



## SHAKER HEIGHTS

### Safety and Public Works Committee Agenda Friday, October 2, 2020 at 8:00 am

**For the safety of staff and residents, in-person attendance is not permitted. Join the Zoom meeting as a viewer or listener from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device. Join online at <https://zoom.us/j/91167395029?pwd=RXB6VE1oemR2cEVXbnRmWVFNY0g1dz09>, Password: 33553400; Description: SAFETY AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE; or join by phone at 833-548-0282 (toll free); Webinar ID: : ENTER ID NO, Password: 33553400. International numbers available at <https://zoom.us/u/adUaTZZIKG>.**

1. Approval of Minutes from September 4, 2020

Documents:

[09042020 SPW MINUTES FINAL DRAFT.PDF](#)

2. 2020 Resident Deer Questionnaire Results

Documents:

[DEER SURVEY RESULTS 2020 SPW.PDF](#)  
[2019 DEER QUESTIONNAIRE SUMMARY.PDF](#)  
[2020 DEER QUESTIONNAIRE SUMMARY.PDF](#)  
[2019 DEER SURVEY QUESTION 3 MAP.PDF](#)  
[2020 DEER SURVEY QUESTION 3 MAP.PDF](#)

3. Precision Wildlife Management LTD Contract 2020-2021 Deer Management Program

Documents:

[SPW 2020-2021 WINTER DEER CULLING PROGRAM VF.PDF](#)

4. WCR ODOT Agreement Revision

Documents:

[ODOTWCRREV\\_.PDF](#)

5. Acceptance of Assistance to Firefighters FEMA Grant

Documents:

6. Adjournment

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**SAFETY AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2020**  
**8:00 AM**  
**VIA ZOOM MEETING**

Members Present: Robert Zimmerman, Council Chairperson  
Sean Malone, Council Member  
Carmella Williams, Council Member  
Earl Williams, Council Member  
Jonathan Hren, Citizen Member  
Kimberly Harris, Citizen Member  
James Sammon, Citizen Member  
Patricia Speese, Director Public Works  
Jeffrey DeMuth, Chief of Police

Others Present: Mayor David E. Weiss  
Jeri Chaikin, Chief Administrative Officer  
James Heath, Assistant Fire Chief  
Kelly Baker, Recording Assistant

The meeting was called to order by Council Chair Robert Zimmerman at 8:10 am.

Council Chair Zimmerman made an acknowledgement of the difficult week the police and fire departments have had referencing the loss of life on Parkland Road.

Chief DeMuth mentioned the Cleveland Police officer who was shot and killed and also a Shaker police officer, while chasing a suspect, was injured and may be out of work for a while. He stated that the department is doing as well as can be expected.

Assistant Fire Chief Heath stated that it was a traumatic call and they had to debrief the firemen.

Council Chair Zimmerman reminded everyone that these departments don't receive a lot of calls when things are great, just when things are wrong and people are in distress and offered them the committees support and thanks.

**APPROVAL OF AUGUST 7, 2020 MEETING MINUTES**

Council Chair Zimmerman asked if there were any questions, changes or additions to the August 7, 2020, Safety and Public Works Committee minutes. A motion was made by Citizen Member Hren, it was seconded, and the minutes were approved.

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR ALDERSYDE ROAD WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT DESIGN**

**Patricia Speese, Director of Public Works**

Director Speese stated that Cleveland Water Department has a competitive waterline funding program that a lot of communities apply for. The City has applied for this fund for Aldersyde Road by the high school due to the numerous problems they have had with that waterline. Last year they were denied and went to CWD to see how they could improve their chances and this year they were awarded the funding for an estimated cost of \$593,153.

Director Speese explained that PW received a total of five proposals for design services for the waterline. After a Quality Based Selection (QBS) process and an interview was completed the team selected DLZ. She stated they are requesting approval to award the design services contract to DLZ in the amount of \$46,182.

Council Chair Zimmerman asked how the QBS process works. He wondered if the price quotes were included in the bid and at what point are they reviewed. Director Speese stated that when a bid is submitted they are required to submit two sealed packages. One with the proposal and a separate package with the price. The price package is not opened until after the review of the proposal and interview is complete and a selection based on merit is made. Then the price is reviewed.

Council Chair Zimmerman wanted to know if any of the prices reflect negotiation. Director Speese stated it reflects what they bid.

Council Member Carmella Williams asked if there was consideration for minority or women owned businesses. Director Speese stated there are no additional points given, however in this case the MBE was the best proposal. Council Member Carmella Williams clarified that she was referring to inviting minority or women owned businesses to bid on the work. Director Speese said that they were invited and CAO Chaikin stated that all city departments have access to the Certified MBE and WBE lists used by other governmental entities from whom to solicit proposals.

Council Member Malone asked if CWD would pay for the design work in addition to the construction. Director Speese stated that is correct. He also asked about the difference between a QBS and lowest and best process. Director Speese stated that the lowest and best process would be used when they are bidding for individual items and a proposal for professional services would be when they need to use a QBS process for more creative work such as designing a waterline.

Council Member Malone asked when to expect construction to begin and Director Speese indicated our intention is not during the school year, but to begin next summer.

Council Chair Zimmerman asked for more questions or comments, there being no more a motion was made by Council Member Malone, it was seconded and the motion passed.

Director Speese mentioned that they just found out that they received funding for a new waterline for Warrington Road and that will be presented to this committee in the near future.

Mayor Weiss thanked Director Speese and her team for the efforts. He mentioned all the breaks on Aldersyde and he is happy this is moving forward.

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR BRANTLEY ROAD SEWER IMPROVEMENTS DESIGN**

**Patricia Speese, Director of Public Works**

Director Speese stated that in June of 2015 we had a storm that concentrated on the Brantley Road area sewers and they received a lot of flooding in that area. There was a lot of extensive work done and they found that the sewers were running under the tree lawn and there are a lot of trees causing an abundance of root infiltration. They have made repairs, cleared the roots and replaced some segments of the sewer.

Director Speese explained that a year and a half ago council approved to have all utilities pay to have the city provide an onsite inspector to protect our assets (sewers, trees, items in the right of way, etc). Part of the onsite inspection process is to televise the sewers ahead of time to document the condition and then televise after the project. What they were finding is after the utility would leave the project, then about a year or two later a tree would fail or significant damage to the sewers/streets would occur. Dominion Gas did a huge project on WCR and Brantley Road was a part of that project. When they did the pre-televising of the sewer lines, they advised the city that they needed to come out to the site immediately since their camera could not get through the sanitary sewer line.

Director Speese stated after reviewing the video they discovered that 85% of the sanitary sewer on Brantley Road was destroyed. Brantley Road is in the Northeast Quadrant of the City and Public Works is currently rehabilitating and working on the sewers in that area. This project falls under that scope of work. The pipe is caved in but the flow is still getting through, however they need to fast track this project. She indicated that the storm is not in great shape but she is hopeful it can be lined.

A RFP was prepared for engineering proposals for this project which will significantly involve University Schools who have also had problems they had not reported to the city. We received 7 proposals and based on the QBS scores GPD had the highest based on merit and were fairly priced. There was one proposal that was priced extremely high and they reached out to them to question the amount bid. The firm indicated they mistakenly bid too high. In the proposal PW indicated they wanted the sewers to be removed away from the tree lawn if possible.

Director Speese requested an approval to enter into a contact with GPD for the design services for Brantley Road sewer improvement at a cost of \$49,871.00

Council Member Malone asked if these services are being paid for by the city and Director Speese advised that the city will be paying for these services through the debt service funding, partially from this year's funds and partially from next year's funds.

CAO Chaikin commented that Director Speese put together a summary of sewer projects that have been funded from the sewer fund. She suggested that this be presented at another meeting in the future.

Council Chair Zimmerman asked if there were any other questions. There being none a motion was made by Council Member Carmella Williams, it was seconded and the motion passed.

Director Speese commented that they and received a grant from NEORSO for the Lomond/Lynnfield SSO.

## **REVIEW OF 2020 RESIDENT DEER QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS**

### **Jeri Chaikin, CAO and Jeffrey DeMuth, Chief of Police**

CAO Chaikin stated that the Wildlife Task Force asked that the review of the 2020 Resident Questionnaire results and recommendations be brought to this committee. She stated next month they would hold a joint Safety and Public Works Committee with the Wildlife Task Force to consider the contract with Precision Wildlife Management for this season's deer culling program.

CAO Chaikin provided the 2019 and 2020 results and addressed some key points. In the resident questionnaire results deer were considered abundant in 2019 at 70.69% and that was down to 64% in 2020. When asked if they would like to see less deer, in 2019 almost 53% said yes and in 2020 it was about 47%. When asked if they would like to see a slight, moderate or substantial decrease in deer, in 2019 72.4% said yes and in 2020 it was 69%. She stated the numbers are coming down slightly, but there are still a majority of the respondents who feel the deer are overabundant and are interested in seeing fewer deer.

Council Earl Williams asked if there was a breakdown as to the residents living north of the Fernway versus those living south of Fernway. He stated that there seems to be more deer in North Shaker. CAO Chaikin stated that they did not sort by neighborhood but she would sort it that way.

Citizen Member Sammon asked how the surveys were sent out or solicited. CAO Chaikin explained that since they have been doing this for about four years, they have done it by posting on the website, the City's FB page and all the neighborhood FB pages. In the past two years she stated there have been about 230 respondents.

CAO Chaikin stated the action recommended from the Wildlife Task Force was based on ODNR's formula for determining the number of deer culling permits that they will give the city. According to the formula Shaker had a 38% growth rate in deer without culling and a 4-5% growth rate with culling. With the COVID restrictions and residents being home more, they are feeding the deer and the deer are avoiding the bait sites and are moving from public lands to the Cleveland owned Highland Park Cemetery. They also learned that it is more costly to donate deer meat to the Cleveland food bank because they require a USDA processor at a cost of \$2000 more. The food processor who donates to the St. Vincent DePaul Food Charity does not have to be USDA certified and the committee felt they should save the \$2000. The task force asked that they approach the city of Cleveland about culling at the Highland Park Cemetery and the Golf Course, approach the Nature Center as well as the Shaker Heights Country Club. The cities contractor states that he sees a lot of deer on private property and the task force felt he could approach the owner and ask if they support a culling and if so, the contractor would follow the process.

CAO Chaikin said the next step would be to present the contract with Precision Wildlife Management at the next joint committee meeting for approval, then to finance and then to Council. The idea is to get the contract in place so that Mr. Mariano could start lining things up in November and start the culling season in early December. She stated there are funds in the Police Department budget for this service.

Council Chair Zimmerman stated that it is important that the committee understand that we are working hard to keep things the way they are or else they will go back to the way they were. He stated that we are reaching out to the neighbors for support and are not getting a great response for a proactive effort.

Council Member Malone asked about the measurement of the deer population and about the ODNR growth rate. He said he remembered a couple of years ago they did an aerial survey. Chief DeMuth explain that he didn't really understand the formula as well as he wanted to and not sure ODNR understands the formula either. He does understand that the variables used for the formula has to do with what they believe our population is, how many we have harvested over the years, how many fetus' were involved in the harvesting, what they know about reproductive rates of deer and the age of the herd. This makes the formula very complex. He stated that our data is an antidotal look at what is happening. He said he understands the amount of deer we have harvested in 5 years and the amount of fetus' involved, then looks at the numbers from Public Works, which is a record of dead deer that are recovered and numbers of injured deer, and they remain pretty consistent. Based on the information we have the herd is not getting any bigger but it's not being reduced either. Council Member Malone asked if they are slowing the rate of deer population and Chief DeMuth stated that we know for sure that if we didn't do anything we would have tripled our herd population in two years.

Council Chair Zimmerman stated there is a lot of emotion around this and the residents are demanding action and we are taking action.

#### Other Topic

Council Member Earl Williams asked Chief DeMuth about Police Compensation and if he could provide a comparison to what our officers are being paid versus surrounding communities.

Chief DeMuth stated the important aspect is understanding how collective bargaining agreements lag behind others and it makes it hard to make a comparison. What information we have from the city attorney is that our police department is below the mid-level in compensation for the county. He stated he can provide a comparison.

Meeting adjourned at 8:46 am.

Respectfully,

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Robert Zimmerman, Council Chairperson  
Safety & Public Works Committee



### Memorandum

To: Safety and Public Works Committee  
Wildlife Task Force Members

From: Chief Administrative Officer Jeri E. Chaikin  
cc: Mayor David E. Weiss

Date: September 29, 2020

Re: 2020 Resident Deer Questionnaire Results

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The City's Wildlife Task Force met on August 26, 2020 to review the results of the 2019-2020 deer culling program. The Task Force recommended that the City enter into a contract with Precision Wildlife Management LTD for the 2020-2021 deer culling program. This contract will be presented to the Safety and Public Works Committee for approval at their October 2, 2020 meeting.

Due to time constraints the Wildlife Task Force was unable to review the results of the 2020 resident deer questionnaire at their meeting and asked that the results be presented to the Safety and Public Works Committee for a joint discussion. Both the 2019 and the 2020 survey results are attached for your review. Key takeaways from the surveys are:

- Deer described as overabundant: 70.69% in 2019, 64.38% in 2020
- Would like to see less deer: 52.59% in 2019, 46.9% in 2020
- Would like to see slight, moderate, or substantial decrease in deer: 72.41% in 2019, 69% in 2020

Also attached are maps of the answers to Question No. 3, "How would you describe the deer population in your neighborhood?" so you can visualize the comparison between 2019 and 2020.

Enclosures (4)

## 2019 Deer Questionnaire Results

1. How would you describe the deer population in the City of Shaker Heights?		
Overabundant	93	40.09%
Abundant	71	30.60%
Few	11	4.74%
Very Few	4	1.72%
Just Right	45	19.40%
Uncertain	8	3.45%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>232</b>	

2. What neighborhood do you live in?		
Boulevard	26	11.21%
Fernway	21	9.05%
Lomond	27	11.64%
Ludlow	5	2.16%
Malvern	19	8.19%
Mercer	76	32.76%
Moreland	2	2.20%
Onaway	32	52.46%
Sussex	24	10.34%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>232</b>	

3. How would you describe the deer population in your neighborhood?		
Overabundant	91	39.22%
Abundant	61	26.29%
Few	30	12.93%
Very few	16	6.90%
Just right	27	11.64%
Uncertain	7	3.02%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>232</b>	

4. Have you noticed a change in the number of deer in your neighborhood compared to last year?		
Yes	119	51.29%
No	113	48.71%
<b>Total</b>	<b>232</b>	

4A. If yes, what kind of change?		
Less	61	52.59%
More	55	47.41%
<b>Total</b>	<b>116</b>	

5. Do you have concerns about deer in the City of Shaker Heights		
Yes	157	67.67%
No	75	32.33%
Total	232	

5. If you have concerns about deer in the City of Shaker Heights, please indicate those concerns (check all that apply).		
Damage to landscape and garden plants	140	
Transmission of diseases	98	
Damage to park ecosystems by over-browsing of native forag	86	
Decline in deer health due to overpopulation	59	
Aggressive behavior toward humans	57	
Aggressive behavior toward pets	43	
Hit a deer with my vehicle	10	
Almost hit a deer with my vehicle	54	
Other	17	

5. If other, please explain.		
See Comments		

6. In the future, what would you like to see happen with the number of deer in Shaker Heights?		
Slight increase	22	9.48%
Moderate increase	6	2.59%
Substantial increase	2	0.86%
Slight decrease	25	10.78%
Moderate decrease	61	26.29%
Substantial decrease	82	35.34%
Stay the same (not asked)	0	0.00%
Uncertain	34	14.66%
Total	232	

7. Do you support deer culling on private property?		
Yes	151	65.09%
No	81	34.91%
Total	232	

8. If the City culls deer on private property, would you want your property included?		
Yes, contact me using information shared at the end of this survey	94	40.52%
No	138	59.48%
Total	232	

9. In what years have you taken this questionnaire (check all that apply)?	
This is my first year	120
2016	111
2017	8
2018	54
2016 & 2017	19
2016 & 2018	1
2017 & 2018	26
2016, 2017, 2018	19

10. Please add any additional comments about deer.
See Comments

**2019 Deer Questionnaire - Question 5B**

**5. If other, please specify:**

1	Decline in hunting in rural areas among younger generation. This contributes toward pushing the population into city areas.
2	deer consume fruits and vegetables growing on out property
3	Deer ticks in the grass - Lime disease/pets
4	Fear of hitting a deer
5	Freaking ticks & Lyme disease! !!!!
6	Frequently in both front and backyard. Deer waste is also problemati
7	Greater potential for traffic accidents
8	I have encountered a buck at my back door and I am afraid to walk out to my car.
9	I haven't hit or come close to hitting a deer with my car but this is always a concern.
10	I'm concerned about the killing of deer! Why is that NOT an option for this question?
11	I'm concerned FOR the deer. We've taken over their space and should learn to live with them peacefully.
12	possibility of cars hitting deer
13	Start a ranch for deer and use the meat for hungry people
14	they just ate all my lilies and roses in bloom, and a neighbor's too - they are out and about day and night - fearless
15	Traffic accidents caused by deer
16	Traffic dangers, to deer and to people
17	Unpredictability of deer when cycling.

**2019 Deer Questionnaire - Question 10**

**10. Please add any additional comments about deer:**

1	I have a secluded backyard and the deer love to sleep there overnight. I would love to see a fence installed on my property to protect it, but unfortunately itâ€™s too expensive. I have a balcony that overlooks my backyard that would be perfect for either bow and arrow or shotgun attempt to cull the deer. My backyard is full of feces and I cannot let my grandchildren play back theRe. Culling 40 deer is not substantial and does not address the deer population.Itâ€™s the governmentâ€™s obligation to protect its citizens. We are the higher species, not the deer.
2	I love them but I have given up on gardening because they eat everything. When we first moved in (2007) this was not the case for a few years, but gradually they just became more numerous and voracious. I've been really menaced by deer as well, chased aggressively.
3	they are such gentle animals and we do not mind the few we have. One was in our yard this week eating the birdseed.
4	#SaveTheDeer2019
5	Also make available any natural sprays for residents to use such as "Wolf Urine" scent.
6	Because we have children walking to school and playing outside I do not feel that it is safe or appropriate for culling on private property.
7	Beside shooting what other way can we remove the deer without killing? We spent over \$1,000. a deer to kill them. Can they be rounded up and taken to a farm and raised for food?
8	City resources can be better utilized in other areas. The deer are not a problem in Shaker. Shaker has very serious problems and issues including mismanagement of funds from the city and mismanagement and loss of control of the school district. The deer are NOT a problem. I wish this much time and effort could be dedicated to addressing the city's real issues.
9	Culling needs to continue. We have a very small yard and deer are there every week, all year long.
10	Deer are pretty much the least of my concerns...as in, if I made a list of concerns about living in Shaker Heights or life in general, they would be at the bottom of it. I certainly would not advocate killing them, on public or private property.
11	Deer simply don't belong in the city. It's not a good place for them to live and it is a nuisance and possible health hazard for humans. I didn't offer my yard for marksmen to use for culling because my neighbors would be upset with me.
12	Deer walk up Fernway Rd from the golf course almost daily now. They snack in my yard and garden at the corner of Grenway and Fernway regularly eating hosta, tulips, and daylilies by the dozens. To add insult to injury early-rising neighbors have spotted 3-5 deer sleeping on my front lawn at dawn. The damage in my yard has increased dramatically in the last two years. Please help.
13	Due to deer we have basically abandoned any plantings in our front yard. The back yard is completely fenced which is the only reason things survive. We used to grow a lot of flowers but have given up due to the deer. They know now that they have no natural predators but soon even more dangerous animals will be coming in from the rural areas after them (and us). A considerable reduction is needed for the safety of all.
14	Fernway properties are too small for safe culling in my opinion.
15	Have never seen deer in our yard
16	Hunting deer on private property in Shaker Heights OH is outrageous. Highly opposed.
17	I am more concerned about the coyotes than deer. I had a dog taken off of my property and can no longer allow my dogs out off of leash.
18	I am not certain of the years I have answered the survey. We rent our home, but if I owned it, I would allow culling on my property.
19	I am not seeing deer in my yard since mid-April, but had substantial damage showing they'd been here a lot over the winter, plus a lot of sightings all winter. Would be fine with culling in my yard but don't think you'll find deer here right now--that could change as we've had deer for about five years all spring and summer and a lot in winter.
20	I am very against culling of the deer (on public or private property)
21	I believe there should be a balance but unfortunately my yard is not only a breeding ground but the landscaping has been damaged over the years. We now spray for deer continually all summer and plant only plants that they are not attracted too.
22	I canâ€™t recall if I have filled this form out in the past. If I answered incorrectly I apologize. I actually have my property professionally sprayed and that still does not detract the deer. I am more than happy, and my neighbor as well (Henry Doll), would offer our property for the marksmen without hesitation! If there is anything we could do to assist the city in this regard please do not hesitate to let me know. Thank you very much!

**2019 Deer Questionnaire - Question 10**

**10. Please add any additional comments about deer:**

23	I do not believe in killing off the deer population. The city should be exploring other ways to control. We have encroached on all their habitat, now it's time to live and let live!!! If you are bothered by the destruction of plant-life, fence it in.
24	I do not support the culling of deer;
25	I dont know the answer but killing them is NOT the answer. Round them up and take them somewhere, but please dont kill them.
26	I don't own my home so as much as I might want, I can't include my residence for culling
27	I enjoy seeing deer on my morning runs!
28	I feel sad for the deer.
29	I have a small herd in my back yard. They eat my yard plant.
30	I like the deer but I understand the need to keep the habitat in balance.
31	I live in a "high rise" condo so my answers may not be as appropriate/pertinent as single home owners.
32	I love nature and enjoy wildlife. I just want things in balance. It's natural for deer to protect their young and themselves. That has created problems when walking a dog, enjoying my back yard, etc.
33	I love seeing the few deer in my neighborhood and would like to see more. They're beautiful creatures who deserve to live their lives without being hunted.
34	I love the wild life particularly the deer. hate that you are killing them. they're lovely and so tamed, we coexist
35	I love to see the deer and have no problem having them on my property. They add personality to the city.
36	I personally have no issues with the deer. They are a welcome creature in the neighborhood and it does not seem like there is overpopulation. I think people worry too much about them eating plants and such. If that is the case, create garden fencing or barriers. Leave the deer in peace.
37	I see a few in the neighborhood. Not a problem. I have a 1/4 acre lot with a fenced back yard, so deer do not jump my fence. So the only possible culling would be in the front yard. With small lots on the street, I don't think it would be safe to have marksmen shooting deer in the front yards! But I see no problem with careful culling strategies for the community.
38	I see less deer so status is fine on Braemar Fernway. I used to see so many more.
39	I see more deer in Shaker Heights and the surrounding area than I see at my actual deer camp in the Allegheny National Forest in PA. Our big concern is the constant destruction of vegetation on our property and the noticable increase in visable ticks in our neighborhood over the last 5yrs.
40	I see occasional dear in my neighbourhood but they do not bother me. I rather like seeing them.
41	I strongly oppose culling on private property.
42	I think my property is fairly useless for deer culling (middle of block, fences in back yard) but offering consent in the spirit of community solidarity. The deer usually hit my neighbors down the street near Belvoir.
43	I think there may be a few more this year than last, that I have seen. I suspect there are too many, but don't really know the numbers to comment
44	I think this is a big waste of money, and I don't like the appearance of awarding a former employee involved with the process with a lucrative contract. It all seems a little incestuous.
45	I work very hard to maintain an attractive garden that is an asset to the neighborhood, and I receive compliments and thanks from passers by. Although I have tried a number of deer repellents, the damage that my plants sustain is frustrating. A family of five deer can munch through a lot of roses and greenery in a short visit.
46	I would be ok with private property culling if you could ensure firearms/darts/bows precautions are considered. I don't think our block with .25/.3 acre lots can support safe culling, unless you plan to use other means.
47	I would like to let the deer be as much as possible. I love them and they never cause any trouble, even though they were abundant in my yard before the culling
48	I've had very little problem and Live right by the nature center.
49	If a marksman is on the property, I am concerned about the safety of humans and pets on my, and surrounding property. I'm not a fan of firearms because bullets are indiscriminate. Is it possible to use a bow and arrow, or some other form of culling device to control the animals in a way that will not affect humans? My adult son was visiting and took his small dog on a walk in the neighborhood. A mother doe displayed aggressive behavior toward my son (and the dog), while following them to our home. They were followed about one half of a mile, causing my son to even jog a bit to get away from the animal. This was quite unsettling for my family, particularly when my son did nothing to provoke the doe. Not only are the deer becoming more numerous, they are becoming more aggressive.

**2019 Deer Questionnaire - Question 10**

**10. Please add any additional comments about deer:**

50	I'm not against all deer; I've lived in the country and enjoy them. But they're overpopulated to the point of damaging habitat for other animals and plants. And deer have become so accustomed to being unharmed that I fear problems may get worse -- that people will assume they're tame, approach them and be harmed. Or they wander more through the streets, including some of the main thoroughfares.
51	It is a great relief to have fewer deer in our yard destroying our plants and soiling our yard.
52	It seems like many things that "government" undertakes in Shaker Hts. is overkill. I have lived in this home since 1974 & a previous home in the Ludlow area beginning in 1966. Every time the city undertakes a project, especially if a grant or "free" money is gotten wind of, you guys jump on the band wagon, stomping on citizens' rights & wishes. We had to mobilize the citizenry when a \$900,000+- grant was available to built a road through our woods around the Nature Center and around Lower Lake. We filmed a documentary, got lots of resident lawyers to help and fought off this takeover. My profession is a documentary filmmaker for television local & national. I made the film on Ludlow that ended up being used by the Ford Foundation and others to show how we integrated peacefully when we got the neighbors involved. I moved hrrr from Bay Village so my kids could grow up in an integrated school setting. Now we have a noisy group screaming about "too many deer" This is nonsense. We live across from a wooded area, and we have taken the deer's natural living area from them. You know what a real problem is? The speeders on our street! This and many other streets don't get patrolled like they used to. Those cut-through drivers govthru here easily over 50mph many times. That is so much more dangerous than a few deer!! Wake up! Do what is right for a diminishing natural world. Leave some dirt or chip-covered paths on which to walk. Stop trying to pave and control every inch of space!
53	It seems to me that the deer population was at its highest a few years ago (maybe 3 or 4). It's been better since then but seemed to rise a little again this year.
54	It's hard to answer your question about culling on private property until we know how successful deer culling has been YTD. Have you met your population reduction goals? If not, how far off are you?
55	I've had aggressive does during fawning season in my neighborhood; been chased up a street before while walking my dog due to inadvertently approaching a fawn.
56	Live on Winslow Rd. More deer have been seen or damage done by deer than ever before: more so, late spring.
57	Most concerned about their impact on traffic safety and health effects such as Lyme disease.
58	Mostly worried about ticks
59	My main concerns are accidents with vehicles and the disappearance of the understory of plants.
60	My neighborhood and the others that are highly populated should not be included in the marksman culling it is too risky. However, I do support private property culling on the larger properties with the owner's permission.
61	My property is only an eighth of an acre; if it were larger I would be fine with having deer culled on it. As it is, the deer do come into my yard, look threatening, and eat plants.
62	My property is very small and may not be appropriate for culling
63	My yard is so small that hunting it would be difficult and dangerous to the children in the neighborhood but I would support hunting in shaker country club and all parks.
64	Not a fan. Please do something. Their droppings have made my dogs sick which costs me money and is upsetting. They are constantly in our front yards on Scottsdale and they have no fear.
65	Not sure when I answered questionnaire. Very aggressive persistent anti-deer /rabbit spraying, systemic Repellex, etc The heavy and frequent rains removed the rain resistant repellent. Deer have been foraging despite thi.
66	Please get rid of them. They eat my plants. I am worried about driving near them. I have heard story about deer attacking pets when feeling threatened.
67	Shaker Country Club would probably allow access and there are always deer there.
68	Suggest you leave the deer alone and concentrate on tax reduction
69	The amount of deer is definitely down, for which I'm glad and grateful. We still see anywhere from 1 to 4 deer about every other day in or neighborhood and yard.
70	The culling program is fine but there needs to be a coordinated effort with Beachwood cleveland Heights and University Hts or it's not going to be successful. The culling does little to help the Mercer neighborhood.
71	The deer are dangerous and destructive. Please see this issue as critical to resident health and safety.
72	The deer are harmless and gentle creatures. They don't hurt anyone or any other animals. I would like to see Shaker forbid residents from letting their cats outside. Cats kill birds in huge numbers and they don't stay on their own property. They go into the yards of neighbors who do not want them.

**2019 Deer Questionnaire - Question 10**

**10. Please add any additional comments about deer:**

73	the deer are starving and they are a health and safety hazard to residents
74	The deer are used to humans and are almost friendly. I love them. Please leave them alone.
75	The deer have taken the joy out of gardening. They have eaten my flowers, shrubs and vegetables. I don't like all of their poo in my yard either.
76	The deer live here because we are a safe community. They do not pose a risk to our health or safety. There are many plants to add to your garden that deer do not eat, if garden foraging is the problem.
77	The extensive damage deer have caused to our landscaping and fear of injury to our grandchildren often playing in our yard caused us to erect an expensive 6 foot fence in our backyard last summer. We reluctantly did this only after years of continual spraying and planting supposedly deer-resistant shrubs and trees failed to significantly limit the deer in our yard. This new fence added to other fencing already in place in our back yard and has protected our back yard. But the deer still roam in our front yard. The city's deer culling program has helped because we see fewer deer. But there are still far too many, and we've recently seen deer bedding (and eating plants) in our unfenced, wooded side yard.
78	The meat should be made available to residents
79	The number of deer in my yard significantly decreased over the winter months, but they came back in the spring. Not uncommon to have 4 to 5 deer in my yard eating everything but the weeds. It is as if they know what I paid for and are just screwing with me. :)
80	the overpopulation is hazardous to everyone....cull cull cull!
81	There are a lot of deer on this east side of town, in our neighborhood. Please cull the deer on the east side of town. They are multiplying every year and are in our yard daily.
82	There are now multiple babies with their moms. They are aggressive
83	There is a migratory route that deer take in my Sussex neighborhood. They bed down in backyards and graze on Scottsdale and Townley, Stoer and along Norwood. I am sure of at least these streets because I see the same deer frequently and have also had comments from neighbors. I have had to chase them from my front and back yards on a frequent basis.
84	They are everywhere! They have not invaded our back yard specifically but are visible nearly daily on the street
85	They come in groups and it seems that they come regularly for a while and then stop for a while.
86	They eat every flower I plant and the plants are supposed to be "deer resistant" • No way! They eat everything!
87	They keep returning to my yards, back and front, eat shrubbery, plants especially in bloom, are a menace, carry ticks, do not respect boundaries so it's hopeless, please get on the ball - they are in my yards year around - from February on. I don't have a dog/cat or a gate on my driveway - and they have jumped over a 4-5' fence. I have a professionally designed backyard that is badly affected by their constant visits, day and night. Please help.... It is getting worse every year!
88	Today a deer was eating plants in my yard only 3 feet from my living room window. I no longer plant only a few vegetables (kale, herbs, etc) because it takes too much effort to protect them from deer.
89	unsure which years I completed deer culling survey.
90	We continue to have way too many deer on our property. In spite of spraying our plants with anti-deer spray, we continue to have many of our flowers and plants destroyed by the deer. I planted about 7 flowering plants in a row in our backyard about 10 years ago and never saw a single flower until this year! Every year the deer ate every bud! This summer for the first time we saw two flowers, but we should be seeing dozens of them. All the other buds were eaten by the deer. There needs to be continual culling in our area, by the border between Shaker and Beachwood. Because of the explosion of disease-causing ticks that ride on the white-tailed deer, there is an especially urgent need to cull the deer from Shaker and other communities. As I think I mentioned in a prior survey, I met a Shaker resident who became very ill with Lyme Disease, which she received from a tick bite on the lower US campus. Please continue to cull as many deer as you can. It is unfortunate that the state puts a limit on the number each year. Deer do not belong in an urban community.  Unless it is explained further, I do not support culling on private property. It seems it would not be safe for the residents in my area. Maybe it would work in an area of larger properties. Instead, I think the city should attempt to get the neighboring cities to participate in a joint effort to cull the deer. Many of the deer in our neighborhood come over from Beachwood. Thank you!
91	We currently do not have any deer on our private property
92	We frequently see large groups of deer, up to 9 or 10, coming off the golf course and walking across parkland toward our house. There are also 2 bucks that we saw together frequently. We have a hard time keeping them away from our plants.
93	We have deer in our garden all the long winter and they are ruining the landscape in every season!

**2019 Deer Questionnaire - Question 10**

**10. Please add any additional comments about deer:**

94	We live at 23450 Shaker Blvd, across from the Median Park and not far from one of the sites where deer are culled. For quite a while both before and after this year's culling, we had seen a significant decrease in the deer population. However, in the last few weeks, the deer population appears to be again increasing significantly.
95	We live right off Warrensville Center Road on Lytle. A herd of 3-4 deer stay every evening on one property on our street. We see up to 8 deer on a given evening or early morning. While I realize that Warrensville Heights and Highland Hills need to be a part of the solution, I don't see how sharpshooting only in North Shaker benefits Southeast Shaker Heights. We continue to see increases in our neighborhood.  While I am for culling, I don't think the smaller properties of our neighborhood would qualify for culling. What else can be done? These animals seem to be migrating from the development near I-271,
96	We need to learn to live in harmony with wildlife, including deer. No need to kill deer in Shaker.
97	We rarely see deer on Shaker Blvd anymore. It is much better for us at the current level.
98	We support the City of Shaker's proactive deer reduction program. A noticeable difference over last year.
99	We will be moving before long, so I can't say how the next owners would feel about culling. The deer are lovely in many ways, but they are too many for their brown good as well as ours.
100	Were there really that many issues with deer that we need to shoot them? They were here first and we took their land. It seems a bit cruel to kill them.
101	We've seen a substantial increase in deer population feces, eating foliage & flowers...on our property. Thanks
102	When we moved here 7 years ago, we had so many deer it was years before a tulip bloomed -- there were all nibbled on by deer. Then last summer for the first time, tulips made it into bloom. have no idea how that correlates with the city's culling efforts, but despite a slight increase this year, there are far fewer deer than when we moved to Shaker.
103	With the continued development of forested land, the deer need habitat. People who want lush surroundings need to accept the presence of the creatures it attracts.
104	You are welcome to come on my property to cull deer, but I live at the corner of Lomond and Chagrin and I don't think there's enough land there for your project. But the deer ate my tulips this year, so they do show up for that.

## 2020 Deer Questionnaire Results

1. How would you describe the deer population in the City of Shaker Heights?		
Overabundant	88	37.77%
Abundant	62	26.61%
Few	23	9.87%
Very Few	12	5.15%
Just Right	39	16.74%
Uncertain	9	3.86%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>233</b>	

2. What neighborhood to you live in?		
Boulevard	34	14.59%
Fernway	31	13.30%
Lomond	28	12.02%
Ludlow	5	2.15%
Malvern	28	12.02%
Mercer	51	21.89%
Moreland	7	7.78%
Onaway	24	45.28%
Sussex	25	10.73%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>233</b>	

3. How would you describe the deer population in your neighborhood?		
Overabundant	90	38.63%
Abundant	53	22.75%
Few	33	14.16%
Very few	18	7.73%
Just right	33	14.16%
Uncertain	6	2.58%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>233</b>	

4. Have you noticed a change in the number of deer in your neighborhood compared to last year?		
Yes	113	48.50%
No	120	51.50%
<b>Total</b>	<b>233</b>	

4A. If yes, what kind of change?		
Less	53	46.90%
More	60	53.10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>113</b>	

5. Do you have concerns about deer in the City of Shaker Heights		
Yes	154	66.09%
No	79	33.91%
<b>Total</b>	<b>233</b>	

5. If you have concerns about deer in the City of Shaker Heights, please indicate those concerns (check all that apply).	
Damage to landscape and garden plants	140
Transmission of diseases	105
Damage to park ecosystems by over-browsing of native forag	85
Decline in deer health due to overpopulation	57
Aggressive behaviour toward humans	53
Aggressive behaviour toward pets	31
Hit a deer with my vehicle	9
Almost hit a deer with my vehicle	57
Other	18

5. If other, please explain.
See Comments

6. In the future, what would you like to see happen with the number of deer in Shaker Heights?		
Slight increase	23	9.87%
Moderate increase	15	6.44%
Substantial increase	6	2.58%
Slight decrease	22	9.44%
Moderate decrease	46	19.74%
Substantial decrease	93	39.91%
Stay the same (not asked)		0.00%
Uncertain	28	12.02%
Total	233	

7. The City culls deer on both public and private property, would you want your property to be considered for deer culling for the 2021 season?		
Yes, contact me using information shared at the end of this survey	59	25.32%
No	174	74.68%
Total	233	

8. In what years have you taken this questionnaire (check all that apply)?	
This is my first year	112
2016	28
2017	37
2018	54
2019	86

9. Please add any additional comments about deer.
See Comments

**2020 Deer Questionnaire - Question 5**

**5. If other, please specify:**

1	Coyotes follow the deer. If we eliminate the deer, maybe the coyotes will leave.
2	Damage to ...plants in yards due to over abundance , and not enough to forage for in woodland areas.
3	Deer attracting coyotes
4	Defecation and urination on lawn
5	Do they attract coyotes (as prey)?
6	Eating my front planting in groups everyday. I have a fenced in back yard garden but try walk up my drive , eat the edges,go next door
7	Having birth in neighborhood back yards
8	I am concerned how much money the city is wasting on shooting deer.
9	I have young grandchildren, I want them to feel free to play in the back yard without fear of deer. I have seen the deer sitting in our neighbor's sandbox where my grandchildren are allowed to play. We have also seen deer dung in the sandbox.
10	I live on Chagrin Blvd. It is very dangerous for the animal & drivers to have them crossing this heavily trafficked area..
11	Iâ€™m concerned about the deer.
12	My dog goes nuts when theyâ€™re in the yard and Iâ€™m afraid heâ€™ll break a window if this happens when Iâ€™m not home and possibly injure himself
13	Seeing as many as 7 deer together running down my street
14	They are not afraid of people. concern about children in the yard playing.
15	Traffic issues
16	wandering around in yard and in front of side door have to shoo them away
17	We have a very small back yard and there were two living in the back corner for the winter even as we would chase them away.

**2020 Deer Questionnaire - Question 9**

**10. Please add any additional comments about deer:**

1	It's too bad you have to kill them.
2	Clarification for Q#8: I know I've done this questionnaire before, but I can't remember in what year(s). Clarification for Q#7: Culling on my property is not practical. The deer use it as a pass-through and feeding ground and then leave.
3	Damage to our garden beds is extensive thanks to deer eating our plants and sleeping on top of plants. They devour or crush plants, bushes, flowers. Very expensive to maintain landscaping which has become a money pit.
4	Deer are not the only animals that have become a nuisance in Shaker Heights.
5	Deer carry disease, are overpopulated and create a hazard on the roads.
6	Deer never really hang out for long on my property, so there would be no reason to try and cull them here.
7	Doe with fawn in my backyard. Deer are tops of my lavender bulbs for the first time this year. Deer do not respond to my efforts to shoo them away.
8	Don't kill them!!
9	Don't believe culling can safely take place in Fernway due to small lot sizes and many children in the area.
10	Eight years ago we would have 8 deer camped out on our front lawn. Now we see one or two a day, just walking through, no problem. It is a pleasure to see them in small numbers. I think you have done a great job. Perhaps I could start planting flowers instead of just ferns.
11	Find something more creative to do with the abundance of deer. Please don't kill them. I am more upset with people who let their dogs off a leash in the park.
12	Herd is smaller. Usually have 3-4 does accompanied by one or two bucks. Lately (since January) have two regular does.
13	Humans are the problem; not deer.
14	I am in full support of calling as many as possible.
15	I am very heartbroken at the absence of deer in my neighborhood. I am devastated at the culling and am ashamed for my city. We took their land, moved them out and now we kill them. Shame on us. I appreciate wildlife and feel it is only right that we live together.
16	I certainly see effects of the deer in my yard( eaten plants, scat), but since I am working I don't see them that often. Earlier in late winter I would see sometimes 5+ walk through eating things. Earlier this year one remained around my house for several days --looking ill--then I found it dead, lying along the side of my neighbor' house.
17	I do not know the method used in culling. Our houses are close & there is no wooded area close by. I feel badly for the deer & their lack of food in the city, but they are a nuisance & danger in densely populated areas.
18	I don't doubt that some residents have concerns, but my concern is more to do with the approach you're taking - essentially giving a no-bid contract to a former city employee and then letting them enter private yards. It seems shady and unsafe.
19	I don't remember which years I completed the survey.
20	I don't support the city killing them.
21	I enjoy having deer visit me on my property. They do no more plant damage, probably even less, than the chipmunk metropolis under my patio, and they're more respectful and better behaved.
22	I enjoy the deer and like to see them in the neighborhood. Please let the deer live and thrive!!!
23	I grew up in Pepper Pike. We just moved to Shaker and I see way more deer here. This was surprising. I see them easily weekly and they are very comfortable around humans. Much more so than in Pepper Pike. They walk right down our street, they drop fawns right in front of our house for hours. Never saw that in Pepper Pike. My concern is around safety as far as cars, the fact that they eat my plants and may spread disease.
24	I have 5 in my yard area
25	I have 5-7 deer sitting in my yard on any given day in all seasons. The deer walk up and down the street at all hours. They have destroyed all our trees, bushes, flowers, and other mature plantings. I don't believe the city will do anything about this at all. The deer are increasing unabated in the backyards and median strip and if any sort of culling has been done in the last few years, it has been of no help at all in our neighborhood. Someday, someone will be seriously hurt in a car v deer encounter and everyone will offer thoughts and prayers...
26	I have been to many city council meetings regarding this matter. I believe this survey and any discussion is just for show. City council has hired a former Shaker cop and, I believe, promised him that our tax payer dollars would support him in this venture. The deer are no more a problem than the countless other wildlife eating some old biddies tulips. I am extremely disappointed that while you go through the motions, you really have no intention of reconsidering this unnecessary practice.
27	I have complained to the city on many occasions. Not only have I received substantial damage to my property they have been a real threat when grazing in my yard and I can't get out of my car because they won't move! I'm sure it doesn't help that my neighbor feeds them! Please help. It's exhausting to be applying deterrents of all kinds winter and summer and they really do not help.
28	I have lived in my home since November 2012. I do not recall if I answered this questionnaire before - I do not believe I've ever seen it but the deer regularly sleep in my yard. This year they have almost come up to me in daylight in my backyard. I am older and live alone - I am slightly scared at times and would appreciate a more aggressive culling.
29	I like having 5 deer around. They are beautiful reminders of nature and eat my day lilies so I don't have to be bothered dead heading them
30	I like the deer. They are beautiful. They eat some vegetation, but we're learning how to curb it. The deer are one of my favorite parts of living in my neighborhood, where we moved almost 4 years ago.
31	I live in the residential area surrounding Thornton Park. If the deer population could be controlled that wanders this neighborhood between Canterbury Country Club, Thornton Park and Highland Cemetery....that would be fantastic!!!
32	I live on Lomond by Chagrin. Deer come to my condo and eat my tulips! I use spray to keep them away, but deer don't belong in my neighborhood.

**2020 Deer Questionnaire - Question 9**

**10. Please add any additional comments about deer:**

33	I love deer!!! Do not take them away! "Abundant" and "just right" are mutually exclusive options to describe the deer population on this form, but an abundant population is just right for me.
34	I love the abundance of animals and nature in Shaker Heights. It's one of the things that makes this a beautiful place to live. However, I think the deer population is out of proportion, partly due to lack of predators and partly due to humans developing & building in their habitat. However, I think it would be better for all if there were fewer deer in residential areas.
35	I love the deer and welcome them on my property.
36	i only recall seeing a couple of deer in my area this year.
37	I rarely see deer anymore. I'm not a fan of shooting deer, but apparently I'm in the minority. We used to live in Solon. They love to shoot deer there too.
38	I really enjoy seeing deer and don't think there is a need to cull them at all.
39	I saw many more deer living in Cleveland Heights, and do enjoy seeing them. This is my first year in Shaker
40	I see them infrequently near my gardens and around my house because they must come at dawn and dusk or at night when people are not present.
41	I spoke with someone from the service department and was informed that culling could not be done in this neighborhood due to the closeness of the homes. But the deer are just as bad as in this area as the are on the other side of Lee Road. The home next door to me has a vacant lot where the doe's have their babies and each year they return to the area.
42	I strongly oppose the deer culling program. Over populating and over building have destroyed the natural habitat of our deer. We need to learn to coexist!!!!
43	I think deer are bedding down in my flower beds. They have also scraped the bark off several trees in my garden.
44	I think it is an exorbitant waste of tax dollars to cull the deer in Shaker Heights and I would prefer to see the funds diverted to either managing the excessive speeding and reckless driving on local streets including mine, (Fairmount Blvd.) which are far bigger nuisances and dangers to all of our residents. Or I would prefer the city to stop converting green space into additional unnecessary housing lots, then maybe the deer and local wildlife could have a refuge. Why isn't Shaker Heights using non-lethal management methods? I am appalled that the city has decided to resort to such barbaric abhorrent means, the deer cull is the one thing I hate most about the city of Shaker Heights even more than the tax rate!
45	I think over the last few years there has been a slight decrease in the number of deer but not so much in just the last year. There are still too many though. I do think culling is a good idea especially since the meat is donated to food banks.
46	I was attacked a few years ago on my property. I am now petrified to pull weeds or sit on my patio
47	I was nearly in a cycling accident with deer on Shaker Boulevard, and have serious concerns about my safety while biking along that road.
48	I'm all for the culling program, but I think we've taken the deer population too low now.
49	I'm not very concerned about deer one way or the other. That said, I wouldn't mind my tulips coming up without those devils eating them..
50	I'm very torn about this survey every year. I love that our neighborhoods are park-like in nature to the extent the deer are comfortable here. The thought of culling makes me sad. On the other hand, I see them limping probably having been struck...they are destructive to the plants we invest in and care for. Our vegetarian animal-loving daughter would be traumatized knowing that deer were being killed with intention,
51	In >28 years of residence, presence of deer has gone from rare event to very routine with multiple sightings per week (or weekly evidence of deer, e.g., hoof prints, scat or eaten foliage). Also very concerned about the increased presence of what appears to be coyote: I do not recall any sightings in 2018; just one backyard sighting in 2019; already two sightings in to date in 2020 (May 29).
52	In years past I have had groups of deer pass through and bed down in my backyard. This year I have seen tracks of deer passing through my yard though in small numbers but none bedding down in the yard.
53	It is so special seeing them. We need more.
54	It is unfair to the population to chase them out of their natural habitat with development, kill their natural predators, then allow them to populate until they get sick/hungry.
55	just a matter of time until someone is killed in an MVA hitting a deer. It is really unsafe and out of control. please don't wait for this to happen to take action.
56	Large and small walk down North Park and onto yards all year. In increasing numbers. Sometimes group of 3 or 4
57	Leave the deer alone
58	Make some chili out of them. Seriously.
59	My yard is Way too small to have deer culling on it, 50' x 150' lot, even though we had two deer living behind a bush last winter. It is mostly house, garage, and driveway with a sliver of lawn in the back. Too small to have deer living there as well. There were a group of 9 deer numerous times on the front lawn of our house during the winter.
60	No. 7. My home is not sufficiently close enough to woodland area NOR large enough to be considered for culling. However, if I had a large property, that lent itself to culling, I'd likely be okay with a safe culling. Frankly, I think a better way to keep the herds down a bit would be by contraception of some sort. No. 8. I don't keep track of what years I may have responded to a questionnaire. I'd could only guess that it was perhaps once! Also, when we moved here in 1987, there was no apparent deer issue. An occasional stray one here was very unusual until ...about 2015 or so. Ok. Let's talk about coyotes!

**2020 Deer Questionnaire - Question 9**

**10. Please add any additional comments about deer:**

61	none
62	Our property is not home to deer and they have generally stopped walking through because we are using non-toxic deer repellent.
63	Please find other means of controlling the deer other than culling.
64	Please stop wasting our money (taxes) and resources (money) on killing the deer. There are so many other ways that the money could be used to benefit the city. Mayor and Council....stop wasting the money we entrust to you.
65	Southeast Shaker sees a lot of deer coming in from the cemetery off Northfield Road. We have the additional challenge of being a tightly-packed neighborhood, where it would be impossible for a sharpshooter to cull deer. Has the city continued to try and work with the village Highland Hills and the City of Warrensville Heights to address this? I understand that deer forage in a certain circular pattern in different areas of the city.  We've seen deer in the late afternoon walking across the Shaker Family Center, down Scottsdale, and near Lomond School. We didn't start to see noticeable deer behavior until Lifetime Fitness and Harvard Road were starting to develop. Since then, the deer problem has skyrocketed. Please find a way to support SE Shaker.
66	Stop culling deer.
67	STOP KILLING THE DEER
68	The city can easily utilize the capabilities of some citizens to cull the herd with archery weapons on properties with adequate size. This can save the city the thousands it spends each year on the program. Such a program can be easily regulated and restricted to those that can prove capabilities and access to public and private properties offering distance from homes and people. Offering the contract year over year to the same good ol' boy network of retired policemen barely justifies the outcome of the program. We need a culling of the herd, but we're paying for a skill set that can be found within the community for free.
69	The deer are getting more and more aggressive. They won't move even when I knock on the windows or doors to scare them away. I had to invest in nearly \$200 in a Deer No-No product just to protect my plants, which the deer see as dessert.
70	the deer come in a group of three these days. ate up whatever I plant in the garden or just sit on top of the plants and left their dropping on the grass. Very discouraging.
71	The deer continue to destroy plants on my property. As I have said before, all it takes is one deer during one visit to cause significant damage to property. Reducing the number of deer is not sufficient. Deer should not be allowed in urban areas. The deer population in Shaker must be eliminated, not just reduced! This is even more important as the deer are carriers of ticks, which can cause Lyme disease. Shaker must continue its deer elimination program every year. What really is needed is a joint program with Beachwood and other suburbs to have a regional approach to the problem. Please keep working on this continuing problem.
72	The deer population appears to have increased and become wider spread in Shaker Heights in the past year. Deer are unafraid to meander across the RTA tracks and roads and to approach humans. I would appreciate any measures the city can take to reduce the deer population and its threat to suburban residents' safety and health. My property is not large enough to be eligible for culling, but if in the city's efforts to "cull" deer throughout the city deer are found on my property, they are welcome to take whatever actions are necessary.
73	The Lomond neighborhood and many others are too populated to cull deer. Have all other options besides direct culling been investigated?
74	The Shaker program has merits. However until a coordinated program can be developed with neighboring communities our program won't please the community. Deer don't realize when they are crossing from Shaker to Beachwood.
75	There have been a couple of occasions when deer have gotten very close to me in my yard and around the Shaker Median Trail. They don't seem to be scared of humans. I did see someone try to feed a deer about a year ago near the trail.
76	There is no place for deer to actually live in residential areas. Not good for them. Not good for us.
77	There seem definitely to be fewer in our neighborhood (across from Horseshoe Lake Park) than in prior years, and I personally like the quantity I am seeing -- enough to be lovely but not too many. There is no question that deer in Shaker means Lyme disease in Shaker, but that was inevitable. We must keep an eye out for wasting disease in our deer population, but things seem to be in a good place right now.
78	They are a menace.
79	They are beautiful and impressive animals.
80	They cause early morning dog barking in the Fernway neighborhood. They defecate on my front lawn which I must pick up regularly. They bring coyotes into the neighborhood which threaten small pets.
81	They have become increasingly unafraid of humans or vehicles.
82	They run from my ward and neighbors across shaker blvd stopping traffic but since the construction on other roads is sending us unfamiliar drivers it is even more dangerous
83	This is a terrible measure of opinion. You should really get someone to help you create a valid tool to gauge resident opinions.
84	This is ridiculous. Culling 40 deer a year does nothing. I pay some of the highest taxes in Ohio, I don't have kids in school system, I live in a landmark house I impeccably maintain, inside and out, the deer do thousands of dollars of damage to me, and the city does virtually nothing. Look at the deer population of Ohio in 1975 and the population today. They have UNNATURALLY become a hazard to our health and well being, and frankly, if the city continues to Cowtow to a vocal minority I question whether continuing my family's three generations of living in this city makes sense. There are other communities who value their residen
85	We have had to abandon all our favorite landscape plants and flowers due to this deer presence. They eventually learn to jump any fence permitted by code. We are very unhappy with the new normal created by having deer in the city.

2020 Deer Questionnaire - Question 9

10. Please add any additional comments about deer:

86

We just moved here from Idaho. We lived 6 miles out in the country in the mountains, in the woods. There are more deer here than we had in the Idaho woods! They are destructive and eat everything. I can't have a veggie garden and am extremely restricted on flowers. They carry Lyme disease here (which they didn't in Idaho). I worry about contracting it. I also worry that they will transmit diseases to our dog. In my view deer are not urban animals and the environment here with no natural predators, is not appropriate for large numbers of deer.

87

We so enjoy watch the deer and other nature in our yard

88

Why would we kill deer? They don't hurt anyone. Just because they eat your flowers? I don't get it!!

89

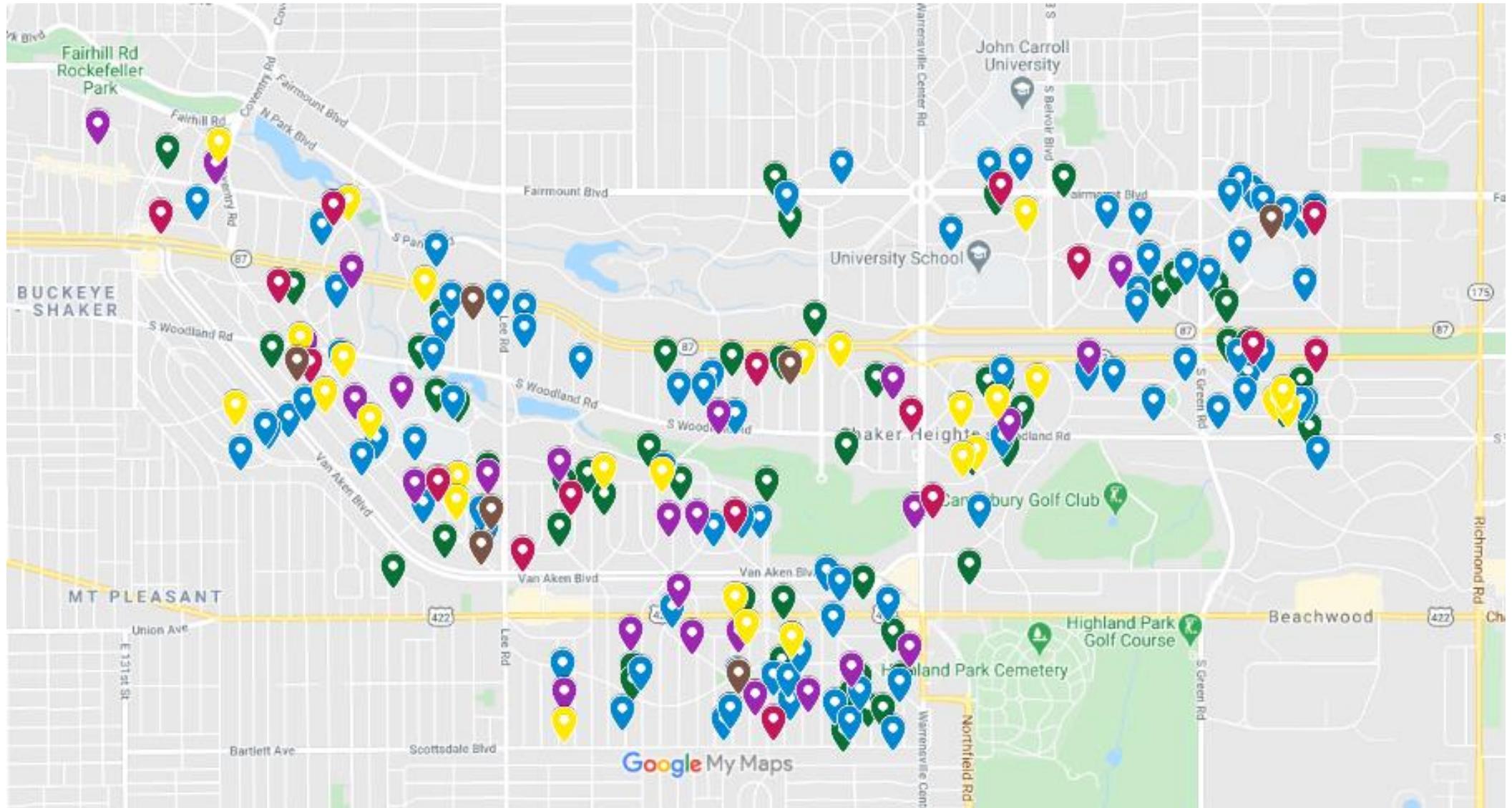
You know the deer are getting desperate when we now find them eating hostas in small Fernway gardens. When they are in a small Fernway yard, it's too close for comfort when I'm walking my dog on the sidewalk.

You are welcome to come to my yard anytime, but I don't know when they are likely to appear.  
Thanks!

## 2019 Deer Survey

Question 3. How would you describe the deer population in your neighborhood?

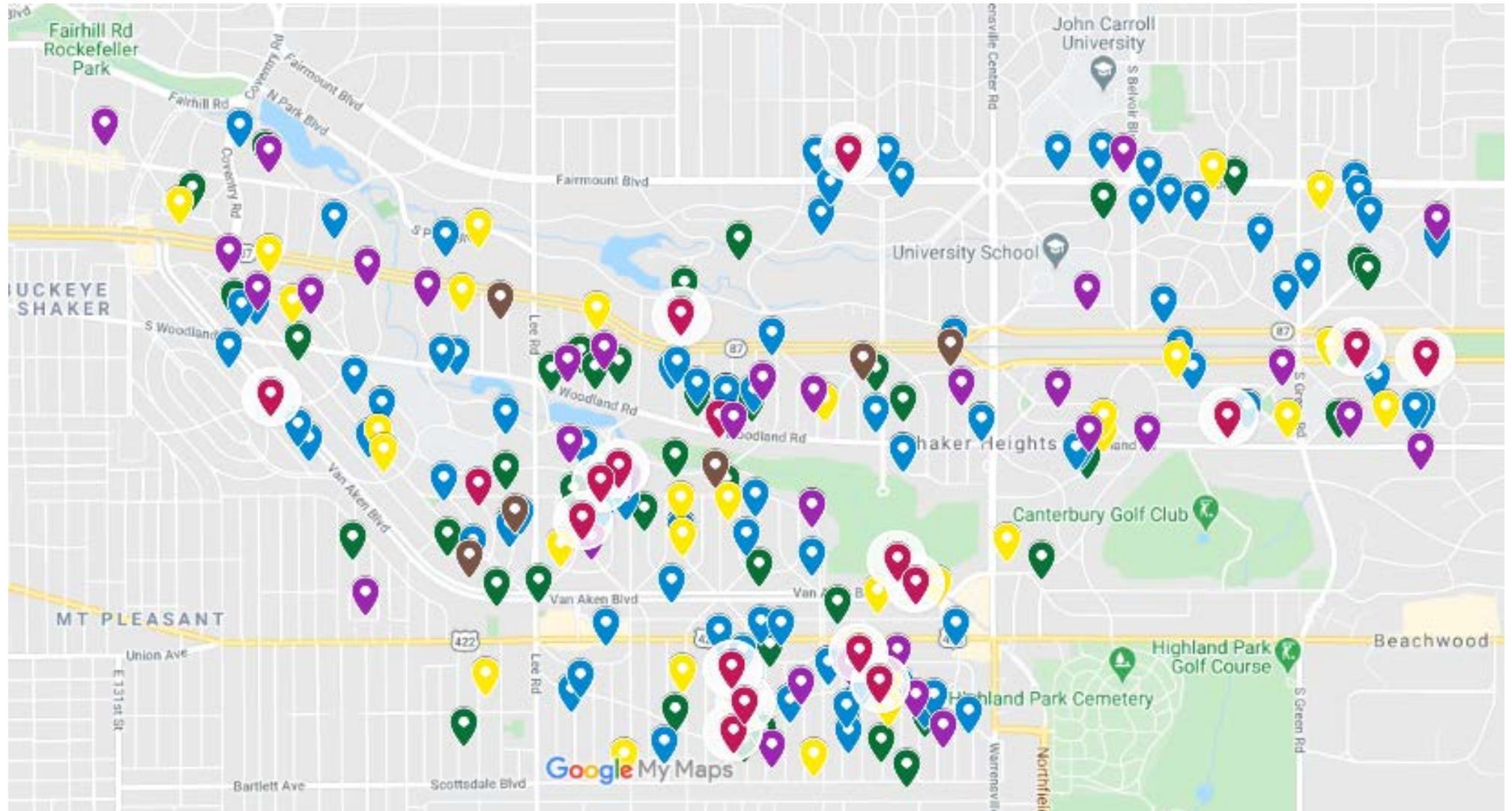
	Overabundant (91)
	Abundant (61)
	Just Right (27)
	Few (30)
	Very Few (16)
	Uncertain (7)



## 2020 Deer Survey

Question 3. How would you describe the deer population in your neighborhood?

	Overabundant (90)
	Abundant (53)
	Just Right (33)
	Few (33)
	Very Few (18)
	Uncertain (6)





## Memorandum

To: Members of Safety & Public Works Committee  
Members of Wildlife Task Force

From: Jeffrey N. DeMuth, Chief of Police

cc: Mayor David E. Weiss  
Chief Administrative Officer Jeri E. Chaikin  
Director of Law William Gruber  
Director of Finance John Potts

Date: September 21, 2020

Re: Precision Wildlife Management LTD Contract  
2020-2021 Deer Management Program

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In 2016 in response to multiple resident complaints about the impact of the overabundance of deer, the Shaker Heights Wildlife Task Force (fka Shaker Heights Deer Task Force) comprised of residents and Council members studied the impact of the deer population in the City. The negative impacts associated with an overabundance of or excessive browsing by the deer population are well-documented:

- A deer population that is out of balance with its native ecosystem has detrimental impacts by directly and indirectly affecting native plant and wildlife populations, habitat quality, and ecosystem processes.
- When deer become overabundant, they cause a decline in biodiversity (the number and variety of species of living organisms) in natural areas and reduce the ability of native plants to survive and reproduce. Deer browsing reduces the height, vigor and reproduction of plants through the repeated removal of stems, leaves and flowering parts of plants. If left uncontrolled, the deer population impacts the health of our wooded areas by browsing trees on public and private land.
- Deer browsing negatively impacts wildlife that needs woodland understory for forage, nesting and cover. Deer browsing can, for instance, significantly reduce vegetation that birds use for foraging, escaping predators and nesting.
- Deer browsing and antler rubbing can cause damage to landscape and garden vegetation.
- An overabundant deer population causes a reduction in the availability of forage, which leads to the decline in the health of individual animals.
- Overabundant deer populations hasten the spread of disease that impact deer (e.g., chronic wasting disease) and humans (e.g., Lyme disease).

Staff at the Nature Center at Shaker Lakes report the deer population has had significant negative impacts on the health of the forest at the Nature Center and throughout the Shaker parklands.



**CITY OF SHAKER HEIGHTS | Police**

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A healthy, diverse forest has an understory full of native shrubs. A forest with too many deer does not have this important layer. Most of the parklands' forest lacks this important shrub layer. Shrubs that do exist are non-native invasive plants that deer do not eat. These types of plants also decrease the diversity in our parklands.

Each year, the City has distributed a questionnaire to residents asking for their opinions on the deer population within the City. After review of the resident annual responses, the Task Force recommended that the City undertake a culling program.

Since the onset of the deer culling program in 2016, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife, has authorized the culling of 40 deer per season. We anticipate they will authorize 40 deer for the upcoming season. As in past years, we will donate the venison to local foodbanks and needy families in the area in accordance with applicable state law.

For the first two years of the deer culling program, the City utilized two, specially trained, police marksmen who held the rank of Lieutenant to cull and perform the ancillary tasks required of a successful program. Use of police officers caused manpower issues within the Police Department.

For the 2018-2019 deer culling season, contractors were sought to provide bids for culling and coordinating the 2018-2019 deer culling program. There are few contractors who provide this service. We reviewed two organizations that would perform deer culling services for the City: the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) – Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and Wildlife Services (WS); and Precision Wildlife Management LTD. Precision Wildlife Management LTD is a limited liability corporation started by retired Shaker Heights Police Lieutenant James Mariano.

Precision Wildlife Management LTD was chosen as the vendor and their contract was approved by Shaker Heights City Council for the 2018-2019 and the 2019-2020 deer culling seasons. Precision Wildlife Management LTD has submitted a proposal for the 2020-2021 deer culling season. They proposed a cost to the City of \$58,000.00 (same price as last year) for harvesting a maximum of 40 deer with access to private property. In addition to residents who have already contacted Precision Wildlife Management LTD to allow culling on their property, Precision Wildlife Management LTD can approach other property owners who own parcels that Precision Wildlife Management LTD feels are conducive to culling.

The Precision Wildlife Management LTD proposal provides an all-inclusive solution to the City. Precision Wildlife Management LTD does not limit the amount of days in which to cull deer allowed by permit. The term of this agreement shall commence on November 1, 2020, and shall terminate upon the earlier of the harvesting of 40 whitetail deer and completion of the end of the year culling report or March 31, 2021, unless extended in writing by agreement of both parties. Precision Wildlife Management LTD's proposal provides for processing, transportation, report compilation and filing with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

It is recommended the City of Shaker Heights accept the Precision Wildlife Management LTD proposal for deer culling services and enter into a Personal Service Contract for the following reasons:

- James Mariano, President, Precision Wildlife Management LTD, has over 30 years of experience working for the City. He understands the culture and expectations of City government and Shaker Heights' residents.
- James Mariano's experience and relationships with City employees allows him to seamlessly operate in the environment in which he is uniquely familiar.
- James Mariano has four years of experience culling deer in the unique, densely populated environment of Shaker Heights.
- James Mariano has over 25 years of experience as a state certified scope sighted precision rifle instructor.
- Precision Wildlife Management LTD's proposal is an all-inclusive proposal requiring no additional work from other City employees.
- The Wildlife Task Force met on August 26, 2020, and supported Precision Wildlife Management LTD's proposal.
- Choosing the organization to handle our deer culling program is critical. Trusting the "people behind the rifles" is the overriding concern for the City. James Mariano's performance in this area is a proven commodity through his 30+ years as a police officer and, more importantly, his past performance with our deer culling program.

It is recommended that the Safety and Public Works Committee approve this Contract with Precision Wildlife Management LTD for the 2020-2021 Deer Management Program. It is further recommended this item be forwarded to the Finance Committee and City Council with a recommendation for approval.



**Memorandum**

To: Safety & Public Works Committee  
 From: Patricia Speese, Director of Public Works  
 cc: Mayor David Weiss, CAO Jeri Chaikin  
 Date: October 1, 2020  
 Re: Revised LPA Agreement for CUY-Warrensville Center Road (PID 105725)

In July, 2019 Council approved legislation so the City could enter into an Agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for the Warrensville Center Road Resurfacing (PID 105725). The Agreement was executed on September 20, 2019. The limits of this resurfacing project is from Farnsleigh Road to Fairmount Circle. The general scope of work for the project involves resurfacing of approximately 1.36 miles of Warrensville Center Road, partial and full depth base repairs, construction of ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant curb ramps and minor curb replacement. The City of Shaker Heights will administer the project which include design, construction, inspection and management. The cost of the project is \$2,625,115. Per NOACCA funding, ODOT’s cap is \$1,648,000. The City will be obligated to provide \$977,115. The project is currently under design.

The City was notified that ODOT had awarded PID 112471 for another resurfacing project on Warrensville Center Road from the southern city boundary to Norwood and has a similar scope of work. In an effort to minimize the impact to the community and reduce project costs, the City requested to combine the two projects. ODOT is agreeable to this approach. The cost for this work is \$335,000. ODOT’s cap is \$268,000 and the City’s contribution would be \$93,800. The table below illustrates the total project cost when combining the two projects.

	PID 105725		PID 112471		Total	
	ODOT	City	ODOT	City	ODOT	City
Design	N/A	\$120,000	N/A	\$26,800	N/A	\$146,800
Construction	\$1,598,560	\$833,590	\$246,560	\$61,640	\$1,845,120	\$895,230
Construction Admin / Inspection	\$49,440	\$23,525	\$21,440	\$5,360	\$70,880	\$28,885
	\$1,648,000	\$977,155	\$268,000	\$93,800	<b>\$1,916,000</b>	<b>\$1,040,915</b>

Knowing ODOT was agreeable to combining the projects, we tasked the design team to include the southern portion of the project as part of their scope of work to minimize delays in the schedule.

The general schedule for the project is:

- Complete the design in the Fall of 2020
- Advertise and award construction in early 2021
- Start construction in the spring of 2021

It is the City's intent to bid the Shaker Blvd / Warrensville Center Road Intersection Reconfiguration project with the resurfacing project. We believe this approach will be a cost savings to the City and will provide continuity when having multiple construction projects running concurrently along the WCR corridor.

As a result of combining the projects and the economy of scale involved with such a large project, we do not anticipate requesting the additional funds for the second resurfacing project in the amount of \$93,800 as referenced above but believe that the savings realized will cover the expense.

We request approval to revise our Agreement with ODOT by combining PID 112471 into PID 105725. We request that the Safety & Public Works Committee approve the necessary legislation so the City can enter into an LPA Agreement with ODOT for the revised Warrensville Center Resurfacing project PID 105725.



**To:** Members of Safety and Public Works  
**From:** Patrick Sweeney, Chief of Fire  
**C:** David E. Weiss, Mayor  
Jeri E. Chaikin, CAO  
**Date:** October 2, 2020  
**RE:** Fiscal Year 2019 Assistance to Firefighters Grant

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During the Council Budget meetings in 2019, the Fire Department presented a capital project request of \$190,000 for the replacement of our Self Contained Breathing Air Apparatus (SCBA) that are worn by Firefighters while fighting fires. These emergency breathing air systems are a vital part of a Firefighters protective gear. This capital project was approved in the 2020 Fire Department Budget.

After Council approved this capital project in December of 2019, the Fire Department, in an effort to continue to aggressively seek out grant funding opportunities, became aware of an Assistance to Fire Firefighters FEMA Grant that would potentially provide funding for this emergency breathing air project. On May 30, 2020 the Fire Department submitted a FEMA Grant Application requesting funding to replace the departments aging Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) packs. This grant application requested funding not only for the items that were identified in the approved 2020 capital project, but also included a funding request for additional equipment that would provide for spare air packs to be utilized while others are out for repair, testing equipment that would allow the fire department to complete the required annual mask fit testing requirements, spare mask breathing regulators, along with an emergency breathing air system that would be utilized to supply additional breathing air to a firefighter that is trapped in a building.

The Fire Department was recently notified that this FEMA Grant application was approved and that we would be receiving \$153,567.27 in federal funding. While this grant award doesn't provide full funding for our requested items, it is still a significant amount that will offset the total project cost to the City of Shaker Heights for this capital project.

The Fire Department requests that the Safety & Public Works Committee accept the FEMA grant funding award of \$153,567.27. Secondly, in an effort to utilize these funds to procure the additional Self Contained Breathing Apparatus equipment that was not included in the original capital project, the Fire Department requests that \$50,000 be appropriated to the original 2020 Fire Department Capital Project. This original project was \$190,000 and would be increased to \$240,000 with this

request. The remaining grant funding of \$103,567.27 will be released back to the City of Shaker Heights General Fund. Safety & Public works is asked to approve both of these requests and recommend the same to the Finance Committee.