Franklin County
Where Government Works

2016 State of the County

John O'Grady
President

Paula Brooks
Commissioner

Marilyn Brown
Commissioner

Dear Residents of Franklin County,

Thank you for taking the time to explore our 2016 State of the County Report. We are pleased to be able to tell you that the state of Franklin County is strong. Our purpose in this report is to highlight the work of your county government in providing safe and effective justice programs, encouraging economic growth, protecting our environment, providing compassionate health and human services, and safeguarding the county's finances. The following information illustrates the role that county government plays in the daily lives of our Franklin County residents.

In 2015, more than 60% of the county's General Fund Budget was allocated to public safety, justice, and security. We also strengthened our investment in the Smart Works suite of economic development programs to build infrastructure that will last for generations, attract new businesses to our region, revitalize our historic downtowns, keep Franklin County green and growing, and to create new jobs and train employees with the skills needed for those important jobs. We strengthened and expanded the direct services that make up the majority of the county's All-Funds budget, and made major investments to reduce the infant mortality rate in Central Ohio, and to help build supportive housing, support healthy childhood development, and funding training and internship programs for students. We are also proud to have received national attention for our work with the Stepping Up initiative that coordinates efforts to reduce the disparate impacts of our criminal justice system on people with mental health and addiction issues.

In 2016, we continue to deliver the vital services that so many of our Franklin County residents count on, and are focusing on the future. In the past 10 years, Franklin County's population has grown by more than 15%. We are the fastest growing large county in the state; the population of our metro area is now more than 2 million people. With that growth comes increasing responsibilities and the Franklin County commissioners are planning for those by continuing to attract new and expanding businesses to our region, by addressing poverty and disparate health outcomes among our residents, and by continuing to add to the county's "rainy day" fund.

Franklin County, Ohio is one of only 7% of counties nationwide that have fully recovered from the Great Recession, and one of only 2% of counties with a Double-AAA bond rating because of the thoughtful hard work and planning that your county team puts into everything that they do. Many in our community continue to struggle, however, and everyone in the commissioners' office and county government is committed to seeing that all of our residents have the opportunity to thrive.

Thank you again for your interest in your Franklin County government. You can find more detailed information, including about the county budget and the commissioners' core principles at *commissioners.franklincountyohio.gov*, and please don't ever hesitate to contact our office with any question or concern you may have.

Community Safety & Security

Sheriff's Office

335,638
Calls for service

603
Deputies

72
Vehicles in Patrol Division

2,102,584
Miles driven by Patrol Division

502
Felony Arrests

2,846
Misdemeanor Arrests

565
OVI Arrests

44
Arrests made by Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force

Homeland Security & Justice Programs

1,404
Hours of supervised visitation and exchanges offered to **113** families with a history of domestic violence

2,827
Survivors of domestic violence, stalking, dating violence or sexual assault received victim services

324
Participated in the Operation Street Smart Program and Rape Aggression Defense courses

52
inmates received mentoring, transitional employment with paid wages, recycling skills, wraparound service and other related case management

1,272
Hours of community service provided by **190** Volunteers in Public Safety Support (VIPSS)

Emergency Management & Homeland Security

In 2015, Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security launched ALERT Franklin County, a state-of-the-art mass notification and warning system developed to quickly notify residents of weather emergencies, crime alerts, road closures and more in all 42 jurisdictions within Franklin County. The system enables officials to provide critical information directly to residents as emergencies happen via text message, phone and email. Residents are encouraged to register online at www.alertfranklincounty.org.

Animal Care & Control

10,347
Dogs impounded

4,102
Adopted

1,409
Sent to rescue

2,519
Redeemed by owner

82%
Live release rate

7 Days
Days on adoption floor (average) in shelter

Engineer

267
Miles of county roadway maintained

364
Bridges inspected - 98% rated fair or better; 70% good, very good or excellent

780
Lane miles maintained by snow-fighter crews

13,724
Tons of salt used

207,000
Gallons of de-icing chemicals applied

20
Miles of roadway protected by corn stalk
snow fence

Courts

44,192
Common Pleas General Division criminal cases

85,718
Common Pleas General Division civil cases

39,125
Domestic Relations and Juvenile Branch cases

THE STEPPING UP INITIATIVE

Problem

According to the Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center report of the on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health Systems in Franklin County:

22% of the Franklin County jail population has a serious mental illness compared to 5% of the general population.

68.0% of the jail population with a serious mental illness has a co-occurring alcohol and/or drug addiction.

The average length of jail stay for persons with mental illness in Franklin County is 32 days compared to 20 days for those without mental illness.

What are we doing about it?

The National Association of Counties (NACo), the Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center, and the American Psychiatric Association Foundation (APAF) have come together to lead a national initiative to help advance counties' efforts to reduce the number of adults with mental health and co-occurring substance use disorders in jails.

Franklin County has fully signed on to the Stepping Up initiative, and in 2015, took specific and major actions to promote Stepping Up into practice. Those include:

1. The commissioners signed on to the NACo Call To Action: A National Initiative to Reduce the Number of People with Mental Illnesses in Jails, and accepted the CSG Justice Center's report and recommendations specific to Franklin County.
2. The commissioners acknowledged the work already underway or completed.
3. The commissioners committed to develop comprehensive 4 year plan with measurable outcomes, implement research-based approaches to advance the plan, encourage public-private partnerships to promote awareness, de-stigmatization, and promote public safety, and assign an accountable entity to track and report on progress.
4. At the commissioners' request, the Franklin County Criminal Justice Planning Board has committed, via 23 specific strategies, to reduce the average daily Franklin County jail population by 30% by 2020, and to reduce the length of stay disparity between detainees with and without mental health issues by 50% by 2020.

Job Creation & Economic Development

INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS. FRANKLIN COUNTY

Infrastructure Works makes available low-interests loans of up to $1M to cities, villages, and townships within Franklin County to build physical infrastructure that will result in economic development.

3 projects funded in 2015

1. Village of Marble Cliff Water Improvements. $125,000. 40 New jobs
2. City of Whitehall N. Hamilton Road Improvements. $550,000. 50 New jobs
3. Upper Arlington Municipal Fiber Network. $1,000,000. 300 New jobs

Totals: $1,675,000 | 390 New jobs

PEOPLE WORKS. FRANKLIN COUNTY

86
Public assistance recipients who gained employment

12
Employers who hired individuals through Workforce Navigation

The goal of the People Works program is to do just that – put people to work. We are specifically targeting the county's social service agency clients in hopes of connecting them and training them to fill living wage jobs that we know our region's employers have available.

3 People Works grant agreements in 2015

1. Columbus Castings - $150,000; 550 New Jobs
2. CoverMyMeds - $50,000; 116 New Jobs
3. Connect Ohio Initiatives LLC - $100,000; 100 New Jobs

Totals: $300,000 | 766 New Jobs

ENERGY WORKS FRANKLIN COUNTY

Energy Works provides loans to businesses, local governments, schools, and non-profits in Franklin County for energy efficient upgrades.

1 Project :

PNC Plaza, Downtown Columbus. $400,000. New lighting, roofing, water supply pumps, and building automation. 15% energy savings

$3.3 million in local economic impact- design services, construction jobs and materials, as well as increasing the value and attractiveness of Central Ohio office stock.

Featured Community Partners

EXPERIENCE COLUMBUS

$2 million to promote Franklin County as a destination

- Tourism generates more than $1 billion in tax revenue
- More than 37 million people visit our region, spending $5.7 billion annually
- Equates to more than $8.7 billion in economic activity
- Sustains more than 71,000 jobs

COLUMBUS 2020

$1 million to market Franklin County both nationally and internationally as a prime location to expand or relocate a business

Job Creation

	2010	2015	2020
Goal	0	75,000	150,000
Actual	0	111,113	187,797 (projected)

Increased Capital Investment

	2010	2015	2020
Goal	$0	$4 billion	$8 billion
Actual	$0	$7.11 billion	$11.69 billion (projected)

Increase in Per Capita Income

	2010	2015	2020
Goal	0%	15%	30%
Actual	0%	17%	46% (projected)

Health & Human Services

Office on Aging

9,015
Seniors enrolled in our Home and Community Based Care

2,076,831
Miles of transportation provided (9% increase)

645,488
Home delivered meals (10% increase)

27,000
Seniors served by Community Support and Outreach component

2,500
Senior living festival attendance

1,000
Office on Aging Day with the Clippers attendance

Job & Family Services

65.5%
Cash Assistance Program Work Participation Rate (one month high of 70%)

2,296
Children placed in summer camps

1,605
Young people participating in summer youth employment program

1,265
Children in after school programs

2,600
Children in early learning programs

Child Support Enforcement Agency

70,816
Open cases

77,010
Children supported

146,000
Parents involved

$168,618,387
Collected and disbursed to the families we serve

94.66%
Paternity establishment - 1st among metro counties

66.13%
Support collections performance rate - 1st among metro counties

324
Empowerment Day attendance - job seekers

136
Empowerment Day attendance - employers/partners

Veterans Services

68,231
Veterans in Franklin County

$5.7 million
Funding for the Veterans Service Commission (9.1% increase)

6,947
Veterans and their family members receiving service

1,663
Veterans and their family members provided food vouchers

12,997
Trips provided to medical facilities

Featured Community Partners

communityshelterboard

$5 million to combat homelessness in Franklin County. There has been a 79% increase of homeless families over the last 3 years; 16 % increase of homeless single men/women.

3,546
Men served by the emergency shelter system

4,897
Individuals in families served by the emergency shelter system

1,788
Women served by the emergency shelter system

Affordable Housing Trust
FOR COLUMBUS & FRANKLIN COUNTY

$3 million to create affordable home ownership and rental housing to working households and seniors.

886
New units to be created that were financed in 2015

ONE
CELEBRATEONE

Problem

150 infants a year die in Franklin County; 3 families lose a baby every week. African American babies are dying at twice the rate of white babies.

What are we doing about it?

Franklin County has joined with community partners in an ongoing coordinated campaign, known as CelebrateOne, to reduce the community's infant mortality rate by 40 percent and cut the racial health disparity gap in half by 2020.

Two of CelebrateOne's key strategies are to improve women's health before pregnancy by expanding access to healthcare and to promote infant safe sleep practices.

Progress

Franklin County has seen a 19.2% increase in enrollment for women of childbearing age, and a 39.5% increase for women who identified as pregnant through December 2015. In the eight identified high-priority neighborhoods, there has been a 17.9% increase in enrollment for women of child-bearing age, and a 37.4% increase for women who identified as pregnant.

The commissioners also funded a marketing and promotion strategy to combat infant mortality, including the launch of the *CelebrateOne.info* website, a community engagement series in targeted neighborhoods, and creation of a new safe sleep campaign.

Environmental Sustainability

In March, the commissioners negotiated a new contract extension with AEP Energy to provide the county with electricity that is 100% renewable. If the commissioners had not renegotiated the county's contract before it expired in June, rates would have jumped by $242,000 over the next 26 months. The new contract, instead, saves about $121,000 over the same time period and certifies that 100% of the electricity it covers is produced through renewable means. The contract covers the electricity used by 47 county facilities, and runs through May of 2018.

100%
Renewable energy for 47 county facilities; **$121,000** savings over 26 months

11
Hybrid fleet vehicles

388 tons
Recycled material

18 tons
e-Waste collected and diverted during the 2015 e-waste event

8
Hybrid electric cars

36 mpg; 63% higher than non-hybrids

2
Plugin hybrids
45 mpg; nearly 2x more than same model vehicle non-hybrid

1
Diesel hybrid prisoner transport bus

Sanitary Engineering

4,295
Water customers (4,001 residential, 294 commercial)

6,202
Sewer customers (5,905 residential, 297 commercial)

265 million
Gallons of water sold

385.9 million
Gallons of water treated or delivered

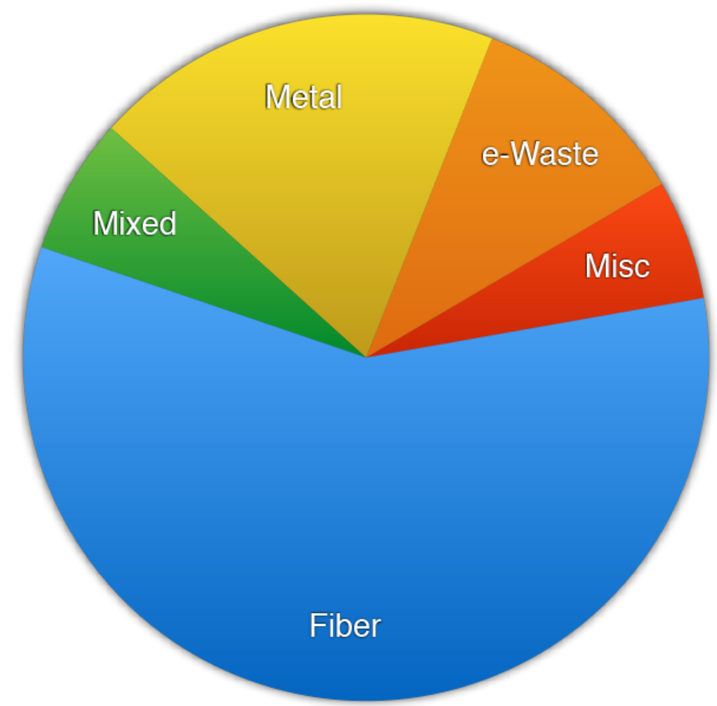
91.8 million
Gallons of sewage treated via four wastewater treatment centers

324.5 million
Gallons sewage sent to the City of Columbus for treatment

LEED-certified Buildings

- LEED Gold Common Pleas Courthouse
- LEED Silver Sheriff's Training Academy
- LEED Gold Dog Shelter & Adoption Shelter
- New Jail - aiming for LEED certification

Recycled Materials



Fiber	225 tons	58%
Mixed	25 tons	6%
Metal	75 tons	19%
e-Waste	41 tons[1]	11%
Misc	22 tons	6%

[1] 18 tons from e-Waste Event

Fiscally Responsible Government Operations

Franklin County is the only county in Ohio with a Double-AAA bond rating. Rated triple-A by Moody's and S&P, Franklin County is among the highest rated 2% of counties and local governments nationwide.

Franklin County is also in rare company for having fully recovered from the Great Recession that ended nearly seven years ago, according to a report from the National Association of Counties. Of 3,069 counties nationwide, only 214, or 7 percent, had fully recovered by last year in four areas - economic output (gross domestic product), employment, unemployment rate and home prices.

The commissioners have committed to a pay-as-you-go approach for the $200 million construction of the new county jail facility and relocation of the Coroner's Office. Utilizing the proceeds from the temporary sales tax for the project rather than issuing $200 million in debt is expected to save approximately $100 million in avoided interest costs over the life of the debt service.

The 2016 budget also sets aside $10 million to add to the County's "Rainy Day Fund" and other strategic reserves, as well as $5 million in Contingency to cover unforeseen expenditures that may occur during the year.

Franklin County strives to keep staffing expenditures in control. Despite increases in demand for services driven by population growth, the 2016 budget includes 270 fewer positions than in 2008.

Doing Business in the County

2,854
Vendors registered to do business with Franklin County

7,192
Purchase orders in the amount of $246,199,250

Mailroom

2,368,136
Pieces of mail processed

$1,834,925
Savings by using the County mail room to process pieces

Print Shop

12,903,502
Items copied or printed

$1,112,068
Savings by using the county's in-house print shop

Child Support Enforcement Agency Going Paperless!

The CSEA has been hard at work automating the process of managing its child support cases.

More than 32,680 case files have been scanned since May 2015. As of the end of 2015, the agency has scanned 2,257,150 individual pieces of paper.

CSEA has experienced $10,189.08 in cost savings by cutting the amount of time necessary to access case files, and being able to answer client questions over the phone instead of having to call the client back once the case file has been checked out of the file room.

Contact

Address
373 S. High Street, 26th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215-6314

Phone
(614) 525-3322

Website
Commissioners.FranklinCountyOhio.gov

Twitter
@FranklinCoOhio

GovDelivery Newsletter
Subscribe

Animal Care & Control
(614) 525-3400
Dogs.FranklinCountyOhio.gov

Auditor
(614) 525-4663
FranklinCountyAuditor.com

Board of Developmental Disabilities
(614) 475-6440
FCBDD.org

Board of Elections
(614) 525-3100
Vote.FranklinCountyOhio.gov

Child Support Enforcement
(614) 525-3275
Support.FranklinCountyOhio.gov

Children Services
(614) 275-2271
ChildrenServices.FranklinCountyOhio.gov

Clerk of Courts
(614) 525-3600
Clerk.FranklinCountyOhio.gov

Court of Appeals
(614) 525-3580
TenthDistrictCourt.org

Court of Common Pleas
(614) 525-3453
FCCourts.org

Coroner
(614) 525-5290
Coroner.FranklinCountyOhio.gov

Engineer
(614) 525-3030
FranklinCountyEngineer.org

Economic Development & Planning
(614) 525-3095
Development.FranklinCountyOhio.gov

Homeland Security & Justice Programs
(614) 525-5577
OHSJP.FranklinCountyOhio.gov

Job & Family Services
(614) 233-2000
JFS.FranklinCountyOhio.gov

Law Library
(614) 525-4971
LawLibrary.FranklinCountyOhio.gov

Office on Aging
(614) 525-6200
OfficeOnAging.org

Probate Court
(614) 525-3894
Probate.FranklinCountyOhio.gov

Prosecuting Attorney
(614) 525-3555
Prosecutor.FranklinCountyOhio.gov

Public Health
(614) 525-3160
MyFCPH.org

Purchasing Department
(614) 525-3750
Purchasing.FranklinCountyOhio.gov

Recorder
(614) 525-3930
Recorder.FranklinCountyOhio.gov

Sanitary Engineering
(614) 525-3940
CleanWater.FranklinCountyOhio.gov

Sheriff
(614) 525-3333
Sheriff.FranklinCountyOhio.gov

Treasurer
(614) 525-3438
Treasurer.FranklinCountyOhio.gov

Veterans Service Commission
(614) 525-2500
Vets.FranklinCountyOhio.gov