



The City of Lorain, Ohio

Department of Public Property

2132 West Park Drive, Lorain, Ohio 44053

(440) 204-2550 Fax (440) 204-2539

Jack Bradley
Mayor

Rey Carrion
Safety/Service Director

Lori Garcia
Public Property Manager

March 4, 2026

Dear Members of Council,

I am writing to address an urgent matter regarding the proposed 2026 budget scheduled to go before Council on March 2, 2026, with committee meetings on March 9th.

In order to effectively operate our park programs—especially summer camp, pool admissions and concessions, grass cutting, and maintenance of ballfields across all parks—it is imperative that we maintain the ability to hire seasonal employees. Seasonal staffing is critical to preparing and maintaining our fields for rentals. This year, we anticipate generating more than \$80,000 in revenue from field rentals alone. Without seasonal staff to properly prep and maintain these fields, we will not be able to host rentals, and this projected income will be lost.

In the Street Department, seasonal employees play an equally vital role. They are responsible for painting crosswalks, assisting with long line striping and intersection arrows, and maintaining city-owned high grass lots. Without seasonal staff, crosswalks will not be painted, line striping will fall behind, and city-owned lots will go uncut—directly impacting safety, appearance, and community standards. I requested \$40,000 in regular wages for seasonal support in the Street Department.

The proposed budget currently before Council does not include any seasonal funding for either the Parks or Street Departments. The requested \$60,000 in regular wages for seasonal employees in the Parks Department and the \$40,000 for the Street Department were approved by the Service Director but were inadvertently omitted from the final budget due to a miscommunication.

I respectfully request that an amendment be made to the budget to restore the \$60,000 for the Parks Department and the \$40,000 for the Street Department into regular wages.

These funds are essential not only to maintaining services and safety standards but also to protecting revenue that directly supports our operations.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please feel free to reach out.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lori R Garcia".

Lori R Garcia
Director of Public Property