



Planning Progress

January - March 2019

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SCLRC President Speaks at 8th Annual Land Bank Conference

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On October 22nd-23rd, 2018, an annual conference was held by the Western Reserve Land Conservancy for Ohio Land Banks. This year was the 8th annual conference and was held in Columbus. Over 300 attendees consisting of land bank board members and staff, county and municipal officials, community and economic development officers, and community development corporations learned more about projects aimed at repurposing vacant/abandoned properties and revitalization efforts happening in neighborhoods across the state.

During the conference, Bob Nau, RPC Executive Director and President of the Stark County Land Bank (SCLRC), presented in a panel discussion that focused on the various aspects of partner organizations managing county land banks. Nau spoke about the relationships formed and strengthened with the RPC since it began managing the SCLRC's programs in 2014.

Currently, the RPC administers five programs on behalf of the SCLRC. For more information about these programs, you can visit the SCLRC website:

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

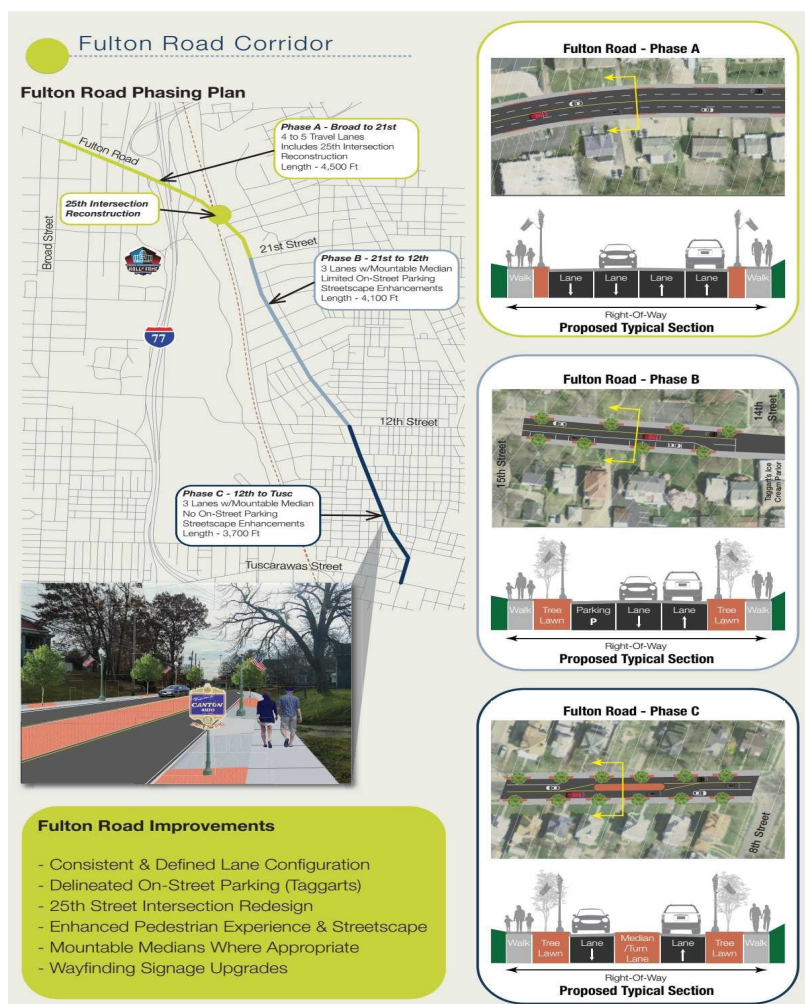
HOF Land Use and Transportation Study Update

At the October 17th public meeting, held at the JRC Adult Day Care (the former Meyers Lake Ballroom), Bryan Newell of Gannett Fleming and his team of consultants presented a draft plan, emphasizing several targeted recommendations.

The presentation revisited the study goals and public involvement, reviewed past plans, explained scenario planning and results for this plan, and explained how recommendations were prioritized, and then described the decision matrix and how proposed projects were placed into it.

The four “targeted” recommendations presented were:

- Improve the Fulton Road Corridor, making the primary connection from the Hall of Fame Village to Downtown Canton more usable and attractive;
- A proposal for a Pedestrian Promenade where Harrison Ave. NW connects to Stadium Park Drive under I-77, improving pedestrian access and sight lines;
- A sample zoning overlay district, which if adopted by the adjoining townships, would provide tools enabling them to better benefit and protect their residents as development and redevelopment occurs; and
- A regional parking strategy to ensure timely accessibility to desired locations.



The plan expands these recommendations, as well as others, and provides artist renderings and descriptions of additional “tools” that can be used to benefit community connections and maximize the benefits and opportunities that the Hall of Fame Village presents to the greater Canton Region and Stark County.

The final public meeting, presenting the final draft of the plan, will be held on Thursday, January 24, 2019, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the McKinley Room at the Stark County Main District Library at 715 Market Ave. N., Canton, OH 44702.

For more information, contact Karl Lucas at 330-451-7386 or kblucas@starkcountyohio.gov.

Canal Fulton Active Transportation and Connectivity Plan

Tuesday, November 13th, was the first public meeting for the Canal Fulton Active Transportation and Connectivity Plan. This plan is being funded, in part, by a recently-awarded SCATS Community Planning Grant. Michelle Johnson, of Environmental Design Group (EDG), presented information regarding the plan to a number of attendees.

The presentation included background information that has been collected and mapped including: sidewalks, amount of traffic, speed limits, points of interest, parks under development, elevation contours, road right-of-ways, and other factors. EDG also discussed conditions and types of active transportation, and the percentages of various population groups that use the different types of corridors (e.g. pedestrian sidewalks, on-road bike lanes, protected bike lanes, parallel paths, etc.).

Participants were asked to indicate opportunities and constraints to walking, cycling and accessing destinations throughout and adjacent to Canal Fulton. They also marked areas that they would like to see improved connections for walking and cycling.

Planning options for improving connections can be influenced by a number of factors including: the availability of existing right-of-ways; physical conditions on the ground; preferred connections; the availability of funds; and federal regulations for types of pathways including widths, grade, and distance from vehicles, etc.

The next meeting, at a date and location to be announced, will discuss some of these options, costs involved, and further refine preferences from those attending the meeting.

Please contact Karl Lucas at 330-451-7386 or kblucas@starkcountyohio.gov with any questions or to be notified of future meetings for the Canal Fulton Active Transportation and Connectivity Plan.



Michelle Johnson of EDG explains one of the work boards presented at the meeting.

Abandoned Gas Station Cleanup Grant

On August 20, 2018, the Stark County Land Reutilization Corporation, also known as the Stark County Land Bank, was awarded a \$100,000 grant from the Ohio Development Services Agency (ODSA) to clean up an abandoned gas station located at 1652 Whipple Avenue NW in Canton Township. This grant, which is being administered by the Regional Planning Commission (RPC) on behalf of the Land Bank, will be utilized to undertake assessment and remediation activities, including asbestos abatement, building and canopy removal, contaminated soil excavation (if warranted), and parking lot clearance. The ultimate goal of this grant is to create an environmentally-sound site that is economically reusable for future redevelopment.

The property was developed as a gas station and operated as such until 2008, when operations ceased, and has since been vacant. In 2016, a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfield Assessment Grant was utilized to conduct property assessments of the site. These assessments identified asbestos in the existing structure, four (4) underground storage tanks, and limited amounts of chemicals of concern in the soil. Of the issues identified, the RPC was able to remove the 4 tanks from the property with the EPA grant; the other identified issues were not funding-eligible activities through that grant.



The newly-awarded ODSA grant will allow the County to undertake remaining remediation steps at this site, ultimately returning it to an economically viable property. A consultant was selected in November 2018 to oversee the project, which is anticipated to be completed by August 2019.

Need Home Repairs?

Money Is Available To Help!

Work may include:

Electric, plumbing, heating, roofs, gutters, windows, doors, siding, insulation, and more.



Homeowners living in Stark County* may qualify for a grant/deferred loan combination.

Available through the Stark County Community Development Block Grant Housing Rehabilitation Program.

* Program does not include residents living inside the city limits of Canton, Massillon, or the Village of Hills & Dales.



It's easy to see if you qualify!
Contact Jill Ross
at 330-451-7399
for more information
and an application.



This Winter Remember to...

Use the Right S.A.L.T.



STUFF

Road salt (sodium chloride) only works above 15°F. For colder temperatures use sand for added traction, or switch to an ice melting product designed to work at colder temperatures.

AMOUNT

Spreading more salt does not improve deicing. One 12 ounce coffee cup full of salt is enough to cover about 10 sidewalk squares. There should be about 3 inches between salt granules. Be sure to sweep up any excess salt.

LOCATION

Salt only belongs on your sidewalk and driveway and never on your lawn, flower beds, the base of a tree and definitely not in a stream! One teaspoon of salt permanently pollutes 5 gallons of water.

TIME

Salt works best when it is applied before the snow falls or right after snow is removed from your driveway or sidewalk. Never apply salt when rain is in the forecast, as it will wash away into our waterways.

Stormwater Update

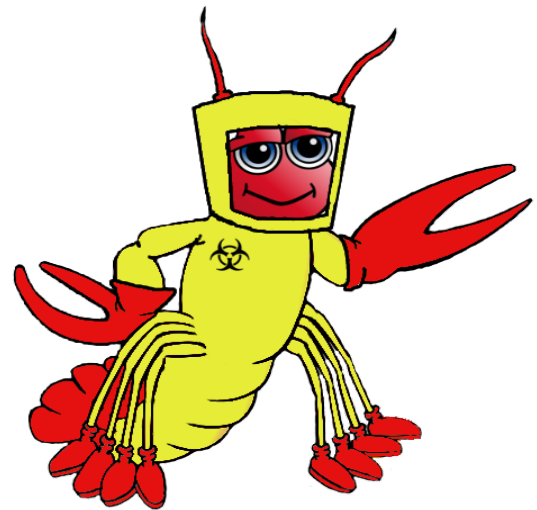
“When You Have a Spill, Know the Drill”

This is the theme for the 2019 Stormwater Education Program. When there is a spill of hazardous/toxic materials, it can affect our water supply.

For a non-emergency, report a spill to the Canton City Health Department - 330-489-3231 or Stark County Health Department - 330-493-9904.

For any material that impacts public health or the environment, including chemicals and petroleum products, report a spill to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency- 1-800-282-9378.

Dispose all household hazardous waste at: Canton E-Waste, Tire, and Household Hazardous Waste Recycling Center- 742 Schroyer Ave. SW, Canton 44707 or call 330-430-7869.



For more information, visit <https://starkcountyohio.gov/storm-water/storm-water/brochures>

The Public Involvement/Public Education (P.I.P.E.) Committee will continue sponsoring and participating in many activities this year, including: the Billboard Contest, Stark County Home & Garden Show, radio ads, workshops, presentations, creek cleanups, etc. More information on these will be available on our website throughout the year. For any questions concerning the program, call 330-451-7405.

Only Rain Down the Drain!



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

Upcoming Events

January

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

February

4	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
5	SCRPC	7:30 PM
25	SCATS	1:30 PM

March

4	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
5	SCRPC	7:30 PM
25	SCATS	1:30 PM

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