



BOARD of COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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PRESS RELEASE

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WARREN COUNTY OFFICIALS COLABORATE FOR THE LARGEST TAX HOLIDAY IN STATE HISTORY AND ADDRESS COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PLANS FOR 2022

WARREN COUNTY, OHIO – The Warren County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) is pleased to announce a “Property Tax Holiday” for FY 2022. As a result of the conservative fiscal policy of Warren County’s government, the County Commissioners will not collect their share of 2021 property taxes, payable in 2022. Warren County receives \$78.75 per \$100,000 in home value annually which directly goes to run our local county government. In conjunction with this rollback, the Commissioners worked with their advisory Senior Services Board, to grant a tax holiday on their 2022 levy, saving another \$29.94 per \$100,000 in home value.

This property tax holiday comes in addition to the property tax rollback of \$45.93 by the Commissioners’ collaboration with the Board of Developmental Disabilities, keeping with the consistent rollback each year since 2017. County elected and appointed officials believe that the best place for their tax dollars is back in the hands of their residents. With this property tax holiday, property owners in Warren County will have a one-time reduction of \$151.62 per \$100,000 of voted millage removed from their 2022 taxes.

The estimated cumulative savings for Warren County taxpayers for FY 2022 is \$46.5 million and is a testament to the County’s steadfast conservative fiscal approach to governance. Residents living in Washington, Turtlecreek, and Deerfield Townships, along with Mason, and Waynesville will also experience additional reductions through these jurisdictions’ various levy rollbacks.

Warren County residents will still have a tax bill in 2022, as this is a partial tax holiday, and the majority of property tax dollars go to school districts. Additional property tax dollars go to the health district, fire and police departments, cities, townships, libraries, and other local taxing districts. Residents have also been notified of the updates made to property values in 2021 that reflect the current state of the local real estate market and following the FY 2022 holiday, property taxes will indicate this increase.

This property tax holiday also aligns with the Commissioners' well-rounded approach to ensuring a strong economic recovery following the COVID-19 pandemic. Based on the Commissioners' guidance and informed by all communities, Warren County will utilize the roughly \$46 million received through Federal funds under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to address ongoing needs directly related to the pandemic, provide strategic investments to our county's infrastructure, and execute a comprehensive approach to economic development.

To further the health and safety of all residents served in Warren County, funding will go toward our health district for continued testing and vaccination needs. Mitigation measures also will be considered to support operations of the Warren County jail and school districts. An example already in place is the Ohio Test & Stay pilot program that launched through the Education Service Center. The pilot was designed to safely keep students in school and due to its effectiveness, is now a model Statewide.

Infrastructure investments will range from allocating \$6.4 million for replacement of the water surcharge on customers served by the Warren County Water Department, impacting roughly 33,000 households, to connecting underserved and rural areas to broadband services. Additionally, the BOCC seeks to ensure that the Warren County Health District is better equipped to address the current pandemic and any future pandemic-related needs.

Plans are ongoing to support our workforce and continued economic development. In order to keep families fully engaged in the workforce, ARPA dollars will be used to build up capacity in childcare centers, while ensuring the availability of quality programs. To combat the labor shortage, initiatives to target workforce development programs alongside our local partners will be prioritized. With a plan to reinvigorate Warren County's travel and tourism sector, investments are underway to expand the current success of the Warren County Sports Park. Additionally, A new project to develop a multipurpose entertainment venue along the 75 Corridor is emerging through our partnership with the City of Middletown and the private sector.

All these investments paired with the FY 2022 property tax holiday serve as a robust and well-rounded approach to reach all residents as we address the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic together. In total, these combined strategies create roughly a \$100 million investment into Warren County. By alleviating some financial burdens and supporting our communities through health, safety, economic growth, and workforce supports, Warren County will continue to work hard to serve all residents, support vibrant growth in all communities, and continue on a strong financial path forward.

About the Warren County Board of County Commissioners

The Warren County Board of Commissioners is the legislative and executive body of county government. As the governing body, the Board is fiscally responsible for taxpayer dollars and for provision of services as required by state and federal law or mandated by the public. The Board works, through community partnership, to conscientiously protect and enhance the health, safety and quality of life of all Warren County residents, businesses and communities in a respectful, efficient and fiscally responsible way that addresses the needs today and invests in tomorrow.

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