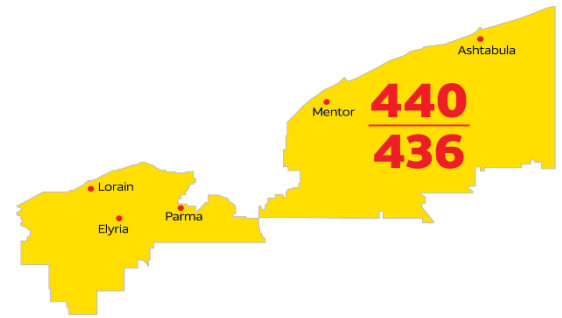


The New 436 Area Code is Coming to the 440 Area Code Region in Ohio

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Columbus, OH (February 21, 2024) - With new telephone numbers in high demand, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio approved the implementation of the new 436 area code to overlay the existing 440 area code region. The 440 area code serves the northern portion of Ohio which includes all or parts of the southern, western, and eastern suburbs of Cleveland. The 440 NPA also includes the larger cities and communities, such as but not limited to, Ashtabula, Eastlake, Elyria, Lorain, Mentor, North Olmsted, North Ridgeville, North Royalton, Parma, Solon, Strongsville, Westlake, and Willoughby. The new 436 area code will serve the same geographic area currently served by the 440 area code.



Starting on **March 1, 2024**, customers in the 440 area code overlay region may be assigned a number in the new 436 area code when they request new service or an additional line, but only after the 440 area code is exhausted. Customers receiving a 436 area code will be required to dial the area code and phone number for all local calls, just as customers with telephone numbers from the 440 area code do today. Because dialing 10 digits (3-digit area code + 7-digit telephone number) is already established in this region, the eventual addition of the new 436 area code will not require any changes to the way telephone calls are dialed, aside from using the new area code when necessary.

Following are key facts about the 440/436 area code overlay:

- Telephone numbers, including the current area code, will not change.
- Telephone numbers with the new 436 area code will only be assigned for new services after the existing 440 area code is exhausted.
- The price of a call, coverage area, or other rates and services will not change due to the overlay.
- What is a local call now will remain a local call.
- Customers will continue to dial 10 digits for local calls within and between the overlay area codes, and 1+10 digits for long distance calls.
- Customers can still dial just three digits to reach 911 and 988, as well as 211, 311, 411, 511, 611, 711, and 811 if those are currently available in their community.

Customers should ensure that all services, automatic dialing equipment, or other types of equipment recognize the new 436 area code as a valid area code and should continue to store or program telephone numbers as 10-digit numbers.

For more information, please contact your local telephone service provider or visit the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio website at <https://puco.ohio.gov/news/area-code-announced-440-exhaust>.