

CITY OF YOUNGSTOWN

MAYOR JAMAE L TITO BROWN



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY HALL • 26 S. PHELPS STREET • YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO 44503
PHONE: (330) 742-8701 • FAX: (330) 743-1335

PRESS RELEASE

Date: May 31, 2024

To: Media

From: Mayor Jamael Tito Brown

“The City contracted with GreenHeart to perform private utility re-location in the basement of the Realty Tower and prepare it for infilling as part of the SMART 2 project. As per normal practice, the contractors commenced work on their own schedule, means and methods. At this time there is no evidence to suggest the gas line mentioned in the May 30 NTSB briefing was necessary to fulfil this scope. The NTSB investigation to understand the work being done at the building at the time of the leak and explosion is still ongoing.

Our focus remains ensuring the safety and security of the public and the well-being of those displaced by this incident. We will continue to provide regular updates through our official channels as they become available. We ask for continued condolences for the family of Akil Drake, the Chase employees and those impacted by this tragic event.”