



Planning Progress

October - December 2019

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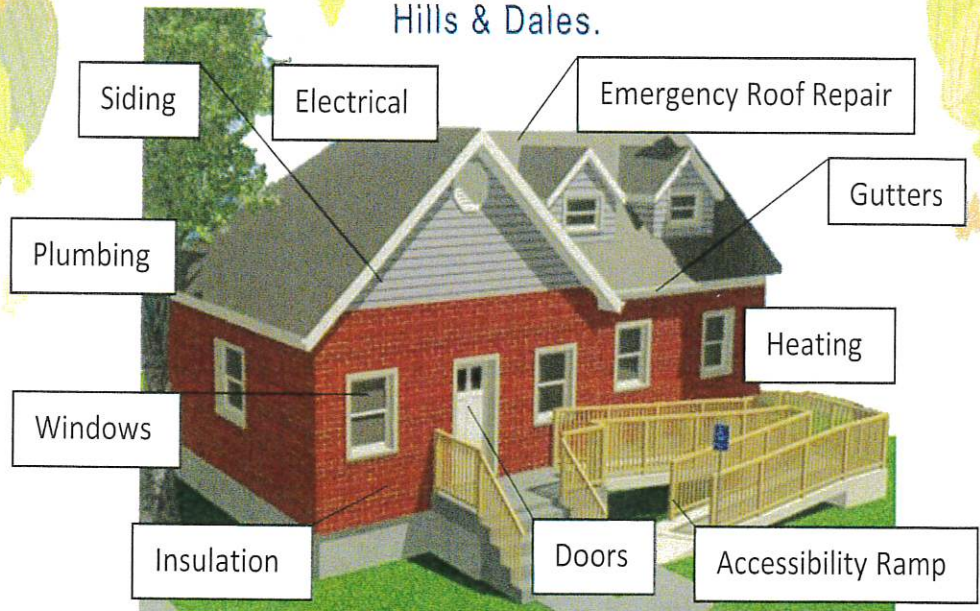
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Fall is in the air! Is your home in need of repair?

The Stark County Housing Rehabilitation
Department may be able to help!

We are looking for new applicants to utilize our
grant/deferred loan Housing Rehabilitation Program.

Applicants must own and occupy their home for a minimum of
one year, live within Stark County and meet income
guidelines. This program does not include residents living
inside the city limits of Canton, Massillon, or the Village of
Hills & Dales.



**CALL US at 330-451-7399 to see
if you qualify!**

Save the Date



What: Governmental Law Seminar
for local officials

When: Saturday, February 29, 2020

Where: Exploration Gateway
5712- 12th St. NW
Canton, OH 44708

The Governmental Law Seminar is co-sponsored by the Stark County Prosecutor's Office and the Stark County Regional Planning Commission. The seminar will consist of a keynote speaker, several break-out sessions and a luncheon.

Topics will include:

- Zoning
- Nuisance Abatement
- Grant Opportunities
- Public Records
- Sunshine Law
- and more!

Watch for further information coming soon!



Governmental
Law Seminar
2018

Survey Results for Plain Township

Plain Township conducted a community survey from May 1, 2019 to August 1, 2019, and the results are assisting the Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SCRPC) in updating the Township's 2020 Master Plan. Emphasizing the continued belief that public input is essential to formulating plans and visions, the survey was designed to gather feedback on the priorities and preferences for Plain Township issues.

In coordination with Plain Township officials, SCRPC designed, distributed, collected, and analyzed the survey. The results of the community survey were presented at a Plain Township public meeting on August 14, 2019.

The presentation is a snapshot of the most important and compelling survey findings. The summary is organized by topic area and mirrors the format of the original survey.

There were 406 community members that participated in the survey—92.12% were Plain residents; 27.44% worked in Plain Township. The Township and SCRPC conducted outreach to residents through Plain Township's newsletter and website, an online mailing, postcards, multiple Facebook and Twitter posts, and an article in the Canton Repository.



Participants were asked to give their opinion on what is lacking and found challenging in regard to the Township's amenities and resources. In addition, participants were prompted to suggest new opportunities that the Township consider exploring in the future.

As a whole, participants are satisfied with the quality of life in the Township, and they feel it is a good place to raise children. Conversely, one of the least favorite qualities of the Township included its lack of retirement-friendly facilities.

In general, the feedback was thoughtful and engaging. Plain Township and SCRPC are looking forward to further analyzing the responses and examining what areas can be short versus long term goals in the Master Plan Update.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Accepting Applications for Next Funding Cycle



The Stark County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) department is currently accepting applications for the next three-year CDBG funding cycle, FY 2020-2022.

Funding would be available from July 1, 2020 until June 30, 2023. Applications for public service and economic development projects will be accepted for FY '20 only. Applications for infrastructure and public facility improvement projects will be accepted for FY '20, '21, and/or '22. As all applications are welcome, the CDBG Department is hoping to receive an influx of infrastructure project applications.



On August 28th, the Stark County CDBG staff held a workshop for potential applicants.

Thirty different political subdivisions and non-profit agencies & organizations attended. The agenda for the workshop included an explanation of the FY 2020-2022 application form, its accompanying instructions and guidelines, discussion of eligibility requirements, selection of five members for the upcoming application review committee, and sample projects. Though attendance at the workshop was not required, additional ranking points will be awarded to all applications in which the applicant attended, though persons who did not attend the workshop are still encouraged to submit an application(s).



Interested in receiving Stark County CDBG funding? NOW is the time to plan for and submit an application for funding!

Persons interested in obtaining an application packet should download the materials from the Stark County RPC website at www.rpc.starkcountyohio.gov or contact Lynn Carlone, Chief of Community Development at 330-451-7774 or Katie Puleo, Community Development Planner at 330-451-7031. **Stark County CDBG applications are due by Friday, November 1st at Noon at the RPC offices.**

Stark County's FY 2020 HOME Funding

The Stark County Regional Planning Commission is under contract to the Board of Stark County Commissioners to administer the Stark County HOME program. Stark County receives this federal funding as a direct entitlement grant from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Last year, the County received \$755,801 in HOME funding; this was a nearly 8% decrease from the previous year. It is expected the County will receive approximately this same amount in FY 2020 funding. This funding will be available for use between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021.

HOME eligible activities are housing projects that benefit low-and moderate-income persons/households. Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO) are encouraged to apply as 15% of the overall HOME allocation is required to be allocated to qualified CHDO projects. As such, the Consortium plans to provide approximately \$113,400 of HOME funding to such activities.

Stark County participates in the HOME program as a consortium with both of the cities of Massillon and Alliance, thus a portion of Stark County's HOME funding will be provided to each. It is expected that the cities will receive 20% and 19%, respectively, of the HOME grant balance after CHDO apportionment for use in their jurisdictions.

Major regulation changes took place with the HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program in 2013. As these amendments were very significant to the overall program, potential HOME applicants are asked to familiarize themselves with the 2013 "HOME Final Rule" document and the changes it made to the overall HOME program.

A HOME "Request for Proposal" workshop will be held on Wednesday, November 13th, with applications for this upcoming HOME program being due by Friday, January 3rd at Noon. After the applications are received, they will be reviewed. A decision in regard to the 2020 program is expected to be presented to the public by early-March, with a public hearing to take place in mid/late March presenting the proposed program to the Board of Stark County Commissioners. For questions about the HOME program, please contact either Katie Phillips, Senior Community Development Planner, at 330-451-7247 or Lynn Carlone, Chief of Community Development at 330-451-7774.

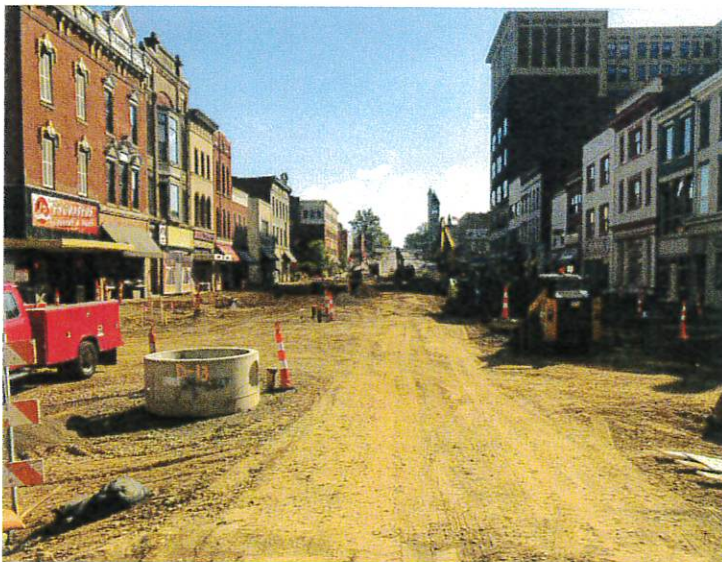
Lincoln Way Streetscape Work Progressing

With much of the underground work complete, the installation of brickwork for crosswalks is beginning. Giant brickwork M's for Massillon will be at the Lincoln Way intersections of Erie Ave and 1st Street. The "frame" for the "M"s will be the brick crosswalks across Lincoln Way and side streets. At Lincoln Way's intersection with Postal Place, there will be a raised pedestrian island with ornamental trees and other features.

The project also includes pedestrian bump-outs at crosswalks for enhanced safety, new underground utilities, new pavement, sidewalks and traffic signals. Additional decorative elements include streetlights, signage, waste receptacles, etc. to establish place-making for this section of downtown Massillon.



The streetscape will tie together a number of elements downtown, creating a sense of place, and a more inviting and welcoming space. The city expects the improvements to attract additional visitors, especially from the nearby Congressman Ralph Regula Towpath Trail. The project is slated for completion in late October.



Annual Nimishillen Creek CleanUp

The 18th annual Nimishillen Creek LEAP (Litter, Elimination, Awareness, and Prevention) CleanUp was held September 21, 2019. It began at the McKinley Presidential Library and Museum and ran along I-77 at Fulton to Mother Goose Land. The annual CleanUp is organized by the Nimishillen Creek Watershed Partnership, a volunteer group of representatives from local governments, agencies, businesses, agriculture, and citizens who help facilitate the restoration and protection of Nimishillen Creek and its resources.

More than 80 volunteers participated this year and collected several bags of trash filling a 20-yard dumpster. A free lunch was provided for all of the volunteers.

The organizers and supporters for this year's CleanUp were the City of Canton, Kent State Stark University, Stark State College, Stark County Regional Planning Commission, the Northeast Ohio Four County Regional Planning and Development Organization (NEFCO), and William McKinley Presidential Library and Museum.





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

Upcoming Events

October

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

November

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

December

2	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
3	SCRPC	7:30 PM

Credits

Editor/Graphics
Malia Watkins

President
Wayne Schillig

Executive Director
Robert Nau

Phone
330-451-7389

Fax
330-451-7990

Website
www.rpc.starkcountyohio.gov