



## St. Bernard Landfill Status Report

October 6, 2011



This status report is being issued on behalf of the Office of Mayor William (Bill) C. Burkhardt and the St. Bernard City Council regarding environmental investigations and remediation being conducted at the former St. Bernard Landfill, and within the adjacent Bank Avenue Subdivision.

On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011, the Ohio EPA began a third phase of investigation at the Landfill including advancement of a number of exploratory borings within residential properties adjacent to the Landfill. This boring program follows several years of City efforts attempts to secure access to these residential properties for the purpose of evaluating environmental impacts, if any, related to the Landfill as well as prior industrial activities located within the Bank Avenue area.

As noted in earlier Status Reports, all previous residential testing, including five rounds of vapor intrusion sampling with homes, indicated that no compounds were detected that exceeded “screening” levels established by the U.S. EPA. These “screening” levels establish compound concentrations that would suggest the need for additional investigation, or further evaluation of health or environmental risks. A final report summarizing all vapor intrusion sampling was submitted to U.S. EPA on February 11, 2011, and was also reviewed by the Ohio Department of Health. This third phase of investigation is intended to verify these previous findings.

The City anticipates the results of this investigation, including final laboratory reports, will be issued within 30 days. Until this time, the City is continuing all Landfill related environmental monitoring (conducted weekly) as well as operation of the landfill gas extraction system.

Until the final report is issued, the City urges caution with respect to unsubstantiated reports or conclusions regarding the findings of this investigation. To date, “reported” observations of drums, deposits of gasoline, the accumulation of vapors within homes and various similar occurrences are entirely inconsistent with the findings reported by Ohio EPA and observations recorded by City representatives. Similar caution is urged with respect to certain media reports, which in the past have proven both inaccurate and exaggerated.

Following the complete scientific and qualified review of laboratory data and investigation results, a summary of findings will be prepared by the City for publication on this web site. The City continues to express our appreciation for the patience and cooperation of Bank Avenue and St. Bernard residents during the course of these investigation activities.

Thank You