

Annual Report

Stark County Regional Planning Commission

2012



**Vince Marion
President**



**Robert Nau
Executive Director**



Mission Statement

"To improve the quality of life in Stark County and its communities through an effective regional forum characterized by communication, collaboration, facilitation, and planning assistance."

Agency Message

This past year, the RPC staff has been busy wrapping up a number of economic recovery projects, including the County's Energy Efficiency Grant, the Neighborhood Stabilization program and Homeless Prevention programs. We also worked on planning projects in Plain Township and in northwestern Stark County. In 2013, the Marlboro Township storm and sanitary sewer project will finally become reality as we look to minimize flooding and improve water quality in northeast Stark County. The RPC also received a Local Government Innovation Fund grant to study cost savings opportunities and service level improvements through collaboration of the County's Building Departments. The RPC will be administering the Stark County Land Reutilization Corporation (Land Bank), which will focus on an ambitious demolition program this year to help our communities stabilize their neighborhoods. The long term potential of this tool to revitalize our neighborhoods will only be realized through successful partnerships between many stakeholders.

As the Federal Government struggles with budget and debt issues, local governments are on the front line of providing essential services to their residents. While Stark County's fiscal situation has improved with the passage of the sales tax, many local governments continue to struggle financially because of stagnant tax revenues and state and federal cutbacks. Congress' adoption of the MAP-21 transportation bill provides short term funding predictability, but a long term plan for the maintenance and improvement of our transportation network is needed.

Our economy in Stark County has shown some improvement as we emerge from the recent economic downturn. The development of the utica shale across Ohio is providing substantial economic opportunities for our communities. Local landowners and businesses have benefited from leasing and drilling associated with the oil and gas industry. Some estimates show that over the next five years, over \$30 billion will be spent by the industry on utica shale development related activity. Already oil industry companies, Baker Hughes and Chesapeake Energy, have committed to substantial investments and job creation at locations in Massillon and Louisville, respectively. Also Stark State College recently announced plans for a significant investment in Canton to construct an educational facility for oil and gas industry workforce development.

The RPC continues to participate in the Northeast Ohio Sustainable Communities Consortium (NEOSCC). The coalition is made up of diverse members across a 12-county area which includes local governments, businesses and nonprofits. The group's goal is to build a shared vision for our future and create opportunities for problem solving across jurisdictional boundaries. Our participation in this planning effort is in line with the RPC history of fostering regional cooperation targeted at improving our communities. Thanks to the leadership of the Commission and our dedicated staff, we will continue to help make Stark County a better place to live and work.

Stark County Area Transportation Study (SCATS)

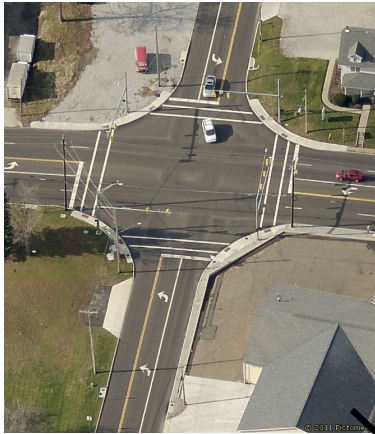
SCATS is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) responsible for transportation planning in Stark County. Planning efforts include developing a long-range *Transportation Plan* and a four-year *Transportation Improvement Program* (TIP). Projects must be included in these plans in order to be eligible for federal funds.

Projects Programmed for Fiscal Year 2013 (July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013)

Projects scheduled for the 2013 fiscal year are shown in the table below. The amounts shown represent funds allocated from Stark County's share of Federal Surface Transportation (STP) Program, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program, and Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP) and do not show the local share or additional ODOT monies used in the projects.

Applicant	Project	STP	CMAQ	TEP	Total
City of Canton	12th St. Corridor Project	\$536,000	\$53,600		\$589,600
City of Canton	Navarre Rd. SW Signal Replacement		\$1,320,000		\$1,320,000
City of North Canton	N. Main St. Signal Coordination		\$747,200		\$747,200
Hartville	SR 619 Signal Coordination		\$339,440		\$339,440
SARTA	4 Paratransit Buses (CNG)		\$360,000		\$360,000
Stark County Engineer	Cleveland Ave. Paving	\$737,600			\$737,600
Stark County Engineer	Werner Church St. Improvements		\$400,000		\$400,000
Stark County Engineer	55th St. Improvements	\$760,000			\$760,000
Stark County Engineer	Greenbower St. Bridge			\$80,000	\$80,000
Stark County Engineer	Cleveland Ave. SIB Loan Payment	\$517,436			\$517,436
Transportation Improvement District (TID)	Shuffel SIB Loan Payment	\$655,216			\$655,216
Totals		\$3,206,252	\$3,220,240	\$80,000	\$6,506,492

2012 Projects



North Canton Main Street

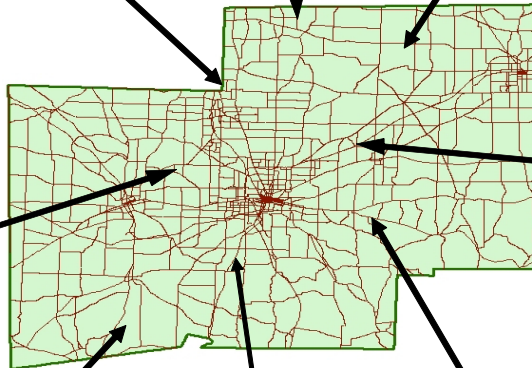
Market/Lake Center
Safety Improvements



Applegrove St./Market Ave.
Congestion/Safety
Improvements



Everhard Rd. Repaving



Middlebranch Trail



SARTA Compressed
Natural Gas Station (CNG)



Riverland Ave. Bridge Replacement



Trump Ave./Georgetown St.
Safety Improvements

Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) Projects

The District 19 Public Works Integrating Committee oversees the distribution of State Capital Improvement Program and Local Transportation Improvement Program funds to assist local communities in improving their basic infrastructure. This program is funded through the sale of bonds and the state gas tax. Stark County's share is close to \$8 million a year.

Applicant	Project	OPWC Grant	OPWC Loan	FHWA	OEPA	Local	Total
Canal Fulton	Locust/Portage Rehab	\$959,686				\$170,000	\$1,129,686
Canal Fulton	WWTP Screening Improvement		\$173,928				\$173,928
Canton	12th St. Corridor	\$1,500,000		\$13,213,130		\$3,221,716	\$17,934,846
Canton	37th St. Waterline	\$1,137,878	\$1,184,322				\$2,322,200
Canton	41st St. Storm Sewer	\$452,252				\$470,711	\$922,963
Massillon	Griffith Ave. Sanitary Sewer	\$23,108	\$92,431				\$115,539
Massillon	Levee Improvement	\$285,192	\$1,140,764			\$623,594	\$2,049,550
Minerva	WWTP Upgrade	\$520,000	\$100,000		\$200,000	\$424,870	\$1,244,870
Stark County	Market Ave. Improvement	\$1,129,706				\$396,924	\$1,526,630
Stark County	Paris Ave.	\$498,400		\$2,590,000		\$100,000	\$3,188,400
Total		\$6,506,222	\$2,691,445	\$15,803,130	\$200,000	\$5,407,815	\$30,608,612



12th Street and Market Avenue

Subdivision Engineering

SCRPC administers the Subdivision Engineering Program on behalf of the Board of Stark County Commissioners. Some of the work performed by the Subdivision Engineer included:

- Subdivision Engineering:
 - Reviewed new allotments' preliminary plans, construction drawings and final plats for compliance with the Subdivision Regulations.
 - Performed construction inspections of the public improvements installed in new allotments to insure compliance with the Subdivision Regulations and release of the performance and maintenance bonds.
 - Reviewed performance and maintenance bonds, partial mortgage releases, offsite drainage easements, bond substitutions, and construction variances related to new allotments.
 - Reviewed commercial and industrial site improvement plans for compliance with the Subdivision Regulations.
 - Administered various construction contracts for completing work in allotments where the public improvements were not completed by the developer.



Prospect Park - Perry Township

Glengarry Allotment - Lake Township



- Ohio EPA NPDES Permit related work including:
 - Prepared the county's 2011 Annual Report
 - Maintained the comprehensive storm water conveyance system map for all county owned and operated facilities and roadways within the urbanized areas
 - Monitored the nearly 400 individual county outfalls

- Continued to perform periodic inspections of the county's Zimmer Ditch Detention Basin B concrete dam as required by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for Class I Structures as well as maintaining the inspection and maintenance logs. Obtained bids and administered the contract for the yearly maintenance work required for the Zimmer Ditch Detention Basins A and B.
- Assisted various Townships and the Board of Stark County Commissioners with drainage related issues and/or problems on an as-requested basis. Also reviewed construction plans for the Hunters Hills Condominium development in Jackson Township.
- Served as Project Manager for the Board of Stark County Commissioners for the Energy Efficiency Retrofits Program, which included the following projects completed this past year:
 - County Office Building Boilers Replacement and HVAC System Upgrades Project
 - County Office Building Lighting Improvements Project
 - County Data Center Windows and Doors Replacement Project
 - County Engineers Office Windows and Doors Replacement Project
 - Data Center Chiller Replacement Project
 - Various lighting improvement projects in several County buildings



Data Center Window Replacement

**County Engineers Windows/
Doors Replacement**



- Served as Project Manager for the Board of Stark County Commissioners for the Dog Shelter HVAC System Upgrades Project.
- Assisted the Community Development Department with the Marlboro Village Storm Sewer Replacement Project.
- Served as Project Manager for the Court of Common Pleas for the Courthouse Plaza Renovations Project. Also assisted in preparing the scope of work and selection of a design consultant for the Frank T. Bow Building Renovations Project.
- Served on the NEFCO General Policy Board and District 19 Public Works Committee.

Economic Development

ENTERPRISE ZONE (EZ) AND COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA (CRA) PROGRAMS

Under contract with the Stark County Commissioners, the RPC provides assistance to members of Tax Incentive Review Council(s). Companies receiving a tax abatement are monitored to assure their compliance with investment and employment commitments made under the Enterprise Zone (EZ) and Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) programs. The programs are governed by state law, adopted by the legislature in the 1970's, and local governments must follow rules developed by the Ohio Development Services Agency, Office of Tax Incentives.

- Enterprise Zone (EZ) - designated area where business and industry may locate and/or expand/improve their property and by committing to retain and/or hire employees may realize reduced real estate and personal property taxes
- Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) - primarily a program to encourage revitalization of existing housing; however, retail and other businesses may also receive real property tax relief by improving property in such previously designated area and committing to retain/hire employees.

Except for the cities of Canton, Alliance and Massillon who monitor their own programs, the county's designated Enterprise Zone Manager is responsible for five county enterprise zones: EZ326C (Minerva); EZ342C (Brewster); EZ360C (City of Canal Fulton); EZ234C which includes parts of the villages of East Canton and Navarre; Canton, Perry and Osnaburg Townships; and all of the City of Louisville and Nimishillen and Plain Townships; and EZ252C, which includes parts of Lake and Jackson Township and the City of North Canton.

- Members of a Tax Incentive Review Council
 - Stark County Auditor or representative serves as Chairman
 - Three members represent County Commissioners
 - Two members appointed by local township/municipality
 - One School district representative

Tax Incentive Review Council 2012 meetings:

There were 13 enterprise zone agreements and one CRA in effect at the end of 2011, and all companies were reviewed at TIRC meetings held in March 2012. Recommendations were then forwarded to the Stark County Commissioners for final action. While one EZ agreement (Nickles Bakery in Navarre) has now expired, all other agreements were continued. Of the three Community Reinvestment Area's established since 2004, only one agreement is in effect. That agreement for a business located in Plain Township was also continued. The TIRC reviews only a list of companies receiving real estate tax abatements in CRA's prior to 2004 because they are not required to meet the same reporting and commitment standards.

Community Development

FY '11 Community Development Block Grant Program

The Stark County Regional Planning Commission administers the Federal CDBG program on behalf of the Board of Stark County Commissioners. CDBG projects underway during 2012 included public infrastructure projects, public service projects and housing rehab. Stark County CDBG funds are available for use in all areas of the county outside the cities of Canton, Massillon, Alliance and the Village of Hills and Dales; 100% of the beneficiaries of CDBG projects are low- to moderate-income residents of Stark County. Public infrastructure and public service projects are a high priority and a large part of the Stark County CDBG program on a yearly basis.

- Public Infrastructure projects funded with Stark County CDBG funds that were in the preconstruction phase or under construction during 2012 include:
 - Marlboro Township – Storm/Sanitary Sewer project
 - Village of Minerva – Jackson Street Storm Sewer project
 - Village of Beach City – Elevated Water Tank restoration



Village of Beach City Water Tank

- Public Service projects funded with Stark County CDBG funds during 2012 included:
 - Canton Negro Oldtimers – Three annual giving events
 - Salvation Army – Homeless Motel Voucher program
 - Community Services – Massillon Homeless Shelter program
 - Alliance for Children & Families – Alliance Emergency Residence program
 - The Stock Pile – Building Materials Reuse Warehouse program
 - Prescription Assistance Network – Prescription Access program
 - KSU Stark – Small Business Development Center program

Massillon Homeless Shelter



Housing rehab is also an important part of the Stark County CDBG program. The majority of housing rehab undertaken through CDBG is smaller in scale and emergency in nature. Typical emergencies are replacement of a furnace, leaking roof, water well, or electrical system updates. Substantial housing rehab and septic/sanitary sewer repair programs are a lesser part of CDBG rehab; the majority of substantial rehab is done under the HOME program. Below are before and after photos of a home located in Canton Township that received substantial housing rehab during 2012. Grant and loan programs for housing rehab under CDBG are available for eligible Stark County homeowners.



Canton Township Rehab- Before



Canton Township Rehab - After

FY '11 HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)

During 2012, the Stark County HOME Consortium, as administered by the SCRPC on behalf of the Board of Stark County Commissioners, continued to expend funds and undertake projects that provide affordable housing opportunities for low- to moderate-income residents. In 2012, there were two large construction projects underway. Both of these projects are being developed by The Freed Housing Corporation.

Hunter House is a 48-unit permanent supportive housing development located at the former Allen School site in the City of Canton. Hunter House was in the final stages of construction at the end of 2012. Full lease-up is expected by spring of 2013. Hunter House will have two Stark County HOME units.

The Villas at Windham Bridge is an elderly apartment complex located in the Village of Hartville and will provide 42-units of single-story senior housing. The Villas at Windham Bridge is in the beginning stages of construction. It will include five Stark County HOME units and is scheduled to be fully leased by fall of 2013.



Hunter House

Rendering of
The Villas at Windham Bridge



In addition, under HOME, Stark County continued to partner with the Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority to administer a Tenant-Based Rental Assistance program that provides transitional housing opportunities in Stark County. Other important elements of the HOME program on a yearly basis are the owner-occupied Housing Rehabilitation program, which provides substantial housing rehab that is required by statute to bring the house up to code, and the Downpayment Assistance program, which is administered by the Metropolitan Homeownership Center. Below is a home located in Perry Township that was purchased under the Downpayment Assistance program during 2012. The HOME Housing Rehab and Downpayment Assistance programs are available to eligible Stark County residents.



Perry Township
Downpayment Assistance

Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)

As part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), also known as the Stimulus Program, the Board of Stark County Commissioners received both State and Federal HPRP funds to address homelessness for individuals and families who need short to medium term homeless prevention or rapid re-housing assistance. During 2012, SCRPC continued to administer HPRP by partnering with Community Services of Stark County to carry out the prevention piece of the program and the YWCA of Canton to carry out the rapid re-housing portion of the program. The original grant allocation of \$929,512 was fully expended within the required 3-year time period. Overall, 1,297 individuals received housing assistance through HPRP; below is an outline of overall expenditures and beneficiaries.

HPRP Federal Allocation

Financial Assistance	\$331,180.33	Clients Assisted	
Housing Relocation & Stabilization	\$169,819.87	Homeless Prevention	498
HMIS - Data Collection & Evaluation	\$58,941.20	Rapid Re-Housing	194
Administration	\$29,470.60		
Total Expended	\$589,412.00	Total Served	692

HPRP State Allocation

Financial Assistance	\$212,176.00	Clients Assisted	
Housing Relocation & Stabilization	\$87,214.00	Homeless Prevention	433
HMIS - Data Collection & Evaluation	\$34,010.00	Rapid Re-Housing	172
Administration	\$6,700.00		
Total Expended	\$340,100.00	Total Served	605

Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP)

During 2012, administration of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program by the SCRPC, on behalf of the Board of Stark County Commissioners, continued within the eligible areas of Stark County. Acquisition/Rehab/Resale and Demolition of foreclosed and vacant housing units were a large part of the Stark County NSP during 2012. Since the beginning of NSP in 2009, 19 vacant and foreclosed units have been acquired, rehabilitated and resold to qualified low- to middle-income households who also received down payment assistance through NSP. All buyers were required to complete eight hours of pre-purchase housing counseling. Also, 16 abandoned units have been demolished. Below are two properties that were demolished under the NSP during 2012.



Village of Beach City Demolition

Bethlehem Township Demolition



During 2012, the Acquisition/Rehab/Turnkey activity was developed and implemented. Under this activity, SCRPC has partnered with developers to acquire and rehab eligible properties. When fully rehabilitated, the properties are transferred to ICAN, Inc. who rents them to income qualifying low-income veterans and their families. This program was put in place to further expand the reach of NSP dollars to households below 50% of area median income. A total of four properties have been completed with one still under construction. Below are two houses that were acquired, rehabbed and rented to qualifying families during 2012.

Canton Township Acquisition/Rehab/Turnkey



Plain Township Acquisition/Rehab/Turnkey

Fair Housing

The Fair Housing Department's mission is to eliminate housing discrimination, racial and sexual harassment and to ensure housing opportunities for all people regardless of a person's race, color, sex, religion, military status, ancestry, national origin, handicap or familial status. The Fair Housing Department is dedicated to the elimination of housing discrimination. Landlord and tenant counseling, fair housing counseling, compliance monitoring, testing, investigating alleged claims of housing discrimination, and educational programs are provided to the citizens of Stark County and the City of Alliance.

In 2012, the staff conducted the following activities:

Educational Workshops, Trainings, and Outreach

- Made presentations to: Hoover High School and the Stark County Zoning Inspectors
- Served as one of the presenters at SMHA's Fair Housing, ADA, 504 and Reasonable Accommodation Workshops where more than 200 participants attended
- Trained respondents on the Fair Housing Law and how to provide equal housing opportunity to the residents of Stark County
- Staffed resource booths at the Helping Hands in Hard Times and the Project Homeless Connect where educational materials and promotional items were available to more than 600 individuals who attended the events
- Completed the new 2012 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice

Hearing Appeals Services

- Entered into an agreement with Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority for the Fair Housing Coordinator to provide Hearing Appeals Services to hear grievances from applicants and tenants of SMHA
- Made decisions and held 68 informal and formal grievance hearings for SMHA

Monitoring

- Monitored 12 property investment owners and/or managers due to some questionable or discriminatory rental practices in the past

Discrimination Cases

- Investigated and processed 14 new claims of housing discrimination
 - 6 race/color discrimination
 - 4 familial status discrimination
 - 4 disability discrimination

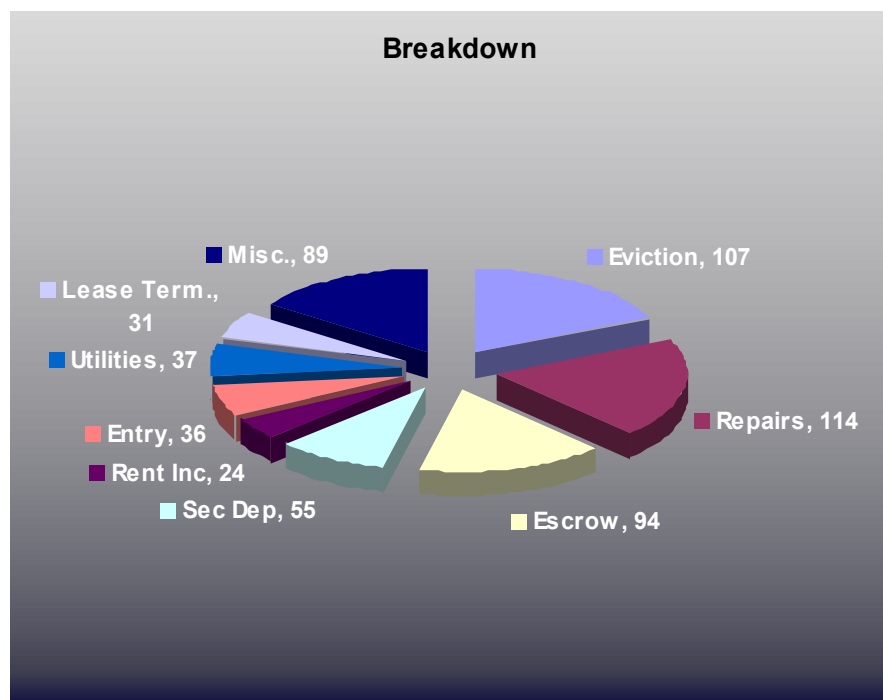
Advertisement and Public Awareness

- Distributed over 300 educational brochures to property owners, managers, tenants, landlords, students, lawyers, Alliance Municipal Court, Stark County Association of Realtors, Stark County Regional Planning Commission, Stark County Real Estate Investors Association, Salvation Army, Governmental Law Seminar, Helping Hands in Hard Times, Project Homeless Connect, and Hoover High School
- Advertised in the Repository and Alliance Review newspapers

Landlord-Tenant

- Counseled and mediated 1,000 landlords, tenants, and representatives from agencies on their rights, obligations and responsibilities under the landlord-tenant laws. A breakdown on the number of households and agencies counseled by category is as follows:

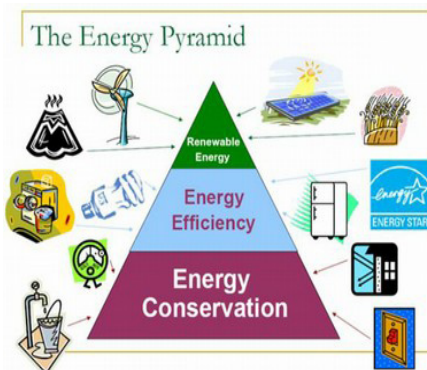
Evictions	107	Utilities	37
Escrow	94	Rent Increase	24
Illegal Entry	36	Repairs	114
Lease Termination	31	Security Deposits	55
Miscellaneous	89		



Fair Housing Highlights: What does Fair Housing really mean to people in Stark County?

- For a tenant with multiple disabilities, Fair Housing means that stress, depression, and a heavy load can be lifted from a mind and body. A male tenant asked his landlord if he could pay his rent on the 2nd Wednesday of each month instead of the first day of each month. The change would have coincided with the tenant's Social Security disability checks and would have allowed him to avoid paying a \$40 late fee. The landlord turned down his request. The tenant immediately sought help from the Stark County Fair Housing Department (SCFHD). With the support and assistance of the SCFHD advocating for his rights, the landlord agreed to reasonably accommodate the tenant by adjusting his rental due date. The landlord agreed to change the rental due date to the 2nd Wednesday of each month with a 5 day grace period. Rent received after that time period will be subject to a late fee. The law requires housing providers to make reasonable accommodations in rules and policies for persons with disabilities.
- For an African American home seeker, Fair Housing means being protected from race discrimination. A female home seeker never received a return call after leaving several messages about a townhouse for rent. Due to a thorough investigation by staff, evidence was obtained to support the claim of race discrimination. Evidence showed that the housing provider treated callers differently if their voices sounded African American. Through the investigation, staff determined African American testers, unlike Caucasian testers, did not receive return calls, were discouraged from viewing the unit, and were falsely told the property was rented. Such racist actions violate the Fair Housing Laws. The case settled for \$6,000.
- For a tenant with a mental disability, Fair Housing means that persons with disabilities cannot be subjected to additional fees. A tenant's depression substantially limited her activities of daily living. Her doctor recommended that she obtain an emotional support animal to ameliorate the effects of her depression. In order to obtain a pet, the owner required a \$150 security deposit and a monthly fee of \$75. The tenant requested a reasonable accommodation due to her mental illness, but it was denied. The SCFHD advocated for her rights and assisted her in filing a charge of discrimination. After an investigation by the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, they made a finding of probable cause discrimination. The case is at the Attorney General's Office pending a hearing date. According to the Fair Housing Law, a housing provider must make reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices or services when such accommodation is necessary to afford a person equal opportunity to use and enjoy the dwelling unit. It is discriminatory to refuse to waive a pet deposit and monthly pet fee for persons with disabilities who need an assistance animal.

Planning



The Planning Department administers the subdivision review process, makes recommendations on zoning, oversees The Stock Pile, operates House Numbering, handles Public Relations for the agency, coordinates storm water education, and carries out long range planning activities. In 2012, the department:

- Submitted a successful Local Government Innovation Fund Grant to initiate a Stark County Building Departments Shared Services Feasibility Study
- Completed administering the county's three-year \$2.7 million energy efficiency grant on behalf of the Board of Stark County Commissioners. Energy efficient retrofits were completed in the County Office Building, the Data Processing Building, the Courthouse Garage, the Board of Elections Building, and the County Jail
- Coordinated and hosted the Governmental Law Seminar in February at Walsh University
- Hosted the Sunshine Law training at Stark Parks Exploration Gateway in April
- Completed work on an update to the Plain Township Mini-Master Comprehensive Plan
- Carried out storm water education for the Board of Stark County Commissioners through educational workshops, the RPC website, brochures, articles, presentations, a clean-up with the Nimishillen Watershed Partnership (beginning at the McKinley Museum), and hosted Public Involvement/Public Education (PIPE) Committee meetings
- Coordinated SCRPC's public relations work including public meetings, press releases, advertising, the Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC), the agency's website and facebook page, and creation of RPC's quarterly newsletter
- Served on Northeast Four County Planning Organization's Cooperative Economic Development Strategy Committee, and the Board of Trustees of Jackson Township Recycling Station

Subdivision Review Subcommittee and staff reviewed:

- 3 preliminary plans (1 revised)
- 8 final plats (2 new subdivisions & 6 replats)

Resulting in: 50 residential lots (5 more replatted)
0.5 miles of new residential streets

- 85 site plans (commercial, industrial & multifamily uses)
- 30 administrative waivers of formal site improvement plans
- 5 variance/appeals requests
- 160 divisions of property without plat (lot splits)

Street Vacations:

- Recommended to the County Commissioners on 9 proposed street vacations

Zoning:

- Reviewed and made recommendations on 21 township zoning amendments
- Organized Zoning Inspector's "Mutual Assistance" meetings, which covered topics such as: fair housing through zoning, solar energy, internet sweepstakes/skilled game facilities, and other current zoning issues
- Wrote a model solar energy zoning amendment and distributed it to township zoning inspectors

House Numbering:

- Issued 717 house numbers:
 - 373 residential
 - 235 commercial/industrial
 - 4 agricultural
 - 40 electric for gas wells, oil wells, etc.
 - 15 replacement numbers
 - 50 other
- Provided one recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners regarding street name changes

The Stock Pile

The Planning Department carried out administration as well as personnel and grant management for The Stock Pile, the RPC's non-profit building material reuse warehouse. In 2012, The Stock Pile:

- Broke sales records in September, November, and December
- Assisted hundreds of low- to middle-income families by providing materials for home repairs
- Took in approximately \$85,000 in handling fees, representing approximately \$275,000 in materials and diverted more than 110 tons of reusable materials from landfills (total since opening - 1,200 tons)
- Reinvested more than \$900,000 in handling fees in the program (since opening), which represents nearly \$3 million worth of materials returned to useful life
- Provided an outlet for dozens of companies to remove overstock and scratch and dent items from their warehouses and reduced their disposal costs
- Completely updated the website, and started posting new donations on the website and on facebook
- Served as work site for Senior Employment Services and Municipal Court Referrals, as well as Ohio Department of Job and Family Services with roughly 1,500 volunteer hours worked
- Purchased two homes for rehabilitation and transfer to ICAN for veteran's housing as part of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP)
- Sold three other homes that were bought and rehabbed in 2011 & 2012 through the NSP rehab-resale program



Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

With the deadline just over a year away for the Storm Water Conveyance System Mapping Project, the GIS Department has continued progress on the data collection and fieldwork within the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Districts that form the Stark County NPDES MS4 Consortium.

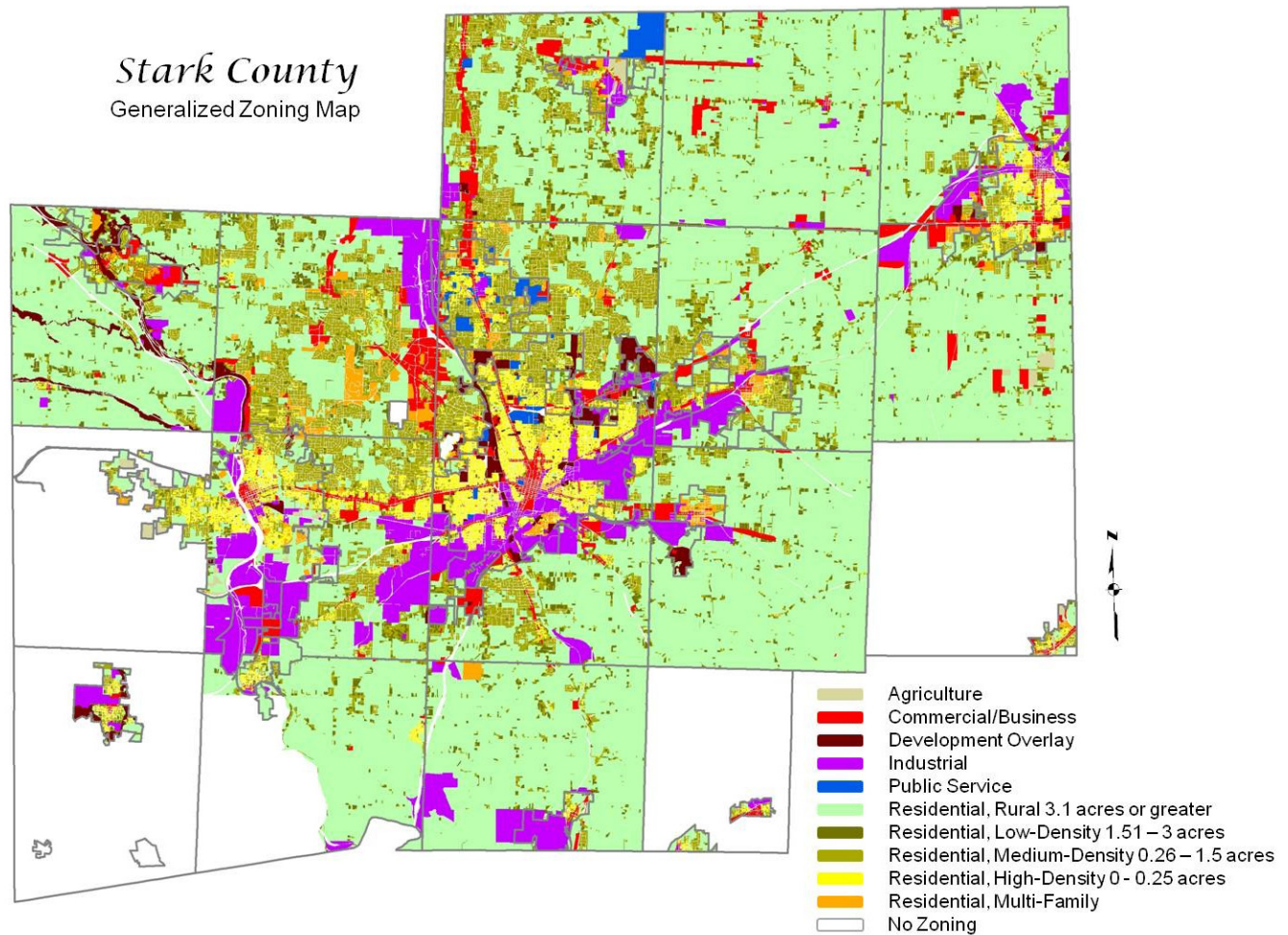


By December 2012, the storm water mapping was scheduled to be at 75% completion. Six of the seven MS4 districts are approximately at or above 90% complete. The table above depicts the data collection progress by month through November 2012 by MS4.

The GIS Department completed the water utility inventory project for the City of Alliance; a one year project. There were a total of 3,600 valves, over 1,300 hydrants, and over 160 miles of water lines collected representing the water utility network in the city.

In September 2012, the department began a new project contracted with the City of Alliance to inventory the city's street signs and painted curbs.

As a member of the Northeast Ohio Sustainable Communities Consortium (NEOSCC), the Stark County Regional Planning Commission's GIS Department participated in the compilation of a Land Use map and a Zoning map of the 12-County Northeast Ohio area. The two maps were completed and presented to the Consortium in August 2012.



As a result of the NEOSCC 12-County Mapping Project, every jurisdiction in Stark County that has a zoning code was digitized from hard copy format into a GIS database. With this information now available, electronic updates or changes to a zoning code or the recreation and printing of these zoning maps can be easily accomplished. The map above shows the generalized county zoning map included in the NEOSCC 12-County Map.

This fall, the GIS Department employed two interns- one undergraduate and one graduate student that gained practical field experience related to GIS while they complete their degrees at the University of Akron.

On November 2, 2012, Stark State College held the 7th Annual GIS Day, a global event that celebrates GIS technology. The GIS Department held a booth at the event showcasing current projects, maps, and uses of GIS from the Planning Commission. Staff presented GIS mapping and map elements during the event's break out sessions to attending middle school and high school students.

Historic Preservation

The RPC's Historic Preservation Administrator reviews the agency's housing rehab and other CDBG projects to comply with federal regulations (Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act) requiring consideration of their potential effect on historic properties. Under terms of a Programmatic Agreement with the Ohio Historic Preservation Office (OHPO), this eliminates the need to otherwise submit all such projects to the OHPO, whose reviews take a minimum of one or more months for completion. Similar reviews are also performed under contracts with the cities of Alliance, Canton, and Massillon.

Stark County and the cities of Alliance, Canton, Massillon: 217 Section 106 historic preservation reviews (plus 41 programmatic exclusions signed by SCRPC rehab staff)



Historic Building -
Frank T. Bow
Federal Building

Equal Employment

- Processed 15 equal employment discrimination telephone calls
- Investigated county-wide employee complaints relating to equal employment issues
- Provided employee mediation services
- Assisted in the development of Equal Employment Opportunity plans for two county departments

Fiscal

	2012 Actual Income	2013 Projected Income
Taxes	\$3,779.90	\$4,000.00
Charges for Services	\$10,017.22	\$8,000.00
Licenses and Permits	\$15,122.81	\$13,000.00
Intergovernmental - <i>Includes Federal, State, Local Reimbursements & Contract Services</i>	\$1,751,930.29	\$1,888,267.00
Other Revenue	\$144.02	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$1,780,994.24	\$1,913,267.00

	2012 Actual Expenses	2013 Projected Expenses
Salaries and Benefits	\$1,585,582.67	\$1,703,808.00
Supplies	\$32,905.09	\$31,765.00
Purchased Services	\$103,140.41	\$156,528.00
Capital Outlay	\$2,559.65	\$7,216.00
Other	\$15,259.19	\$13,950.00
TOTAL	\$1,739,447.01	\$1,913,267.00

The Regional Planning Commission's financial records were audited in 2012 by State Auditor David Yost's office. The audit was completed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards. The audit had no findings or questioned costs for the year 2011.

2012 SCRPC Members

President: Vince Marion

Vice-President: Anthony Peldunas

Secretary: Robert Fonte

Executive Committee

Tom Bernabei, President-Commissioners

Mike Hanke, County Administrator

John Ferrero, Jr., County Prosecutor

*Vince Marion, City of Alliance

William J. Healy II, City of Canton

*Robert Sanderson, City of Massillon

*James Benekos, City of North Canton

*Maurice "Mort" DeHoff, Washington Township

*Robert Leach, Village of Magnolia

*Fred Abraham, County-at-Large

Larry Krebs, County-at-Large

*David McAlister, County-at-Large

*Carl Rose, County-at-Large

*Ronald Revlock, County-at-Large

*Anthony Peldunas, County-at-Large

*Robert Fonte, CAC President

* Personnel Committee

County Office Members (all ex officio)

Commissioners

Janet Weir Creighton

Dr. Peter Ferguson

Tom Bernabei

Administrator

Mike Hanke

Sanitary Engineer

Jim Jones

Conrad Moeller, alt.

Engineer

Keith Bennett

Gary Connor, alt.

Health Commissioner

Kirk Norris

23 Todd Paulus, alt.

Prosecutor

John Ferrero, Jr.

Michael Bickis, alt.

Deborah Dawson, alt.

Ross Rhodes, alt.

City Members

Alliance

Mayor Alan Andreani

Vince Marion, alt.

Canal Fulton

Johnson Belford

Mark Cozy, alt.

Canton

Mayor William Healy II

Samuel Sliman, alt.

Amy Dreussi

Kevin Kennard

Dan Moeglin

Susan Neddy-Scopelite

Louisville

Mayor Patricia Fallot

Massillon

Mayor Kathy Catazaro-Perry

Robert Sanderson, alt.

Keith Dylewski

Ted Herncane, alt.

North Canton

Mayor David Held

James Benekos

County Appointments

Fred Abraham

John Hahn

Larry Krebs

David McAlister

Anthony Peldunas

Ronald Revlock

Carl Rose

Members Continued

Township Members

Canton

Christopher Nichols
William Mittas
Phyllis Schwinn, alt.
Hallie Umpleby, alt.

Jackson

Todd Hawke
John Pizzino
James Walters
Ralph Boger, alt.
Marilyn Lyon, alt.
Joni Poindexter, alt.

Lake

Ellis Erb
Galen Stoll
John Arnold, alt.

Lexington

Linda Chain
James Mathews

Marlboro

Wayne Schillig

Nimishillen

Lou Johnson
Dale Rikkenbach
Lisa Shafer, alt.

Osnaburg

Richard Pero
Donna Middaugh, alt.

Pike

Douglas Baum

Plain

Louis Giavasis
Scott Haws
Albert Leno
Lisa Campbell, alt.

Sandy

Bruce Weisburn

Washington

Maurice "Mort" DeHoff

Village Members

Beach City

Mayor Connie White

Brewster

Mayor Mike Schwab
Steve Hartman, alt.

East Canton

Mayor Kathleen Almasy

East Sparta

Mayor Mike Stephens

Hartville

Mayor Richard Currie
Rob Graham, alt.

Hills & Dales

Mayor Edward Schirack

Limaville

Mayor Troy Hansen

Magnolia

Mayor Robert Leach

Meyers Lake

Mayor Diana Stadelman

Minerva

Mayor James Waller
David Harp, alt.

Navarre

Mayor Robert Benson

Waynesburg

Mayor Kenneth Flesher
Larry Hawkins, alt.

Wilmot

Mayor Mark Bolitho

2012 Committees

SCATS Policy Committee

Chair: Donna Middaugh

Vice-Chair: Keith Bennett

Members

Alan Andreani
Tom Ault
Keith Bennett
Tom Bernabei
Ralph Boger
Jonathan Chastek
Janet Weir Creighton
Charles DeGraff
Dr. Peter Ferguson
Richard Harbaugh
William J. Healy II
David Held
Donna Middaugh
Dan Moeglin
Kathy Catazaro Perry
Warren Price
Thomas Ream
Edward Schirack
Anthony Urankar

Alternates

Chris Barnes
James Benekos
Rick Bodenschatz
Curtis Bungard
Kirt Conrad
Mark Cozy
Sherri Douglas
Keith Dylewski
Mike Hanke
Deborah Hill
James Kinnick
Carole Kuczynski
Nick Loukas
Vince Marion
Greg McCue
John Phillippi
David Sicker
Dave Torrence

Audit Committee

President: Vince Marion

Vice-President: Anthony Peldunas

Secretary: Robert Fonte

Fred Abraham

David McAlister

Citizens' Advisory Council

President: Robert Fonte

Vice-President: Jonathan Chastek

Members: all citizens working/residing in Stark County

Technical Advisory Committee

Chair: Dan Moeglin

James Adams	Carole Kuczynski, alt.
Tom Ault	Nick Loukas, alt.
James Benekos	Vince Marion, alt.
Keith Bennett	Dan Moeglin
Curtis Bungard	Rick McQueen
Kirt Conrad	Robert Nau
Mark Cozy	David Sicker, alt.
Keith Dylewski	Dave Torrence
James Kinnick, alt.	Anthony Urankar

Subdivision Review Subcommittee

Chair: Carl Rose, County-at-Large

Curtis Bungard, City of Alliance
Richard Zengler, City of Canton
Holly Brown, alt.
Jason Haines, City of Massillon
Bruce Bernhard, City of North Canton
Todd Paulus, Stark County Health Department
Keith Bennett, Stark County Engineer
Gary Connor, alt.
Jim Jones, Stark County Sanitary Engineer
Conrad Moeller, alt.
Ronald Revlock, County-at-Large
John Hahn, County-at-Large
Julie Berbari, Stark County Soil & Water
Conservation District
Carolyn Gabrick, alt.
Bill Sliwinski, Jackson Township Resident
(plus any interested RPC member)

2012 Planning Staff

Robert Nau, Executive Director

SCATS

Jeff Dutton, P.E., P.S.
Technical Director/Engineer
Dan Slicker
Engineer
Jeff Dotson
Principal Planner
Karl Lucas
Senior Planner
Rick Keyes
Transportation Planner

Community Development

Beth Pearson
*Chief of Community Development/
Fiscal Planning*
Lynn Carlone
Community Development Administrator
Dan Morganti
Community Development Planner
Natalie McCleskey
Continuum of Care (CoC) Planner
Jill Ross
Housing Counselor
Steve Williams
Senior Rehab Specialist
Jeff Bartolone
Rehab Inspector

Fair Housing

Valerie Watson
Fair Housing Coordinator

Fiscal

Linda Hartman
Fiscal Officer

Historic Preservation

Jeff Brown
Historic Preservation Administrator

Planning

Brenda Sarsany
Chief of Planning
Cliff Meidlein
Planning Administrator
Rachel Lewis
Regional Planner
Malia Morrison
Community Relations Planner

Subdivision Engineering

Joe Underwood, P.E., P.S.
Subdivision Engineer

GIS

Sean Phillips, GISP
GIS Coordinator
Sarah Peters
GIS Analyst

Special Projects

Mary Lee Sponseller

Office Management

Jill Gerber
Office Manager
Katie Kuhn
Secretary

Staff Attorney

Dave Thorley

Interns

Gregory Gordos
Nick Johnson
Nicklas Richards
Rebecca Walker