, installation of a new roof and exterior painting on the clubhouse at Turnberry Golf Course, and successful implementation of the agronomic program at all seven courses.

The Golf Division also hosted the "Greater Columbus Men's Amateur Championship", the "Greater Columbus Women's Amateur Championship", the "Greater Columbus Junior Tournament Series", the "Robert Sandidge Sr/Jr Tournament", the "Greater Columbus Senior Tournament Series and Championship", and the "1460 The Fan City Golf Tour Series".

Human Resources

The Human Resource Section provides basic services in the areas of recruiting, hiring, payroll, benefits and contract administration, grievance resolution, disciplinary action, training, occupational safety, and accident and claim investigations.

Throughout 2006, Human Resources attended job fairs at local churches and The Ohio State University, worked with the Salesian Boys and Girls Club to place teens in our recreation centers for summer work experience, and implemented the discretionary portion of the CMAGE pay plan as well as changes to the MCP pay structure and performance evaluation system. The section also assisted with the coordination of AED installations at the community recreation centers and the training on the use of those life saving devices, and expanded blood pathogen training for recreation center and summer camp staff.

Permits

In charge of rental facilities for the department including shelter houses, athletic complexes and marinas at the city's three reservoirs, the Permits Section accomplished many tasks in 2006. They worked with the Planning and Design staff to install new tile floors and a roof at Big Walnut shelter house, and a new brick patio at Goodale shelter house. The section also successfully refinished all gym floors at the five athletic complexes, effectively conducted the public boat dock lottery, and provided weekly dock cleaning for those public marina customers.

In addition, Permits created business relationships with five catering companies for services at the shelter houses, entered into a partnership with the national wedding website "The Knot" to advertise the availability of our shelter houses, operated the ballroom at the historic

Lincoln Theater on behalf of the city, and raised nearly \$100,000 in revenues between rentals for the Lincoln Theater and the shelter house at North Bank Park.

Planning & Design

The Planning and Design Section completed several capital improvement projects including the dedication of the new Lazelle Woods and Dodge Recreation Centers, the rededication of the Columbus Youth Performing Arts Center, the construction of the Big Walnut Dog Park, renovations at the Dodge Skate Park, development of Prestwick Commons and Trabue Woods Park, initial renovations to Brentnell and Whetstone Recreation Centers, phase I construction of both the Hayden Falls boardwalk and Hoover Mudflats boardwalk, renovations to Whetstone and Big Walnut shelter houses, renovations to Saunders Park, and completion of the I-670 to Nelson Road pathway as part of the Alum Creek Trail system.

The section also began work toward moving the department's entire administrative offices to the new 1111 E. Broad St. site, worked on the acquisition of 1533 Alum Creek Dr. site for our maintenance and warehouse operations, continued the partnership with the Franklin Park Conservatory to work toward the implementation of a master plan for Franklin Park, continued the effort with Metro Parks and Ohio Audubon for the development of the Whittier Peninsula, participated in the planning for the I-70/I-71 split with the Ohio Department of Transportation, worked on plans for the downtown Scioto Mile, assisted with the transfer of Gowdy Field property for development of the city's technology corridor, and acquired 108 acres for future park development.

PARKS DIVISION

Natural Resources and Outdoor Education

The Natural Resources Section performed an urban wetland study on 22 wetlands in conjunction with the Ohio EPA, planted over 1,000 trees at Antrim Park along with volunteers from Battelle Memorial Institute, removed thousands of lineal feet of honeysuckle within various parks, sprayed over 28 miles of honeysuckle along bike trails and in several parks, and created a new nature preserve brochure.

The Office of Outdoor Education provided programs for more than 11,900 participants at Indian Village, over 9,000 at the Indoor Adventure Center, and for 1,860 youth at summer day camps, which brought in \$229,785 in revenues. Outdoor Education also added two full-time staff members, purchased a new 24-ft. portable climbing wall, and overhauled the climbing walls at Linden and Dodge Recreation Centers that also included training for the staff at those two facilities.

Building & Park Maintenance, and Forestry & Horticulture

For the 27th consecutive year, the Forestry and Horticulture Section received the national "Tree City Award" on behalf of the city and celebrated "Arbor Day" at the intersection of Hamilton Rd. and Dundee with the planting of 40 Saucer Magnolia trees. The section also planted 4,000 street trees, attended the ISA seminar on the Emerald Ash Borer as several portions of Columbus were placed under quarantine thus requiring the creation of a management plan, received recognition from "USA Today" in which the Park of Roses was named as one of the top 10 rose gardens in the world, and worked with the Columbus Rose Foundation relative to a \$36,000 gift to create a new "earth kind" rose garden which will be a collection of low maintenance modern roses.

The Parks Section supported all of the Mayor's "Neighborhood Pride" efforts throughout the year, and worked with volunteers and department staff regarding beautification efforts at Sensenbrenner, Bicentennial, Frank Fetch, Schiller, Deaf School Topiary Garden, Goodale, Moeler, Livingston, Richter, Westgate, and Blackburn Parks. The section also assisted with the restocking of Rainbow Trout at Antrim Park, supported the "German Village Haus & Garten Tour" and the opening of the Actors Summer Theater productions in Schiller Park, dedicated the first of four dog parks in the city, and worked with outreach workers, the City Attorney's Office, and the city's Public Service and Public Safety Departments to clean up various homeless camps on city properties.

Building Maintenance completed annual air conditioning and heating unit inspections, replaced several HVAC systems in various facilities, provided support on design review for roof renovations, remodeling projects and water line replacements, and focused attention on the cleaning and removal of graffiti problems.

RECREATION DIVISION

Arts

The Cultural Arts Center had a successful season with eight main hall and 12 loft gallery exhibitions, 336 art classes for 3,200 students, an average of 35 people each week for the "Conversations and Coffee" lecture series, and by hiring four new instructors in papermaking, stone carving, jewelry and mixed media sculpture, along with coordinating seven major art trips, and generating \$15,248 in revenue through the center's gift shop.

The Columbus Youth Performing Arts Center entered into a new partnership with the Columbus Metropolitan Library to share information and hold auditions in their new Children's Discovery Area, created a new show for teens called "Grow" in which teens are given the opportunity to share their stories and their voices, continued the partnership with Phoenix Theatre for Children, produced a successful "Once on the Island" with The Park Playhouse Teens and Eastmoor Academy High School, and joined with artist Matt Slaybaugh and the Arts Impact Middle School to create a Hip Hop After School Theatre program.

The Golden Hobby shop received 10,921 customers and 7,482 visitors, had total sales equaling \$118,705, and held several special events including two doll shows, a holiday open house, and a luminary night.

Community Recreation

Recreational activities played a big part in helping others through the Community Recreation Section especially in the areas of fitness and health. The section received a Silver Award from the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association for its "Healthy Ohioans Fitness Program", coordinated "A Walk in the Park" for seniors at Whetstone Park, partnered with The Ohio State University's School of Pharmacology for a community health fair, and participated in the annual "Drug Free Rally and Parade".

Community Recreation's other highlights included partnering with LifeCare Alliance to offer breakfast twice a month for seniors, directing the federal summer food program for children from low income families, assisting with the "Make a Difference Day" picnic for the homeless at Goodale Park in partnership with First Link, sponsoring recreation center cheerleaders on a trip to compete in Florida at a national cheerleading competition, hosting the sectional "Pitch, Hit, and Run" baseball competition at Cooper Stadium, and managing successful athletic programs in boxing, gymnastics, wrestling, track, basketball, ice and street hockey, and swimming, as well as

programs in the arts, education, life skills and special community events. In addition, the section also opened two, new recreation centers – Lazelle Woods and Dodge – that are each open 81 hours a week for all ages.

The Therapeutic Recreation Section held its first three-day multi-sport camp featuring Paralympic instructors in tennis and swimming as well as wheelchair football, four foot hoops, soccer, and fitness. In addition, the section held an eight-team quad rugby tournament, planned and implemented a fitness and disability workshop, partnered with the 50+ centers to bring chair volleyball to the Franklin Park Adventure Center, coordinated four swim meets, and secured eight new sponsors for the “Four Foot Hoops” tournament and for the swim team. The section also strengthened its partnerships with BlazeSports America, Ohio Wheelchair Sports Association, Bishop Watterson High School, The Ohio State University Medical Center’s Dodd Hall, Children’s Hospital, The Ohio State University Adapted Recreation and Sports program, YMCA of Central Ohio, St. Charles High School, and the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

The Aquatics Section provided its annual, free “Learn-to-Swim” classes at all nine outdoor swimming pools, had an accident-free swim season, held the second year of “Operation Get Wet” in which 19,000 people came to city pools for free when the weather reached 90-degree temperatures and above for three or more consecutive days, was home to five area high school swim team programs, and worked with a consultant to complete a study of the city’s aquatic facilities.

Special Events

This section coordinated “Festival Latino” with more than 63 ethnic food and merchandise vendors from 17 countries, managed the “Jazz & Rib Fest” with 23 rib vendors including 14 “national ribbers”, hosted the sixth annual “Grange Insurance Family Fun Fest”, supported the “Columbus International Triathlon and Sports Expo” at Antrim Park for more than 500 competitors, and held the city’s first downtown outdoor free movie that featured “Ice Age II”. The section also provided \$28,500 in financial support to nine qualifying non-profit organizations through the “Partnership through Sponsorship” program so these groups could coordinate free neighborhood concerts and events.

Special Events’ Music in the Air program presented 527 performing artists at various festivals and concerts, raised \$869,750 in sponsorships and grants and \$391,893 in in-kind goods and services, and produced downtown and community performance concerts including “Rhythm on the River”, the “Short North Jazz Series”, and “Topiary Garden Concerts”.

Sports

The Sports Section had a record 26 straight weekends of tournaments for softball, baseball, and girls fast pitch at Berliner Park, hosted 149 teams in the “Christopher Columbus Softball Tournament, and partnered with the United States Specialty Sports Association to conduct youth baseball tournaments for 217 teams. The section also had a record 371 registered for the fall softball season, had an increase in the number of teams participating in fall and winter basketball leagues, added spring and summer football leagues, organized the annual “Central Ohio Senior Olympics” for 560 participants, and received an “Outstanding Park” award for Berliner Park from the National Softball Association. In addition, section staff helped reorganize the affiliated non-profit Berliner Action Team for Softball group, otherwise known as BATS, to help with funding issues for all athletic programs organized by the Sports Section.

**PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT
2006 ANNUAL REPORT**

2006 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY Annual Report

The Department of Public Safety manages the operations for the Divisions of Police, Fire and Support Services for the City of Columbus. Its mission is to provide quality, dependable public safety services to the citizens of Columbus.

Under the leadership of Mayor Michael B. Coleman and Safety Director Mitchell J. Brown, the Columbus Department of Public Safety in 2006 enhanced neighborhood safety and contributed to making Columbus the best place to live, work and raise a family.

Two pro-active, aggressive police strategies enhanced neighborhood safety. The Mayor's Summer Safety Initiative achieved outstanding results in its efforts to prevent violence, attacks crime hot spots, and increases our resident's sense of security. In 2006, we invested more funding and improved law enforcement tactics. The result was that Columbus Police tripled the results using half the numbers of police officers than in 2005. Police made 700 overall arrests and seized a total of 207 guns.

As part of the Mayor's Anti-Gang Initiative, Columbus Police have made approximately 225 arrests and seized 180 crime guns. They have also seized \$124,000 in cash, 150 grams of heroin, 1,774 grams of crack cocaine, 490 grams of powder cocaine and 155 pounds of marijuana. These arrests have a significant positive safety impact on neighborhoods by taking some of the "worst of the worst" suspects off of our streets.

The Columbus Division of Fire was recommended for national accreditation by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International for its outstanding level of fire and emergency medical services. Columbus became the largest, metropolitan city in America to earn this prestigious award. This achievement is the culmination of four years of hard work under the most stringent assessment and peer review system for the Fire Service. Fire Chief Ned Pettus, Jr., and the entire Columbus Division of Fire deserve recognition for this effort.

Since September 11, 2001, the City of Columbus has worked to protect its own Hometown Security. This outstanding work earned Columbus national recognition in 2006 as one of the top 5 cities in America for Interoperable Communications. Columbus' system allows 120 safety jurisdictions to talk to each other during a large scale emergency. The Department of Homeland Security rated Columbus with the highest possible scores in each of three categories and gave us an "A" for the way in which we handled communications during a full-scale tactical exercise. This national recognition is the result of a city, county and regional effort between numerous cooperative partners: police, fire, health, hospitals, Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (EMA), and dozens of jurisdictions and organizations.

The Division of Support Services completed an additional 800 MHz radio tower site on the far north side and replaced and upgraded all of the Public Safety 800 MHz radio systems infrastructure equipment located throughout Franklin County at six radio tower sites.

It also completed the purchasing, programming, and distribution of 1,250 portable and mobile 800 MHz radios. Seventy-seven agencies throughout the Franklin County and Urban area received radios to promote and implant radio "Interoperability".

DIVISION OF POLICE – 2006 HIGHLIGHTS

Homeland Security

As part of the Department of Homeland Security Urban Area Security Initiative (USAI) the Columbus region was required to complete a Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan (TICP). Under the direction of the Franklin County Homeland Security Advisory Committee (HSAC) a Tactical Interoperability Committee was formed to complete the TICP. The committee consisted of representative from the Support Services Division, law enforcement, fire, EMA Health, Hospitals and public works.

There were two exercises required to validate the TICP once completed. The first was a table top exercise conducted on April 18, 2006. Approximately 30 agencies were involved in this exercise. The second was required to be a full-scale exercise. The TICP validation/exercise was completed on July 3, 2006 during Red, White and Boom. Approximately 40 agencies were involved in the event and required to display communication interoperability. The Columbus Urban Area received the highest ratings in all three categories. There were only fire other urban areas in the country that received the highest ratings.

Investigative Subdivision

Special Victims Bureau

As part of the reorganization of the Investigative subdivision, the Sexual Assault unit from the old Detective Bureau and the Sexual Assault unit from the old Juvenile Bureau were integrated into one functioning unit with the Special Victims Bureau effective January 1, 2006. The investigative skills of both units has increased and our service to the public has definitely improved.

A new policy was developed for the “Headquarters Investigative Bureaus”, the Special Victims Bureau, Crimes Against Persons Bureau, and the Property Crimes Bureau to unify all of the common functions, reporting methods, forms, and investigative tasks. This will improve our service to the public and other units within the division of police.

Criminal Information Unit

The Criminal Information Unit continued to successfully investigate members of the target criminal gang named in the Mayor’s Gang Initiative. In 2006 the Criminal Information Unit conducted two arrest sweeps. The individuals arrested as a part of the sweeps were individuals who received direct indictments for crimes committed within the Model Area, which was outlined in the Mayor’s Gang Initiative, and various other locations throughout the city known for gang activity. There were a total 77 felony arrests made as a result of the sweeps, bringing the total of Gang Initiative arrests to 204.

Strategic Response Bureau

The mission of the Zone Investigations Unit of the Strategic Response Bureau is to investigate neighborhood related crimes and solve them through witness contacts, analysis and forensics.

The Zone Investigations Unit receives and progresses nearly all misdemeanor reports generated in the Division including but not limited to assault, menacing, criminal Impersonating Police Officer reports and hate crimes.

The Unit enjoys an excellent working relationship with and receives and progresses referrals from the Intake Office of the City Prosecutor and from the Buckeye Region Anti-Violence Organization, an organization that assists victims of bias crime.

Patrol

The Focus on Safety Photo Red Light Program has reduced red light running and right-angle crashes at seven intersections. School zone enforcement continues with one minor injury accident at Columbus Public Schools. Federal grant applied for and received to equip all Freeway cruisers with digital video recorders. Installation has commenced. Five freeway officers and one sergeant were honored by MADD for Operating A Vehicle (OVI) enforcement. They contributed to a significant increase in OVI arrests by the Traffic Bureau.

DIVISION OF FIRE – 2006 HIGHLIGHTS

Administration

Hired a Human Resources Assistant.

Started a class of 30 new firefighters

Assisted Civil Service throughout the processing of several thousand new job applicants

Assisted Civil Service with test development and processes for promotion of all officer ranks up to that of deputy chief.

Examined and modified practices in order to improve the hiring process and promote diversity within the Division, improving the diversity within the list of eligible candidates as compared to prior testing results.

Upgraded the Professional Standards Unit to be headed by a battalion chief.

Moved the Professional Standards Unit to be located with Columbus Police Internal Affairs in a central city neighborhood on the east side.

The Emergency Medical Services Third Party Reimbursement Program generated a total revenue of \$8.3 million.

Emergency Services

Responded to approximately 130,000 calls for emergency and non-emergency assistance.

Captains from the 32 fire stations met monthly with assigned community groups and reported all contacts to the Fire Chief

Utilized an electronic calendar to coordinate assignments from fire prevention, training and support services bureaus in order to efficiently and effectively utilize the available staffing with the least impact on overtime.

Training Academy

Finalized plans for our new \$9.7 million dollar training complex additions. This will include a burn building, training tower, practical skills building and various additional training props.

The Training Bureau finalized plans to implement a Division wide distance-learning program.

This will include computer equipment in each fire station and a notification and tracking software package. This will assist the Division in meeting the new State of Ohio continuing education requirements for Firefighter II and Fire Safety Inspector certifications.

Facilities

Opened Station #18 in Linden

Completed re-roofing of stations 6,7,10,12,13,14 (old) and 22.

Assisted in design of the new maintenance facility on Grove Road.

Hazmat Responses

In 2006 HazMat 4 responded to 24 incidents, none out of our jurisdiction

Trained HazMat technicians in the Fire Division increased by 18 to a total of 245.

Fire Prevention Bureau

The bureau implemented two new procedures in 2006:

*All commercial false alarms are reviewed weekly. Repeat offenders are inspected to insure their fire alarm systems are being properly maintained, and human causes of false alarms are reduced.

*Anytime a fatal fire occurs in a residence the Community Relations Section mobilizes a literature drop in the immediate vicinity of the fatal fire. The literature we leave with residents includes fire safety literature, "How to survive a fire" checklist, and the phone number for Community Relations should a follow up program be requested.

The bureau inspectors accomplished over 6,500 inspections last year in addition to the 19,643 scheduled company inspections that were processed by our Permits Section.

The method of tracking inspections, plans examination, finances and overtime, was improved with an Excel spreadsheet accessible by the bureau chain of command

The Fire Investigations Section completed 726 investigations last year. Charges were filed against 34 adults and 14 juveniles. Investigators conducted 50 Bomb investigations in 2006, and removed over 3,000 pounds of illegal fireworks from stores around the July 4th Holiday.

Eighteen people died in fires in 2006, eleven adults and seven children.

Technology

Purchased TeleStaff staffing solution to track and schedule employees and enhance efficiency

0.DIVISION OF SUPPORT SERVICES – 2006 HIGHLIGHTS

Communications

Completion of an additional 800 MHz radio tower site (Lazelle Rd) and 100% replacement and upgrade of the Public Safety 800 MHz radio systems infrastructure equipment located throughout Franklin County (6 tower sites). Grant Urban Area Security Initiative (UAST) \$9,750,000.

Completion of purchasing, programming, and distribution of 1,250 portable & mobile 800 MHz radios. Seventy-seven agencies throughout Franklin county and Urban area received radios to promote and implant radio “Interoperability”. Ex: (Columbus Fire, and Police and Bomb Squad, STRIKE TEAM, Sheriff) Grant UASI & FEMA (\$5,250,000)

Completion of developing, certifying, and distribution of the City of Columbus and Urban Areas “Tactical Interoperability Communications Plan”. Plan was tested during “Red White & Boom and was certified for approval by the Department of Homeland Security. Final scorecard put the City of Columbus as the best in the State of Ohio (100% Marks), and one of the top four scores in the County.

Completion of designing a new “Communications Emergency Response Vehicle” (CERV) which will provide those first responders with data, wireless phone, microwave, cache radios, and radio “Interoperability” services and support when needed. Unit to be delivered first quarter of 2007. Grant UASI (\$1,200,000)

License

The License Section generated \$1,704,503 in total revenue and handled a total of 52,212 transactions in the year 2006.

The Alarm Unit Activity – The Section tracked 17,639 False Alarm Reports from the Columbus Division of Police and 956 False Alarm Reports from the Columbus Division of Fire. The total amount of penalties collected was \$624,449.40 from negligent alarm users.

Weights and Measures

The total revenue created and invoiced from inspections was \$327,736.00

The Weights & Measures section inspected and tested 11,953 measuring devices (scales, gas pumps, and taximeters, laundry dryers, parking clocks, vacuums, car washes and vehicle tank meters).

**PUBLIC SERVICE DEPARTMENT
2006 ANNUAL REPORT**

**Department of Public Service
Director's Office
2006 Annual Report**

The Department of Public Service consists of three Divisions – Fleet Management, Refuse Collection and Transportation – and the Director's Office, which guides the overall Department and its 864 employees. The Office directs a number of programs, including the 311 Call Center, Human Resource and Fiscal functions, and Paving the Way.

311 Call Center

- Opened on January 6;
- Hired three bilingual Spanish call representatives and two bilingual Somali representatives;
- Expanded hours in March by adding a second shift (Monday through Friday, 4:30 p.m. to 1 a.m.) and Saturday hours (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.);
- Opened a second location in March at 50 W. Gay Street for the second shift operation;
- Expanded Call Center's electronic knowledge base so that citizen questions and concerns are now answered for most City departments, including Development, Health, Parks and Recreation, Public Service and Public Safety;
- Established and enhanced online services, resulting in 8,766 service requests being created online. Based on an average phone call of 121.75 seconds, this accounts for about 635 hours of phone-time saved and a savings to the Call Center of approximately \$9,500 in salaries (based on an average of \$15 per hour per service rep). For the year, 16% of bulk collections and 11% of all service requests were created online;
- Recognized in December by *Public Works* magazine with a Special Mention Award in the magazine's Department of the Year competition.

Safety

- Increased transitional return-to-work hours Department wide by 76%, from 33,039 hours in 2005 to 26,718 hours in 2006, while reducing lost-time hours by 19%, exceeding our 15 percent goal;
- Reduced recordable accidents by 22% and at-fault vehicle accidents by 39%.

Paving the Way Road Construction Information Service

- Held its fourth annual Central Ohio Road Projects Conference in direct response to calls for better coordination during the Mayor's Congestion Summit in 2001; jurisdictions from throughout the county share information, coordinate construction and maintenance of traffic detours, and work through other issues;
- Maintained a website that was updated daily; PTW website is the second most linked-to site in central Ohio (Ohio State is the first).

**Public Service Department
Refuse Collection Division
2006 Annual Report**

The Refuse Collection Division provides weekly residential solid-waste collection services to approximately 325,705 households and administers programs for waste reduction, recycling, litter prevention and volunteer litter cleanup, and graffiti removal. In 2006,

- Disposed of 338,749 tons of municipal solid waste, which represents a 1.24% decrease from 2005; diverted 12.51% of the city's residential waste stream from the landfill, including 15,031 tons of recyclable materials, 3,070 tons of yard waste and 330 tons of household hazardous waste for a 7.19% increase from 2005;
- Collected 3,573 dead animals (1,225 domestic and 2,348 wild) from public roadways;
- Purchased 15 automated side loaders for \$2,973,330, three knuckle-boom trucks for \$353,529, one roll-off truck for \$131,747, 11,000 90-gallon containers for \$511,280, 2,500 300-gallon containers for \$470,875 and an 800 MHz radio system for \$443,636.;
- Earned high marks from the public, with the following average response percentages: cleanliness of alleys, 94%; trash collection, 94%; timeliness of service, 97%; and bulk collection service, 92%;
- Concluded a pilot recycle program (Blue Bag) in cooperation with the Solid Waste Authority, after recycling 142,598 tons from a waste stream of 15,516.57 tons, for an overall diversion rate of .92% before the pilot program ended;
- Organized 450 volunteer litter cleanups through Keep Columbus Beautiful, using 8,985 volunteers, who contributed 23,010 volunteer hours and collected 242,743 pounds/122 tons (8,125 bags) of litter; supervised four cleanups with 30 community service workers who collected 348 pounds of litter and 51 tires; removed 7,682 square yards of graffiti from 522 sites; continued partnership with Neighborhood Pride by recruiting and coordinating 866 volunteers (working 2,171 hours) for 15 events (litter cleanups, graffiti paint-over, and beautification projects); volunteers collected 550 bags/8.25 tons (16,500 pounds) of litter and debris in the Pride areas;
- KCB earned two National Awards from Keep America Beautiful: 2nd Place for Community Improvement & Beautification and President's Circle Award for affiliate membership in good standing.

**Public Service Department
Fleet Management Division
2006 Annual Report**

The Fleet Management Division maintains the City's motorized equipment, operates repair facilities at multiple locations, and develops vehicle utilization and replacement policies. An internal service division, Fleet Management must recover its expenditures by charging other city agencies for services rendered. Highlights of 2006 include:

- Completed design for the new fleet maintenance facility in June; awarded contracts for construction and project management in July; broke ground and signed a Good Neighbor Agreement with several community groups on September 8;
- Reduced actual overtime expenses by \$345,796 below the 2006 budget appropriation, and \$132,156 less than 2005. Total overtime expenditures were at their lowest level in at least 10 years or more;
- Continued to meet with the Fire/Fleet Task Force to improve overall operations and communications between Fleet Management and the Fire Division;
- Achieved goal of 67 percent shop labor efficiency;
- Completed nearly 34,000 work-order requests for an average of 131/day;
- Met 100 percent of vehicle availability for the Fire Division, Transportation and Refuse Collection Division with respect to vehicles needed for everyday use;
- Reduced the overall fleet by 53 vehicles by selling or junking 314 vehicles, resulting in \$557,438 in proceeds to the City treasury;
- Received approximately \$1,600 from the internet sale of old tires, which normally the Division would pay to scrap;
- Continued an aggressive "green" program by implementing two bio-diesel pilot programs, using ultra low-sulfur diesel fuel ahead of schedule, installing five engine and hydraulic oil heaters in refuse-collection vehicles and specifying engine heaters in 20 new refuse collection trucks. Also,
 - Instituted recycling of oil and fuel filters;
 - Received the MORPC 2006 Clean Air Award for the city's anti-idling policy;
 - Applied for two grants, one through the US Environmental Protection Agency and one through the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, both designed to improve air quality mainly through reduced vehicle emissions.
- Added a second shift in the Short Street Truck Shop and implemented a second shift Tire Repairer, both without increasing total number of division employees;
- Achieved an overall 92.8% customer satisfaction rating for the year.

**Public Service Department
Transportation Division
2006 Annual Report**

The Transportation Division plans, designs, and inspects road and highway improvements. It also maintains the City's streets, highways, alleys, bridges and traffic-control systems. It assures that construction within the right of way is in accordance with the City's plans and specifications.

- Installed traffic calming on Hamilton Avenue, Storrow Road, Karl Road, Weber Road, Maize Road, Greenway South and Champion Avenue; installed Phase 2 Traffic Calming of the Strawberry Farms Traffic Management Plan;
- Kept pace with contractual contractor payment obligations, resulting in no complaints from contractors about late payments.
- Negotiated with the City's building industry stakeholders (BIA, BX, NAIOP, etc.) a construction-inspection fee increase schedule that will occur in three steps through January 2008;
- Continued to provide quality inspection, construction-management and contract- administration services for Public Utilities infrastructure projects;
- Widened Sullivant Avenue to five lanes between Wilson Road and Athens Avenue and Demorest Road to three lanes between Glorious Road and Parkside Avenue;
- Began reconstructing and widening McKinley Avenue to three lanes between Souder Avenue and Central Avenue and the reconstruction of Hartford Avenue and John Street;
- Completed construction of the \$9.3 million Morse Road Phase I Project between Indianola Avenue and Karl Road;
- Installed 3 miles of sidewalk on Watkins Road and Maize Road, using the Quick-to-Construct method, which allows us to do the design work in-house, resulting in tremendous cost and time savings;
- Implemented several measures to improve pedestrian safety, including pedestrian signals with countdown timers and new signage addressing right-turning vehicles and pedestrian movement; developed new sign size and mounting to minimize accidental damage to signs;
- Developed Median Design Criteria that are being used in developing beautification and traffic-calming projects;
- Surface Treated 32 lane miles of alleys; swept 13,232 curb miles; mowed 2,894 swath miles; patched approximately 71,382 potholes;
- Collected 65 tons of litter during annual spring cleanup;
- Scheduled (at the 1881 E. 25th Avenue Training Facility) 312 Transportation Division events, 106 events for other divisions/departments/groups, 11 for outside entities; and 39 for CMAGE or FOP negotiations
- Participated in six Neighborhood Prides;

- Completed 13,033 signal-maintenance calls; replaced or reinstalled 11 traffic- control cabinets knocked down due to accidents; changed 635 12" signal heads and 196 8" signal heads from incandescent to LED heads;
- Upgraded 20 mph school flashers at 11 schools for a total of 28 flashers; removed school flashers from five schools that closed; reinstalled school flashers at one school that reopened;
- Completed and connected Hard Road fiber-optic interconnect system; installed radio interconnect system for OSU;
- Completed the downtown parking meter change over, converting all of the one, three and six hour meters to two hour;
- Changed batteries, lubricated locks and cleaned card readers on all city parking meters twice;
- Screened 12,976 signs, made 1,910 street name signs, and produced 30,649 computer generated signs.

**DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY
2006 ANNUAL REPORT**

Department of Technology

2006 Annual Report to Columbus City Council

MISSION STATEMENT

The Department of Technology will leverage technology to make Columbus the best-performing municipality in the Mid-West.

The Department of Technology (DoT) supports the local government information infrastructure to promote the delivery of exceptional customer service, increased efficiency and the achievement of peak performance by:

- providing and sustaining uninterrupted, secure, and reliable information systems;
- developing and instituting information management policy and procedures; and
- ensuring digital equity to eliminate the digital divide that exists in city government and in our communities

DoT achieves this through the:

- maintenance of the city's information management systems;
- development and management of the city's network;
- provision of citywide telephone support services (including cell phones and pagers);
- provision of citywide mail services;
- design and maintenance of the city's website (www.columbus.gov);
- desktop computer support;
- operation of public, educational, and government access television channels; and
- support of the City of Columbus 311 Call Center

2007 Planned Activities – Mayoral Initiatives

The following Mayoral Initiatives will be completed by the Department over the course of the year. These initiatives are categorized by Columbus Covenant Goal.

Customer Service

Citywide IVR Implementation

DoT is in the process of implementing in the first half of 2007 a citywide interactive voice recognition system (IVR). This system will combine several older departmental systems and upgrade this function to a state-of-the-art call routing system for all City departments that currently utilize an IVR. This system has the capacity to service all City departments and consolidating into one system will save the City money in hardware, software and support maintenance personnel costs.

Implement Recreation & Parks Online Registration & Payment

This initiative is enter into an application development project with Recreation & Parks Department for the purpose of implementing a version of the Class Software System in such a matter as to provide the capability to citizens to register for City classes online. Additionally, a related portion of this project is to integrate and the Class system to the new payment engine to accept tuition payments for classes that are registered online.

Web-Based Purchasing: V-Gov

This goal of the G2B (government-to-business) initiative is to install new hardware and software components to the Performance Series system that will allow for the acquisition of goods and services via the formal bid process utilizing the Internet. Technology is providing a supporting role to the Auditor's Office in this project.

Peak Performance

Citywide Connectivity Plan

DoT has engaged Whiteboard, a subsidiary of Schottenstein, Zox & Dunn, L.P.A., to produce a Citywide network connectivity plan. This plan will envision a network that will provide high-speed network and wireless connectivity to all parts of the City and central Ohio. Other government jurisdictions will be able to participate and add their connectivity to the overall area covered. This plan will also address providing connectivity to disadvantaged segments of the City in an attempt to help bridge the "digital divide". Funding alternatives for this plan will also be presented.

Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP) Implementation

The City has over 7,000 telephones. These telephones are provided and provisioned by a major telecom vendor. By the end of 2008, DoT has will have replaced over 3,000 of these telephones with digital telephones whose internal traffic will be carried on the City's internal data network. This will decrease annual O&M costs significantly, provide greater reliability and faster response to service requests to telephone moves and repairs.

In-house Migration of City Internet Infrastructure

The City of Columbus' Internet presence will be hosted in-house. Currently, this presence is hosted by an outside vendor. Bringing the Internet in-house will provide greater reliability and availability.

IT Disaster Recovery Planning

This initiative will begin the process of developing the physical capability and written plan to reconstitute certain mission critical applications and functions that currently reside at the City data center should that facility become unavailable for use due to natural or man made disaster. Targeted areas for completion include the build-out of physical facility at the DRP location ready to house the mission critical applications once equipment is deployed.

Coordination of Citywide Technology Solutions

This initiative will continue to develop and refine a process to identify opportunities for overall Citywide participation in technology projects. Included in this initiative will the implementation of mobile computing facility for use by City employees that travel throughout the City in the performance of their responsibilities.

311 and Columbus Stat System Integration

DoT will partner with the Finance & Management Department, Mayor's Office and the vendor of PBviews to integrate the performance results data from the 311 system into the Columbus*Stat performance management system.

Citywide Network Connectivity Planning

A technical data connectivity plan will be developed to lay out the segments needed to be constructed over a period of years to provide connectivity to all parts of the City. This plan will take into account such technologies as fiber, cable, third party leased lines, microwave and wireless. Voice, data and citywide Internet access will be included in this plan which will cover a number of years.

Research and Implement Technology to Support Essential Functions

The Department of Technology through its strategic planning process will work to identify, propose, justify and assist in the implementation of information technology solutions to support their customer essential business functions that, in turn, deliver City resources and services to the public.

Web Capital Improvements System GIS-based System

DoT is partnering with the Department of Finance & Management to deliver a GIS-based application available to the public over the Internet. DoT has been performing extensive analysis on how capital improvement plans are submitted. This process is being re-engineered and standardized to streamline the process submission, review and analysis of capital plans. This application will provide the facility to the citizen to review in a graphical context the location and status of all active City capital projects.

PC Replacement

DoT will replace/refresh approximately 600 PC over the course 2007. PC's that are reaching obsolescence and that more difficult to maintain will be replaced.

2006 Accomplishments

The following list outlines the major initiatives that were successfully completed in the year just past. The initiatives are categorized by Columbus Covenant Goals.

Customer Service

311 Customer Relationship Management System

Work on the new 311 System progressed on a timely basis through 2005 leading to the implementation of that system on January 3, 2006. The new system was implemented on time with relatively little problems. The new system was rolled out with a public relations campaign which included handout brochures, media coverage of Mayor Coleman taking calls at the 311 call center as well as leaflets inserted into quarterly Water bill mailings. Besides providing one number to call for most City services, the system also permits citizens to schedule bulk refuse pickups and create service requests online. In 2006, out of 92,379 total 15,079 (16.29%) Refuse bulk pickups were scheduled online. That was six-fold increase from 2005, when 2,576 (11.5%) of all refuse bulk pickups were scheduled online.

E-Government (government through electronic media)

In 2006 the City of Columbus experienced 55,754,050 visits to its web sites by citizens are seeking information. The Home page was the site most visited with 1,620,128 individual visits from 929,728 visitors. Additionally, Columbus continues to place more services online for citizens to access. The following number of transactions and payments were processed though the Internet:

Business Process	Number of Transactions	Dollar Amount
Water Payments	63,829	\$ 8,373,136
Income Tax	18,768	\$ 43,262,200
Parking Violations	41,974	\$ 1,611,198
Total	124,571	\$53,246,534

Cable Broadcast Station Programming

GTC-3 produced 366 new programs for the government access channel. New programming initiated in 2006 includes three new regular series:

- *Education is Everyone’s Business*, hosted by Education Director Tei Street and coordinated through the Office of Education
- *EMS Perspectives*, hosted by Dr. David Keseg, Medical Director for the Division of Fire
- *Access to Business*, hosted by Thomas Stephens and coordinated by the EBOCO.

GTC-3 produced coverage of the following Forums:

- The Community Relations Commission series on the ABC’s of the CPD and the CFD (4 forums)
- The Mayor’s Streetcar Forums (2)
- City Council’s Creative Columbus Task Force Forums (7)
- City Council’s Policy Forums (3) Live coverage

The Cable television section completed the transfer of the WOW Internet and Cable service permit to a new owner, Racecar Inc.

The Cable section established a fund for the purpose of awarding Community Technology grants. Initial funding: \$25,000/year over four years.

Recreation & Parks Wireless Connectivity

DoT implemented Wi-Fi wireless networking at Lazelle Woods, Thompson and Dodge recreation centers. This will allow citizens utilizing the recreation center an opportunity

to access the Internet. Plans call for a roll-out of this connectivity to all recreation centers.

Peak Performance

MCP/ASR Employee Performance Tracking Application

DoT application development section partnered with the central Human Resources Department late in the year to develop and implement the first phase of the an online system to administer the newly established Performance Excellence program for Management Compensation Plan (MCP) employees. The first phase was developed and placed into production on schedule early in 2006 to comply with the initiation of the program Citywide.

Anti-Spam Software

The City receives over 100,000 e-mails daily. Industry reports cite that seventy-five percent of all external, Internet mail is Spam. Elimination of e-mail Spam is key to increasing individual productivity in the workplace. In the second half of 2005, DoT investigated the alternatives for the reduction of Internet-based Spam e-mail. A Spam filtering solution was implemented in January 2006 and in the ten days following installation of this software approximately 400,000 e-mails were automatically deleted as known Spam. Another 400,000 were earmarked by the system as possible Spam.

System availability remains reliable

During 2005 DoT generally met or exceeded its service commitments documented in its Service Level Agreements. Many applications attained a 100% availability(scheduled uptime) with all others attaining maintaining or exceeding 99%. DoT customers were provided with most reports and the post processing of documents to meet their business needs on a timely basis.

Staff Augmentation

In order to quickly respond to customer support requests that cannot be satisfied with existing staff and to supplement technical expertise that DoT might not have, the department has successful let a bid request for supplemental staffing. The specifications include 17 different information technology job categories. In 2006 six vendors, from all 31 competing bids, were selected and the City has entered into contract with them. The vendor selection process has been formalized as we begin to utilize this universal term contract to augment staff on critical information technology projects.

PC Replacement Rollout

855 new PC's were rolled out Citywide by the Desktop group replacing older aging equipment last year. This equipment will enhance the efficiency and productivity of the individual City employees that received them. Hardware and software currency will also be maintained and enable DoT to support these workstations. This initiative was part of an equipment refreshment project to maintain reliability of the equipment.

DoT Human Resources One New Civil Service Classifications Established; Six Revised and Three Abolished

As part of a continuing multi-year project, in 2006 DoT continued to work with Civil Service and Human Resources to establish “best practices” job families in all the disciplines practiced in the department. The goal is to establish classification families in logical career sequences that contain Civil Service approved classifications established by Council and Mayoral action. These classifications will also have pay ranges that are competitive in the market place. In establishing these families the city will be more able to compete for the information technology skills that it requires to maintain complex information/technology infrastructures. One New Civil Service Classification was created, six were reviewed and or revised and three were abolished. The new classification was Technical Services Manager. The reviewed and or revised classifications included Senior Programmer Analyst, Programmer Analyst, Information Systems Manager, Software Engineer, Information Systems Technician, and Information Services Division Administrator. The classification abolished included Telecommunications Administrator, Telecommunications Assistant Administrator, and Information Services Assistant Administrator.

Libra implementation

DoT successfully upgraded the mainframe computer on which the Central Payroll, Police and State of Ohio LEADS criminal history mission critical applications reside. By upgrading this mainframe computer the City of Columbus will save approximately \$500,000 over a five year period in maintenance costs, have increased processing capacity and new more reliable technology which will increase online availability of these systems.

GIS Program

My Neighborhoods upgrade - DoT upgraded the My Neighborhoods application. The upgrade consisted of three major improvements:

1. The new application uses GIS repository data;
2. The code was migrated to Microsoft .NET;
3. The web site is consistent with the City's new Internet look.

These improvements make the application easier to use and maintain.

Vacant Housing Application - GIS delivered a web based tracking database and application for vacant housing. The application is used by Code Enforcement, the City Attorney's Office to track and develop information concerning vacant housing in Columbus. Additionally, it will soon be used by Public Safety to assist in the analysis of potential areas crime.

New Aerial Photography - GIS loaded the 3" pixel, color, orthorectified aerial photography from Franklin County and DPU into the GIS database making it available to GIS users citywide. GIS also integrated the data with existing applications.

Mass Storage & SAN Upgrade

DoT successfully upgraded its disk storage system and storage area network (SAN) in 2006. The capacity to store data in the City data center more than doubled with this upgrade and the system that carries this data to and from the servers and workstations was replaced and upgraded significantly. The City will save additional annual O&M dollars with this upgrade plus help meet the growing need for data storage that the City is experiencing.

Metronet Upgrades

Upgraded the Metronet equipment in several different City locations to include the Building Services Division location on Carolyn Avenue which houses over 400 users. These upgrades will ensure reliability of network service to all users utilizing network-based applications such as Accela, Performance, Central Payroll.

Reorganization of CLASS project

As requested by the Recreation and Parks department, DoT performed a analysis on the current state of that departments efforts to fully institute the CLASS system. DoT made many recommendations as well as determined the deliverables, to include a survey of all Recreation Centers and their physical and IT needs, that are needed to be accomplished to institute the system comprehensively within the department. Recreation and Parks are currently working on those recommendation to include a major collection and cleansing of the data in the current CLASS database.

Implementation of Rugged Network Sign-on Password Format

In 2006, using information technology best practices in the spirit of continuous improvement, DoT has implemented a new computer sign-on format. This new format which uses a combination of numbers, lower, upper case & special characters is much more difficult to compromise by potential hackers. By doing so, the risk of unauthorized exposure of the City's vital data and information has been significantly reduced.

Blackberry Enterprise Server Implementation

DoT implemented a mobile telephone/e-mail/calendaring solution utilizing the Blackberry technology within the Nextel network. This solution allows senior staff access to their mobile telephones, Internet while keeping their mail and calendars synchronized to their office desktops boosting their productivity and availability.

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**DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT
2006 ANNUAL REPORT**

Department of Development 2006 Annual Report

The Department of Development is pleased to submit the 2006 Annual Report. The report highlights the accomplishments of the Department as we work to promote the goals of the Columbus Covenant set forth by Mayor Michael B. Coleman. It is our goal to continue to strengthen our neighborhoods as we work to make Columbus America's 21st Century City.

Planning Division

- The Big Darby Accord Watershed Management Plan was adopted by City Council following the conclusion of an intensive planning process; staff supported this multi-jurisdictional effort. Implementation tasks were started in the Fall of 2006, including development of a zoning overlay, coordination with Accord partners regarding establishment of a review panel, town plan center discussions, and investigating funding sources.
- The Weinland Park Neighborhood Plan was also adopted in 2006. This plan focuses on revitalization of this University area neighborhood.
- The Development Strategy for Columbus Job Centers was completed by the Planning Division, working with the consultants (Bay Area Economics and Lincoln Street Studios), Economic Development Division, Director's Office, and Mayor's Office.
- Staff initiated the planning process for the Port Columbus Area Development Partnership, working with the staff and leadership of Gahanna and Whitehall. Existing conditions data and analysis was undertaken in the Fall.
- Plans underway in 2006: Milo-Grogan Area Plan, Northeast Plan Area Update, Northwest Plan Update, Southeast Area Plan Amendment.
- Specific implementation activities were underway in 2006 for the following plans Near East Area Plan (various activities), Weinland Park Neighborhood Plan (Division coordinated a safety forum) and West Broad Street Economic Development Study (various activities including a design charrette).
 - Plans initiated in 2006: Eastmoor Design Charrette (Broad and Main Streets), Far South Plan, and Southside Plan Amendment (Merion Village and Schumacher Place).
- The Division undertook the Ft Hayes BRAC process working with the US Department of Defense, US Office of Economic Adjustment, homeless service providers, and Columbus Public Schools.
- The Division participated in the New Neighborhood Initiative
- Staff provided direct support to Pay As We Grow agreements and related zoning negotiations.
- The consultant selection process was initiated and completed for the Hamilton Road Corridor Redevelopment Plan, as well as organizing the working group; with project kick-off in January 2007.
- Staff provided support to O'Brien – Atkins on the SR315 Technology Corridor project by providing GIS data, mapping and other existing conditions information.
 - Staff continued to support various regional initiatives: joint growth discussions with Dublin, Grandview Heights, Groveport, Lockbourne, Pataskala, and Prairie Township.
- The Division participated in the Franklin County Engineer's Southeast Traffic Study related to the Southeast Plan Amendment (Bixby Road); the 70/71 reconstruction project as requested by the city Transportation Division; Main Street Design Charrette coordinated by the Neighborhood Design Center; Hamilton Township/Columbus annual meeting, and continued working with Grandview Heights and a developer in the redevelopment of the northeast quadrant of Dublin Road and Grandview Avenue.
- Urban Design staff provided design support to the King-Lincoln District and Wheatland Avenue redevelopment site.
- Staff provided support to Rickenbacker-Woods Technology Center.
 - For the Whittier Peninsula, the following tasks were completed or undertaken: assessing environmental issues on the southern tier, wrapping up the first national developer search, and strategizing next steps to move the neighborhood development part of the project forward. Staff continues to work closely with Metro Parks and Audubon to coordinate and assist their partnership activities. Pending the completion of a final development plan for the neighborhood portion of the Whittier, environmental remediation activities will focus on the peninsula's southern recreational tier.

Neighborhood Services Division

The Division participated in major projects such as the Home Again program that kicked off in June as a part of a \$25 million initiative to abate blighted and vacant properties.

Neighborhood Pride

Since the creation of Neighborhood Pride in 2000, Pride has served residents in 48 neighborhoods. We are proud to announce that in 2006 Pride was one of three programs that helped Columbus capture the All American City Award. In 2006, 318 residents, twice as many as in 2005, graduated from the Neighborhood Safety Academy trainings, 1,688 participated in the Bicycle Safety Festivals and Pride recruited 133 new Pride Partners in 2006 with donations valued at \$85,488.

Pride Centers

The Franklinton Center received 5,608 service requests in 2006, three times the number received in 2005. The Health staff at Franklinton received 4,984 request for services. The Pride Center manager is involved in many projects some of which include the railroad clean up, the redevelopment of the Mt Carmel West area, Home Again, the Franklinton Mobility Plan, the McKinley Avenue improvement project, re-development of the B&T metals and other commission projects.

The Near East Side Pride Center responded to 6,297 calls /walk-ins in 2006, 13 percent more than 2005. Staff continues to assist with the King-Lincoln projects and activities and the WMPR targeted area activities. The Manager coordinates regular communication with the community leaders by hosting a weekly scheduled Thursday morning meeting with community and an annual Near East Side Pride Center business Outreach forum. Staff has been busy with assisting the Driving Park Area Commission with their quest to expand the commission boundaries.

The Southside Pride Center had 2,551 service requests in 2006. Major projects include the Greater Parsons Ave Vision Plan, the WMPR target zone activities, moving two S Fourth Street houses and securing \$60,000 to assist with the move, providing technical assistance to two proposed area commissions. Staff assisted with the demolition of the John Maloney Health Center and facilitated discussions with CMHA and the City of Columbus concerning tenant issues.

The Far East Pride Center staff responded to about 10,297 service requests in 2006. Staff sponsored 3 job forums, 4 STD clinics, hosted the Broad and Main Planning charette, continued their involvement with the Hamilton Road Corridor Plan.

Neighborhood Liaison Program

Community liaison staff excluding the Pride center managers responded to 2,294 calls and requests for service. They continue to attend a variety of block watch, civic association and area commissions and other neighborhood group meetings.

Agency Services

Legislation for more than 80 social services was developed using EHS, General Fund, CDBG, and Capital Funds. Staff managed the agency funds, let contracts, provided technical assistant and monitored and reviewed monthly performance Activity reports and budgets. We allocated approximately \$3.5 million in CDBG, HHS and Emergency Human Services funds to 60 local social service agencies.

Code Enforcement

The 311 call system was integrated into the Code Enforcement process. The Woodland Meadows Complex was the most challenging project in 2005 and 2006. In 2006 Code Enforcement monitored the closing of this complex. In addition, we assisted staff with the new Home Again program that will address enforcement, acquisition, demolition of vacant structures. In 2006, 18,359 code orders were written, a 9 percent increase from 2005. Six thousand, two hundred seventy two were weed and solid waste orders, which increased almost 20 percent since 2005. We secured 1167 vacant structures in 2006.

Historic Preservation

HPO completed 1006 Certificates of Appropriateness and each was processed within 5 days or less. HPO continued to staff the five historic architectural review commissions in addition to completing other projects such as the Conservation Neighborhood legislation, assisting with the preservation of the

Richards (Dam Tender's) House, facilitating the quarterly Historic Preservation Community Leaders Breakfast and reestablishing the Keystone newsletter.

Building Services

In 2006, BSD reviewed 5860 residential plans and 4717 commercial plans, ranging from changes of uses to new construction. The Division performed 258,352 inspections, with an average same day inspection rate of 99%. The Division had personal contact with 14,611 customers in the customer service center, processed and issued 5,137 licenses or registrations and finalized and issued 13,593 permits. Successfully co-located the Engineering Plan Review Section; hired the Chief Building Official and Chief Plans Official. Legislated the Accela Automation Upgrade and developed through Hotwire the strategy to fully implement cultural change to concur with the demands of the industry market.

August through October, the Division hosted the BSD the Building Code Academy 2006. More than 300 people attended these 10 weekly sessions that were open to all contractors, trade specialists, design professionals and members of the public. The sessions were broken down by the sections of the Ohio Building Code.

We were successful in reducing the time to complete building life/safety inspections from two to three weeks to three to four days through our communications with the Division of Fire. The Division continues to work diligently to expand and grow its relationship with the Division of Fire and implemented better methods for coordination the dual plan review obligations for fire suppression and detection and improved methods for communicating when the occasional building emergency occurs.

Building Services staff partnered with Recreations and Parks in order to improve the floodplain review for many of the bike trails that were constructed in and near our waterways. This met the shared goal of preserving these flood prone areas as open space yet allowing for a network of fully-connected recreations trails to access this open space to develop across the community in order to add another asset for the City to remain competitive, attractive and environmentally friendly.

Economic Development

In 2006 the Economic Development Division leveraged tax incentives to secure 18 new projects. Over the next 5-10 years, the businesses in these projects will create 2,393 new jobs, \$123 million of new payroll, \$2.5 million of new income tax and \$202 million of new real property investment. The businesses will also retain 3,025 existing jobs in Columbus.

The Economic Development Division conducts the monitoring and compliance for the City's property tax incentives and coordinates the Columbus Tax Incentive Review Council (TIRC). One-hundred and forty-one (141) projects were reviewed in 2006 by the TIRC, including 78 Enterprise Zone and CRA agreements, 45 TIF districts and 14 pre-1994 and residential CRA districts. Together, this portfolio of projects represents \$5.7 billion in real and personal property investment and 80,000 jobs created and/or retained.

The Special Projects component of the Economic Development Division oversees the administration and coordination of the City's brownfield redevelopment program as well as various tax abatement projects and the creation of tax increment finance districts around Columbus. New brownfield redevelopment projects from 2006 include the Village at Wheatland, Kimball Properties and the former B&T Metals site where over 500 new residential units will be constructed on Brownfield sites near downtown Columbus and in the Hilltop neighborhood. Special Projects also coordinated the effort to obtain a \$2.6 million Job Ready Site grant from the Ohio Department of Development to benefit infrastructure along the Kinnear Road corridor of the Science and Technology Campus and work is underway to clean-up and redevelop the former Columbus Coated Fabrics site, the former Techneglas site and the former Dublin Road Landfill site.

In 2006, more than \$14 million was spent for infrastructure improvements in 9 neighborhoods; \$3,983,000 was spent on neighborhood construction projects, and \$10,023,000 was spent on economic development projects. The city's loan programs administered by CCDC and ECDI closed 33 loans totaling \$450,000, leveraged over \$9 million in private investment and created 37 jobs.

Housing Division

- 88 Downpayment Assistance loans were closed for eligible first time homebuyers totaling \$410,635
- 34 homes were assisted with Housing Development Program (HDP) funds and sold to low and moderate-income households and sixty-five (65) houses are in construction.
- In 2006, two (2) new Neighborhood Investment Districts (NIDs) were established and the five (5) original NIDs were renewed for another five (5) years. Additionally, two (2) of the original five NIDS were expanded. In 2006, thirty-two houses were approved for Residential Tax Abatement totaling \$3,601,120.
- 609 affordable rental units were completed. 253 affordable rental units in 7 projects are under construction and 8 applications are in process totaling 722 units of affordable rental housing.
- The Housing Division also assisted low income homeowners by completing the following activities:
 - 59 Home Safe and Sound projects completed rehabilitating homes owned by low-income families;
 - 430 emergency repairs were undertaken to correct unsafe and hazardous conditions and enable low-income families to remain in their homes;
 - 20 Home Modification projects were completed to enable disabled individuals to live independently;
 - 49 Deaf Modification projects were completed to enable hearing-impaired individuals to live independently;
 - 254 Chores projects were completed that include minor home repair/maintenance activities to assist low-income elderly households to remain in their homes;
 - 1 sewer tie in was completed to provide sewer and/or water service to low income households that otherwise could not afford water/sewer service;
- The Mobile Tool Truck loaned 6,721 tools to residents and nonprofit organizations with the Mobile Tool Library membership over 5,000.
- 375 federally funded projects were reviewed for compliance with lead based paint and/or relocation regulations
- Relocation assistance was provided to 45 households as a result of vacate orders
- A Lead Grant for \$2.9 million was received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) enabling the Division to accomplish the following activities:
 - 74 housing units were lead abated and passed lead clearance test;
 - 105 housing units were enrolled in the Lead Program for future abatement;
 - 112 housing units were lead risk assessed;
 - 103 housing units had visual lead assessments conducted in order to receive downpayment assistance for purchase.
- The Housing Division completed “green” building standards for a new housing project – Greenview Estates that will result in 30 new high performance housing units. Currently, of the 30 lots, 23 units are in contract.
- The process for “green” infill new construction and “green” rehabilitation of an existing inner city vacant house was completed and construction began in 2006.

Land Redevelopment Office

Through our efforts in 2006 private and non-profit investment in redevelopment projects in the central city neighborhoods amounted to over \$21 million; 50 infill single family housing units, 4 single family rehabs, 10 condo units over retail; 1 mixed use retail commercial building 2 commercial expansion projects.

The City took title to 43 parcels of land for future redevelopment in 2006 and accepted 6 properties through donation (2 structures for rehab, 2 nuisance structures for demo and infill, and 2 vacant lots for future infill). In 2006 14 nuisance properties held in the Land Bank were demolished in 2006.

The Garden Lease Program leased 18 garden and beautification sites in central city neighborhoods.

Project completions in 2006: The Waverly Pool project, completed 7 single family market rate homes, Habitat for Humanity completed 3 single family homes on our lots, and NoBo project CHP completed 3 single family homes on our lots.

Higher maintenance standards in 2006 amounted to mowing 190 lots every two weeks and boarding to code over 12 structures.

Downtown Development

In 2006 the number of companies that either relocated to Downtown or expanded their existing staff Downtown increased to 34 as a result of the Office Incentive Program. These 34 companies represent approximately 2,259 new and 483 retained jobs in Downtown with an estimated payroll of \$152.7 million and an estimated \$3.05 million in City Income Tax. In concert with this relocation and expansion initiative, the Downtown office vacancy rate declined during the year from 19.7% to 18.3% (a 6.0% decrease from the high point of 24.3% in 2002).

The number of new housing units completed in the Downtown market grew to 1,534 units, with an additional 2,710 units under development. These 1,534 new units represent an estimated 2,301 new Downtown residents.

The Shops at Union Station officially opened during 2006. The Shops were built over I-670 along High Street and serve to link Downtown with the Short North. The Downtown Advertising Mural Graphics Plan and Downtown Newracks Program continued its implementation during 2006. Additionally, a Downtown Parking Meter Strategy was jointly developed with the Public Service Department and City Council to better manage the City's on-street parking in Downtown.

**PUBLIC UTILITIES DEPARTMENT
2006 ANNUAL REPORT**

Department of Public Utilities 2006 Annual Report

Director's Office

2006 brought many changes to the Department of Public Utilities. Following a cost of service rate study and approvals from the Sewer and Water Advisory Board and Columbus City Council in 2005, a new water rate structure went into effect in January. A new low-income discount program was also implemented for water and sewer rates, providing a 15 percent discount to qualifying ratepayers.

Several functions of the Department of Public Utilities were consolidated and moved under the Director's Office in 2006, a process that began in 2005. Those sections included Fiscal, Communications, Human Resources and Fleet and a new Regulatory Compliance Section was created. The consolidation of similar functions will allow for better staff collaboration and resources to be shared within the department, leading to better efficiency.

A department-wide strategic planning process got underway, with goals from various sections identified for 2007 by the end of the year.

The Communications Office coordinated media correspondence and distributed news releases, informational brochures and customer bill inserts regarding water quality, water conservation, prevention of non-point source water pollution and other notifications required by the Ohio EPA. In conjunction with the Department of Technology, the section also redesigned and updated the department's Web site to conform to the city's new template. The new site includes a new area called "Conservation and Environmental Stewardship" to help further Mayor Michael B. Coleman's Get Green Columbus initiative.

Division of Power and Water: Water Section

On April 13, 2006, the Division of Water and the Division of Electricity were merged to become the Division of Power and Water.

The Water Section staff ensures an ample supply of safe drinking water to one of the fastest growing metropolitan areas in the United States. The well-being of our citizens and quality of life in our community depends upon the consistent quality and adequate supply of water for domestic, commercial and industrial use.

In 2006, the Water Section delivered 51.3 billion gallons of potable water, in compliance with all applicable quality standards, to citizens living in the Columbus metropolitan area. With an estimated service area population of 1,083,100, the average per-capita consumption was 130 gallons per day, while the average daily water pumpage was 140 million gallons (with no restrictions). Expansion of the water supply system to address regional growth is progressing. Construction of the first of several wells planned for expansion of the South Wellfield will begin in 2007; the Preliminary Design Report for the upground reservoirs off the Scioto River was completed in the first quarter of 2006 and construction of the first of three upground reservoirs in northwest Delaware County is scheduled to begin in 2008.

The Pitometer Water Waste Survey located 40 breaks in the distribution system while investigating 755 miles of pipeline. The repair of these breaks has reduced our underground leakage by 2.17 million gallons per day. The Main Line Repair Crews repaired a total of 690 main-line breaks, 734 service leaks and repaired 2,530 damaged hydrants. The Cross-Connection Control and Backflow Prevention Program increased water use surveys on existing properties to assure proper protection was in place. Backflow specific software has streamlined many clerical and administrative duties for the activity. Backflow requirements for temporary water uses and water hydrant permit connections were reviewed for proper system protection and best business practices.

A total of 11,388 inspections for new construction, existing structures, service line inspections, meter settings, backflow prevention installation inspections and water use surveys were completed by this activity. We now have 24,148 backflow prevention devices listed in our database, where we record the installation records and monitor the required maintenance schedule.

There were 2,022 new service connection permits issued; 1,120 in Columbus and 902 issued in the suburban service areas. Thirty miles of waterline—10 miles in Columbus and 20 miles in suburban service areas—were added to the distribution system in 2006, bringing the total to 3,470 miles.

The Water Enterprise Fund collected \$114,570,375 in revenue and expended \$113,106,248.

The Water Section also was a partner in the Department in overseeing implementation of the new water rate structure and the Low Income Discount Program for qualifying water customers. The Program also applies to sewer rates.

Excellent customer service also was among the list of accomplishments in 2006. Customer Service Representatives answered 417,902 calls in the Department's Customer Service Call Center, taking calls from customers regarding water, sewer, stormwater and electricity questions.

Customers continue to utilize the Public Payment Office at 910 Dublin Road Billing was handled for the following numbers of accounts:

- o Water 269,117
- o Sewer 265,400
- o Stormwater 193,478
- o Power 13,719

Meter reading, repair, inspections also continued to provide excellent customer service. Meter reading employees read both water and electric meters with the same software and hardware, and were managed by the same staff member. The Water Meter Repair Shop found 257 meters running slow that were back-billed for \$1,247,857.

Division of Power and Water: Power Section (formerly Division of Electricity)

A major project for the Power Section in 2006 was to complete a cost of service study and adjust basic electric rates for the first time in 13 years. This became necessary due to a new purchase power contract with the American Electric Power (AEP) Service Corporation. Wholesale rates under the contract, which was competitively bid, went from \$41.02 per megawatt hour under the old contract to \$58.66 per megawatt under the new one. This was the best price on the market at that time.

The agreement resulted in requested increases in rates for all classes of power customers beginning in January 2007, ranging from nine to 88 percent, depending on the customer class, service charge changes and usage. The increases reflect the new contract as well as a wholesale power market impacted by industry deregulation, which also resulted in major rate increases at other municipal utilities.

Safer neighborhoods through modern, efficient street and alley lighting remained this section's primary mission. The total number of street lights illuminating neighborhoods was 49,982. This was an increase of 1,193 lights. Many of the lights were added under the very popular neighborhood assessment program, where residents petition for decorative lighting. Four neighborhoods were added to the 33 which have gone this direction since the program began in 1993: 125 lights were added in the Maize-Morse Road neighborhood; 427 lights were added in Independence Village; 71 lights were added on Sharon Woods Boulevard and Beechcroft Avenue and 32 lights were added in Westerford Village. The Power Section also maintains 4,081 Interstate lights under contract with the State of Ohio.

The section received the benefit of an additional 1.1 megawatts in peaking capacity when the Army Corps of Engineers turned over two diesel generators located at the Renick Run floodwall pump station to the city. Three more generators remain under Corps control, but should be turned over to the city in 2007, bringing available peaking capacity to 7.3 megawatts.

Maintaining reliable service to customers is a major strength of the Power Section and to do this, older electrical circuits must be upgraded and new ones built. The section completed the design to upgrade two older circuits from 7,200 volts to 14,400 volts. The higher voltage offers greater reliability and the ability to add new customers. Several new overhead and underground circuits were constructed in Italian Village and the Morse Road major distribution circuit was upgraded.

Customer Development worked on 179 new electricity accounts in 2006, primarily to raise revenue to support an ever expanding neighborhood street lighting system. Several of the new customers include new businesses in the South Campus Gateway Project off N. High near OSU, a new Time-Warner Cable facility at Gowdy Field and several Columbus Public Schools' buildings. All the new customers added to the city's power system represent an additional \$581,975 in yearly revenue.

Revenues for the Power Section totaled \$65,657,144 in 2006 from the sale of electricity to residential, commercial and industrial customers and from an expressway lighting contract with the State of Ohio. Expenditures totaled \$62,794,304.

Division of Sewerage and Drainage

The Division of Sewerage and Drainage is responsible for various vital services including the treatment of wastewater generated in the City of Columbus and 22 contracting communities, maintaining the sewer collection system in Columbus, stormwater management and surface water quality protection.

Progress continued during 2006 on projects identified in the Wet Weather Management Plan that was submitted to the Ohio EPA in 2005. The 40-year plan was designed to address the wet weather issues in the sanitary and combined sewer systems

and comply with two consent orders with the State of Ohio to stop sewer overflows into local waterways. The plan contains an estimated \$2.5 billion in improvements to the Columbus sanitary and combined sewer systems along with upgrades to the Jackson Pike and Southerly wastewater treatment plants.

To prepare for the increased revenue needs to fund the current and upcoming improvements, sanitary sewer rates were increased by 19.9% in 2006. Stormwater fees were raised 10% to continue meeting the demand for stormwater improvements and reduce neighborhood flooding.

The Project Dry Basement sewer backup prevention program continued to progress during its second full year with 66 backflow valves installed. As of March 2007, a total of 390 valves have been installed since the program's inception in 2004.

The Sewer Maintenance Operations Center received a total of 12,671 service requests for investigation of a reported problem or utility locate.

At the end of 2006, Columbus' sewer line inventory totaled 5,474 miles* of pipe that Columbus maintains. That includes 2,683 miles of sanitary sewers, 2,628 miles of storm sewers and 163 miles of combined sewers.

Both the Jackson Pike and Southerly Wastewater Treatment Plants maintained their award-winning environmental compliance status. Flows being treated at the wastewater treatment plants were a combined average of 171.5 million gallons per day.

The Sanitary Enterprise Fund collected \$174,663,456 in revenue and expended \$156,403,035. The Stormwater Enterprise Fund collected \$30,111,701 in revenue and expended \$33,073,846.

** Note: miles of sewer shown is reduced from 2005 numbers due to a more accurate way of tracking them, which now includes deduction of abandoned lines and proposed new sewers.*

**THE TRUSTEES OF THE SINKING FUND
2006 ANNUAL REPORT**

OFFICE OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE SINKING FUND CITY OF COLUMBUS, OHIO

The City Council of Columbus
Columbus, Ohio

Submitted herewith is the Report of the Trustees of the Sinking Fund of the City of Columbus, Ohio, for the year ended December 31, 2006. This report includes all debt transactions under our jurisdiction undertaken by the City during 2006. The entries contained within this report have been found to be in balance with the accounts of the City Auditor.

Sincerely,

Mark J. Howard
President

OFFICERS AND STAFF

		TERM EXPIRES
President	Mark J. Howard	January 31, 2009
Vice President	Stanley A. Uchida	January 31, 2008
Trustee	Jackie R. Winchester	January 31, 2007
Trustee	Kathleen A. Chapin	January 31, 2010
Executive Secretary	David J. Irwin	
Deputy Administrator	Tamara R. Athey	
Administrative Assistant	Cecelia J. DiPasquale	

Debt service on General Obligation indebtedness issued prior to July 1, 1983 is payable at the Office of the City Treasurer of the City of Columbus, Ohio, exclusively. The Office of the Trustees of the Sinking Fund is the transfer agent for these issues. General Obligation indebtedness issued after June 30, 1983, is in book entry only form. All book entry only (BEO) issues are serviced by the Office of the Trustees of the Sinking Fund, the paying and transfer agent. All Revenue and Non-Enterprise Revenue issues, with the exception of the Adjustable Rate Tax Increment Financing Bonds - TIF's (issued in 2002 and 2004), and all refunded issues are serviced through the office of the City Auditor.

The addresses are shown below.

City Treasurer
Room 111 City Hall
Columbus, Ohio 43215

City Auditor
Room 109 City Hall
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Trustees of the Sinking Fund

STATEMENT OF TOTAL DEBT

December 31, 2006

GENERAL OBLIGATION DEBT

GENERAL CITY BONDS AND NOTES

<u>Rate %</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Bonds	
2.750 to 12.375 \$	1,643,800,000
Mortgage	
Revenue Notes	
6.630	12,268
Total	\$ 1,643,812,268

ASSESSMENT BONDS AND NOTES

<u>Rate %</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Bonds	
4.000 to 6.250 \$	3,120,124
Notes	
5.250	1,382,000
Total	\$ 4,502,124

NON-ENTERPRISE REVENUE DEBT

<u>Rate %</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Bonds	
6.200 \$	455,000
Bonds - (TIF)	
Adj. Rate	4,200,000
	\$ 4,655,000

TOTAL GENERAL OBLIGATION DEBT

General	\$ 1,643,812,268
Assessment	4,502,124
Non-Enterprise	
Revenue Bond	4,655,000
Total	\$ 1,652,969,392

Net Sinking Fund

Assets	790,446
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NET GENERAL

OBLIGATION DEBT \$	1,652,178,946
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OTHER DEBT (Not Sinking Fund Jurisdiction)

REVENUE DEBT (Administrator-City Auditor)

	<u>Amount</u>
Water	\$ 28,045,000
Sewer	77,280,000
Total	\$ 105,325,000

NON-ENTERPRISE REVENUE DEBT

<u>(Administrator-City Auditor)</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Easton-TIF	\$ 35,640,000
Polaris-2004	19,650,000
Polaris (Sub)	8,150,000
Total	\$ 63,440,000

OPWC LOANS (Administrator-City Auditor)

(Included in G.O. Debt) \$	3,874,628
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BONDS, NOTES & LOANS ISSUED AND RETIRED DURING 2006

	<u>General Obligation</u>	<u>Assessment</u>	<u>Revenue (Ent & Non-Ent)</u>	<u>Total</u>
ISSUED				
Bonds	\$ 280,215,000	\$ 1,016,593	\$ 2,650,000	\$ 283,881,593
Notes		1,382,000		1,382,000
Loans				0
	\$ <u>280,215,000</u>	\$ <u>2,398,593</u>	\$ <u>2,650,000</u>	\$ <u>285,263,593</u>
RETIRED				
Bonds	\$ 138,505,000	\$ 377,348	\$ 19,000,000	\$ 157,882,348
Notes		2,507,000		2,507,000
Mortgage Rev Notes	4,076			4,076
Loans	317,372			317,372
	\$ <u>138,826,448</u>	\$ <u>2,884,348</u>	\$ <u>19,000,000</u>	\$ <u>160,710,796</u>
Increase/ (Decrease) in debt	\$ <u><u>141,388,552</u></u>	\$ <u><u>(485,755)</u></u>	\$ <u><u>(16,350,000)</u></u>	\$ <u><u>124,552,797</u></u>
Total Debt December 31, 2005			\$ 1,701,056,223	
Issued 2006				285,263,593
Retired 2006				<u>160,710,796</u>
Total Debt December 31, 2006			\$ 1,825,609,020	

NOTE: All figures reflect obligations RETIRED as opposed to physically REDEEMED.

The RETIRED totals include all defeased debt which is no longer considered as a City obligation. Any maturities that have not been presented for redemption are encumbered below.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
Year Ended December 31, 2006

	<u>General City</u>	<u>Assessment</u>	<u>Trust Funds</u>	<u>Total</u>
Balance Jan 01	\$ 2,355,755.03	\$ 21,251.07	\$ 457,185.76	\$ 2,834,191.86
Receipts	<u>213,978,943.70</u>	<u>2,634,304.10</u>	<u>22,203.53</u>	<u>216,635,451.33</u>
	\$ 216,334,698.73	\$ 2,655,555.17	\$ 479,389.29	\$ 219,469,643.19
Disbursements	<u>213,813,712.94</u>	<u>2,609,743.30</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>216,423,456.24</u>
	\$ <u><u>2,520,985.79</u></u>	\$ <u><u>45,811.87</u></u>	\$ <u><u>479,389.29</u></u>	\$ <u><u>3,046,186.95</u></u>
Balance Dec 31				
Encumbered	\$ 1,749,871.67	\$ 128.12	\$ 479,389.29	\$ 2,229,389.08
Unencumbered	<u>771,114.12</u>	<u>45,683.75</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>816,797.87</u>

3 046 186 95

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
Year Ended December 31, 2006

	<u>General City</u>	<u>Assessment Fund</u>	<u>Trust Funds</u>	<u>Total</u>
RECEIPTS				
Assessment				
Taxes Collected	\$	24,560.80		\$ 24,560.80
Note Principal		2,507,000.00		2,507,000.00
Note Interest		102,743.30		102,743.30
Mortgage Revenue Note				
Debt Service				
Note Principal	4,076.30			4,076.30
Note Interest	923.54			923.54
Non-Enterprise Rev (TIF)				
Bond Debt Service				
Bond Principal	500,000.00			500,000.00
Bond Interest	187,045.51			187,045.51
Division of Income Tax				
Bond Debt Service				
Requirements				
Fixed Rate	135,853,643.98			135,853,643.98
Variable Rate	3,408,502.51			3,408,502.51
Division of Electricity				
Bond Debt Service				
Requirements				
Fixed Rate	6,196,292.29			6,196,292.29
Variable Rate	1,034,189.33			1,034,189.33
Division of Water				
Bond Debt Service				
Requirements				
Fixed Rate	29,816,306.59			29,816,306.59
Variable Rate	4,297,492.94			4,297,492.94
Division of Airports				
Bond Debt Service				
Requirements	2,013,780.00			2,013,780.00
Division of Sewers				
Bond Debt Service				
Requirements				
Fixed Rate	29,582,691.07			29,582,691.07
Variable Rate	960,351.64			960,351.64
Investment Interest	123,606.46		22,203.53	145,809.99
Miscellaneous Income	41.54			41.54
Total Receipts	\$ 213,978,943.70	\$ 2,634,304.10	\$ 22,203.53	\$ 216,635,451.33

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

Year Ended December 31, 2006 (Continued)

	<u>General City</u>	<u>Assessment Fund</u>	<u>Trust Funds</u>	<u>Total</u>
DISBURSEMENTS				
Division of Income Tax				
Bonds Redeemed				
Limited Tax	\$ 35,661,100.00		\$	\$ 35,661,100.00
Unlimited Tax	54,429,824.00			54,429,824.00
Limited Tax-Income Tax	1,155,000.00			1,155,000.00
Division of Electricity				
Bonds Redeemed				
Limited Tax	755,000.00			755,000.00
Unlimited Tax	4,365,000.00			4,365,000.00
Assessment	306,009.00			306,009.00
Division of Water				
Bonds Redeemed				
Limited Tax	3,976,900.00			3,976,900.00
Unlimited Tax	17,654,920.00			17,654,920.00
Division of Airports				
Bonds Redeemed				
Limited Tax	1,865,000.00			1,865,000.00
Unlimited Tax	20,000.00			20,000.00
Division of Sewers				
Bonds Redeemed				
Limited Tax	3,405,000.00			3,405,000.00
Unlimited Tax	14,960,256.00			14,960,256.00
Assessment	71,339.00			71,339.00
G.O. Bond Interest				
Fixed Rate	71,288,693.02			71,288,693.02
Variable Rate	3,015,536.42			3,015,536.42
Assessments				
Notes Redeemed		2,507,000.00		2,507,000.00
Note Interest		102,743.30		102,743.30
Mortgage Revenue Note				
Principal Paid	4,076.30			4,076.30
Note Interest	923.54			923.54
Non-Enterprise Rev (TIF) Bond				
Principal Paid	500,000.00			500,000.00
Bond Interest	187,045.51			187,045.51
Administrative Expenses				
Personal Services	186,372.51			186,372.51
Materials & Supplies	151.53			151.53
Contractual Services	3,946.57			3,946.57
Capital Outlay	1,578.00			1,578.00
Miscellaneous	41.54			41.54
Total Disbursements	\$ 213,813,712.94	\$ 2,609,743.30	\$ 0.00	\$ 216,423,456.24
Total Receipts Over/ (Under) Disbursements				
	\$ 165,230.76	\$ 24,560.80	\$ 22,203.53	\$ 211,995.09

FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT
CLERK
2006 ANNUAL REPORT



FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT
Columbus, Ohio

NINETY-FIRST
ANNUAL REPORT
2006

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Franklin County Municipal Court Clerk of Court's Office is to accurately maintain, safeguard and store all Court documents as well as collect and disburse all monies as directed by legal mandates.

This will be accomplished through a knowledgeable and diverse staff that will strive to serve all who use this office through competent customer service, communications and community outreach.

Letter from Clerk Lori M. Tyack

Welcome to the Ninety-first Annual Report of the Franklin County Municipal Clerk's Office. Over the past ninety-one years a Clerk's Office report has been released annually to the public. This report is more than a reporting of raw statistics. It is an effective measurement of the efficiency of the Clerk's Office.

Since I took office in January 2006, many changes have been made within the structure of the office to improve efficiency. Physical changes have been made to enhance the professional appearance of the office. New divisions have been created to better support my staff as well as to serve the public. I have also expanded the responsibilities of some of the existing divisions.

The Division of Administration now includes Human Resources, which deals with payroll, training opportunities and employee issues. A new training program entitled "Clerk's Academy" has provided the opportunity for all staff to be cross-trained. The achievement of having deputy clerks trained three-deep has enabled the office to adapt and adjust to the ever changing needs of those we serve.

The addition of a Quality Control Division has provided this office with the ability to improve the accuracy of our recordkeeping by tracking cases from start to finish. In addition, thousands of case files from previous years have been reviewed for potential errors. Corrections have been made to case files dating as far back as the year 2000.

In late 2005, this office contracted with a company to remove and digitally image over 13,000 boxes of files from the Municipal Court Building. These boxes contained over twenty-five million documents that are now available via digital image. These documents reflect cases from 1992 to 2003. This project was funded through two separate bonds taken out by the Clerk's Office totaling \$2.2 million. Additional funds will be necessary for Phase II which involves imaging records from 2003 to 2006. Day forward imaging within the office is a priority for 2007.

Other technological advancements achieved in 2006 include: (1) replacement of the T-1 line (internet cable) with a Ten meg line, thereby improving the ability for case information to flow in and out of Courtview via the web; (2) in-house scanning and imaging of search warrants to create a searchable digital database; (3) creation of a searchable warrant verification log to retain information requested by law enforcement; (4) replacement of the pneumatic tube system with a faxing system called Remote Clerking to allow better communication between the Clerk's Office and law enforcement; and (5) new access for Ohio Courts to the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles' Driver's Abstract and 2006 Letter to improve driver compliance issues.

Over the past twelve months the Clerk's Office has made incredible strides in many areas. These accomplishments are due to the everyday commitment and dedication of my staff. As Clerk, my commitment is to continue find new ways to improve our operations so we may better serve all who depend on this office for accurate recordkeeping.

Lori M. Tyack, Clerk
Franklin County Municipal Court

CLERK ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

The Administrative Division of the Clerk's Office is comprised of the office of the Clerk, Chief Deputy Clerk, Director of Operations and Customer Service, Senior Staff Advisor/Special Projects, Executive Assistant/Paralegal, Fiscal Administration and Human Resources, which includes Payroll and Training. This Division oversees the day to day functions of the Clerk's Office. Directives, budgets, programs, contracts, projects, grants, and employees are guided by this Division.

In 2006, the Administrative Division accomplished and completed the following office wide training initiatives:

- A business continuity plan that allows for the uninterrupted provision of services from any cause, including the event of an emergency or disaster;
- The Clerk's Academy, an on-line, comprehensive training resource for all Deputy Clerks available in electronic format;
- An on-site training facility with ten (10) computer workstations;
- A Master Clerk Designation Program consisting of ongoing training classes facilitated and taught by members of the legal community and Court, as well as internal City and Clerk trainers;
- A formal Mentor Program that pairs up new hires with experienced Deputy Clerks for training purposes;
- Cross-training for every job responsibility in the Clerk's Office to ensure adequate coverage of all office functions.

In addition, the following Grants were applied for and approved:

- The purchase of two (2) LiveScan finger print machines to permit finger printing of summonsed criminal defendants in the Courthouse; and,
- A pilot project called E-Ticket that would enable Law Enforcement to electronically write traffic tickets and then send by electronic transmission to the Clerk's Office.

QUALITY CONTROL DIVISION

The Quality Control Division was created to improve the accuracy of record keeping by tracking cases from start to finish.

In early 2006 the Clerk's Office was informed of several cases where citizens were arrested because of errors in their case files from previous years. Clerk Tyack took the initiative to create this division to improve the accuracy and reliability of the records kept by the Clerk's Office.

Case files dating back to the year 2000 have been reviewed, and all errors which were discovered have been corrected. An estimated 15,000 criminal and traffic case files and 11,000 civil case files now reflect those corrections.

The Quality Control Division monitors all open cases daily through reports created by the Office of Information Services. This daily process will ensure the accuracy and efficiency of the Clerk's Office into the future.

In 2006, the following reports were created and checked for discrepancies:

- Criminal case report that ensures the Crime Stoppers Fund is accurate for disbursement of monies.
- A weekly undisposed case report that checks for cases that need updated on Courtview 2000.
- A weekly initiation report that ensures the same charge was not entered on two separate cases.
- Monitors all statistical information required for an accurate monthly Supreme Court Report.
- A deleted case report.
- A daily case management report as it relates to proper updating of cases in which a payment was made the previous day.
- A wide variety of reports that check for proper jurisdiction, cases with past due dates for monies and ensures that information to be sent to BMV has been updated in Courtview 2000.

OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES DIVISION

The Office of Information Services (OIS) Division is responsible for providing technical support to both the judicial side and Clerk side of the Municipal Court. All technological, data base storage and computer services operate under this Division.

In 2006, OIS accomplished the following:

- Replaced T-1 line with a 10 Meg line to improve flow of information via the internet.
- Created a database to provide access to digital images of approximately 800,000 case files.
- Started the upgrade on the Oracle Database (going from 8i to 10g).
- Installed Microsoft Office 2003 office wide.
- Installed sidewinder (replacing an eight-year old spam/antivirus presentation utility).
- Replaced tape back up system with real time, off site backups of data on Courtview 2000.
- Took electronic payment of fines (e-pay) off-line to redesign and correct previous problems with the web based service.
- Provided The Franklin County Sheriff's Office with access to Courtview 2000.
- Began designing and testing a new electronic subpoena application pilot project with Franklin County Sheriff's Office.
- Designed crystal reports to assist all departments.

COLLECTION DIVISION

The Collection Division oversees and coordinates the collection of debts owed to the Court, with the primary objective of seeking monies due to the City of Columbus taxpayers. The Collection Division operates in conjunction with three (3) outside agencies.

Additionally, the Collection Division is responsible for securing surety bond agent registration, monitoring compliance of State and Local Statutes and processing monthly billing statements.

CIVIL DIVISION

The Civil Division is responsible for accepting, filing, issuing service, docketing, processing and maintaining records for civil cases. Civil cases include: contract disputes; personal injury; property damage; evictions; small claims; certificate of judgment transfers; foreclosures; declaratory judgments; housing and safety code issues.

In 2006, the Civil Division accomplished the following:

- Certification of ten (10) Deputy Clerks as notary publics to better serve customers.
- Enhanced communication with the Bureau of Motor Vehicles on 12 point Appeal cases to help facilitate the processing of these cases.
- Improved the physical layout of the file room by relocating files for more efficient storage retrieval.

CRIMINAL/TRAFFIC DIVISION

The Criminal Traffic Division processes and maintains criminal, traffic, and environmental cases. The Criminal/Traffic Division provides a multitude of services to the general public, law enforcement and the Court.

This Division plays an integral role in the promotion of public safety by providing support twenty-four (24) hours per day to law enforcement agencies throughout the county. Twenty-four (24) hour support is necessary for the filing and processing of criminal complaints as well as the verification of active warrants.

The Criminal/Traffic Division is also responsible for collection and disbursement of bail/bond monies for defendants who are in custody. This process includes providing documentation to the Franklin County Sheriff's Office so that defendants may be released from custody.

The Criminal/Traffic Division is responsible for electronically reporting several types of violations to the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV). Daily, the Criminal/Traffic Division provides numerous services to assist the public, law enforcement, court personnel, and the legal community. Some of these services include collecting payment for court fines, or for posting bond. The Division also processes applications for expungement of records, and maintains and secures records ordered expunged. Other examples of service include administering oaths, accepting criminal and traffic charges, filing motions, filing search warrants, providing information about court cases, dispositions, and future court dates, as well as assisting in the courtroom.

In 2006, the Criminal/Traffic Division accomplished the following:

- Implemented “Remote Clerking”, a new procedure which eliminated the need for police officers to access the Division in person when transporting a prisoner to jail. The necessary paperwork is now processed through dedicated fax lines which contributes to public and officer safety and expedites the arrest process.
- Developed and implemented the “Remote Office Clerking” and “Remote Bonding Service” concept, which was used on the campus of the Ohio State University during major football home games. This service allowed law enforcement to process a defendant’s paperwork on-site and return immediately to duty without leaving campus. At the officer’s discretion, the defendant could pay a fine or post a bond at the time of processing.
- Established direct communication with the Columbus Police Department by having a Remote Clerking station at their headquarters. Utilized a secured room in the main jail’s arrest processing area to establish a Remote Clerking station for all law enforcement.

TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS BUREAU

The Traffic Violations Bureau processes Court records for payable traffic citations. The Bureau manages all traffic citations issued by the following jurisdictions within Franklin County: Columbus Division of Police, Ohio State Highway Patrol, Franklin County Sheriff, Ohio State University Police, Port Columbus Police and eight (8) Townships, and other Municipal law enforcement agencies.

The Traffic Violation Bureau assumed the additional responsibilities for correspondence and communications, which includes the following:

- Opening, logging and processing mail for all Divisions;
- Processing payments to ensure accuracy prior to being receipted;
- Mailing back incorrect traffic and criminal payments;
- Accepting and processing all traffic and criminal fax payments;
- Processing cases transferred from Mayor’s Courts;
- Fulfilling public record requests pertaining to case dispositions.

In 2006, the Traffic Violations Bureau accomplished the following:

- Initiated all mandatory court citations for Criminal, Traffic and Environmental cases;
- Assumed the responsibility of sending notices to defendants for Court appearances;
- Processed and entered Identification Tracking Numbers (ITN) into Courtview on a daily basis;
- Increased efficiency and convenience by restructuring and reorganizing the division.

ACCOUNTING/FINANCE DIVISION

The Accounting/Finance Division is responsible for the receipt and disbursement of all monies associated with the Franklin County Municipal Court. This Division oversees the accounting of fines, Court costs, fees, garnishment and judgment amounts and bail.

The distribution of collected funds involves not only the payment to the appropriate parties, but also releases to individuals in satisfaction in judgments, attachments, garnishments and executions. Additionally, the Accounting/Finance Division administers the following sub departments:

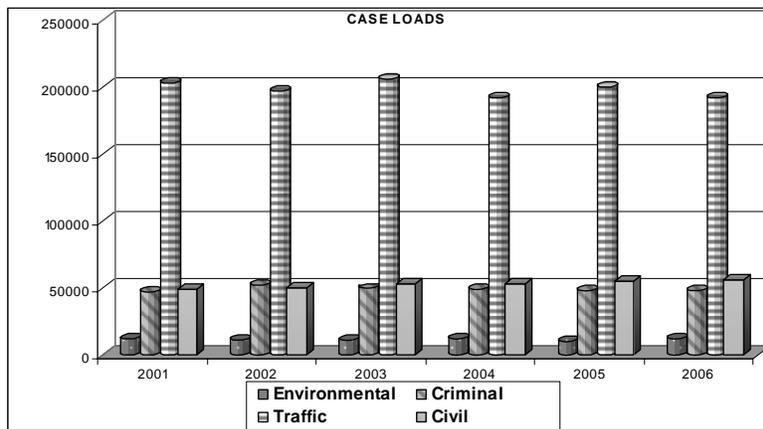
- Time Payment Program, wherein a defendant may be permitted to pay fines and court costs in monthly installments instead of the entire amount at one time, if authorized by the sentencing judge;
- Trusteeship, which gives aid to individuals heavily in debt by collecting a percentage of debtor's wages, then disbursing these funds to the consenting creditors;

Cases Filed: 39

- Rent Escrow, where a tenant with complaints regarding housing conditions may deposit rent due into an escrow account until the matter is resolved.

Cases Filed: 236

The Accounting/Finance Department is also responsible for preparing a general accounting of all the money received and disbursed by the Clerk's Office. These records are audited annually by a licensed Certified Public Accounting firm, and approved by the State Auditor's Office.



FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT
JUDGES
2006 ANNUAL REPORT

FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT

375 South High Street,
Columbus, Ohio 43215-4520

Chambers of
Judge James E. Green
Administrative & Presiding Judge
Telephone: 614/645-8295
Fax: 614/645-7902

March 27, 2007

Columbus City Clerk
Franklin County Municipal Court Clerk
Citizens of Franklin County

It is my pleasure to provide you the 2006 Annual Report for the Franklin County Municipal Court. Growing case loads, increasing complexity of the laws and the desire to meet the needs of every citizen who appears in this Court all present substantial challenges to our judges and staff. As you will see from the details in the report that follows, our judges and staff remain fully committed to meeting the needs of our citizens and our community. As the largest municipal Court in Ohio, we continually strive to improve our services and fulfill our obligation to fairly interpret the laws of Ohio.

As noted by the late Thurgood Marshall, "we should be ever mindful of our obligation to the constitution and to the goal of equal justice under the law."

Thank you for your consideration of this report.

Very truly yours,

James E. Green
Administrative Judge
Franklin County Municipal Court

JEG/st

THE FRANKLIN COUNTY MUNICIPAL COURT

**375 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-4520
614-645-8214**



2006 ANNUAL REPORT

The Franklin County Municipal Court traces its origin to the creation of the Columbus Municipal Court in 1916. The geographic jurisdiction of the Court is all of Franklin County and those portions of the City of Columbus that extend beyond the boundaries of Franklin County. The Court has 14 judges in the General Division and one judge in the Environmental Division. Judges serve six-year terms, unless appointed or elected to fill a vacancy. Annually, they elect one of their peers to serve as the Administrative and Presiding Judge.

The judges who served the Franklin County Municipal Court during the year 2006 were: Judge James E. Green, Administrative and Presiding Judge; Judge Janet A. Grubb; Judge Anne Taylor; Judge W. Dwayne Maynard; Judge Scott D. VanDerKarr; Judge H. William Pollitt, Jr.; Judge Michael T. Brandt; Judge Mark S. Froehlich; Judge Harland H. Hale; Judge Ted Barrows; Judge Paul M. Herbert; Judge Julia L. Dorrian; Judge Carrie E. Glaeden; Judge Amy Salerno; and Judge Andrea C. Peoples (elected, effective January 2, 2006, replacing Judge Teresa Liston).

Judges preside over civil, criminal, and traffic cases and conduct both jury and non-jury trials. In jury trials, judges interpret the law and the jury determines the facts. Non-jury trials are the most common trials in this Court. In these trials judges have the dual role of interpreting the law and determining the facts. The judges also conduct criminal arraignments and preliminary hearings on felony cases; set bond on criminal charges; issue search warrants; and impose sentence when a defendant is found guilty of a traffic or criminal charge. The judges hear civil cases with an amount in controversy of \$15,000 or less, and cases that are transferred from the Small Claims Division to the General Division of the Court. Other civil disputes resolved in this Court included evictions, rent escrow proceedings and proceedings to aid in the collection of judgments.

The Environmental Division has exclusive jurisdiction to enforce local codes and regulations affecting real property, such as fire and building codes. The Environmental Division has injunctive powers, and there is no monetary limit on the cases that fall within the Environmental Division's exclusive jurisdiction.

Each week a different judge is assigned to the Duty Session to handle a variety of responsibilities, such as applications from law enforcement officers for search warrants, probable cause hearings, and civil wedding ceremonies.

MAGISTRATES

The Court employs six full-time magistrates to whom a judge may refer a case to take testimony, make legal rulings, and render a decision that is subject to final approval by a judge. Specific duties of the magistrates include traffic arraignments, landlord-tenant actions, wage garnishments, small claims cases,

and parking violation appeals. Magistrates have the authority in misdemeanor cases to accept guilty and no contest pleas. If the parties agree, they may also hear non-jury contested criminal and civil cases. No consent from either party is required for a magistrate to hear a minor misdemeanor criminal case.

COURTROOM BAILIFFS

Each judge has an assigned courtroom bailiff. An unassigned or “floater” bailiff rotates among the judges when an assigned bailiff is absent. One bailiff is assigned to the Duty Room and each magistrate has an assigned bailiff. Bailiffs coordinate activities in the courtrooms, schedule cases, provide docket management, provide information to the public about the status of cases, and act as liaisons between their assigned judge or magistrate and attorneys, court personnel, and the general public.

COURT ADMINISTRATION

Court Administration oversees the administrative and operational functions of the Court. It is the vehicle by which the non-judicial policies of the Court are carried out. In addition to providing overall support and direction to the Court’s nearly 200 employees, some of the specific functions of Court Administration are: personnel management; budgeting and fiscal management; purchasing; liaison with other courts, agencies, and entities; public information; appointment of interpreters; appointment of counsel; statistics; security; and special projects.

The Court Administrator, Keith Bartlett, is the chief non-judicial officer. The Court’s General Fund Operating budget for 2006 was \$11,879,067 with an additional \$1.5 million Secure Facilities Fund budget and a nearly \$600,000 Computer Fund budget.

Court Investigation

Court Investigation is a two-person unit that helps defendants obtain relief with such matters as an extension of time to pay a fine and court costs; delaying the start of court-ordered incarceration; issuance of or change in limited driving privileges; withdrawal of warrant or order-in that has been issued; assistance with impounded vehicle; assistance with Bureau of Motor Vehicle problems; and continuance of a court date. In 2006, Court Investigation assisted approximately 17,000 individuals.

Court Security Program

The Court Security Program was established to maintain a safe environment in the courthouse for elected officials, Court employees, and all others having business in the courthouse. The staff consists of a Security Director, control room operator and 14 security officers on the first shift, plus a control room operator on the second and third shifts. In addition, the Court contracts with a security company that provides evening, weekend, and holiday coverage.

Interpreter Services

In 2006, the Court employed one full-time and two part-time Spanish interpreters. In 2006 there were more than 8,000 requests for Spanish interpreters. There were 418 requests for other languages, including 142 for Somali. The Court also provided interpreters for 111 requests for American Sign Language interpreters.

Vehicle Immobilization Program

State law mandates the immobilization or forfeiture of vehicles operated by defendants who are convicted of the following offenses: repeat OVI offenses (operating a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs); driving under court-ordered suspension; Financial Responsibility/Accountability (FRA) suspensions; and wrongful use of a vehicle. A steering wheel locking device is used to immobilize vehicles. In 2006, the Court processed 8,486 driving under suspension cases and 5,784 OVI cases. Immobilization or release of the vehicles was ordered in about 50% of these cases.

Volunteer Services Program

The Volunteer Services Program was developed to augment services to the Court and the community. The Volunteer Coordinator recruits, screens, and places volunteers in appropriate positions by matching their interests, skills, and scheduling requirements. Volunteers serve in a variety of positions, such as in the Department of Probation Services and Assignment Office. In 2006, four volunteers provided 1,840 hours of service at an estimated cost savings to the Court of \$31,630.

ASSIGNMENT OFFICE

The Assignment Office is responsible for assigning cases to the judges in a random order. Criminal and traffic cases are assigned when a not guilty plea has been entered. Civil cases are assigned after an answer or motion is filed. The Court employs a single assignment system. This means that when a person is charged with a criminal or traffic offense and already has a pending criminal or traffic case, or the person is on probation to this Court, the new charges will be assigned to the judge who presided in the previous case. Once a case is assigned to a judge, the Assignment Office is responsible for the management of the case as it proceeds through the system.

COURT REPORTERS

Court reporters make a verbatim record of court proceedings, prepare a transcript from the record of court proceedings upon request, and maintain records of exhibits introduced at court proceedings. The Court has an obligation to provide a transcript of all proceedings upon request of a party, and there must be a court record of all pleas and waivers. There are 14 full-time and one part-time court reporters.

JURY COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

It is the duty of the Jury Commissioner's Office to summon and then assign prospective trial jurors to courtrooms when needed, and track voir dire results and trial verdicts. Jury service is limited to two weeks, except in those cases in which additional days are required to reach a verdict. Jurors are paid \$20 per day, which by law is set by the county commissioners, for each day they are in attendance. The number of jurors summoned in 2006 was 4,584.

LEGAL RESEARCH

The Court employs a Legal Research Supervisor who provides legal research and supervises the work of part-time law clerks. The Supervisor and law clerks research and prepare memoranda on issues pending before the Court, maintain the law library, review new case law to ensure the Court's compliance with the decisions, review pending legislation that may affect the Court, advise the judges and employees

regarding new legal developments and applications of current law to court procedures, and update local court rules.

DEPARTMENT OF PROBATION SERVICES

The probation officers assigned to general probation supervision are responsible for supervising all types of cases that are referred by the judges of the Court; and for enforcing the court-ordered conditions imposed upon those probationers. Conditions of probation may include: serving time in the county jail; home incarceration in lieu of jail; payment of fines and court costs; completion of a three-day residential Driver Intervention Program for OVI offenders; attendance at a drunk driving impact panel presentation; completion of an alcohol, drug, or mental health assessment, and, if warranted, a recovery or care program; testing for alcohol or drug use; domestic violence or anger management counseling; attendance at a Defensive Driving Course or Underage Drinking Program; community service work; and restitution to victims. In 2006, the Department handled more than 13,000 cases.

Domestic Violence Unit

The Domestic Violence Unit offers offenders unique opportunities to secure treatment for their behaviors. This Unit offers up to 26 weeks of domestic violence counseling. The Domestic Violence Unit also has two staff members dedicated to meeting the needs of domestic violence victims.

Specialized Probation Supervision Programs

The Court has four specialized probation programs: Chemical Abuse Program (CAP), Multiple O.V.I. Offender Program (MOP), Sex Offender Program, and Mental Health Program. These specialized probation supervision programs offer judges sentencing options in cases involving alcohol or drug usage or chemical dependency, sexually deviant behavior, or mental health issues. It also offers the probationer a unique opportunity to obtain treatment for these particular problem areas. To enhance public safety, specialized/intensive probation supervision is designed to assist clients in achieving recovery through the fullest possible use of all available treatment resources.

Investigation Services

The Investigation Unit prepares presentence and post sentence reports, and conducts sealing of records (expungement) investigations. These reports provide critical information for the court to consider in making an appropriate disposition of cases based on the particular defendant and facts. In 2006, there were 2,568 investigations ordered.

Supervised Community Service

This sentencing alternative allows for placement of convicted offenders in unpaid positions with nonprofit or governmental agencies, where they perform a specified number of court-ordered community service hours in lieu of costly incarceration. In 2006, offenders completed more than 35,000 hours of community service.

Restitution Program

The Restitution Program illustrates the Court's commitment towards victims of crime and the community at large. When a judge orders a defendant to make restitution to a victim, the restitution officer determines the amount to be paid, then collects and disburses the monies to the victim. In 2006, more than \$415,000 was collected for distribution to victims.

The Provided-No-Convictions Program (PNC)

PNC is a special conditional sentence where all or part of a sentence may be suspended provided there are no other convictions for a specific period of time, not to exceed five years. During 2006, the Program supervised 10,390 cases.

Support Services

The Support Services Unit includes receptionists, intake assignment coordinators, transcriptionists, support relief officers, and a support/liaison officer who provides support and assistance to both the sex offender probation officer specialist and the mental health probation officer specialist.

SERVICE BAILIFFS

Service bailiffs assist litigants, attorneys, and the Court by delivering court documents to parties and enforcing judgment remedies. Service bailiffs serve complaints, summonses, subpoenas, and garnishments; enforce orders of attachment and seizure of personal property; attach bank accounts; enforce writs of execution and restitution; and supervise the set-out of tenants' property during an eviction. Service bailiffs processed or served more than 52,000 legal documents in 2006. There are 18 full-time employees in the department: a chief service bailiff, two assistant chief service bailiffs, 14 service bailiffs, and a secretary/receptionist.

SMALL CLAIMS DIVISION

The Small Claims Division assists individuals and businesses pursue claims for money damages up to \$3,000. Small Claims Court offers a more informal and speedier forum for citizens. Usually, an attorney is not required in small claims cases. Individuals, partnerships, corporations, unincorporated associations, and political subdivisions may file cases in the Small Claims Division.

The Division, comprised of five full-time employees provides support for the five magistrates who hear small claims cases by initiating, assigning, and scheduling each case for trial. The Small Claims Division also supports the Court's Dispute Resolution Department. The Division handled more than 9,000 new small claims cases in 2006.

The Dispute Resolution Department

The Dispute Resolution Department provides mediation and other dispute resolution services for the Court. In mediation a neutral third party, a mediator, meets with disputing parties in an effort to achieve a voluntary resolution of their dispute. Mediation is very different from a trial or arbitration. The mediator does not have the responsibility or authority to make a decision or recommendation or impose a resolution upon the parties. Mediation is a valuable tool because it offers the parties a real opportunity to discuss all of their concerns, even if not legally relevant, and to reach a settlement that better suits their needs and will be more satisfactory than a decision imposed by the Court. In 2006, more than 2,000 mediations were scheduled. The Mediation Program utilizes highly skilled volunteer mediators from the community and from Capital University Law School and the Moritz College of Law, The Ohio State University.