



Planning Progress

April - June 2019

Volume 57 Issue 2

Annual Dinner

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Presidential China
and State Dinner
Invitation



Over 150 guests attended this year's Annual Dinner at Skyland Pines on March 20th. The guest speaker was Stark County Commissioner Janet Weir Creighton. Creighton's speech, "Dining with the Presidents," was both fascinating and entertaining. She engaged the audience throughout the entire presentation.

The Commissioner shared her experiences while serving at the White House and attending State Dinners, and discussed the history behind the Presidential China. She had several replicas of the china pieces chosen by the Presidents and First Ladies.

It was an enjoyable and informative evening for those in attendance.



RPC Executive Director, Bob Nau
Commissioner Janet Weir Creighton
RPC President Wayne Schillig

Commissioner Creighton
and RPC Members



Need Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding?

- **Does your political subdivision contain an area where storm sewers are in need of replacement?**
- **Are there waterlines in your community that have surpassed their useful life?**
- **Does your locale have neighborhoods with failing septic systems?**
- **Are you aware of an underserved need for an economic development or public service project to benefit your community?**

If you answered yes to any of these questions, now is the time to start exploring the possibility of obtaining future Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding to help!

CDBG funding is granted to qualified infrastructure or public facility improvement projects that are located in designated low-to moderate-income (LMI) census tract/block group areas. Funding is also granted for qualified economic development or public service projects that directly benefit eligible LMI persons/families in your community.

If you believe you have a project that could possibly qualify for CDBG funding, please contact the Stark County CDBG program; staff is available to answer questions. It is also possible for staff to meet with your municipality, township, or non-profit to discuss potential project ideas and to help you decide if developing a CDBG application is the right fit for your project. Please call Ms. Lynn Carlone, Chief of Community Development at 330-451-7774 or Ms. Katie Phillips, Senior Community Development Planner at 330-451-7247, to inquire further.



Funding Available Through Stark County Land Bank's 50/50 Demolition Assistance Program

Has your community been attempting to come up with a solution to a vacant/blighted property?
Has the property been deemed unsafe and beyond repair and needs to be demolished?

Since 2017, the Stark County Land Bank has offered funding assistance to cities, villages and townships in order to facilitate the demolition of property that is beyond repair or rehabilitation, providing matched funding up to 50% of demolition hard costs of the project.



Generalized Demolition Assistance Program (DAP) process:

A community completes an application and submits it (with all required attachments) to the RPC for review. (Please note that the community must either own the property or have completed the proper legal authority in order to demolish the structure at the time of application.)

1. If an application is approved for funding assistance, the Land Bank and the community enter into an agreement for the approved funding amount
2. The community completes all demolition work, then submits proof of demolition completion and necessary paperwork (i.e. contract(s), dump tickets, EPA notices, etc.) to the Land Bank
3. The Land Bank reimburses the community up to the amount established in the agreement not to exceed 50% of the demolition hard-costs

If your community is interested in applying for demolition funding assistance for a project, please contact Sarah Peters, Land Bank Administrator at 330-451-7387 for more information. The DAP Program policies and the application are available on the Land Bank's webpage at:

<https://www.starkcountyohio.gov/treasurer/resources/stark-county-land-reutilization-corporation-sclrc>

Keep Your Water Clean

Schedule Your Annual Water Well Checkup

Why Is a Checkup Important?

A properly constructed and maintained household-supply well will provide you with many years of quality service. The National Ground Water Association recommends routine annual maintenance checks to ensure the proper operation of the well and prolong its years of service, as well as monitor the water quality.

What Does a Checkup Involve?

A licensed and/or certified water well contractor should conduct your routine well checkup.

Your checkup should include:

A flow test to determine system output, along with a check of the water level before and during pumping (if possible), pump motor performance, and pressure tank and pressure switch contact.

An inspection of well equipment to ensure that it is sanitary and meets local code requirements.

A test of your water for coliform bacteria and nitrates, and anything else of local concern. Other typical additional tests are those for iron, manganese, water hardness, sulfides, and other water constituents that cause problems with plumbing, staining, water appearance, and odor. Changes in these constituents also may indicate changes in your well or local groundwater. Additional tests may be recommended if water appears cloudy or oily, if bacterial growth is visible on fixtures, or water treatment devices are not working as they should.

Other steps to maintain your water well:

Keep hazardous chemicals, such as paint, fertilizer, pesticides, and motor oil far away from your well, and maintain a “clean” zone of at least 50 feet between your well and any kennels or livestock operations. Also, always maintain proper separation between your well and buildings, waste systems, or chemical storage areas. Your professional water well contractor is familiar with the applicable local codes.

Periodically check the well cover or well cap to ensure it is in good repair and securely attached. Its seal should keep out insects and rodents.

Keep your well records in a safe place. These include the construction report, and annual water well system maintenance and water testing results.

Get your water tested anytime there is a change in taste, odor or appearance, or anytime the system is serviced.



SAVE THE DATE



Event: The Stock Pile's Backyard Birthday Bash
Date: August 10, 2019
Time: 11:00 am - 3:00 pm
Location: 1387 Clarendon Avenue S.W., Canton 44710

The Stock Pile is turning **20!**

We are having a community-wide backyard party to celebrate. This FREE event will feature multiple vendors, local non-profits, food trucks, beer garden, music, activities for the kids, workshops, and much more! The party is open to the public. More information will be forthcoming in the next RPC newsletter. Please feel free to visit The Stock Pile's website, www.thestockpile.org and Facebook page in the meantime!

Come **CELEBRATE** with us!



Hall of Fame

Land Use and Transportation Study Update

The third and final public meeting for the Hall of Fame Land Use and Transportation Study was held at the Stark County District Main Library on January 24, 2019. Approximately 30 residents and individuals involved in the study attended the meeting. Bryan Newell, AICP, Project Manager with Gannett Fleming, presented the major findings and targeted recommendations of the study, as well as explained the overall process involved in developing the study. Two of the targeted study recommendations were renderings of the suggested **Pedestrian Promenade** and **Fulton Road Improvements**.

Part of the study requirements under the grant was to improve community connections. One proposed recommendation is the Pedestrian Promenade.



The Pedestrian Promenade would improve access between the Hall of Fame Village and the area to the east, which was partially blocked by the construction of Interstate 77. The proposal would:

1. widen the bridge to improve access under I-77
2. regrade a portion of the existing hill to make improved access possible
3. provide unimpeded pedestrian access
4. extend 23rd Street across the west branch of the Nimishillen Creek to improve vehicular access

In this scenario, a number of options are available to improve access, as well as the flow of vehicles and pedestrians. Stadium Park Drive, north of the newly expanded 23rd Street, could be limited, allowing for the reduction of intersections onto Fulton Road. The new parking facility could include an Intermodal Facility to facilitate usage by rideshare app users, public transit, pedestrians, cyclists, and possibly commuter rail on the adjoining Cuyahoga Scenic Railway Line.



Recommended improvements on Fulton Road Corridor would dramatically improve the streetscape where some of the existing sidewalks are missing or broken, lane configurations vary in numerous sections, and existing conditions render it an uninviting area to travel. Proposed improvements would:

1. bring consistency to the vehicular travel lanes, simplifying the roadway while providing a corridor-like feeling
2. improve pedestrian facilities to encourage walking
3. decorative lighting and wayfinding signage would also improve the corridor-like feel to the roadway, serving to make an inviting and easily traveled direct connection between the Hall of Fame Village and Downtown Canton

A link to the plan can be found on the SCRPC website under Latest News. Please contact Karl Lucas at 330-451-7386 or kblucas@starkcountyohio.gov with any questions.

Michael J. Rehfus, Sr. Memorial Bridge Received 2018 Outstanding Bridge Award



At the February SCATS meeting, celebrating receiving the 2018 Outstanding Bridge Award are, left to right, Keith A. Bennett, Stark County Engineer; Dan Moeglin, Canton City Engineer; and Jeff Dutton, SCATS Technical Director.

The Ohio Chapter of the Association for Bridge Construction and Design awarded the Michael J. Rehfus, Sr. Memorial Bridge a 2018 Outstanding Bridge Award, one of five recognized in that year for importance to the traveling public, innovative design, complexity of design, and overall aesthetics.

The bridge features widened sidewalks for improved pedestrian and bicycle travel on 12th Street, an underpass for the West Branch Trail, decorative lighting and brickwork, and other elements that create an attractive and well-designed bridge.



Stark County Regional Planning Commission
201- 3rd St. N.E.
Canton, Ohio 44702

Upcoming Events

April

8	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
9	SCRPC	7:30 PM
22	SCATS	1:30 PM

May

6	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
7	SCRPC	7:30 PM
28	SCATS	1:30 PM

June

3	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
4	SCRPC	7:30 PM
24	SCATS	1:30 PM

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