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Over the last two years, City leaders and staff have been evaluating facilities as part of a long-term capital improvement plan. City facilities have long been identified as being inadequate to meet operational needs for service delivery. The building at 825 Tech Center Drive would enable the City to meet many needs for decades to come by accommodating three facilities in one: Police Headquarters, City Hall, and the Senior Center.

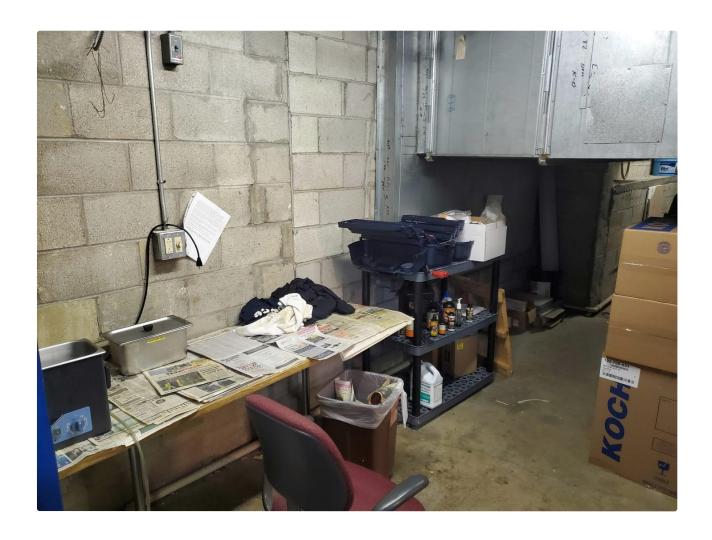


https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sFG04hHVnO0

An analysis of City facilities was first done in 2005-2006, which concluded that the City needed more than 100,000 square feet of additional space to meet operational needs at that time. A second assessment, done in 2017, found that a majority of the City's facilities, including Police Headquarters and City Hall, were rated "fair" to "poor" based on 27 different criteria. A third study, presented to City Council in October 2021, reaffirmed the needs identified in the previous two assessments.







Beginning in January 2022, the City's Administration hosted four public workshops with Council to discuss the details of the three reports. While exploring options to address the needs that were identified, the opportunity of 825 Tech Center Drive presented itself.

The building at 825 Tech Center Drive is a 100,000-square-foot Class A office building. If acquired, the City would renovate the facility and build a 31,000-square-foot addition. This newly envisioned complex would have the capacity to house all City services currently located on South Hamilton Road for decades to come. After identifying this option, the City engaged a consultant to verify that the facility would meet both existing and future operational needs and to develop a detailed cost estimate for the project. Based on the numbers provided, this approach to addressing facility needs would save the community in excess of \$35 million.

Issue 12, which was overwhelmingly approved by voters in May 2019, was intended to provide funding for long-term capital improvement projects such as streets, playground equipment, trails and city facilities. This would serve as the funding mechanism of this project without the need for any further taxpayer support.

To review the facilities studies, workshop presentations, and the latest schedule of upcoming discussions, <u>CLICK HERE (https://www.gahanna.gov/facilities-resources/)</u>.