

Chapter 10

Community Facilities

Schools - Enrollment Growth

All of Orange Township is within the 110 square mile Olentangy School District. The district also includes all of Berlin, most of Liberty, and portions of Concord, Genoa, Berkshire and Delaware Townships.

The rapid population growth in the Olentangy School District has provided its greatest challenge. When the last Orange Township plan was discussed, Olentangy enrollment was 4,937 students for 1998-99. The district projected a 160% increase to 12,497 by 2008-09. If the 2009-10 projection is correct, the district will have experienced growth of almost 1000 students per year over the last decade to 14,920.



Olentangy Orange High School

The District has been playing catch up with the area's unprecedented housing growth. The District has anticipated its growth to continue, despite the lagging numbers in new housing. In 2006, DeJong-Healy updated its enrollment projections and build-out scenarios for the District. Using building permits, housing yields and survival ratios (the percentages of children who end up actually attending the district), the report found the following:

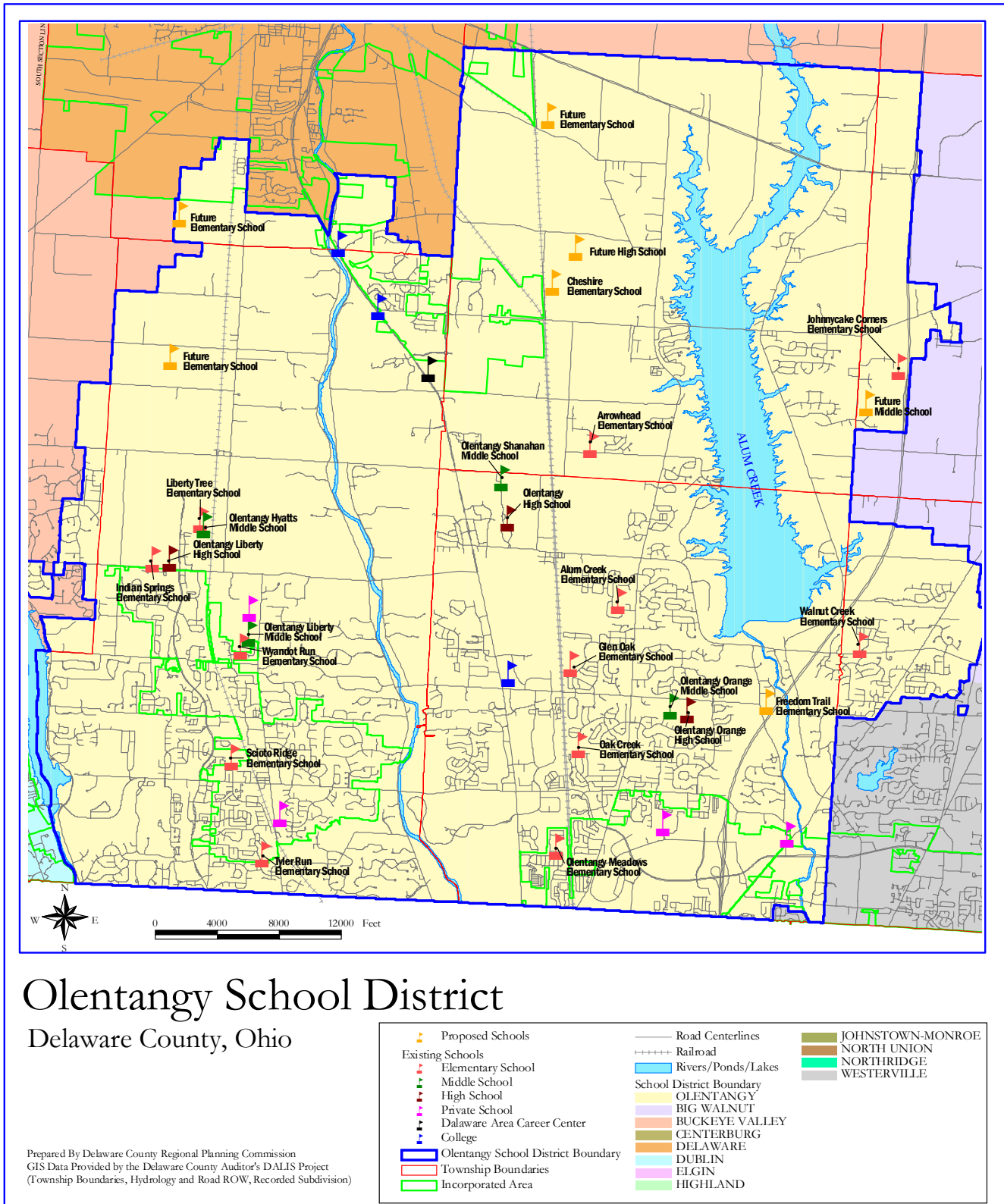
Figure 10.1 Olentangy District Projected Enrollments

| Grade | 2009-10 | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 | 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 |
|------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| K-5 Total | 8,138 | 8,670 | 9,076 | 9,423 | 9,708 | 9,807 | 9,874 | 9,908 |
| 6-8 Total | 3,150 | 3,362 | 3,642 | 3,904 | 4,206 | 4,529 | 4,820 | 5,080 |
| 9-12 Total | 3,632 | 3,797 | 4,026 | 4,278 | 4,471 | 4,860 | 5,221 | 5,561 |
| Total | 14,920 | 15,829 | 16,744 | 17,605 | 18,385 | 19,196 | 19,915 | 20,549 |

Source: Enrollment Projections Update by DeJong-Healy.

The enrollment for 2009-10 school year was 14,920 students (without preschool). The DeJong-Healy projections show that in seven years, enrollment will have grown 37% to 20,549. Previous projections from 1998 were underestimated by 2,500 students fewer than the actual number enrolled in 2009.

Figure 10.2 Olentangy School District



Current Facilities

There are currently three high schools. Each is designed for a capacity of 1400-1600 students.

Olentangy High School was completed in June 1990 at 675 Lewis Center Road. A 149,000 square foot addition was completed in early 1997. A project during the summer of 2009 added a new theater and converted the old auditorium into additional classrooms. Its 2008-09 enrollment was **1,154**.

Olentangy Liberty High School, 3584 Home Road, opened in 2003. Its 2008-09 enrollment was **1,413**.

Olentangy Orange High School, 2840 E. Orange Road, was completed in 2008. Its first year enrollment (grades 9, 10, and 11) was **817**.

Total High School enrollment in three facilities was 3,384.

There are four middle schools. Each is designed for a capacity of 900 students.

Olentangy Shanahan Middle School is located at 814 Shanahan Road. Its 2008-09 enrollment was **781**.

Olentangy Liberty Middle School on Liberty Road was completed in 2001-02. Its 2008-09 enrollment was **729**.

Olentangy Hyatts Middle School on Sawmill Parkway opened in 2007-08. Its 2008-09 enrollment was **601**.

Olentangy Orange Middle School on Orange Road opened in 2007-08. Its 2008-09 enrollment was **932**.

Total Middle School enrollment was 3,043.

There are twelve elementary schools. Each is designed for a capacity of 650 students.

Wyandot Run opened for the 1993-94 school year. Its 2008-09 enrollment was 604.

Alum Creek opened for the 1996-97 school year. Its 2008-09 enrollment was 658.

Arrowhead opened for the 1998-99 school year. Its 2008-09 enrollment was 571.

Scioto Ridge opened for the 1998-99 school year. Its 2008-09 enrollment was 705.

Oak Creek opened for the 2000-2001 school year. Its 2008-09 enrollment was 691.

Tyler Run opened for the 2001-2002 school year. Its 2008-09 enrollment was 672.

Indian Springs opened for the 2007-08 school year. Its 2008-09 enrollment was 684.

Walnut Creek opened for the 2003-2004 school year. Its 2008-09 enrollment was 694.

Glen Oak opened for the 2005-2006 school year. Its 2008-09 enrollment was 685.

Olentangy Meadows opened for the 2006-2007 school year. Its 2008-09 enrollment was 677.

Liberty Tree opened for the 2007-2008 school year. Its 2008-09 enrollment was 637.

Johnny Cake Corners opened for the 2007-08 school year. Its 2008-09 enrollment was 483.

Freedom Trail Elementary opened in the fall of 2009 and had a projected initial enrollment of 597.

Total Elementary enrollment was 7,761 (including 217 preschool students).

Olentangy Future Facility Needs

Based on a student yield per current building configuration and DeJong grade level projected enrollments at 2014-15, the district confirms that there will be a need for four high schools (one more than anticipated in 1999), seven middle schools (three more than anticipated in 1999) and 20 elementary Schools (eight more than anticipated in 1999). Based on September 2007 enrollments and projections, bond and building patterns are expected to be as follows:

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| High School #4 | Bond Spring of 2011 | Open 2014-15 |
| Middle School #5 | Bond Spring of 2009 | Open 2011-12 |
| Middle School #6 | Bond Spring of 2013 | Open 2015-16 |
| Elementary School #13 | Bond Spring of 2008 | Open 2009-10 |
| Elementary School #14 | Bond Spring of 2009 | Open 2010-11 |
| Elementary School #15 | Bond Spring of 2010 | Open 2011-12 |
| Elementary School #16 | Bond Spring of 2012 | Open 2013-14 |
| Elementary School #17 | Bond Spring of 2016 | Open 2017-18 |

Funding for Schools

The cost of educating a student in the Olentangy District in 2008 was \$9,187. This compares favorably with other districts in the county including Big Walnut at \$9,615, Delaware City at \$9,464 and Buckeye Valley at \$9,457. In fact, the average state-wide is \$9,019. The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) separates expenditures out into a number of categories including Instructional, Building Support, Administration, Pupil Support and Staff Support. Information for all such categories is presented per district and per pupil at www.ode.state.oh.us.

According to the DeJong-Healy Enrollment Projections Report, in 2006, a typical \$300,000 single-family home in the district would pay approximately \$3,713.57 in taxes to the schools, based on the effective residential school-only tax rate at the time of 35.367. (Market Value is multiplied by 35% before the tax is calculated.) That rate included a 27.46734 operating millage and a 7.9 mil bond.

The DeJong-Healy report noted that \$10,465 was needed per student in Operating and Bond funds as a result of recent growth and the need for new facilities. The report also estimated that for growth to truly “pay for itself,” each new single-family home would need to be valued at \$659,426 and each condominium would need to be valued at \$169,083. This is based on the assumption that the typical single-family home generates, on average, .78 students per permit and the typical condominium generated between .13 and .20 students per unit.

Sources of additional revenue to make up this shortfall are commercial real estate taxes which are figured at 36.091446, or slightly higher than the residential rate. Other sources are personal inventory tax and state and federal aid. The ODE website reports that in 2008, the district received \$7,060 per pupil from local revenue, \$1,291 per pupil in state revenue, and \$242 per pupil in federal revenue for a grand total of \$8,705 per student.

As previously noted, the Olentangy district is a fairly wealthy district in terms of revenue sources and real estate valuation. The median household income for the District was \$96,469 in 2007 while Ohio's is \$46,296. The rapid pace of growth challenges the school district to fund and open new schools in a timely manner. (*Source: Census American Community Survey, 2007*)

Effect of Land Use Planning on School Planning

The pace of growth continues to be the challenge for the school district. Ohio law does not provide for building moratoriums in townships (see Meck and Pearlman, *Ohio Planning and Zoning Law*, 1999 Edition, The West Group, Section 11.27-11.28). Federal case law comes from a series of 1970s cases regarding growth rate limitations, the most famous of which is *Golden v. Planning Bd. of Town of Ramapo* (1972) 409 U.S. 1003, 93 S.Ct. 440, 34 L.Ed.2d 294. The philosophy of growth management permits new infrastructure to be built at a reasonable, attainable rate. What constitutes a reasonable attainable rate has been the subject of much litigation. The courts said that the community can only create a moratorium that is temporary and based upon a critical shortage of a basic community service. The community must work to provide that service, at which time the moratorium must be removed.

Cities and villages in Ohio have home rule authority which “provides the flexibility to experiment with different types of planning programs to respond to the issues of rapid growth” (Meck and Pearlman, *ibid.*, p. 507)

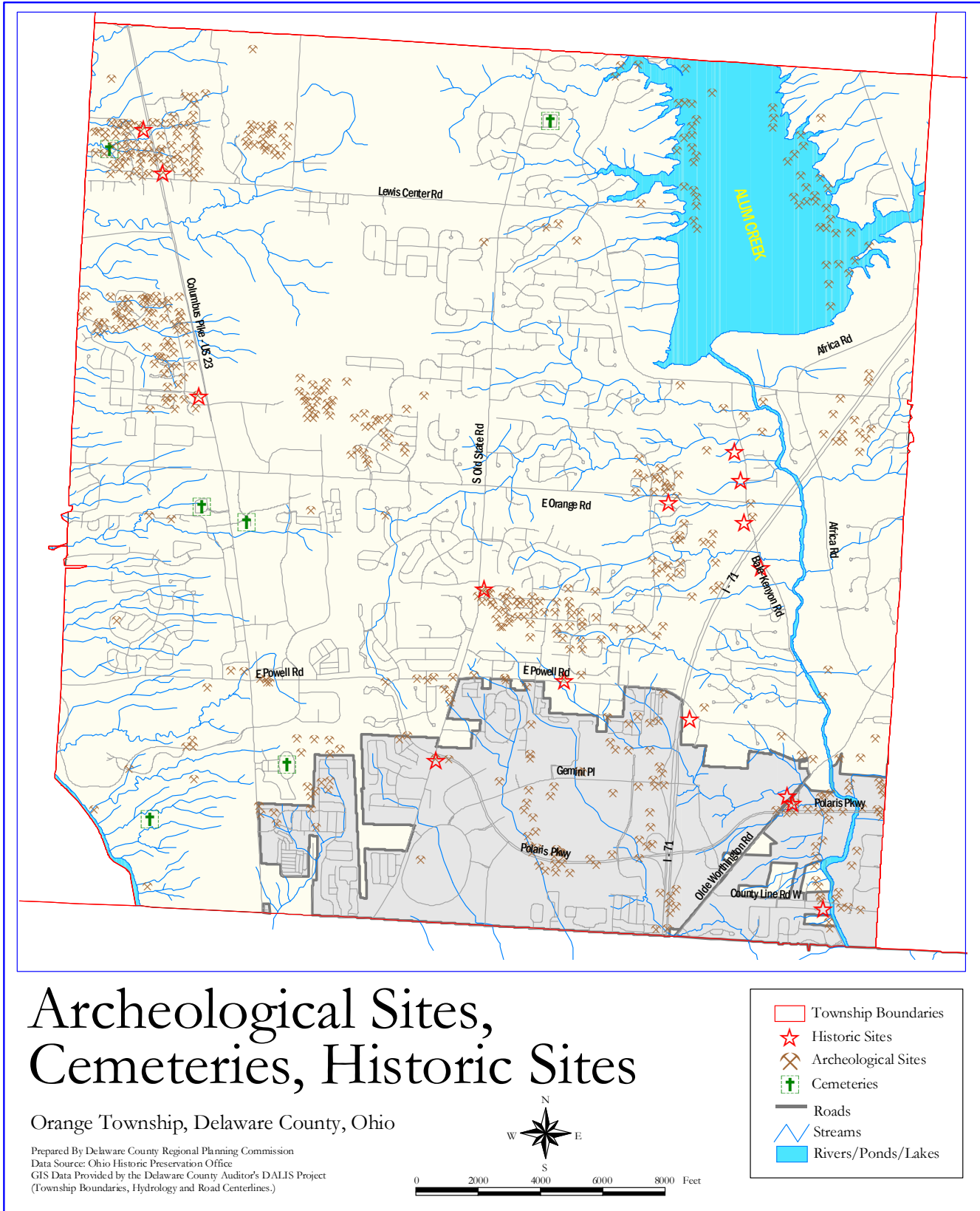
Townships do not have the same home rule authority in Ohio as villages and cities. Currently, Ohio townships do not have the authority to impose impact fees. Their only recourse to overly rapid growth is to control the timing of zoning. For example, if the community is over-zoned for residential use (more house lots subdivided than the market can absorb in the foreseeable future), and if there are severe shortages of critical community facilities (i.e. water, sewer, schools, roads), then approval of additional residential zonings may be inappropriate until such shortages are relieved.

Olentangy School District has solved its short term funding problem with its most recent levy. Orange Township may use the schools as one additional indicator of critical facilities that need to be monitored in making zoning decisions.

Archeology, Cemeteries and Historic Sites

The Ohio Historical Society maintains a listing of cultural resources across the state. The State of Ohio maintains an OCAP data layer of potential archeological sites, which is described in Chapter 5 and noted on the Critical Resources map. In many cases, these “sites” are the result of construction activity which required that an archeological survey be performed.

Figure 10.3 Archeological Sites, Cemeteries and Historic Sites, Orange Township



Cemeteries

A small number of cemeteries exists in the township. The size, ownership and type vary widely:

Figure 10.4 Cemeteries

| Site | Location | Detail |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Unknown | Olentangy Crossings west | |
| Kingswood Memorial Park | 8230 U.S. 23 | Public |
| Williamsville Cemetery | Orange Centre | Township Trustees (Historic) |
| Highbanks Cemetery | Highbanks Metro Park | Poole Family Plot |
| Resurrection Cemetery | 9571 U.S. 23 | Public/Catholic |
| Africa Cemetery | 5175 S. Old State Road | Township Trustees (Private) |

Source: Ohio Historical Society GIS data

Historic Sites

The National Register of Historic Places identifies at least two prehistoric mounds at Highbanks Metro Park in Orange Township.

The Lewis Center area was platted in 1850 as a rail stop along the St. Louis, Chicago & Columbus railroad. It has a collection of older structures, some of which may be appropriate for preservation and restoration. The Ohio Historical Society maintains a listing of Historic Sites within the township. Note that the original Township Hall which has been moved but remains at the corner of Orange and South Old State Roads, is not included on the state's list. The following table describes the data as presented by the Ohio Historical Society (OHS):

Figure 10.5 Historic Properties

| Site | Location | Detail |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| O. Johnson Farm | 1650' north of Lewis Center and 23 | Now west Olentangy Crossings |
| CP Elsbree Farm | 6463 U.S. 23 | Now east Olentangy Crossings |
| George Gooding Tavern | 7630 U.S. 23 | Preserved, offices, National Register (1825) |
| Historic Complex (barns) | Southeast corner of Old State and Polaris | Removed/CVS |
| Joseph Phinney House | 7959 S. Old State Road | Existing (1850) |
| Paul McCammon House | 3350 E. Orange Road | Removed |
| George Phinney House | 2353 E. Powell Road | Existing (1890) |
| Cyrus Chambers House | 6464 Bale-Kenyon Road | Existing (1830) |
| J. McCammon House | 6624 Bale-Kenyon Road | Existing (1910) |
| Hurlbert Hammond House | 6844 Bale-Kenyon Road | Existing (1825), Bicentennial barn |
| David Bale House | 7046 Bale-Kenyon Road | Existing (1880) |
| Julia and Mary Baker Prop. | 3170 E. Powell Road | Existing (1926) |
| Clymer House | 8240 Worthington Road | Amphitheatre parking |
| No detail | 8253 Worthington Road | (1925) |

Source: Ohio Historical Society GIS data

Libraries

Currently there are no public libraries in Orange Township. The Delaware County District Library has its downtown library at 84 East Winter Street, Delaware, and branch libraries in the City of Powell at 460 S. Liberty Street, and Ostrander at 75 North 4th Street.

The District Library employs 30 people or 24 full time equivalents. Its annual budget is approximately \$2 million, which is used for staff salaries and materials, maintenance, and operating expenses. Ninety-six percent of the operating budget is provided through the Library and Local Government Support Fund and the remaining four percent is generated by fines and fees, donations and interest on investments.

There are 75,000 residents in the Delaware District Library service area and 42,000 registered borrowers (borrowers can be outside of the district). School districts that are in the service area include Olentangy, Delaware City, Buckeye Valley, and the Delaware County portions of Elgin Local, Dublin, and Union County. Currently, the District has 145,000 volumes. The “old” rule of thumb is that there should be 3 volumes per capita. This shortfall is not considered a problem because libraries in general have evolved to offer other resources for patrons and the Internet provides vast sources of information and research. The District’s long range plan is to monitor the growth area and provide service to the expanding population, expand facilities if necessary, and promote home based programs.

The Community Library is a separate library system, at 44 Burrer Drive, Sunbury Ohio. It is funded by state income tax set aside for libraries. Its primary mission is to serve the Big Walnut School District, but any resident of the State of Ohio may obtain a library card and use the library.

A community library located close to the population center of Lewis Center or S. Old State Road would be an asset to the community, especially if it were incorporated into a planned residential community or a community-wide plan. This new community library could also be a meeting place for community/social groups and citizens groups. Recently, the District Library planned to locate a new facility in Orange Township and purchased land between Gooding Boulevard and U.S. 23. A levy to assist in the construction of the facility was approved by voters in the fall of 2009 and construction began during the spring of 2010.

Township Facilities

Orange Township Hall

The Orange Township Hall was converted in 2000 to serve as the centralized home for Township government. The building is occupied by the offices and meeting rooms of the Orange Township Trustees, Fiscal Officer, Zoning Inspector, Zoning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals. The meeting rooms can be reserved on a limited basis for use by civic groups and individuals provided they reside in Orange Township.



Orange Township Hall

The Moffett Room (east meeting room) comfortably seats 80-100 people with tables or 100-150 people without tables. The Thompson Room (west meeting room) comfortably seats 30-40 people with tables or 50-60 people without tables.

Community Room

The Community Room is located at 7560 Gooding Blvd., inside the North Orange Park Aquatic Center. It is available for rent, on a first-come/first-serve basis, to individuals and groups. The room is approximately 30 feet by 35 feet and the maximum capacity is seventy people. Tables and chairs are included. There is a refrigerator and microwave but cooking is prohibited.

Hospitals

There are no hospitals located within Orange Township. Grady Memorial Hospital is located on Central Avenue in the City of Delaware. Grady Hospital provides 125 beds for general surgery, and orthopedics, urology and ophthalmology, as well as emergency care. Cardiac surgery and neurosurgery are referred to other hospitals. A new facility is expected to open in the summer of 2010 south of the City of Delaware at Ohio Health Blvd and Glenn Parkway.

Ohio Health recently opened a new facility at the corner of Africa Road and Polaris Parkway that offers numerous doctor offices, a full-service lab, and other services. Emergency hospital service to Orange Township is most frequently distributed among Grady, Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus, and St. Ann's Hospital in Westerville.

America's Urgent Care is located at Hidden Ravines Drive and provides care for a variety of conditions, with walk-in service as well as preventative services. A new Ohio State University Medical Center including a number of medical offices and services is planned in the Olentangy Crossings center. Numerous other health facilities are available in the Polaris area and along Cleveland Avenue in Westerville.

Fire Protection

The Orange Township Fire Department was established as a volunteer fire department in 1952. The growth of the township resulted in the department becoming a full-time facility in 2000. In 2002, OTFD purchased a medic truck from the County, bought a new grass fire truck and a Chief's vehicle. That same year, Fire Station 362 on South Old State Road underwent renovations. Ground was broken for Station 361 on Gooding Boulevard in 2003 and the station was completed in 2004. Each station now includes 7 full-time firefighters on duty daily and part-time firefighters scheduled as needed.



Fire Station 361, Gooding Boulevard

The Fire Department has the following equipment for emergency responses:

Station 361 (Gooding Boulevard)

| | |
|---|--|
| 1992 Achilles Inflatable Boat | 2009 Fire Prevention Investigation Trailer |
| 2006 Sutphen 2000 Engine Truck | 2009 Fire Prevention Educational Trailer |
| 2007 Sutphen Aerial Platform Ladder Truck | 2005 Ford Explorer (Fire Chief) |
| 2006 Horton Medic | 2007 Dodge Durango (Asst. Fire Chief) |
| 2007 Ford F-250 (Prevention) | 2007 F-250 Utility Vehicle |
| 2009 Ford Explorer (Prevention) | |

Station 362 (South Old State Road)

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2005 Rescue One Connector Boat | 2008 Horton Medic |
| 2006 Sutphen 2000 Engine Truck | 1997 Foam Trailer |
| 2001 Ford F-350 Grass Truck | 1993 Tanker |
| 2006 Pierce Rescue | 1999 Fire Safety Trailer |

In an effort to keep up with the increasing changes within the fire service, the Orange Township Fire Department has been increasing their involvement in the Emergency Medical Services (EMS). Although changes have been occurring for several years, the Fire Department has seen the most dramatic increase in the past five years, continuously adding EMS personnel, equipment and supplies during that time.

The majority of the personnel are certified as paramedics. All personnel are required to maintain a certain amount of training in order to keep their certification. A detailed protocol set forth by the medical director details procedures, policy and techniques that each EMT must follow.

Orange Township Fire Department provides patient transport the majority of the time, Delaware County supplements the Fire Department by also having a transport vehicle. The EMS department purchased a newer transport vehicle in 2008. In addition, the first responding fire engines ladder and rescue are stocked with advanced life support equipment.

The Orange Township Fire Department service area includes all of Orange Township (about 20 sq. miles) except for Polaris (Columbus) and Westerville. Orange Township supports a mutual aid system with other area fire departments.

Known as “County Line Fire Station”, the City of Columbus’s Station 33 is a four-bay station located on the north side of Lazelle Road, west of Sancus, for service to the Polaris area. In 2008, the station made 4,076 runs. The station maintains the following equipment:

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2005 Sutphen 2000 Engine Truck | 2005 Sutphen Ladder Truck |
| 2008 International/Horton Medic | |

Police

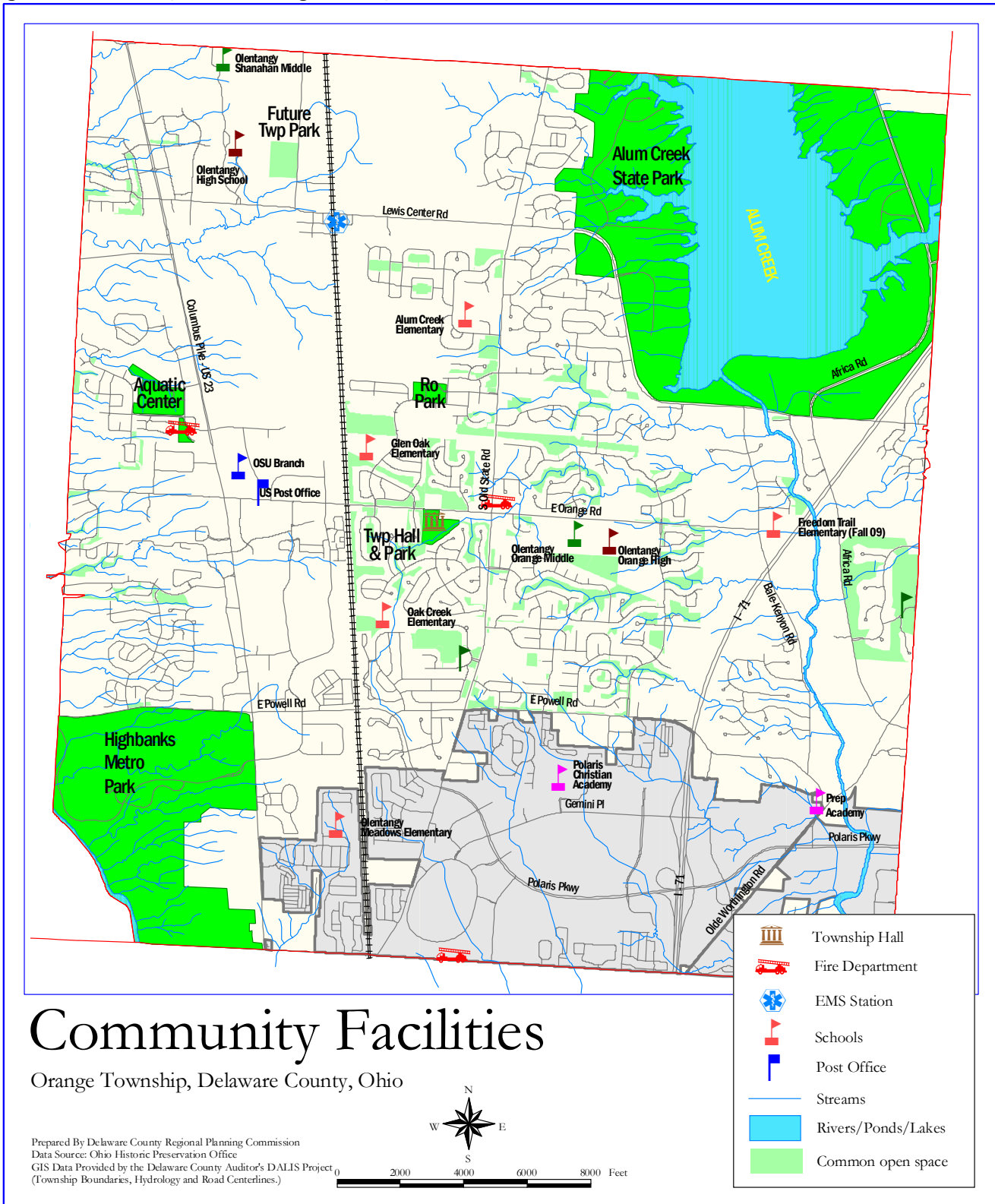
Orange Township is policed by the Delaware County Sheriff’s Office (DCSO), which is headquartered in Delaware on S.R. 42. The Sheriff’s Office currently has 92 deputies including command staff and approximately 60 cars. Fourteen deputies are on duty per shift. Each vehicle covers an average of 390 miles per day, or 130 miles per shift.

Figure 10.5 Sheriff’s Complaints

| Sheriff’s Complaints for 2008 by Geographic Code | | | | |
|--|------|--|-------------------|------|
| Orange Township | 8546 | | Radnor Township | 296 |
| Liberty Township | 4838 | | Thompson Township | 137 |
| Concord Township | 2568 | | Marlboro township | 215 |
| Berkshire Township | 1738 | | Genoa Township | 704 |
| Berlin Township | 2135 | | Sunbury | 332 |
| Harlem Township | 1224 | | Ashley | 242 |
| Troy Township | 1074 | | Delaware | 2670 |
| Delaware Township | 727 | | Shawnee Hills | 121 |
| Brown Township | 488 | | Galena | 53 |
| Scioto Township | 566 | | Ostrander | 133 |
| Trenton Township | 537 | | Dublin | 97 |
| Kingston Township | 545 | | Powell | 393 |
| Porter Township | 325 | | Columbus | 566 |
| Oxford Township | 240 | | Westerville | 164 |

Based on its large population and share of commercial development, the township needs additional security support. Sheriff deputies serving Orange Township are located at the Alum Creek Water Reclamation facility on Walker Wood Boulevard. Two cars are typically on duty with staggered shifts. The township specifically funds several shifts throughout the week and pays for occasional Special Duty hours, such as speed control on specific streets as warranted. The township pays the deputies’ base salary and limited overtime hours but does not directly support operation of the substation.

Figure 10.6 Community Facilities, Orange Township



Community Facilities Goals and Means

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Goal Retain vestiges of agriculture.</p> | <p>Means Retain appropriate farm structures for reuse in new developments.</p> |
| <p>Goal Acquire suitable land for the township and school future needs.</p> | <p>Means Acquire, by donation, lease or purchase, lands for township parks with active recreation. Support the school district in identifying potential school sites in large planned residential developments.</p> |
| <p>Goal Expand township services at a rate to ensure public health and safety.</p> | <p>Means Acquire by donation, lease or purchase appropriate new sites for township facilities, including fire, police.</p> |