



# JOSH MANDEL

## STATE TREASURER OF OHIO

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By Mark Holan  
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INDEPENDENCE, Ohio &ndash; Residents can now keep track of the city's spending online at OhioCheckbook.com. City officials and Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel announced the partnership last week.

Mandel launched OhioCheckbook.com in December 2014. It puts all state spending information on the Internet. OhioCheckbook.com recently earned Ohio the number one government transparency ranking in the country for the second year in a row.

Independence is the fourth city in Cuyahoga County to post their spending on the website. Independence's online checkbook includes over 53,000 individual transactions that represent more than \$178 million of total spending over the past five years.

"I believe the people of Cuyahoga County have a right to know how their money is being spent," Mandel said, "and I applaud local leaders for partnering with my office to post the finances on OhioCheckbook.com. By posting local government spending online, we're empowering taxpayers across Ohio to hold public officials accountable."

"Assuring that residents and taxpayers are provided maximum information as to how their money is spent is a hallmark of Treasurer Mandel's efforts with OhioCheckbook.com," said Independence Councilman Jim Trakas. "This tool will be a strong asset to all who value open government, and the City of Independence is pleased to be able to provide this information by this vehicle."

"Participating in OhioCheckbook.com is good for the community and allows taxpayers to see how the City is spending their hard-earned dollars, as our residents deserve nothing short of complete transparency," said Mayor Anthony Togliatti. "The City of Independence is happy to provide this information to our residents in an effort to keep them better informed."

For more information or to view your local government website, visit the Local Government option on OhioCheckbook.com or click on Independence.OhioCheckbook.com

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