

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS
CITY OF CRESTVIEW HILLS, KENTUCKY

FEBRUARY 12, 2026

MAYOR PAUL W. MEIER

We have just completed another productive year in the City of Crestview Hills. This year ends my 27th year as Mayor, during which the City was able to accomplish a number of project initiatives.

I am happy to say that Crestview Hills is doing well and services are still being provided at a high level that residents and businesses have been known to expect from our employees and contractors.

The following highlights significant events and projects over the past year:

Economic Development

- The Town Center lost a few businesses over the past year; however, Anderson Real Estate has been able to replace some and add several new tenants. These new businesses include Malone’s (an upscale steak house planned for the former Taste of Belgium location) and SGN Golf, a replacement for the Off Par golf simulator location.
- Several new businesses opened this past year including Rechin/Jacobs Orthodontics and Elite MedSpa. On a sad note, TGIF Friday’s closed after the chain filed bankruptcy; however, Torres Mexican Steakhouse has announced they will open at that spot in March or April 2026.
- The Family Nurturing Center has purchased the property at 380 Centre View Blvd. in the Thomas More Office Park. Plans are being developed to add square footage and a partial second floor at this location and relocate all of its employees to Crestview Hills. Also, the Cincinnati Children’s Hospital completed a multi-million renovation to its Chapel Place building in the Office Park and held its grand opening in 2025 – they also opened the only pediatric urgent care in Northern Kentucky at this site.
- Crown Point continues to have home construction, with several new homes currently under construction. The completion of the Crown Point Circle loop by the developer has assisted with new lots being available; this was adopted as a City-maintained street after it was inspected.
- This past year, City Council approved the Kenton County Planning Commission (KCPC) Z21 recommendations, which were formulated by a Crestview Hills working group and PDS over several years. This action enacted an updated and user-friendly zoning ordinance for the City.

- The City Council approved several small businesses for an incentive program with business retention and rental assistance to new or expanding businesses in the City, including a financial advisor office on Centre View Blvd.
- Thomas More University continues to improve its campus and has announced several new undergraduate and graduate programs.

Public Works

- KYTC continues to work on the engineering of the options for the improvements to Turkeyfoot Road (KY1303) and Thomas More Parkway intersection. Funding for Right-of-Way and Utilities relocation is not in the current Kentucky State Budget. This will be a request for the new 2026-2027 two-year budget, and Crestview Hills will advocate for the Turkeyfoot project to be included.
- The Lookout Farm Bridge Replacement Project has moved forward – a contract with JTM Smith Construction was signed in November and the work is scheduled to start early spring. This will help to eliminate flooding on the lower Shinkle Road/Lookout Farm Drive intersection during heavy downpours. Crestview Hills received significant grant funding from SD1 to assist with the replacement of this bridge over the Dry Creek.
- Street Sweeping was completed three times in the City along with five additional sweeps along the arterial roads this past year.
- The Sunset Drive reconstruction was completed by Riegler Blacktop in the Old Crestview Hills neighborhood.
- The City of Crestview Hills and Edgewood were awarded a 60% SNK Grant for drainage improvements and the repaving of Horsebranch Road. The contract was awarded to Compass Infrastructure Group in February 2025 for engineering work on that road.
- The City also received a federal SNK grant to fund the majority of Thomas More Parkway improvements. That project is a few years away. The City was also informed that the NKY Water District is working on replacing a water main on Thomas More Parkway (and possibly a portion of Horsebranch Rd.) prior to the start of the road work.
- A short Dixie Highway Sidewalk Improvement Project from Carren Dr to Whitehouse Dr is going through the final approval process by KYTC and construction is expected to start in the Spring.
- In July the City signed a new Engineering Contract with Compass Infrastructure Group - Mike Yeager, who heads up their Northern Kentucky office, serves as the designated City Engineer.

Recreation

- Trick or Treat at the Town Center along with the December dinner with Santa was held as planned.
- We had our annual Business Appreciation Luncheon in May for all the office workers in our City and had a great turnout despite it raining most of that day.
- The City held its annual Summer Concert in June at Thomas More University on a parking lot adjacent to the new Academic Building. I want to thank Republic Bank, the Title Sponsor, and other sponsors for their assistance.
- Work has continued to improve Centre View Park, including improving the landscaping and irrigation there. This past year, Thomas More students volunteered to install wood chips on the park trails through their Saints Serve annual day of service.
- In December, the City held its Annual Holiday Lighting Contest “Light Up the Night”. Awards of World Market gift cards were provided to the 1st and 2nd place winners for College Park, Old Crestview Hills, Summit Lakes and Lookout Farm areas.

Public Safety

- The Lakeside Park Crestview Hill Police Authority was able to add a new officer to its ranks this past year replacing a retiring officer, which makes a total of 12 sworn law enforcement officers employed by the department. They are in the process of hiring a 13th police officer.
- The City of Edgewood and Ft Mitchell Fire Departments have completed their annual inspections of commercial buildings and fire hydrants. Also, both departments notified Crestview Hills that they have smoke detectors available to be installed for residents at no cost.

Administration

- In January 2025 the Mayor, City Council, and staff had a Goal Setting Session and formulated numerous objectives to achieve over the two-year Council term.
- The City new property tax rate is \$1.54 per \$1,000 valuation. Crestview Hills still has the lowest overall property tax rate of all Kenton County cities.
- The 2025-2026 City Budget was approved at the June Council Meeting.
- Due to a new contract, the City increased its Garbage / Recycling fee to \$160 a household, which reflects the increase by the only bidder for this service - Rumpke. This is still under the total per unit rate being paid to Rumpke each year by Crestview Hills.

- The City again received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Excellence in the financial reporting of our annual audit. This is the twenty-third year in a row the City was designated as meeting the highest standards for financial reporting.
- In November the Council heard from our auditor, Chamberlin Owens on the 2024-2025 City Audit. The City received an unmodified (clean) opinion.
- A bid was awarded in May 2025 to Elevar Design Group for architectural design for the City Building expansion, which includes badly needed additional space for the police department, public works, and city staff.

I am pleased to report that Crestview Hills remains financially strong and well managed. Our combination of location, low taxes, and first-class amenities makes Crestview Hills a consistent top location choice for residents and businesses. The City is well regarded throughout the region as an innovative and high-quality community. We look forward to an exciting and productive 2026.

Mayor Paul Meier