

CITY OF ROCKY RIVER

September 14, 2026

The Legislative Meeting of Council was called to order by Mr. Shipp, President of Council, at 7:00 p.m. in the David J. Cook Council Chambers.

Council Members Present: President Shipp, Ms. Havemann, Ms. Morris, Mr. Moran, Ms. Gallagher, Mr. Furry, Mr. Hunt

Absent: Mayor Bobst

Administration: Mr. Lindow, Mr. O'Shea, Mr. Snyder

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION:

Moved by Mr. Furry, seconded by Mr. Hunt, that the reading of the minutes for the July 27, 2026, Legislative Meeting be waived and that the minutes be approved as presently constituted.

Vote:	Moran– aye	Gallagher – aye	Hunt- aye	Shipp-abstain
	Morris – aye	Havemann – aye	Furry- aye	
	6– ayes	1 – abstain	0 - nays	PASSED

President Shipp advised that they have a Resolution which will require them to waive the 72-hour rule. Council was emailed and presented with Resolution 68-26 which authorizes ratification of a payment that needs to be made for accounting and auditing purposes.

Moved by President Shipp, seconded by Mr. Furry, to waive the 72-hour notice rule for Resolution 68-26.

Vote:	Moran– aye	Gallagher – aye	Hunt- aye	Shipp-aye
	Morris – aye	Havemann – aye	Furry- aye	
	7– ayes	0 - nays		PASSED

DIRECTOR SNYDER REPORT:

Director Snyder extended his thanks to everyone that attended the Fall Arts Festival and the America 250 Picnic and extended gratitude to the departments that helped pitch in to make those happen. He announced that the City was awarded Suburban Water Main Renewal Program funding for Westmoor between Hilliard Blvd and Westway Drive as well as a section of Battersea Blvd. Shoreland Park is coming along very well as of right now there is a swing, shade sails, a bike rack and maintenance station, water fountain, and they will have furniture installed later this week. He thanked everyone for their patience as that project moved along and advised that they will look into doing a ribbon cutting ceremony for the park once completed. The indoor pool has reopened. The dectron project has been successful and being finalized. The outdoor pool is closed, but the water is still in the pools. He advised that the Fire Chief is retiring next March and they have an assessment coming up October 17 for the new Fire Chief. He is saddened to announce that the Recreation Director, Bob Holub, is leaving to take another position. He's done a lot of great things for the City and will be missed, but they wish him the best in everything he is going to do moving forward. Lastly, he noted a few events to add to calendars – September 27th is the Fall Festival and

5k at City Hall park from 2pm-6pm which includes a Wishgarden Duo concert at 4 pm. Tuesday October 6th 6:30 pm the City will be hosting a public information meeting regarding the Northview/Jameston watermain projects that are coming up and as a part of that they will be incorporating traffic calming measures to Northview between Center Ridge and Westway.

LAW REPORT: NONE

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

PENDING BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 52-25

BY: HUNT

An Emergency Ordinance Amending Part Three - Traffic Code of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Rocky River to Prohibit the Operation of Low-Speed and Under-Speed Vehicles, as Further Described in Exhibit "A" (2nd Reading-On Hold)

Mr. Hunt advised that 52-25 remains on hold and there is nothing new to report.

ORDINANCE NO. 59-26

BY: SHIPP

An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and Director of Public Safety-Service to Enter into a Contract with Logicalis for the City of Rocky River Meraki Network Licensing for Five Years at a Total Cost Not to Exceed \$150,000.00, as Further Described in the Attached Exhibit "A" (2nd Reading)

President Shipp shared a memo from Richard Bycoskie Jr. which advised that the co-termination licensing for all of the City's Meraki network devices, including firewalls, switches, wireless access points, security cameras, etc., which has been active since 2019, expires on September 7, 2026. We have a grace period of 30 days from the expiration date before network devices cease to function. Mr. Bycoskie has requested a quote for a term start date of September 28, 2026, and is recommending renewing this licensing for 5 years, paid annually. In this new licensing model, adding new devices will have no subscription cost in the year they are added, but the subscription cost for that device will be added to the annual payment for the next year. Signing a 5-year agreement would save the City around \$10,000 per year over having a yearly subscription.

ORDINANCE NO. 60-26

BY: HAVEMANN

An Ordinance Amending the Property Maintenance Code Within The Codified Ordinances of the City of Rocky River, Specifically Section 1153.15(g) Accessory Uses and Structures, as Further Described in the Attached Exhibit "A" (2nd Reading)

Ms. Havemann advised that this ordinance will amend their permitted accessory list which can be seen in Exhibit "A" to include basketball courts in Section 1153.15(g). This is in response to a Planning Commission meeting held June 8 where a resident had proposed a basketball court in their backyard which, when granted, set a precedent so they would like to amend the code to include standards for basketball courts. These courts can only be placed in a rear yard, and they are required to have an 8' setback from the property line. Lighting is allowed but must comply with the requirements outlined in Section 1181.13 and there should be buffering with a 6' tall fence along the property to prevent balls from entering the neighboring properties. These courts will also have to comply with the lot coverage requirements in Schedule 1153.05. She clarified that this refers to basketball courts only in the rear yard not any that are in

driveways or attached to garage as they are covered by the driveway code. They didn't necessarily think it needed to be defined further because it is referring to accessory uses which implies backyard. The 8' setback was selected because that is the standard side yard setback and they used the swimming pool accessory use distance and thought that the 8' wasn't sufficient which is why they added the fencing as well to protect neighbors from stray basketballs.

- Ms. Gallagher confirmed with Ms. Havemann that the lighting hours are captured under Section 1181.13.
- Ms. Havemann confirmed that to be accurate and added that the lights need to shine away from neighboring properties.

NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO. 61-26

BY: FURRY

An Ordinance Designating the Public Depositories for the Active, and Interim and/or Inactive Funds of The City of Rocky River for the Period Beginning November 1, 2026, and Ending October 31, 2031 (1st Reading)

Mr. Furry advised that this ordinance designates the safekeeping of public funds of The City of Rocky River. This is not an annual ordinance, but rather one that surfaces every five years and is a wide net. If you look at the list of public depositories – most the City has worked with historically and some we have not. Whether or not they have a brick and mortar in the 44116 they are choosing to add them to the list in the off chance that they are chasing public funds with favorable interest yields so that they can do business with them. Emergency language was not utilized as it is his belief that immediate passage of this ordinance would not jeopardize the immediate preservation of public peace, health, and safety of the fine residents of the 44116.

ORDINANCE NO. 62-26

BY: MORAN

An Emergency Ordinance Authorizing the Safety-Service Director to Purchase Electrical Equipment and Repair Services from Herbst Electric Company for The Rocky River Wastewater Treatment Plant in an Amount Not to Exceed \$60,000, as Further Described in the Attached Exhibit "A." (1st Reading)

Mr. Moran shared that according to Director Barille The Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) has an Automatic Transfer Switch (ATS) that first goes to the primary source and then, if something happens locally to the electricity, it will go to their secondary. This switch, installed in 1992, is no longer operational. Right now, they have a situation where they need to get that switch fixed so that it properly moves from the primary to the secondary source. The secondary source is in another city. If both cities go down, they have a small generator at the WWTP, but there is not enough power to charge the entire unit. There has only been one time in the last couple of decades when both areas went down. They have three companies that do a lot of work at the WWTP and two gave a quote. Herbst Electric came in as the lowest bidder at \$56,198. It's imperative that they have this switch. There is nothing that says they need to pass this right away as they can switch things manually. Once they get the notice it's a six-week lead time.

- Ms. Morris inquired if this was the total cost, split between communities, or the total cost for Rocky River?
- Mr. Moran advised that this number would be split between the communities. All five communities split the cost of repairs.
- Ms. Morris commented that she believes they should have a bigger generator, especially given all the weather activity that has resulted in power losses, she thinks it would be wise.
- Director Shipp advised that the WWTP is working on a long-term plan for their capitol projects and

they will be engaging a firm and that is one of the things that is incorporated into that plan.

RESOLUTION NO. 63-26

BY: FURRY

A Resolution Authorizing the Establishment of a Fund Entitled “PACE Special Assessment Fund”, Fund Number 223, to Account for the Activities of Project Sites Participating in the Northeast Ohio Advanced Energy District PACE Program (1st Reading)

Mr. Furry advised that when this body passed Amended Resolution 54-26, Ordinance 55-26, and Amended Ordinance 56-26 in July, which he will collectively call The Normandy Pace Project, it was their second PACE Project. The Finance Director thought it would be prudent to establish a special fund for each class of revenue derived from a source other than general property tax which the law requires to be used for a particular purpose. If you recall, the City is just a conduit for these assessments and providing its own distinguishable fund to improve the City’s audited financial statements and hopefully lessen any future confusion with other City related debts and balances. This is a best practice for the PACE special assessment. Emergency language was not utilized as the immediate passage of this ordinance would not jeopardize the immediate preservation of public peace, health, and safety of the fine residents of the 44116.

ORDINANCE NO. 64-26

BY: SHIPP

An Emergency Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and the Director of Public Safety-Service to Enter into a Contract with Fabrizi Trucking and Paving Company, Inc., for The Lake Road Improvement Project at a Cost Not to Exceed \$10,945,027.58, as Further Described in the Attached Exhibit “A.” (1st Reading)

President Shipp advised that this Ordinance is related to the Lake Rd. Improvement Project. The City received two bids on July 24th. Fabrizi Trucking and Paving Company, Inc. and DiGioia Suburban Excavating, LLC. Both submitted a base bid and an alternate bid. A memo from our City Engineer, Kim Kerber, is recommending the alternate bids be accepted because it includes the use of Thermoplastic pavement markings instead of Aexcel pavement markings on Lake Rd. Thermoplastic pavement marking are more visible, durable, and last longer than Aexcel pavement markings and the alternate bid is lower.

Fabrizi was determined to be the lowest and best bidder. Its bid, including the alternate, is \$945,027.58 above the engineer’s estimate of \$10 million but remains within the allowable threshold for awarding the contract. The consulting engineer’s review found that the difference was primarily attributable to higher-than-anticipated costs for sewer pipe and structures. Project costs have also continued to increase due, in part to rising fuel prices.

Fabrizi has demonstrated its ability to complete City projects on schedule and within budget, most recently through its work on the Buckingham, Arundel and Argyle Oval Improvement Project. In addition, a search of the Auditor of State’s Findings for Recovery Database returned no findings involving the company. The Improvement Project includes the replacement of aging inverted sanitary and storm sewer infrastructure along Lake Road in two areas: from the Service Garage entrance to Parklawn Drive and from 22720 Lake Road, also known as 700 Lake, to the Bay Village corporation line. The project also includes new water mains and service connections throughout the project limits.

Additional improvements include:

- New pavement, curbs and driveway aprons;
- ADA-compliant curb ramps and crosswalks;
- Approximately two-thirds of a mile of off-street, multi-use trail extending from the Bay Village

corporation line to Parklawn Drive;

- An auxiliary parking lot for Bradstreet's Landing on the south side of Lake Road; and
- Two pedestrian crossings equipped with rectangular rapid flashing beacons.

To accommodate the multi-use trail along the north side of Lake Road, the roadway will be narrowed from 40 feet to 34 feet. The Bradstreet's Landing improvements will provide 21 standard parking spaces and one vehicle-and-trailer space within the new lot, along with six parallel parking spaces on the north side of Lake Road in front of the park. The roadway will also be narrowed in this area to improve pedestrian safety.

Project details were presented to the community during a public information meeting held on May 19, 2026. If authorized, construction is expected to begin in November 2026, with substantial completion anticipated in late fall 2027 or early spring 2028. Approximately \$1,145,000 in outside funding from the Cleveland Division of Water's Suburban Water Main Renewal Program will be applied toward the project.

- Mr. Furry inquired if the Thermoplastic is what they're using on Center Ridge Rd.?
- Director Snyder replied in the affirmative and advised that it lasts a lot longer than the Aexcel paint that they typically use in their street program. As it cracks, they can then go back over and paint it. It's ideal to have Thermo and he was surprised that it came in less than the paint.
- Ms. Morris inquired if there were microplastic leaching concerns for the Thermoplastic.
- Director Snyder advised that he did not, but if applied properly it adheres to the roadway very well. He noted that a lot of oil-based paint does have environmental implications as well, but he'd be happy to investigate further.
- Mr. Hunt remarked that they've had some discussion in the past about how the engineer's estimate comes in versus the actual costs of these projects. In this instance, this is significantly above the engineers' estimate. He knows the estimates take place well in advance of the actual costs coming in, but he was curious how far in advance the engineer provides that estimate.
- Director Snyder advised that they will typically review a project at 30%, 60%, and 90% and then as they move along the engineers estimate changes and they work to modify it. They are constantly cognizant of the cost of the project and there are some things that they can't get around – ductile iron for water main pipes and PVC that they cannot control. When this came in high, they did go through and look at this project, but there isn't a lot of flex in the expensive things. The thing to keep in mind is that this project has a very long footprint – it's 2/3rds of a mile that they are completing. They tried to look at ways to limit the cost, but this is a transformational project. For example, they considered concrete versus asphalt and while concrete is more expensive it lasts longer. They're trying to invest more up front to limit costs later. They are also under outside funding timelines, and they have already requested an extension from Cleveland Water. If they prolong the award of this contract, they risk losing that funding.

RESOLUTION NO. 65-26

BY: SHIPP

A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor and the Director of Public Safety-Service to Submit an Application to Participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement and Local Transportation Improvement Program for The Beaconsfield Boulevard Sewer Reconstruction Project and to Execute Contracts as Required (1st Reading)

President Shipp advised that this is authorization for the City to apply for, accept, and administer financial assistance through the Ohio Public Works Commission's State Capital Improvement Program and Local Transportation Improvement Program for the Beaconsfield Boulevard Sewer Reconstruction Project. The project, located along Beaconsfield Boulevard from Wagar Road to Morewood Parkway, will replace aging sanitary and storm sewer infrastructure, eliminate the existing over/under sewer configuration, replace the water main and related appurtenances, and provide full roadway reconstruction, including pavement, curbs,

sidewalks, driveway aprons, and restoration. The total estimated project cost is \$5,142,044, with the City requesting \$500,000 in grant funding and a \$1,500,000, 30-year loan from the OPWC and providing \$3,142,044 in local funding. The improvements are intended to reduce inflow and infiltration, address recurring basement backups and street flooding, improve system reliability, and provide long-term utility and roadway improvements for the surrounding neighborhood. He advised that he anticipates three full readings for this legislation.

- Ms. Gallagher inquired when this work may occur.
- Director Snyder advised that they have selected an engineer for this project and they plan on presenting an engineering contract for review by City Council later this year and hope to implement the engineer early 2027 and begin construction late 2027 with most of the work taking place in 2028. He added that OPWC evaluates the applications based on loan or grant request which dictates your scoring, they allow you go through and determine which is the best amount to ask for in grants versus loans based on their scoring. It's a balance and they felt the pros of submitting it this way outweigh the local cost.

RESOLUTION NO. 66-26

BY: SHIPP

An Emergency Resolution Authorizing Preliminary Consent Legislation for the Repair of the Bridge Included in PID 115896 in the City of Rocky River, CUY-US-6-5.670 (1st Reading)

President Shipp advised that this Resolution requests authorization to enact the consent legislation for the Ohio Department of Transportation's Repair Project PID No. 115896. The project includes the structural lining of the existing box culvert and steel pipe culvert carrying U.S. Route 6 (Lake Road) over Spencer Creek, across from the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Both culverts will be slip-lined with steel-reinforced polyethylene pipe, with miscellaneous concrete repairs performed at the outlet box.

The legislation will authorize ODOT to complete the portion of the project located within the City of Rocky River and authorize the appropriate City official to execute any necessary project agreements. The State will bear 100% of the project costs, except for any additional features requested by the City that ODOT or the Federal Highway Administration determines are unnecessary. ODOT is requesting the legislation be returned to ODOT by November 16, 2026. This project is still in the design stage, and we have been working with ODOT. It is expected to commence after the Lake Road Project and any additional requests by the City should be minimal. He anticipates three full readings for this legislation.

- Ms. Morris inquired if this would mitigate the flooding that sometimes happens across from Bradstreet Landing?
- Director Snyder advised that issue will be addressed by The Lake Rd. Project. This project is the lining of the culver under Lake Rd. There are three separate projects – The Lake Rd Project, Spencer Creek project, and now this Culvert project. ODOT came to the City about this, and he worked really hard with them to try to coordinate the timing to make this happen while they were doing Lake Rd., but ODOT had to stick to their own funding schedule so this will most likely happen in 2028, but there should be minimal impact to Lake Rd. The State maintains all the culverts for all the state routes.

ORDINANCE NO. 67-26

BY: SHIPP

An Ordinance Authorizing the Director of Public Safety Service to Purchase Parts and Services as Needed From OHIO CAT, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$60,000, as Further Described in Exhibit "A." (1st Reading)

President Shipp advised that this Ordinance requests authorization from City Council to expend an additional \$60,000 beyond the City's vendor limit with no request for additional appropriations. Ohio Cat provides specialized parts, maintenance, and repair services for the City's backup facility generators and much of the large construction equipment at the Service Department. A search of the Auditor of State's Findings for Recovery Database demonstrated no results. He anticipates three full readings for this legislation.

- Director Snyder advised that quite a bit of their equipment are Cat products, so this is keeping up with maintenance. The generators are also all maintained by Ohio Cat. The City Hall generator had a maintenance issue that needed to be addressed this year, which is why they approached the vendor limit.

RESOLUTION NO. 68-26

BY: FURRY

A Resolution Authorizing the Ratification of the Payment to PowerDMS, Inc. in the Amount of Three Thousand One Hundred Forty Dollars and 72/100 (\$3,140.72) for the Cost of The Police Department Software Subscription as Further Described in the Attached Exhibit "A" (1st Reading)

President Shipp requested that Director Lindow provide a summary on this walked-in Resolution.

Director Lindow advised that this is a housekeeping compliance issue regarding proper expenditure and procurement practices. All departments are very mindful of the process of procurement, requisition, purchase order, invoice, payment, but sometimes the vendor might date their invoice in an incorrect alignment. Anytime this occurs, which is a rarity, per ORC if it's over the \$3,000 limit it goes from Finance Director authority to Council authority to approve the payment.

- President Shipp inquired if it needed to be passed this evening.
- Director Lindow advised that ORC needs it to be passed within 30 days.
- Mr. Furry inquired if anyone had any concerns with this \$3,140.72 payment.
- Director Lindow advised that this compliance is something that is annually tested and researched by their auditors every spring. The timing is one of the things they review.

Moved by Mr. Furry, seconded by Ms. Morris, to suspend the three-read rule for Resolution No. 68-26.

Vote:	Moran– aye	Gallagher – aye	Hunt- aye	Shipp-aye
	Morris – aye	Havemann – aye	Furry- aye	
	7– ayes	0 - nays		PASSED

Mr. Furry moved for passage of Resolution No. 68-26, seconded by Ms. Gallagher.

Vote:	Moran– aye	Gallagher – aye	Hunt- aye	Shipp-aye
	Morris – aye	Havemann – aye	Furry- aye	
	7– ayes	0 - nays		PASSED

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Ms. Havemann advised that she wanted to speak about the notifications they receive as Councilmembers. They get the CAD Reports, but sometimes they don't catch serious incidents that occur right away. For example, the schools send out notifications when something occurs, and she's had residents speaking to her about these notifications. She spoke with the Superintendent who advised he could add her to these distributions and inquired if other members would like her to sign them up as well. All Councilmembers indicated that they'd like to be included on those notifications. She also advised that the Ohio Municipal

League put together a nice summary of nearby legislation for eBikes and scooters and she plans to do a deep dive on them, but she also forwarded to Council for their review.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Ms. Morris advised that Director Snyder shared most of her report, but she'd like to share it as well. She confirmed that Director Holub is leaving, the indoor pool is open, BerryDunn is back on 9/23, Shoreland is almost done, Linden is in progress, and the ice rink is done and professionally painted.

COMMUNICATIONS:

President Shipp advised that the Public meetings act prohibits them from discussing city business in groups of more than three, so he'd like to make a few notes about communications he's been having with residents. He has had nine different households on Westhaven Lane contact him regarding deer. There is a group of deer including two young bucks that have set up camp on that street. He's been told that one person is feeding them. These residents are asking City Council to address deer populations in the City. He spoke with Director Snyder, and they've discussed the Deer Survey. Director Snyder is planning to present them with a report with the results as well as some options for potential deer population management.

- Mr. Furry advised that over the last month he's received one from Southbend and another from Hillard.
- Mr. Hunt confirmed that this is the single most common complaint he gets.
- Director Snyder advised that he has a link that he will share with the survey results. They had about 500 people complete the survey. These complaints are community wide, and he gets them as well. He added that if there are any residents that identify wildlife feeding please let him know so he can pass it along to the Animal Control Officer so they can go out and have a conversation with them. He advised that if they get complaints about deer he would suggest that they have them fill out the survey and send the calls to him directly. The survey has been out there for a while, and he is going to compile a report, and they have the option to develop a management program. Ultimately it will be up to City Council, who represent the citizens, to determine their path forward.
- President Shipp added that, in the short term, if residents are experiencing threatening behavior or property damage from deer to call to the non-emergency police line and ask for the Animal Control Officer who can assist with those situations.
- Director Snyder advised there are things that can be done beyond population management including education and deer exclusion plantings. There is a lot of great information on the police website.

President Shipp shared that he's received complaints about speeding on Wooster Rd, which is a county road, he's directed those concerns to Director Snyder and asked the Police Chief to set up a detail to try to slow folks down.

- Director Snyder advised that they do have a meeting scheduled with Fairview Park's Mayor Schneider. There are a lot of great opportunities for them to look Transportation for Livable Communities Initiative funding resources for Wooster Rd. They recognize that speed and traffic calming is an issue on Wooster Rd and the speed is there. The question is how they would implement that in coordination with Fairview Park and Cuyahoga County.
- President Shipp advised that county routes don't qualify for residential traffic calming programs. He shared that they have all been working with their residents regarding the traffic calming program. They are hoping to set up a public meeting on that topic for October. He would like to listen and hear what people's concerns are and then determine the best path forward.
- Ms. Gallagher shared that she has had a lot of traffic complaints and that reading the CAD Reports

is eye-opening and frightening.

- Ms. Morris advised that she is looking forward to the meeting about traffic calming because she thinks there are a lot of questions and she's having a hard time understanding all the issues.

Ms. Havemann shared that she's had some complaints about two properties on Wooster which have since been knocked down. One of the owners, a developer, disappeared and the City got involved with the remaining owner asking him to do something about securing the area. The homes have since been knocked down, grass planted, and a fence has gone up.

- Director Snyder advised that the City will be installing precast blocks as an additional source of protection from any vehicles that may exit the roadway.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Heather Eackles, 1126 Wagar Rd. stated that she didn't read the first ordinance dealing with eBikes, but she understands it's still on hold. She was curious if they could explain a brief update as to what is happening with it and urged Council to get something done about the eBikes. She noted that she works from home and walks her dog so she may be out more often, but the number of close calls she's had with 10–12-year-olds with no helmets ripping down the sidewalk with no bell, no warning, and no apologies. She rides scooters and motorcycles, and is not the anti-fun police, but these speeds are crazy. She would love to see something done soon.

Mehul Gala, 18451 E Shoreland. advised that he's a lifelong cyclist and it's become a big part of his life. So big that they've become an organized group - Bike Rocky River. He believes that bikes can solve a lot of problems mental health, physical health, transportation, ecology, and he thinks it's important. He's been contacted by a lot of people regarding the issue of traffic calming and safety. He's on E Shoreland and Valley View and there are lots of concern there – it's a long street with a lot of room to get up to speed. Recently a child was hit on Lake and Wagar. They need something that works consistently across the City. To him it seems somewhat arbitrary on how things are applied. Their street qualified for the traffic calming in May and he believes they were told they qualified for step 3 multiple times.

- Director Snyder advised that he never had actual data with the parameters that E Shoreland qualified. If he said that, it may have been a 'maybe it would qualify.' He noted that there seems to be a misunderstanding as to why the speed cushions were installed on E Shoreland in the first place. The pilot program, with the speed cushions, was an option knowing that they needed to look at traffic calming within the community. He felt that speed cushions were a good option for the City. He was looking at different streets with different scenarios that may qualify. They had a lot of complaints about E Shoreland so a set of speed cushions were installed there, and they did identify that the speed cushions worked, but that was not an indicator that they would necessarily be installed on E Shoreland. They still needed to go through the data and see if that supported the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program that they had developed based on the Lakewood's program.
- Mr. Gala advised that he was confused because at one point he thought a survey was coming. He thought that they agreed that the pilot worked and they slowed down traffic and he thought that was encouraging. He felt that, at that time, they could talk to their neighbors and the families that live on the street and understand what impact it had. It would have been an effective pilot to collect that information at that time, and he feels like they wasted that opportunity. He acknowledged that he may be confused, but he noted that, to him, these processes don't seem consistent in their application. He doesn't want to take away from the streets that do qualify. It seems they're stuck here and nothing was done all summer. He requested that they fix this process citywide – it's not working. Look at other cities and see what is working. It would be nice to have something that

works. He wants them to pilot programs, see if it works, and then build it.

Tim Furry, 19605 Beachcliff, shared that he wanted to reiterate what Mr. Gala went through. It's incredibly important. They need to make responsible changes to the City. There is too much speed on the road. The way that people travel today whether it's scooter, bike, running, walking, rollerblades – they need to change with the times. Other cities have changed with the times. Lakewood has put speed control in place. There are bike lanes in Bay Village, Westlake, and Cleveland. He believes that City of Rocky River should be able to implement some type of safety measure for all their residents. The City Schools are working with Bike Cleveland with educating the kids on how to properly ride a bike, wear a helmet, and maneuver through the streets. It's time for The City of Rocky River to improve safety for everyone.

Cheryl Bendik, 18740 Inglewood, inquired if there was going to be a dog swim this year?

- Ms. Morris advised that they weren't sure if they were going to have a dog swim or not because they had to keep the pool open a little longer than anticipated because of the indoor pool renovations. It's possible, but she doesn't know.

Ms. Bendik advised that she's a lifelong biker and has been kayaking for years. Since the improvements were made at Bradstreet's Landing it's been awful for kayakers and paddleboarders to get their equipment into the water. She hopes that there will be some improvement there. She never sees anyone playing or using the grass area so maybe that could be made into more parking spaces. It was much easier when you could pull your car up, pull your kayak up to the beach and into the water and now you need to carry it down steps and it's not great, especially when you're an older person. As far as bikes go, she lives on Inglewood and there are little kids in those little cars, and their parents are nowhere to be seen, and they're going in and out of the street and on the sidewalk. There is also a group of middle school boys that ride eBikes and she's had the same issue with almost being hit. She just retired after 50 years of teaching, so she knows education is a big component and very important. It's not only important for the kids, but it's important for their parents too. She believes that every kid that rides a scooter to school's parents should be made to go to a meeting and hear what the rules and regulations are. In the Lakewood Metroparks they're adding signage regarding eBikes. Lastly, she'd love to see a bike lane on Hillard.

- Director Snyder advised that he's heard concerns about the kayak drop off and he's happy to report that at least one, or two, the spots in the circle on the westside at Bradstreet are going to be striped off for kayak drop off and pick up.
- Ms. Bendik noted that it will still be hard to take your kayak to the beach.
- Director Snyder advised that he can't fix that without reconstructing the park.
- Ms. Bendik advised that all they'd need to take out the curb on the first couple parking spaces so people can drop their kayaks there and drag them down on the grass.
- Director Snyder advised that there is a walkway there that was developed as the kayak ramp area and advised he'd be happy to discuss it further with her.
- Ms. Bendik replied that she doesn't want to drag her kayak on concrete as it's bad for the kayak.

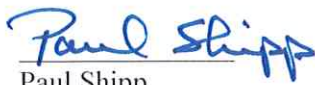
Dave Nash, 15 Laurel Dr., advised that he is one of the founding members of Bike Rocky River along with Mr. Gala and Dave Foster, who is moving to Brooklyn, but who is still committed to safety in Rocky River. He advised that tonight's comments are only the tip of the iceberg regarding the concerns for pedestrian, cyclist, motorist, and student safety. There have been lots of incidents. Every other community is dealing with these issues and grappling with how to regulate them. He applauds the City for scheduling a public meeting in October and he hopes that Bike Rocky River and the Green Team can be a contributing voice to collaborate productively through that process. He would urge Council, the Mayor, and the Administration to treat this as an urgent priority. Something is broken with traffic safety, and it needs to be addressed collectively, individually, and intergenerationally. They also have the issue of what to allow on sidewalks vs. the streets. Bike Rocky River tries to be efficient. They've had very nice conversations with Director Snyder, and the Administration, and he's since been appointed the advocacy chair of Bike Rocky River.

That doesn't mean he'll be the only voice speaking, but he will be the primary contact. He'd like to collate comments efficiently and, along with his colleagues, be efficient in their communications so they're not duplicating and repeating the same information because there is urgency here. Whatever they can do – they're here to share ideas and to listen. He knows that administering city government isn't easy and thanked everyone for their time noting that it's a big and complicated job, but safety is a priority they cannot ignore. He urges them to elevate it in their legislation whether it's eBike or traffic calming. He noted that he felt the survey was confusing. He'd like to discuss this in the public meeting, but why are they relying on a survey to decide what is safe and not safe in the City of Rocky River. One of his colleagues inquired if there was going to be a survey on Westhaven about what to do with the deer. Should every issue be taken to the citizens for a survey or a poll – especially regarding safety? The citizens rely on this body, law enforcement officers, and administrators as the experts in traffic safety to tell residents what should be done. That's not to say there shouldn't be citizen input, but he thinks they need to make sure Director Snyder, Chief Lichman, The Mayor, The Law Director, all have the tools to keep the residents safe on the streets and sidewalks and that is a non-delegable duty. He believes they all need to work together to make this happen soon before someone gets killed.

- Director O'Shea advised that this is the number one discussion that law makers are having throughout the State of Ohio. One of the things that is a little confusing and troubling for Law Directors is that there can be five different laws in neighboring cities and bikers won't know the laws for each city they're biking through. One of the reasons they are studying this so intently is because they don't want people that ride responsibly to have laws changing from community to community. He is particularly interested, from a law department perspective, in hearing from as many people as they are. It's very helpful especially from lifelong bikers. He noted that bikers often choose to bike the wrong way on a road specifically because they find it to be safer. He advised that he'd like them to keep the comments and the information coming – the more information they have the better. When it comes to eBikes and golf carts, they just want to be really smart about how they legislate and that is why they might see a delay. He knows that everyone is very invested in this and everyone has gone to great lengths to ensure they have got it right including working with neighboring communities. They are not being ignored, it's high on the minds of what they are doing.
- Mr. Nash reiterated that he's not criticizing or impugning anyone in this room for doing the right thing. He's just trying to make their job easier by saying let's keep going with the process that Director Snyder is suggesting which includes public meetings. He understands the complexity of what they're dealing with because he is a retired regulatory lawyer. He understands the issues between local, state, and federal regulations.
- Director O'Shea advised that they all want to work together and do right by each other noting that he himself has an eBike.
- Mr. Nash confirmed that bikers travel in packs and their aim is not to be a chaotic pack, but an organized pack so they can speak with similar voices. That voices may be out of key at any point, but they want to harmonize those voices, and they want to do it as expeditiously as they can.
- Director Snyder advised that the administration agrees that traffic calming is important. Over the last couple years, they have made significant strides in trying to get there. The neighborhood traffic calming program, that was unveiled last fall, was built on parameters set by the City of Lakewood. They worked on that with the Council President to get those in place and they are working on evolving that program. He advised that they've looked at bike lanes on Hillard with a consultant. Additionally, The Lake/Clifton Project, The Center Ridge Project, The Beachcliff project, The Rockcliff Project, The Lake Rd. Project, Northview Project, Hilliard/Gasser/90 Project, all those projects incorporate pedestrian and multimodal improvements. They are making improvements on a case-by-case basis with every single public works project that they're doing. That is something they are being very cognizant of when they make their decisions along with their public comments.

Sandy Stiassi, Lakewood, advised that he wanted to give an out-of-the-city and out-of-state corroboration to a number of the very poignant comments that were made this evening. When he visits northeast Ohio he lives in Lakewood, but he owns multifamily property here and he came to express his confusion about certain things on multifamily developments, but this public safety is far more important. Recently in Orange County California, where he spends 2/3rd of his time, a 14-year-old young man was involved in a fatality with a retired Vietnam Veteran senior citizen who was simply run over right in front of the local high school. The Orange County district attorney immediately filed charges against this child's parents and it's currently going through the legal process. His perception of Rocky River is that they have historically and traditionally provided leadership to others in Cuyahoga county. Whatever legislation and advocacy they provide for he believes that other cities will quickly fall into line and better solutions will happen. He leaves it to them to listen to the residents and provide a model and metric that other cities will follow.

Hearing no further public comments, President Shipp advised that their next meeting will be a Committee of the Whole meeting September 21, 2026, at 7:00 pm. The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.



Paul Shipp
President of Council



Lauren Oley
Clerk of Council