



Annual Report

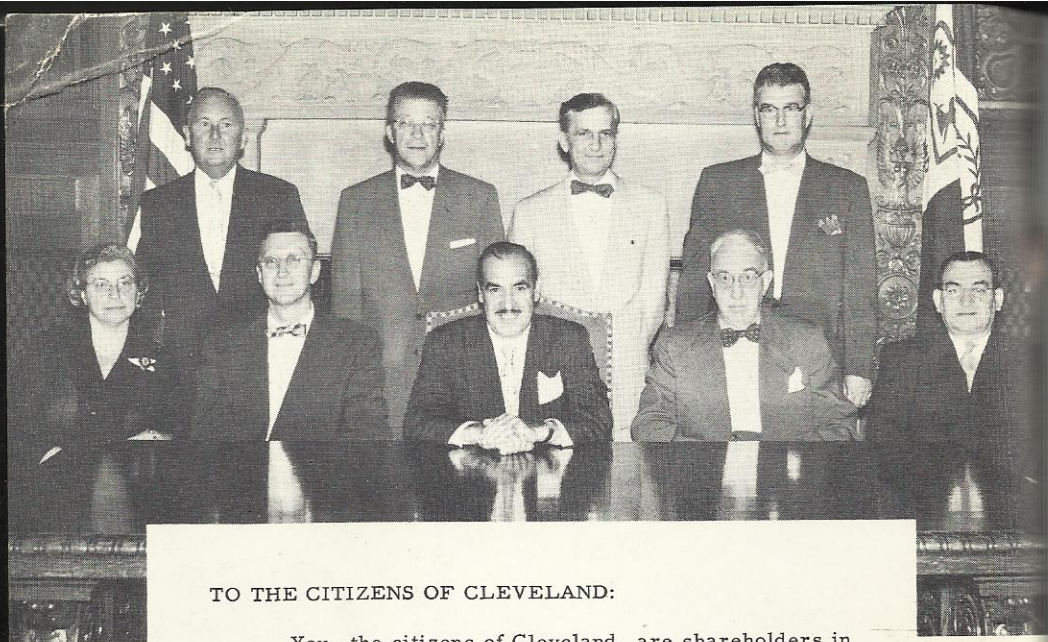
TO THE PEOPLE

THE CITY OF

CLEVELAND

FOR DISTRIBUTION AND USE IN

1954-55



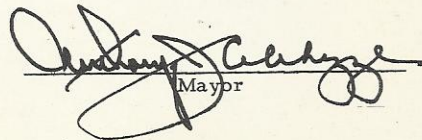
TO THE CITIZENS OF CLEVELAND:

You, the citizens of Cleveland, are shareholders in the largest corporation in the State of Ohio -- the City of Cleveland.

Municipal government today constitutes the backbone of our democratic way of life. With almost 60 per cent of our nation's population living in urban areas, the role of city government in providing services to the citizens of our country has grown in importance and stature.

The purpose of this report is to record the improvements, progress and growth of Cleveland. We are engaged in a cooperative venture which requires complete coordination of effort between the people and their representatives in order to make the operation of our city government a success. The number of public services offered, and the benefits derived from these services, are the dividends declared by our municipal corporation.

This report, then, is our annual statement to the shareholders. I trust you will find the report interesting and stimulating. It is only through your active interest and concern that our city government can continue to offer and extend the varied services and facilities included in the Annual Report of the City of Cleveland.


Mayor

MAYOR AND CABINET.

Seated, (l. to r.) Bell Greve, Director of Health and Welfare; Ralph S. Locher, Director of Law; Mayor Anthony J. Celebrezze; Frank R. Hanrahan, Director of Finance; John J. Locuoco, Director of Public Properties. Standing, (l. to r.) William J. Rogers, Director of Port Control; Louis L. Drasler, Director of Public Service; Emil J. Crown, Director of Public Utilities; John N. McCormick, Director of Public Safety.

Cleveland

Annual Report

Published in 1954
pursuant to Section 55
of the Cleveland Municipal Code.

Date of Incorporation March 5, 1836

Form of Government—non-Partisan—Mayor and
Thirty-three Man Council

Area—Square Miles 71.3

Population—United States Census

1910	560,663
1920	796,841
1930	900,429
1940	878,336
1950	914,808

Miles of Shore Line on Cuyahoga River..... 17

Miles of Shore Line on Lake Erie..... 14

Prepared by HERMAN BONCHEK, Chief of Bureau of Information

AIMS FOR BETTER CLEVELAND

Thirteen bond issues totaling \$39,900,000 to finance improvements for a better Cleveland were approved by Mayor Anthony J. Celebrezze for submission to the voters on the November, 1954 ballot.

Also on the ballot by initiative of the mayor was a proposal for a tax rate increase of 90¢ per \$1,000 valuation.

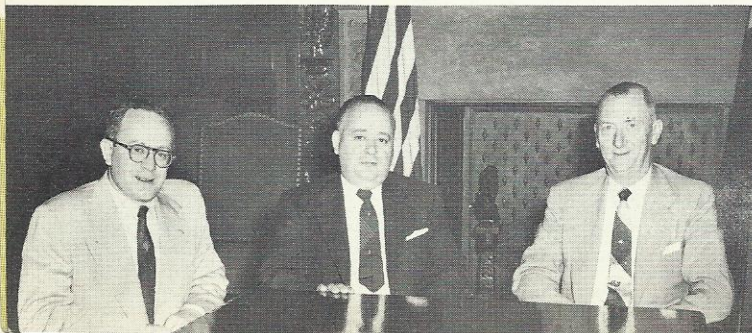
The proposed increase calls for an extra 60¢ for operating purposes to avert an anticipated deficit in the general fund due to increased operating costs of expanded city services. The remaining 30¢ of the proposed increase is a levy for such capital equipment as fire trucks, police cars,

public service motor vehicles and similar needs, which the City could purchase on a pay-as-you-go plan instead of issuing bonds, as in the past, saving costs of interest.

The 13 bond issue proposals are:

1. Improved facilities at City Hospital and new health centers—\$2,850,000.
2. Additional buildings at Cleveland Boys School, Blossom Hill School and Cleveland House of Correction—\$2,400,000.
3. Construction of an airport terminal on the lakefront and other airport improvements — \$3,600,000.
4. Improvements of various parks

MAYOR'S AIDES: (l. to r.) Bernard Ostrovsky, Executive Asst.; Joseph T. Ventura, Secretary and Lewis B. Weinacht, Executive Asst.



F. Robert Meier
Personnel Administrator





Board of Control Meeting. (Around the table left to right) Mayor Anthony J. Celebrezze, Chief Counsel Joseph H. Crowley, Purchasing Commissioner Leo Weil, Utilities Director Emil J. Crown, Safety Director John

N. McCormick, Mayor's Executive Assistant Harry Hobart, Properties Director John J. Locuoco, Law Director Ralph S. Locher, Service Director Louis L. Drasler, and Finance Director Frank R. Hanrahan.

- and lakefront recreational areas —\$4,350,000.
- 5. Building of recreation centers, playgrounds and swimming pools —\$2,700,000.
- 6. Additional buildings at the Zoo —\$1,000,000.
- 7. For additional police and fire stations and a police and fire training school—\$1,500,000.
- 8. Paving and improving streets (money is used to match state and federal money)—\$3,000,000.
- 9. Construction of bridges — \$4,500,000.
- 10. Improvement of the harbor — \$2,000,000.

- 11. Opening, extending, widening and relocating streets — \$2,000,000.
- 12. Construction of sanitary and storm-water sewers—\$6,000,000.
- 13. Off-street parking facilities — \$4,000,000.

Cleveland's Capital Improvement Program has been approved by voters since 1946 to a total amount of \$128,700,000.

In the same period a total of \$171,000,000 in bond issues were submitted to the voters.

On July 1, 1954, unsold bond issues, pending completion of improvement
(Continued on next page)



THE MAYOR WITH COUNCIL LEADERS:
Conferring with Council President Donnelly.



With Democratic Majority Leader Jack P. Russell.
With Republican Minority Leader Harry T. Marshall.



projects, totaled \$21,300,000.

Average yearly voted bond sale since 1946 has been \$11,750,000. However, by use of other funds, mostly utility earnings, C.T.S. revenues and matching funds from state and federal governments, the City has been able to finance improvements costing nearly twice this much yearly.

Mayor Celebrezze, taking office on Monday, November 9, 1953, named four new department directors and retained three from the previous administration.

The new directors appointed: Ralph S. Locher, Department of Law; John J. Locuoco, Department of Public Properties; Louis L. Drasler, Department of Public Service and Bell Greve, Department of Health and Welfare.

Locher previously had served as Executive Secretary for Governor Frank J. Lausche; Locuoco as secretary and assistant director of Public Properties Department; Miss Greve is internationally noted as an authority in health and welfare work; Drasler as head of the Cleveland division of the State Highway Department.

Directors retained were Frank R. Hanrahan, Department of Finance; Emil J. Crown, Department of Public Utilities and John N. McCormick, Department of Public Safety.

The Mayor added a cabinet post when he established the new Department of Port Control, approved by the voters in 1952. The position was accepted by William J. Rogers, who resigned from Council where he was serving as 15th Ward Councilman and Republican Minority Leader.

Rogers formerly had served as State Director of Industrial Relations and Cleveland Utilities Director.

Another Councilman resigned from Council to take an administrative post when Second Ward Councilman Stephen Suhajcik was named Commissioner of Fiscal Control in the Public Utilities Department.

Another Councilman who completed his term on December 31, 1953, not having run for reelection, Stanley Szymanski of the 14th Ward, was appointed to the post relinquished by Director Locuoco in the Public Properties Department.

For his office aides, the Mayor selected Joseph T. Ventura as secretary and Lewis B. Weinacht and Bernard Ostrovsky as executive assistants.

(Continued on next page)

Council Committee Hearings to negotiate a compromise in C.E.I. rate increase requests.

Top

(l. to r.) Council President James Donnelly, Councilman Bronis Klementowicz, Mayor Anthony J. Celebrezze, Port Control Director William J. Rogers.

Center

Seated at table (l. to r.) Law Director Ralph S. Locher; stenotype reporter; C.E.I. Vice-president Lee C. Howley; C.E.I. Vice-president Warren Brooks; Councilmen Joseph E. Flannery; Wilson M. Latkovic; John A. Fakult; Ray Dorsey, Plain Dealer; Port Control Director William J. Rogers; Al Ostrow, Press; Councilmen Walter E. Berkebile; Bronis Klementowicz. Seated, rear, (l. to r.) Councilmen Robert W. Swanson; Richard M. Masterson; Jerome B. Goldman; 1st Asst. Clerk Harvey B. Atkins (standing).

Below

(Front center, left and around table) Law Director Ralph S. Locher; Edward Kenealy, City rate consultant; stenotype reporter; C.E.I. Vice-president Lee C. Howley; C.E.I. Counsel Harry Fitzgerald; Councilman Harry T. Marshall; Harry Jaffe; Al Ostrow, Press; Paul Lilley, (standing) Press; Council President James Donnelly; Councilman Bronis Klementowicz, comm. chmn.; Mayor Anthony J. Celebrezze; Port Control Director William J. Rogers. Upper left of photo, Councilman Jack P. Russell; Rufus J. Allen and Harvey B. Atkins, asst. city clerks.





MAYOR ANTHONY J. CELEBREZZE alerts Cleveland via radio and T.V. for first full-dress civil defense rehearsal. With the Mayor in the photo taken at E. 9th St. and Euclid Ave. during the June 14, 1954 alert, are: (l. to r.) Jerry Bowman, WERE, back of him, Detective David Offt, Major General Leo M. Krebere, holding the microphone is Mendel Jones, C.D. Information Director, and C.D. Director John J. Pokorny.

The Mayor also appointed James Yeilding as his executive assistant in charge of Urban Redevelopment. Yeilding formerly was in the Area Development Department of the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company.

URBAN REDEVELOPMENT

An allocation of \$2,300,000 from the Federal Government was expected late in 1954 by the Urban Redevelopment Agency,

All federal requirements have been met for "B" project in the Central Area. Legislation appropriating funds to purchase the first eight parcels was approved by the City Council in August, 1954.

Acquisition of a total of 214 parcels was being expedited by Yeilding to speed rebuilding of the 34 acres in the "B" project to provide housing for 1,500 families.

With 100 sirens installed and 10 more to be installed, the Division of Civil Defense in August, 1954 neared completion of its air raid warning system on a county-wide basis.

Medical supplies costing \$300,000 were received in 1954 and were distributed in 132 locations throughout the County.

Continuing its program of educating the public as to self-preservation measures in case of an air raid attack, the Civilian Defense organization climaxed its promotional activities with a full-dress alert on June 14, 1954.

The Division of Civil Defense had a 1954 budget appropriation of \$186,626. It spent \$175,138 in 1953 as compared with \$398,681 in 1952, a decrease of \$223,543. Expenditures for 1951 were \$52,386.

The Division's personnel on Dec. 31, 1953 numbered 13, unchanged from the previous year.

James T.
Yielding,

Urban
Redevelopment
Director

