

President of Council, Bill Rozell  
Members of Troy City Council  
City Hall  
Troy, Ohio

Council President and Council Members:

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to 2024, as I say farewell to my first term as mayor and begin my second. This review of the past year (2023) will serve to highlight the many good things about Troy. We have an amazing, thriving and successful community for our residents AND our businesses. We continue to be a sought-after location for both, and we continue to be a draw for visitors who come to eat, shop and be entertained.

While I am a part of some of the following meetings, City Administration and staff (from most all departments) work tirelessly year-round with our community partners (the Chamber, Troy Main Street, Troy-Hayner Cultural Center) to provide quality and varied entertainment for our residents and visitors... the Tour de Donut, GOBA, the Prouty Plaza summer concert series, the Troy Strawberry Festival, concerts at Treasure Island and Hobart Arena, the Grand Illumination, Hometown Halloween, the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade/concert/fireworks, and more.

We continue to see restaurants opening, hotels being built and/or remodeled, retail businesses locating either in our downtown or close to the interstate highway. Our business sector continues to see companies looking to locate here and already existing industries looking to expand.

Every year starts with a robust list of projects. 2023 had 111 listed projects. Most are completed, and some will continue into 2024. Just to mention a few:

- We continue to pursue a natural gas aggregation program.
- Downtown public bathrooms are becoming a reality.
- W. Main St. Phase I has been completed (with the exception of the closed section between Cherry and Plum) and we look forward to beginning Phase II in 2024.
- Our second golf simulator has been installed at Miami Shores Golf Course.
- Reconstruction and upgrades to the Kidder Ditch have been completed.
- Improvements are in process to the entry at the Senior Citizens Center.
- The privately-owned former Spinnaker property was sold and is undergoing re-development.
- The Madison St. lift station upgrades were completed.
- Playground equipment continues to be replaced on a rotating basis.
- Water tower cleaning and painting took place this year.
- The Low Head Dam removal has been a multi-year project and it continues.
- Many utility projects at both the WTP and WWTP have been completed or are ongoing.
- Many trees lost in the 2020 tornado have been replaced as part of the ODNR Canopy Restoration project.
- The county-wide Fire/EMS study continues.

The one thing that has continued throughout my first term has been the saga of the old tavern building (known as 112-116 W. Main). Hopefully, with two months of negotiations towards a resolution and a settlement being reached just before Christmas, we will see W. Main St. opened up by May, and the restoration of traffic into and through our beautiful downtown.

I serve on multiple boards, attend many meetings and read many documents. This provides daily and varied opportunities to represent the City of Troy, both administratively and on a personal

level. These meetings are both in and out of the city, in and out of City Hall, with city staff, with our current business owners, with potential business owners, with our non-profits, and with residents and visitors.

Below is a list of the boards that I currently serving on:

- City of Troy Community Improvement Corporation (CIC)
- City of Troy Planning Commission
- City of Troy Records Commission
- Activate Troy Partnership (ATP)
- Greater Dayton Area Mayors and Managers Association (*Vice President for 2020-21; President 2022-23; Immediate Past President 2024-25*)
- Family & Children First Council (FCFC)
- First Responders Roundtable w/the Sheriff, our Chief of Police, our Fire Department Chief, and Service & Safety Director
- Kettering Health-Troy Administrative Roundtable
- Mayor's Roundtable
- Mayor's Youth Council
- Miami County Community Corrections Planning Board
- Miami County Council
- Miami County Drug-Free Coalition
- Miami County Hazard Mitigation Committee
- Miami County United Way Board (non-voting member)
- Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC Board of Directors)
- Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC Executive Committee)
- MVRPC Regional Transportation Planning Organization Steering Committee
- Ohio Municipal Mayors Association
- Sculptures on the Square Committee (SOS)
- Tri-City Mayors & Managers
- UVMC Administrative Roundtable

Additionally,

- I do a monthly interview with Lori Burch on Power 107 highlighting city news and/or events, I attend events at the schools as requested (Career Days, reading to classrooms, clubs, etc...), attend ribbon cuttings and a plethora of Chamber events, Dare graduations, etc.

- As mayor I preside at the swearing-in of police officers, employee retirements, extend congratulations for promotions, conduct the Mayor's Youth Council, and attend all budget meetings with city staff throughout every fall.

- I occasionally meet with our State Rep. Jena Powell, Congressmen Mike Carey and/or Warren Davidson, or their staff, either in phone meetings or in-person.

- I attend the OML Mayors Conference every June, and the annual OML Conference every October.

- We are blessed with several international companies in the City of Troy. Trade missions are an invaluable way to maintain and nurture those relationships and to introduce the city to other companies/industries looking to expand in the U.S. We are able to split these into two areas – Asia and Europe.

- In May of 2023, Mr. Titterington, Mr. Joseph Graves (Troy Development Council) and myself traveled to Japan to visit several of our Japanese companies (Honda Motor, Honda Logistics, Lintec, and F-Tech) in Tokyo, Saitama, and Itabashi.

As a part of this one-week trip, we also visited our sister city, Takahashi in the Okayama Prefecture, and had a great visit with Mayor Kondo, his staff, toured a school and visited some of their industries.

- In late July, we hosted a group of Takahashi students, a principal, a teacher, and a city staffer here in Troy. It was an amazing week with host families and the Takahashi delegation taking part in many activities together.

- I hosted Japanese Consul General Shindo and his wife for lunch this fall as they were on their way to another function in Cincinnati. They are here in Troy occasionally to visit the Japanese companies who are located here, and the fact that they would stop for lunch with me was an honor.

- In conjunction with JASCO (Japanese American Society based in Columbus), we participated in the 2023 Grassroots Summit in September, again hosting adults from Japan for another amazing week. Next year, the 2024 Grassroots Summit will take place in Wakayama, Japan.

- This fall I was part of welcoming trade students and their instructor from a school in Germany to the Upper Valley Career Center. UVCC students will go there next year in a continued back-and-forth arrangement.

Again, these types of shared experiences are so important in representing the City of Troy and Miami County and all the opportunities that exist, along with maintaining relationships with the leaders of these industries who have chosen to locate here in our community.

We continue to see much growth, both residential and business. The work on updating our Comprehensive Plan has started, and will serve us well over the next couple of decades. It is a lengthy process, but will provide the opportunity for us to review/update and look at how and where we will continue to grow.

It is, and has been, my pleasure and honor to represent the City of Troy.

Very sincerely,

Mayor Robin Oda