

Planning Progress

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Project Homeless Connect



The Stark County Fair Housing Department participated in the 2012 Project Homeless Connect of Stark County. The event, held on August 23 at the Canton Civic Center, was a day devoted to homeless families, low-income individuals, and veterans. Forty organizations participated in the event and provided free services, assistance, and food to the 565 people in attendance. Representatives from the various organizations provided counseling, educational material, promotional items, free clothing, toiletries, food, and haircuts to the hundreds of individuals who stood in line waiting on their turn to enter the building. The fair housing staff distributed numerous educational brochures and personally counseled more than 75 persons on housing discrimination and landlord-tenant matters.



Valerie Watson, Coordinator, talks to attendees about lease termination.

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Stark County Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report - FY '11 (CAPER)

FY '11 CAPER covers the period of July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012

FY 2011 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program

- Budget Information:
Total funds available for use - \$2,946,955.28
(FY '11 entitlement grant was \$1,329,232.00)
Total CDBG funds expended - \$1,239,835.06
- 79.3% of the CDBG funds expended benefited low-to-moderate (LMI) persons;
100% of the projects undertaken benefited LMI persons.
- 2 Infrastructure/Rehabilitation projects were completed:
Hartville – North Prospect Street Improvements
North Canton – Hower/Witwer Sanitary Sewer
- 2 Infrastructure projects were in progress:
Marlboro Township – Design Phase of Marlboro Storm/Sanitary Sewer
Minerva – Valley Street Storm Sewer Phase IV
- 6 Public Service projects:
Canton Negro Oldtimers – served **1,125** persons
Salvation Army - Homeless Motel Voucher program – helped **999** persons
Community Services Massillon Homeless Shelter Program – assisted **274** persons
Alliance Emergency Residence – served **213** persons
The Stock Pile – served **1,003** persons
Prescription Assistance Network – served **232** persons
- 1 Economic Development project:
KSU Micro Business Development Program – served **80** business owners/potential owners
- CDBG funded Single Family/Owner-Occupied Housing Rehab:
30 units were completed (7 regular rehab, 4 septic/sewer, 19 emergency rehab)
3 more units under contract

FY 2011 HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program

- Budget Information:
Total funds available for use - \$1,873,735.82
(FY '11 grant amount was \$826,810.00)
Total HOME funds expended - \$724,927.33

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- 89.3% of HOME funding expended benefited low-to-moderate income (LMI) persons;
100% of all projects undertaken benefited LMI persons.
- HOME funded Single Family/Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation:
8 units completed and brought up to Residential Rehab Standards
1 more unit under contract
- HOME funded Down Payment Assistance Program:
8 homebuyers received down payment and/or closing costs assist
\$30,168 in expenditures leveraged \$489,388 in private mortgages
- 4 projects completed:
YWCA of Canton – YW – PHS – **(6 HOME Units)**
Alliance for Children & Families – A-F.I.R.S.T. – PSH – **(6 HOME Units)**
Alliance for Children & Families – A-F.I.R.S.T. Phase II – PSH – **(1 HOME Unit)**
ABCD, Inc. – Bradley Place – Elderly Apts. – City of Massillon – **(2 HOME Units)**
- 8 Projects were underway:
SMHA Tenant Based Rental Assistance program
SMHA HOPE Tenant Based Rental Assistance program
Freed Housing Corporation – Hunter House – PSH – **(2 HOME Units)**
Freed Housing Corporation – Villas at Windham Bridge – Elderly Apts. – **(5 HOME Units)**
City of Massillon's Rehab/Homebuyer program
City of Alliance's Rehab program
Stark County's Rehab program
Stark County's Homebuyer Assistance program

FY 2011 Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)

The Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SCRPC) received both State and Federal funds to address homelessness for individuals and families who need short to medium term homeless prevention or rapid re-housing assistance. During FY '11, the Stark County Regional Planning Commission continued to partner with Community Services of Stark County and the YWCA of Canton and fully expended the HPRP grant within the statutory time period. A total of \$115,603 was expended from the Federal allocation for prevention, rapid re-housing and administrative activities. Below is an outline of FY '11 expenditures for the Federal portion of the allocation:

HPRP Line Items	Beginning Balance	Program Income	Transfers	Expenditures	Balance
Administration	\$4,775.79	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,775.79	\$0.00
MHR SB - HMIS	\$10,381.77	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,381.77	\$0.00
Prevention Admin.	\$2,141.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,141.75	\$0.00
Prevention Financial Assistance	\$56,069.36	\$0.00	(\$26,186.87)	\$29,882.49	\$0.00
Prevention Stabilization	\$7,124.72	\$0.00	\$26,186.87	\$33,311.59	\$0.00
Re-Housing Admin.	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Re-Housing Financial Assistance	\$16,227.90	\$0.00	\$3,693.00	\$19,920.90	\$0.00
Re-Housing Stabilization	\$17,881.75	\$0.00	(\$3,693.00)	\$14,188.75	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$115,603.04	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$115,603.04	\$0.00

Northern Stark County Land Use Study

Under contract with SCRPC, OHM, Inc.'s Columbus office continues work on the land use study of Northern Stark County centered near the Akron Canton Airport, Stark State College, and Kent State University at Stark. They have been identifying potential land uses, interviewing stakeholders, and gathering traffic data from Stark and Summit Counties to assist in developing traffic modeling scenarios for this area. This will assist in the update of SCATS' Long Range Transportation Plan to be completed next year. More information will be available later this fall.

New Employee Hired



Staff welcomes Natalie McCleskey who joined the RPC on September 6th. Natalie fills the position of Continuum of Care Planner under the Community Development Department. She is responsible for assisting with federal and state funded homeless programs of the Board of Stark County Commissioners and assisting with the Stark County Homeless Council.

McCleskey earned a B.A. in Social Science (with a concentration in Community Development) from Nyack College in New York. She has worked with homeless persons and assisted in Community Development work in India and the Czech Republic. Natalie enjoys music and acting- especially teaching acting to children. She lives in Canton with her husband and two children.

Stormwater Focus

The 11th annual Nimishillen Watershed Creek Clean-Up was held September 29th. A total of 96 volunteers spent that morning picking up debris and litter along the West Branch of Nimishillen Creek. They met at the McKinley Monument, listened to a brief presentation, and received brochures on keeping our water clean. After cleaning, volunteers met for a free lunch and received a free pass to the McKinley Museum.

To further focus on the issue of stormwater, two additional articles follow from the periodical entitled *Stormwater*.

Separation Devices for Stormwater Runoff



A vast amount of creativity goes into the engineering of separation devices that filter debris and pollutants from stormwater runoff. This is especially the case when the job is a retrofit with space and existing infrastructure constraints.

The devices range from catch basin inserts to complex underground hydrodynamic separators. They may use both physical and chemical means to remove pollutants.

Some projects are required to remove only one category of pollutants. Others require a treatment train to handle trash and debris, silt laden with things such as heavy metals, hydrocarbons, and other pollutants. Some treatments offer all three devices in one unit, while others use separate devices. The particular site will dictate whether an inexpensive catch basin insert is sufficient or a much larger and more complex underground filtration system is required.

The South Philadelphia Sports Complex, home of the Phillies, Flyers, 76ers, Wings, Eagles, and Soul, sits on a site that has implemented storm drain inlets. These devices are saving the agency responsible for the property tens of thousands of dollars a year.

In 2010, when the city instituted its new stormwater regulations, the Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation (PIDC), which owns the parking lot and the land under the sports complex, discovered it was responsible for stormwater charges of several thousand dollars per month.

They decided to install Stormdrain's Inceptor catch basin inserts in all 12 of the inlets in the parking area. There are filters on all the units. The Inceptors capture approximately 90% of the pollutants from the parking lot.



The installation was simple and completed in one day. The existing grates were removed and replaced with stainless steel cages, which hang from the frames around the inlets. The filters fit right into the cages. The filter is designed to attract oil and grease as well as repel water. The typical filter weighs one pound and can trap 25 pounds of oil and should be replaced annually.

Their monthly stormwater bill was \$3,000. Since the installation of all of the filters, the monthly bill is now under \$400. This particular project cost \$10,000, and the payback to PIDC took about four months.



The City of North Canton is currently using the device shown above.

LEED Certified



The Metropolitan Centre-
owned/operated by
Stark Metropolitan
Housing Authority is
LEED certified.



Last month the US Green Building Council (USGBC) announced another LEED-related milestone: The total footprint of LEED-certified commercial projects worldwide has hit the 2-billion-square-foot mark. Perhaps more significantly, another 7 billion square feet worth of projects is in the works, either registered with the organization or under construction.

According to the USGBC, LEED-certified commercial space - almost 50,000 projects in total- have been built or are underway in 130 different countries. This is in addition to homes and residential buildings (23,000 built and 86,000 registered).

That so many buildings are registered show that LEED- which stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design- continues to gain momentum at an astonishing pace. LEED is not the only certification program for sustainable or green building; other rating systems have slightly different emphases and goals but also many points of overlap. These systems include the Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure's Envision rating system for infrastructure projects, the Green Building Initiative's Green Globes, and others. Some focus specifically on landscaping rather than buildings. Almost all include stormwater measures in some fashion; LEED for New Construction, for example, offers credits for Stormwater Quality Control, and other LEED guidelines include points for keeping development out of the floodplain, controlling erosion during construction, and other related considerations.

One thing these rating systems and their associated design standards have accomplished is to make green construction less expensive. Through more widespread knowledge of ways to achieve greater energy or water efficiency, and through economies of scale as suppliers make the necessary materials more widely available, prices have come down so that today a green building- even one that achieves LEED Platinum certification- does not necessarily cost more to design or construct. Companies and individuals increasingly view green building practices not only as a way to save money on energy, water, and building maintenance, but also as an investment: Going green enhances a company's public image and may increase the resale value of a private home.

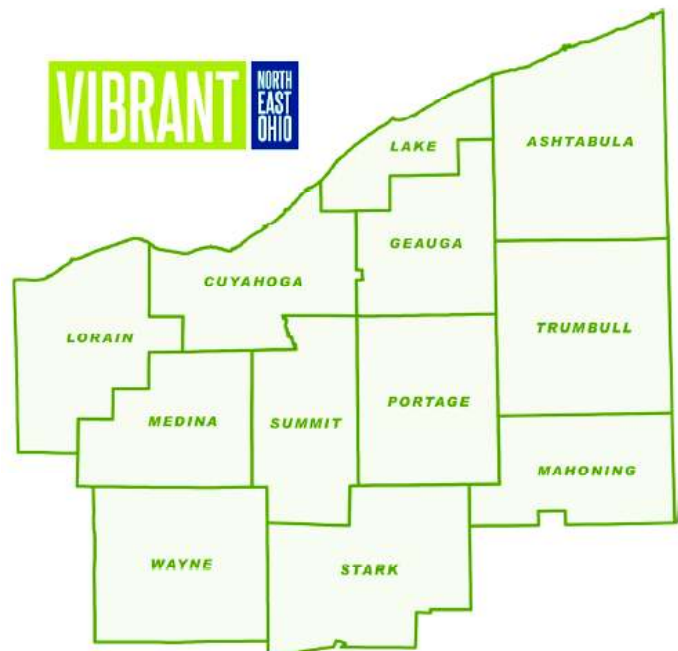


The Northeast Ohio Sustainable Communities Consortium (NEOSCC) held its board meeting as well as other activities in Stark County at the end of August. The County was the host to the 12-county consortium which is striving to ensure that Northeast Ohio is vibrant and sustainable. The day began with a bus tour that included such highlights as:

SARTA's CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) Facility
12th Street/Mahoning Road Corridor (improvement project)
Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad/Lincoln Highway Station
Historic Tour of Canton
McKinley Monument and Museum
Pro Football Hall of Fame (presentation/tour- economic impact on the area)

In the afternoon, the board meeting was held at the Metropolitan Centre, a Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority LEED certified facility. SCRPC's Executive Director, Bob Nau, and SCATS' Technical Director, Jeff Dutton, are NEOSCC board members. After the meeting, a walking tour was offered in the Downtown Arts District.

To view the latest news, board meetings, work sessions, presentations, and events, visit www.neoscc.org



Specialized Transportation Program Awards Vehicles for FY 2012



One Stark County agency has received notice from the Ohio Department of Transportation that they have been awarded two vehicles through the FY 2012 Specialized Transportation Program. The program's new guidelines award vehicles on a statewide basis and individual counties are not assured of receiving a vehicle each year.

Stark County's grantee agency for FY 2012 is the Association for Better Community Development, Inc. They will be funded for two of their requested three vehicles, both modified minivans, at a total cost of \$38,368 each.

The Specialized Transportation Program helps fund vehicles for qualifying, private, nonprofit social service agencies that provide transportation services for elderly and/or disabled citizens. The Ohio Department of Transportation provides 80% of the vehicles purchase price with the grantee agency providing the remaining 20%. The grantee agency's matching share must come from non-federal sources.

Vehicles are awarded annually through a competitive application process administered by the SCATS Policy Committee. SCATS staff review and evaluate the applications before making a recommendation to the committee. The Policy Committee then passes a resolution recommending to ODOT which agency(s) they believe should be awarded the vehicle(s). ODOT then awards vehicles statewide based on the scoring criteria developed by them and funds available. For further information, contact Rick Keyes at 330-451-7406.

SARTA Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Station



Opened earlier this year, SARTA's CNG station, located at 1600 Gateway Blvd. SE, is one of several stations open to the public in Ohio. Compressed Natural Gas is:

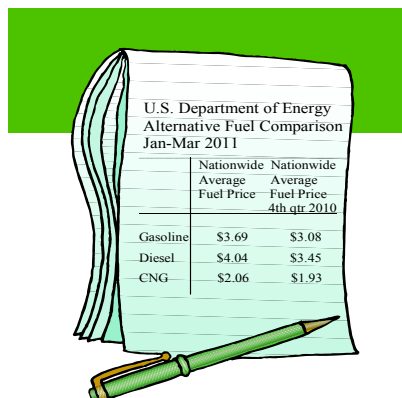
Cleaner - reduces health-harming air pollutants -95% less particulate matter, carbon monoxide emissions and 80% less nitrogen oxide emissions;

Greener - lowers greenhouse gas emissions by 26-29% in cars and light trucks and 23% in medium-heavy vehicles;

Domestic - 98% of natural gas is produced in North America - reducing our dependence on foreign oil;

Affordable - costs 25-40% less than diesel fuel (1/3 of the cost of traditional gasoline), has maintenance costs equal to or less than gasoline or diesel vehicles.

SARTA expects to save at least \$300,000 a year in fuel costs as it converts its bus fleet to use CNG.



	Nationwide Average Fuel Price	Nationwide Average Fuel Price 4th qtr 2010
Gasoline	\$3.69	\$3.08
Diesel	\$4.04	\$3.45
CNG	\$2.06	\$1.93



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Upcoming Events

October

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

November

5	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
6	SCRPC	7:30 PM
26	SCATS	1:30 PM

December

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

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