

CITY OF SHEFFIELD LAKE SAFETY FORCES LEVY PRESENTATION



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2025 SAFETY FIRST

WHAT WILL THE FIRE LEVY SUPPORT?

STAFFING: HIRE TWO ADDITIONAL FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDICS TO INCREASE STAFFING TO FIVE MEMBERS PER SHIFT.

EQUIPMENT: REPLACE 29-YEAR-OLD SECONDARY FIRE ENGINE.

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2025 SAFETY FIRST

Staffing

Staffing Facts

The Sheffield Lake Fire Department's staffing model has been the same since 1983

(42 years)

Over the past ten years, the SLFD's call volume has increased 40%.

2014 - 819 Runs / 2024 -1,366 Runs

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2025 SAFETY FIRST

Staffing Facts

Second calls require the use of mutual aid.

Larger events require the use of mutual aid.

Structure fires require both automatic aid and mutual aid.

When automatic/mutual aid is used, members are recalled to backfill the station. In 2024 the SLFD backfilled the station 85 times.

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2025 SAFETY FIRST

Mutual Aid Facts

In 2023, the SLFD received mutual/automatic aid
96 times.

SLFD provided mutual/automatic aid
64 times.

In 2024, the SLFD received mutual/automatic aid
120 times.

SLFD provided mutual/automatic aid
73 times.

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2025 SAFETY FIRST

Staffing Facts

In 2023, the SLFD was staffed 205 shifts (56%) with three members and 160 shifts (44%) with four members.

In 2024, the SLFD was staffed 251 shifts 69% with three members and 114 shifts 31% with four members.

Three-member shifts increased by 22%, while four-member shifts decreased by 29%.

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INSURANCE SERVICE OFFICE ISO RATING

*Rates fire departments for insurance companies.

Previous Audit Years

2014 ISO 4 /2018 ISO 4/ 2022/ ISO 4

2023 Audit showed SLFD wasn't meeting the national standard of 4.

Enter Retrogression Program to avoid ISO Class 10 Rating.

Class 10 = No fire protection.

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ISO RATING IMPACT ON INSURANCE PREMIUMS

Fire Department ISO Class Rate Versus Insurance Premium Costs								
ISO Rating	ANNUAL PREMIUM COST BASED ON HOME VALUE							
	\$100,000	\$150,000	\$200,000	\$250,000	\$300,000	\$350,000	\$400,000	\$500,000
10	894	1358	1856	2341	2826	3311	3844	4918
9	806	1224	1674	2112	2549	2986	3468	4436
7	430	652	892	1125	1359	1592	1848	2365
6	399	607	829	1046	1262	1479	1717	2196
5	373	566	774	976	1179	1380	1603	2051
HOMEOWNER'S RATES DO NOT DECREASE BELOW A CLASS 5.								

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2025 SAFETY FIRST

Staffing Facts

- *How many firefighters do surrounding communities operate with?
- *Sheffield Lake: Staffed with 4 with three member minimum.
- *Sheffield Village: Staffed with 6 with 5 member minimum.
- *Avon Lake: Staffed with 11 with 6 member minimum.
- *Avon: Staffed with 12 with 8 member minimum.
- *Lorain: Staffed with 19 with 16 member minimum.

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2025 SAFETY FIRST

Staffing Questions?

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EQUIPMENT 1996 E-ONE CYCLONE

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EQUIPMENT

*Engine 63 purchased in 1996 for \$265,000.00

Currently 29 years old and a replacement engine will take 3 years to delivery.

Fire Trucks are made to last 20-30 years.

Beginning to develop cost prohibitive repairs (Tires, Suspension, Air Conditioner, etc.)

In 2017 Engine 63 was refurbished for \$109,663.00.

The plan was to extend the life of the engine seven more years rather than purchase a new one.

Cost to purchase a new baseline engine today \$950,000.00

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WHAT WILL THIS COST THE TAXPAYERS OF SHEFFIELD LAKE ANNUALLY?

- \$61.00 for every \$ 100,000.00 of the Counties appraised value.

Examples (Per Levy):

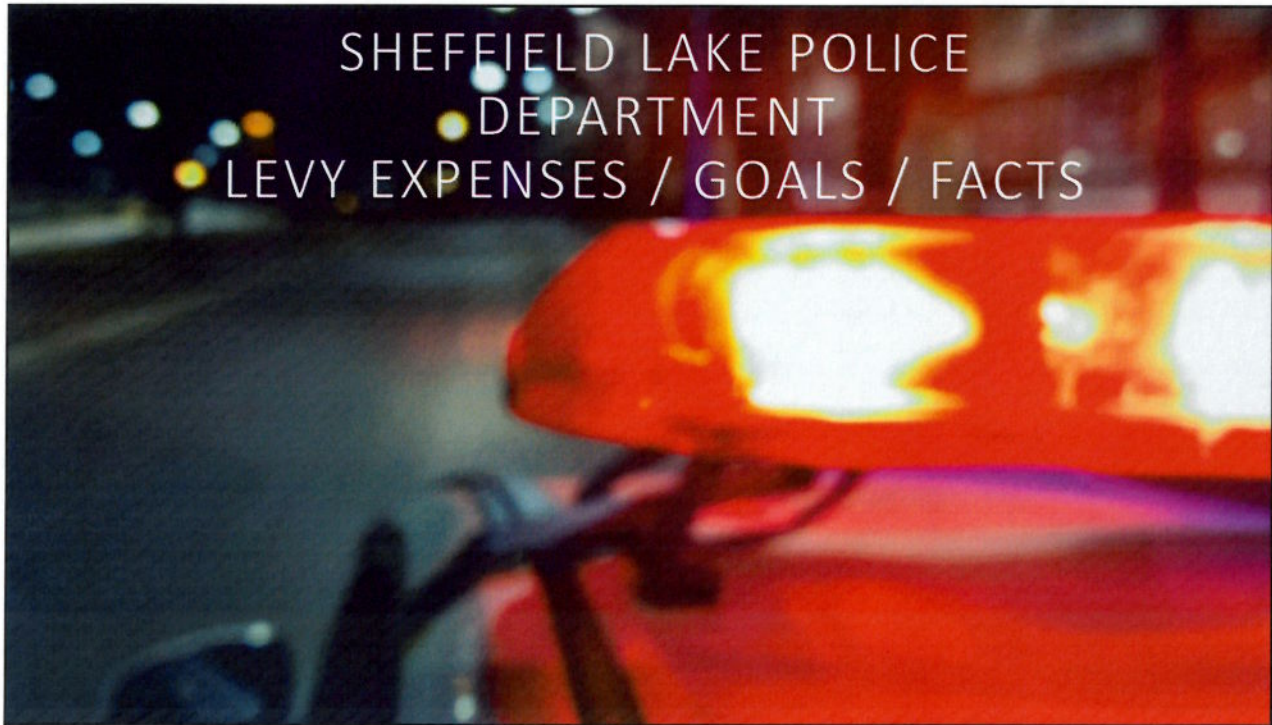
100K \$ 61.00
150K \$ 91.50
200K \$ 122.00
250K \$152.50
300K \$ 183.00
350K \$214.50
400K \$ 244.00
450K \$ 274.50
500K \$ 305.00

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WHAT WILL THE TAXPAYERS RECEIVE IN RETURN?

- Increase in four - member shifts.
- Increase ability to handle second ambulance request.
- Reduced need for mutual aid
- Ability to meet minimum staffing requirements for fire response.
- ISO Class

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SHEFFIELD LAKE POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Sheffield Lake Police Department would use increased levy funds for;

- Three additional full-time police officers.
- Funds are earmarked to be used for salaries of additional full-time police officers and equipment.
- Use any additional funds to maintain the department vehicle fleet, and radio communications as needed.
- More Officers to effectively address citizen complaints and increase police presence to deter criminal activity.
- Establish a minimum of three officers per shift to protect and serve the cities 9,000 residents.
- More officers to maintain call times with the increases in calls for service and strain on the need for law enforcement in Sheffield Lake.
- Maintain two officers in the detective bureau to address the increase in technology crimes and the need for lengthy investigations related to this.

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UCR DATA FOR SHEFFIELD LAKE OHIO

UNIFORM CRIME REPORT
(UCR DATA GENERATED BY THE FBI)

- The Federal Bureau of Investigation collects crime and employment data from law enforcement agencies across the nation. The state of Ohio is considered in the East North Central Region. The data below was from the UCR Crime Reports from 1995 to 2019 from our regional data.
- Average Number of Employees for cities with population under 10,000 East/North/Central States. Data from 2022 to present was compiled using UCR information from 2019, FBI has not posted newer employment rates.

Full-Time Officers
<https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2019/crime-in-the-u.s.-2019/tables/table-71>

Total Employees
<https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2019/crime-in-the-u.s.-2019/tables/table-70>

UNIFORM CRIME REPORT (FBI) DATA FOR SHEFFIELD LAKE OHIO

2025 - 3.5 per 1,000 residents, total employees (8,972/1000) *(3.5) = 31.4 Employees (31)

2025 - 2.9 per 1,000 residents, total officers (8,972/1000) * 2.9 = 26.02 FT Officers (26)

2022- 3.5 per 1,000 residents, total employees (8921/1000) *(3.5) = 31.224 Employees (31)

2022- 2.9 per 1,000 residents, sworn officers (8921/1000) *(2.9) = 25.871 FT Officers (26)

2018 - 3.0 per 1,000 residents, total employees (8993/1000) *(3.0) = 26.979 Employees (27)

2018 - 2.6 per 1,000 residents, sworn officers (8993/1000) *(2.6) = 23.382 FT Officers (23)

2017 - 3.1 per 1,000 residents, total employees (9011/1000) *(3.1) = 27.934 Employees (28)

2017 - 2.6 per 1,000 residents, sworn officers (9,011/1000) *(2.6) = 23.429 FT Officers (23)

2008 - 3.4 per 1,000 residents, total employees (8,889/1000) *(3.4) = 30.223 Employees (30)

1995 - 2.9 per 1,000 residents, total employees (9825/1000) *(2.9) = 28.493 Employees (1990 Census Used)

The data from the Uniform crime report shows that on average the city of Sheffield Lake has been operating at half the average staffing levels of full-time police officers for a city our size for over 30 years. We currently operate at our historically approved level of 12 active officers.

Looking at the data compiled above, an average city our size employees 26 full-time police officers for 2025. We are currently operating at 12 active officers, or 46% of the average full-time sworn officers.

SHEFFIELD LAKE POLICE DEPARTMENT: FACTS

UCR data for our area shows that a town the size of Sheffield Lake typically employees 26 full-time police officers. We are currently at 12 active officers or 46% of that standard.

The chart provided shows the ratios of full-time officers per resident for surrounding communities.

City	Census Population	Full-Time Officers	Ratio Officer per Resident 1./(Below)
Sheffield Lake	8972	12	747.67
Sheffield Lake w/Levy	8972	15	598.13
Sheffield Village	4135	19	217.63
Lorain	65138	99	657.96
Amherst	12740	23	553.91
Elyria	52780	82	643.66
Avon	24847	48	517.65
Avon Lake	25942	30	864.73
Oberlin	8194	17	482.00
Grafton	5726	6	954.33
North Ridgeville	35280	40	882.00
Lorain County Sheriff	312,964	78	4012.36
Vermillion	10459	17	615.24

SHEFFIELD LAKE POLICE DEPARTMENT STAFFING

The City of Sheffield Lake continues to grow slowly, but it is growing. With this growth we have increased demand for the Police Department. Changes in law and technologies increase the need and time to complete lengthy investigations.

To maintain our standard of service for the citizens and visitors to Sheffield Lake we need to add to the sworn officer staffing levels. We have eliminated programs here in Sheffield Lake due to staffing levels and the increased demands on the department. Some of these programs are boating patrols, bicycle patrols, and community engagement has been reduced.

In person training has been reduced as we often cannot spare officers to be out of the city. Most of our training is done on computer terminals in the department. We complete several hundred hours of training in this matter. While this works to meet our needs and those requirements imposed on us it has its drawbacks. When we only have manpower for two officers on a shift and an officer is inside completing their assignments, reports, and training, that brings us down to one officer on active patrol.

With our current staffing levels, we will try to maintain a minimum of two officers per shift. When operating at that minimum if there is an arrest, medical issue, or criminal investigation that leaves one officer to patrol the city of Sheffield Lake. Often the Police Chief is pulled from his administrative duties to answer calls or work overtime to help supplement patrol operations.

We average 2 employees on patrol to protect the entire city 24/7. We have made efforts to mitigate this. However, it is unavoidable with various types of time off, injuries, investigations, and mandatory training time. Despite this we strive and are proud that we have kept response times down and maintain our level of service to the city of Sheffield Lake. These efforts do cost the city and by extension the taxpayers due to high overtime costs for the Safety Forces.

An increase in staffing levels, 16ft, will allow the department to maintain an average of three officers on patrol and two full-time detectives.

SHEFFIELD LAKE: OVER THE YEARS

The City of Sheffield Lake has grown, slowly, but it has grown since these staffing levels were first established, these factors have added call volume and strain on our safety forces. As we continue to grow it is important to acknowledge these changes and understand that they do have an impact on our ability to address each and every situation with the time it deserves.

Historical Additions:

- Mariners Watch / Portside
- Treadway Ponds
- Additional Homes, built in various areas of the city.
- ResCare
- Storage Units and various other businesses

Future Additions Affecting Sheffield Lake:

- Rec Center
- Ford Expansion
- Tall Oaks
- Irving Park additional Homes
- Shopping Center Improvements

All these additions result in added calls for service to these locations, and the need to ensure that both residents and businesses are secured in our community.

These additions are going to/have an impact on traffic in Sheffield Lake and increase need for law enforcement and fire/EMS as a whole.



REPLACEMENT LEVIES

- Per Section 5705.192 of the Ohio Revised Code:
 - The taxing authority
 - May propose to replace the existing levy in its entirety at the rate at which it is authorized to be levied;
 - May propose to replace a portion of the existing levy at a lesser rate; or
 - May propose to replace the existing levy in its entirety and increase the rate at which it is levied.
 - If the taxing authority proposes to replace an existing levy, the proposed levy shall be called a replacement levy and shall be so designated on the ballot.
 - A replacement levy
 - Shall be limited to the purpose of the existing levy
 - Shall appear separately on the ballot form
 - Shall **not** be conjoined with the renewal of any other existing levy

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AUDITOR'S ASSESSMENT OF REVENUE

Certificate of Estimated Property Tax Revenue

Use this form when a taxing authority certifies a millage rate and requests the revenue produced by that rate.

The county auditor of Lorain County, Ohio, does hereby certify the following:

1. On May 14, 2025, the taxing authority of the City of Sheffield Lake (political subdivision name) certified a copy of its resolution or ordinance adopted May 13, 2025 requesting the county auditor to certify the current taxable value of the subdivision and the amount of revenue that would be produced by 1.74 mills, to levy a tax outside the 10-mill limitation for police operating purposes pursuant to Revised Code § 5705.35(1), to be placed on the ballot at the November 4, 2025 election. The levy type is replacement.

2. The property tax revenue that will be produced by the stated millage, assuming the taxable value of the subdivision remains constant throughout the life of the levy, is calculated to be \$ 465,711.

3. The total taxable value of the subdivision used in calculating the estimated property tax revenue is \$ 267,650,210.

4. The millage for the requested levy is 1.74 mills per \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$.61 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value.

Calculation of Revenue

1. Tax valuation on the tax list most recently certified for collection	
1a. Class I Real-Res/Ag	\$ <u>237,150,980</u>
1b. Class II Real-Other	\$ <u>26,520,840</u>
1c. Public Utility Personal	\$ <u>3,978,390</u>
1d. General Personal	\$ _____
2. Total Valuation	\$ <u>267,650,210</u> A
3. Millage Rate	<u>1.74</u> B
4. Projected Revenue from Tax Collections	\$ <u>465,711</u>
5. Personal Property Phase-out Reimbursement Payment	_____
6. Total Revenue	\$ <u>465,711</u> C

(A * B) / 1,000 = C

Auditor's Signature

6/23/25
Date

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2024/2025 TAX RATE CALCULATIONS

SHEFFIELD LAKE CITY

2024/2025 TAX RATE CALCULATIONS

December 31, 2024 - Values Certified

	FDV	RESIDUAL	COMBINE	TOTAL VALUATION
ASSESSED VALUES	3,871,000	207,000,000	20,828,000	207,000,000

January 6, 2025 - Rates Certified

ABSTRACT OF TAX RATES

	Full Rate	RESIDUAL	COMBINE
RESIDE MILLAGE	0.0000	0.00000	0.00000
GENERAL FUND	2.440	2.44000	2.44000
POLICE PENSION	0.000	0.00000	0.00000
IRREDEEMABLE BOND RETIREME	0.000	0.00000	0.00000
PREPAID FUND	0.000	0.00000	0.00000
VOTED MILLAGE	0.0000	0.671652	0.671652
1870 POLICE	1.000	0.00000	0.00000
1870 AMBULANCE & E M S	2.000	0.00000	0.00000
1870 FIRE	2.000	0.00000	0.00000
1870 POLICE OPERATING	1.740	0.671652	0.671652
1870 FIRE OPERATING	1.740	0.671652	0.671652
1870 POLICE	1.000	0.00000	0.00000
1870 FIRE	1.000	0.00000	0.00000
2016 LIBRARY	2.200	1.00000	1.00000
2016 LIBRARY	0.700	0.43000	0.43000
TOTAL MILLAGE	13.200	0.688377	0.688377

TAX CALCULATION

	FDV	RESIDUAL	COMBINE	TOTAL TAXES
2.440 GENERAL FUND	9,471	97,944	16,713	603,000
0.000 POLICE PENSION	1,184	71,342	7,000	80,200
0.000 IRREDEEMABLE BOND RETIREME	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
0.000 PREPAID FUND	1,184	71,342	7,000	80,200
0.000 VOTED MILLAGE	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
1.000 1870 POLICE	3,871	207,000	20,828	62,000
2.000 1870 AMBULANCE & E M S	7,742	414,000	41,656	194,872
2.000 1870 FIRE	7,742	414,000	41,656	194,872
1.740 1870 POLICE OPERATING	6,737	357,200	35,720	151,000
1.740 1870 FIRE OPERATING	6,737	357,200	35,720	151,000
1.000 1870 POLICE	3,871	207,000	20,828	62,000
1.000 1870 FIRE	3,871	207,000	20,828	62,000
2.200 2016 LIBRARY	8,526	435,400	43,540	162,000
0.700 2016 LIBRARY	2,709	137,100	13,710	51,000
FUND TOTALS	51,000	267,000,000	26,700,000	26,700,000
GENERAL FUND	9,471	97,944	16,713	603,000
SPECIAL REVENUE	1,184	71,342	7,000	80,200
DEBT SERVICE	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
LOANAN PUBLIC LIBRARY	4,000	207,000	20,700	74,000
TOTAL REAL ESTATE	17,655	1,000,000	100,000	1,000,000

SOURCE: LOANAN COUNTY AUDITOR
TAX BILLING DEPARTMENT

- The current effective rate of voted millage for residential/agricultural is 0.671652.
- To calculate the new value collected per \$100,000 home value you would:
 - Home value \$100,000
 - Assessed Rate X .35
 - Assessed Value \$35,000
 - Replaced Rate X 1.74
 - / 1,000
- Cost for value above: \$61

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COST PER MONTH BASED ON HOME VALUE

Cost per Month per Levy

Home Value	2024 Cost per Month per Levy	2025 Cost per Month per Levy	Increase per Month per Levy
100,000.00	1.96	5.08	3.12*
200,000.00	3.92	10.15	6.23
300,000.00	5.88	15.23	9.35
400,000.00	7.84	20.30	12.46

*For a home appraised at a value of \$100,000, there would be a monthly increase of approximately \$3.12 per levy, or \$37.44 per year.

Cost per Month for both Levies

Home Value	2024 Cost per Month for both Levies	2025 Cost per Month for both Levies	Increase per Month for both Levies
100,000.00	3.92	10.15	6.23**
200,000.00	7.84	20.30	12.46
300,000.00	11.75	30.45	18.70
400,000.00	15.67	40.60	24.93

**For a home appraised at a value of \$100,000, there would be a monthly increase of approximately \$6.23 for both levies, or \$74.76 per year.

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COST TO CITY PER NEW HIRE

	<u>Hrly.</u>	<u>Yearly</u>	<u>Holiday</u>	<u>Sub.Tot.</u>	<u>Pension</u>	<u>Medi.</u>	<u>Cloth. Allow.</u>	<u>Hosp.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Police	32.36	67,305.27	3,365.26	\$ 70,670.54	13,780.75	1,024.72	1,000.00	34,806.22	\$ 121,282.23
Fire	23.00	59,792.35	7,175.08	\$ 66,967.44	16,072.19	971.03	850.00	32,200.00	\$ 117,060.65
				\$ 137,637.97					\$ 238,342.88*

*To add 3 new Police Officers and 2 new Firefighters/Paramedics, the total cost to the City would be \$597,968.