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CITY OF XENIA, OHIO

# MEDIA RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Xenia Community Development Coordinator Retires**

Xenia, Ohio (October 30, 2018) – City of Xenia Community Development Coordinator Mary Crockett will retire effective October 31, 2018, following twelve years of service to the City of Xenia and more than twenty-two years of public service.

Crockett began her community development career with the City on February 20, 2006. During her tenure she was instrumental in researching and writing grants to help fund City projects. She assisted Toward Independence, Inc., with completing façade renovations through the Xenia Downtown Façade Loan Program which attracted “One Bistro”, a restaurant built on a mission to feed people while re-integrating individuals with development disabilities into the community and workplace.

Beginning in early 2013, Crockett worked tirelessly with the Downtown Xenia Now Revitalization Committee to officially recognize Xenia’s Downtown historic commercial structures on the National Register of Historic Places.

In 2016, via Crockett’s efforts, the National Slow Roll Bike movement was introduced in Xenia. The Slow Roll Bike events were designed to give citizens a better perspective of their community, and to raise awareness about the trails and the rich history between Xenia and Wilberforce.

More recently, Crockett implemented the HUD HOPE VI-Main Street grant and historic tax credits which will soon bring five units of mixed-use, upper floor housing to the historic Litt Brothers Building at 21 E. Main Street. This was the only such grant awarded nationally for downtown revitalization projects.

Crockett’s passion for the City of Xenia was also recognized when she was presented with Heritage Ohio’s “2017 Heritage Ohio Best Public Leader in Revitalization Award.” The award, presented by Ohio’s lead organization to protect, preserve and revitalize Ohio, represented

another one of Crockett's major accomplishments during her tenure as Xenia's Community Development Coordinator.

According to Xenia Development Director Steve Brodsky, "Mary has always been a strong advocate for Xenia, especially the downtown. She was a champion for downtown when few others were looking at it. Many of the improvements we have seen can be credited to her conviction that downtown can be so much more."

Crockett will spend time with her family upon her retirement. The City of Xenia thanks her for her years of dedication and service, and wishes her an enjoyable retirement!