

CITY OF XENIA, OHIO

# PRESS RELEASE

**Contact:** Mark Bazalak, Finance Director  
101 N. Detroit Street  
Xenia, OH 43585  
www.ci.xenia.oh.us

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
12:00 noon, January 29, 2010

## **City of Xenia Recognized by Auditor of State for Excellent Financial Accountability**

Xenia, Ohio, January 29, 2010: At the Xenia City Council meeting on January 28, 2010, Auditor of State Mary Taylor's office presented City of Xenia officials with the "Making Your Tax Dollars Count" award for their fiscal year 2008 audit. Fewer than five percent of all Ohio government agencies are eligible for this award.

"I commend the City of Xenia for its commitment to fiscal accountability. Congratulations on your hard work and for being trustworthy stewards of taxpayer dollars," said Taylor.

Certain criteria must be met to receive the "Making Your Tax Dollars Count" award. Standards include:

- The entity must complete and submit a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR);
- There must be no findings or issues present in the audit report; and
- There must be no other financial concerns involving the entity.

Finance Director Mark Bazalak also announced at the meeting that the City has received its 26<sup>th</sup> consecutive Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its 2008 CAFR, which is awarded by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

The Mayor and City Council praised the Finance Director for the achievement. Mr. Bazalak stated this is truly a Citywide effort. He acknowledged the other Appointed Officials, Division and Department heads and staff, and most especially, the Finance Department staff.

Finance Director Mark Bazalak said this morning, "This award demonstrates the City's commitment to ensuring the safety of taxpayer dollars and implementing financial policies and

procedures to operate the City more effectively and efficiently. This is especially important given the current economic outlook of the City and the need to ask the community for additional revenue.” City Council will vote on February 11, 2010, on whether to place a .5% income tax increase on the ballot on May 4, 2010.

If you would like to review the 2008 CAFR, a copy is available on the City’s website at [www.ci.xenia.oh.us](http://www.ci.xenia.oh.us). Go to the City Government tab and select City Administration / Finance Department.

# # #