



NEWS RELEASE

From Mayor Dean DePiero

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MAYOR PODCAST HIGHLIGHTS SERVICE CUTS AND POSSIBLE LAYOFFS IN THE FALL

(PARMA) – The City of Parma will discontinue its annual leaf pick-up program this fall if an agreement on cost-cutting measures is not reached with workers in the Service Department. Parma Mayor Dean DePiero made the announcement while updating city issues during his monthly podcast report.

“It’s an inevitable result of not having the people to do the work,” said Mayor DePiero. “It’s the one downside of failing to reach a deal with our service workers and the anticipated temporary layoff of employees in October and November. Hopefully, those same workers will be called back before the snow begins to fly.”

The city has reached concession agreements with eight of its nine unions, most recently finalizing overtime cuts and givebacks by Parma Firefighters. Mayor DePiero says the city will have no other choice than to lay off approximately 50 of its 87 Service Department workers to help offset a \$2.4 million budget gap in reduced income tax revenue if an agreement is not reached. In early June, Parma’s non-union employees began taking the first of 16 unpaid furlough days that will continue through the end of the year.

Mayor DePiero said the good news is that nearly a dozen city road repair and resurfacing projects, including Snow and York Roads, should be completed before the anticipated layoffs begin. He also said other improvement projects continued throughout the summer.

“We have done a great job in upgrading Veterans Memorial Park which we showcased during the recent Ohio Challenger Baseball Tournament for special needs youth,” said Mayor DePiero. “That program was a great success and it put Parma in a positive spotlight for families from across Ohio to see. I am proud to say that working together during these challenging times makes our community a safe place to live and do business. Our quality of life has not and will not diminish.”

You can hear Mayor Dean DePiero’s podcast on the city website, www.cityofparma-oh.gov.

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