



Planning Progress

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Annual Dinner

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Over 154 guests attended this year's Annual Dinner at Skyland Pines on March 14th. This year's guest speaker was Howard Miller, Owner of Hartville Hardware. Miller's presentation was titled, "The History & Growth of the Hartville Hardware, Marketplace, and Kitchen."

Howard is the president of HRM Enterprises, which includes: Hartville Hardware, Hartville Kitchen, Hartville Collectibles, Hartville Tools (E-Commerce Division), Hartville Marketplace & Flea Market, Hartville Foods (salad dressing), and Top Advantage (countertops). He and his brother turned a small town local hardware store into what is now the largest independent hardware store in the country.

HRM employs over 650 people, 23 of which are family members. They have over 2.5 million visitors annually. This year, they will be reinventing and renovating the south end of the indoor marketplace as well as adding 40,000 sq. ft. to Hartville Tool where they currently sell on Amazon, Sears, and Walmart.

Their business philosophy and what success means to HRM:

- * Always put God first
- * Treat others as you want to be treated
- * Give back to the community

"You will never be a great company if your sole purpose is making money."

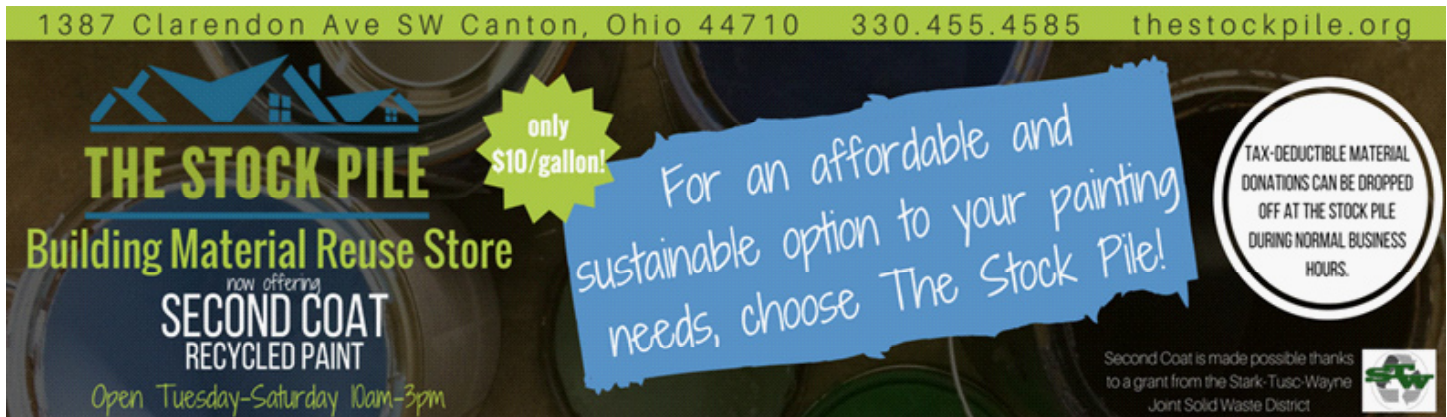
"You can be a successful company and be bottom line driven, but to be a great company, you must also make a positive difference in the lives of your employees, your customers, the community, and the world."

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The Stock Pile, which is the Regional Planning Commission's nonprofit building material reuse store, has recently added two new programs (in addition to their current retail operations).

Second Coat is The Stock Pile's new paint recycling program. Donated paint is filtered and then mixed with like-colors in 55 gallon drums; it is then repackaged into new paint cans and sold for \$10 per gallon. "We've been collecting paint since The Stock Pile opened in 1999," said Program Manager Rita Thompson, "but in the past we could only accept full or mostly full gallons. By accepting partial containers now, people will be less likely to improperly dispose of their leftover paint." This program will also allow customers to buy enough paint for bigger projects such as painting a large room. Anyone wishing to donate clean, reusable paint can drop it off at The Stock Pile during normal hours of operation.

Welcome Home is a furniture assistance program that The Stock Pile has also recently established. Certain furniture and other small home essentials are offered free-of-charge to individuals and families transitioning out of homeless or domestic violence situations, or aging out of foster care. This is not an emergency service, and materials for this program are largely dependent on the materials in stock. Case manager referrals are required.

For more information on these programs or The Stock Pile in general, please visit their Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/TheStockPile/>).



Stark County Subdivision Regulations Update

Stark County is in the process of updating the Stark County Subdivision Regulations. The County first adopted Subdivision Regulations in 1961, under authority provided in the Ohio Revised Code. The Regulations have been updated approximately every 10 years since, with the last amendments made in 2008.

Over the past 6 months, the proposed Regulations have been reviewed by the Stark County Commissioners, the Stark County Prosecutor's Office, the Ohio Township Association, the Subdivision Review Subcommittee, the Building Industry Association, as well as local surveyors and developers. In accordance with the Ohio Revised Code, in late February the proposed changes were sent to all of the Townships for a 30-business day comment period. SCRPC requested all Township comments by Friday, April 13, 2018.

A public hearing at the SCRPC meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 7:30 PM. The County Commissioners will then hold a public hearing on the proposed Regulation changes, and provided no significant changes are requested, the SCRPC will then adopt the updated set of Subdivision Regulations at its June 5, 2018 meeting.

The proposed Regulations are available under "Latest News" on RPC's website. Please contact Emma Posillico with any questions/concerns at emposillico@starkcountyohio.gov or 330-451-7904.

Attention General Contractors

Stark County Regional Planning Commission Housing Rehabilitation Department

is searching for contractors who are committed to undertaking quality rehabilitation work under a federally funded program.

Minority/Women-Owned and Section 3 Businesses are encouraged to apply.

Contact the Housing Rehabilitation Department at 330-451-7302 for further information and to obtain an application packet.

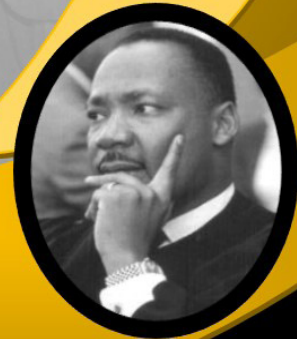


1968 A Year to Remember

Celebrating

50 YEARS

Fair Housing Act
1968 - 2018



50th Anniversary of the Fair Housing Act

50 Years of Opening Doors
Housing Discrimination is **ILLEGAL!**

Keep the Dream Alive...Support Fair Housing

April is Fair Housing Month

On April 11, 1968, President Lyndon Johnson signed into law Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, commonly known as the Fair Housing Act. This month and year we come together as a community and a nation to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the passing of the Fair Housing Act and recommit to that goal which inspired us in the aftermath of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's assassination in 1968...to eliminate



Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated on April 4, 1968 at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis.

housing discrimination and create equal opportunity in housing. In signing the bill, President Johnson proclaimed, *"At long last, fair housing for all is now a part of the American way of life. We have come some of the way...not near all of it."* The Civil Rights Act of 1968 expanded on previous acts and prohibited discrimination concerning the sale, rental, and financing of housing. The law makes it unlawful to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, (and as amended) sex, disability and family status.

Fair Housing is not just an important tool for eliminating discrimination, it also helps to strengthen families, communities, businesses, and our overall economy. It affords every community a place of opportunity where people can live in diverse, inclusive, accessible neighborhoods with quality schools, meaningful jobs, health care and the other opportunities that frame and affect our lives.

National studies still show that minorities, families with children, and persons with disabilities, still face an alarming amount of discrimination while renting, buying, or financing housing. While much has been accomplished since the passage of the law, more work remains in our struggle to achieve equality and racial justice.

The year-long commemoration will move us closer to being a nation where fair housing and opportunity are the norm in all communities.

Fair Housing is the Law!

If you believe you may be a victim of housing discrimination or want more information on the fair housing law, contact:

Stark County Fair Housing Department

330-451-7775

FY 2019-2023 Consolidated Plan Underway

The Stark County Community Development Department is seeking input for their new Consolidated Plan. The Consolidated Plan is designed to help Stark County assess their affordable housing and community development needs and market conditions, and make data-driven, place-based investment decisions. The consolidated planning process serves as the framework for a community-wide dialogue to identify housing and community development priorities, which guides how funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) are used. Public participation is essential for preparing a meaningful Consolidated Plan. The new Stark County Consolidated Plan will cover the period of FY 2019-2023 (July 1, 2019-June 30, 2024). A survey was posted on the RPC website and distributed to political subdivisions, previous CDBG and HOME program applicants, homeless services organizations, Stark County employees, and persons of general interest. RPC will be hosting visioning meetings to discuss the survey results and receive additional public input for the Consolidated Plan to help prioritize funding from HUD for the CDBG and HOME programs.

All are welcome to attend any/all meetings; however, each meeting will be geared toward specific groups.

Meeting Schedule

May 9th (Massillon, Alliance, SMHA, RPC) at 1:30 pm at RPC

May 10th (CDBG and HOME Applicants, Sub-recipients and general interest) at 1:30 pm at RPC

May 15th (Political Subdivisions) at 1:30 pm at RPC

May 16th (Canton and Homeless services organizations) at 2:00 pm at the Canton YWCA

Stormwater Update

The Public Involvement/Public Education Committee (P.I.P.E.) has a new theme for this year- “Tackle Pollution, Root & Cheer to Keep Stormwater Clear.” Clawd, the mascot, is a football player. The committee participated in the Stark County Home & Garden Show on March 9-11.

The activities that the committee will undertake this year include:

Billboard Contest - grades 6-12 (billboards up the month of May)

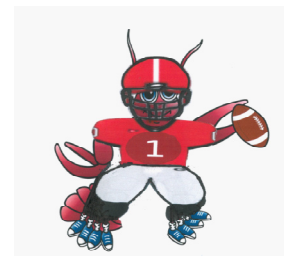
Radio Ads (will air the month of June)

Series of Workshops -sponsored by Stark Soil & Water (April-May)

Nimishillen Watershed Partnership Creek CleanUp- (September)

For more information about the stormwater program and how you can participate, please call Malia Watkins at 330-451-7405 or go to:

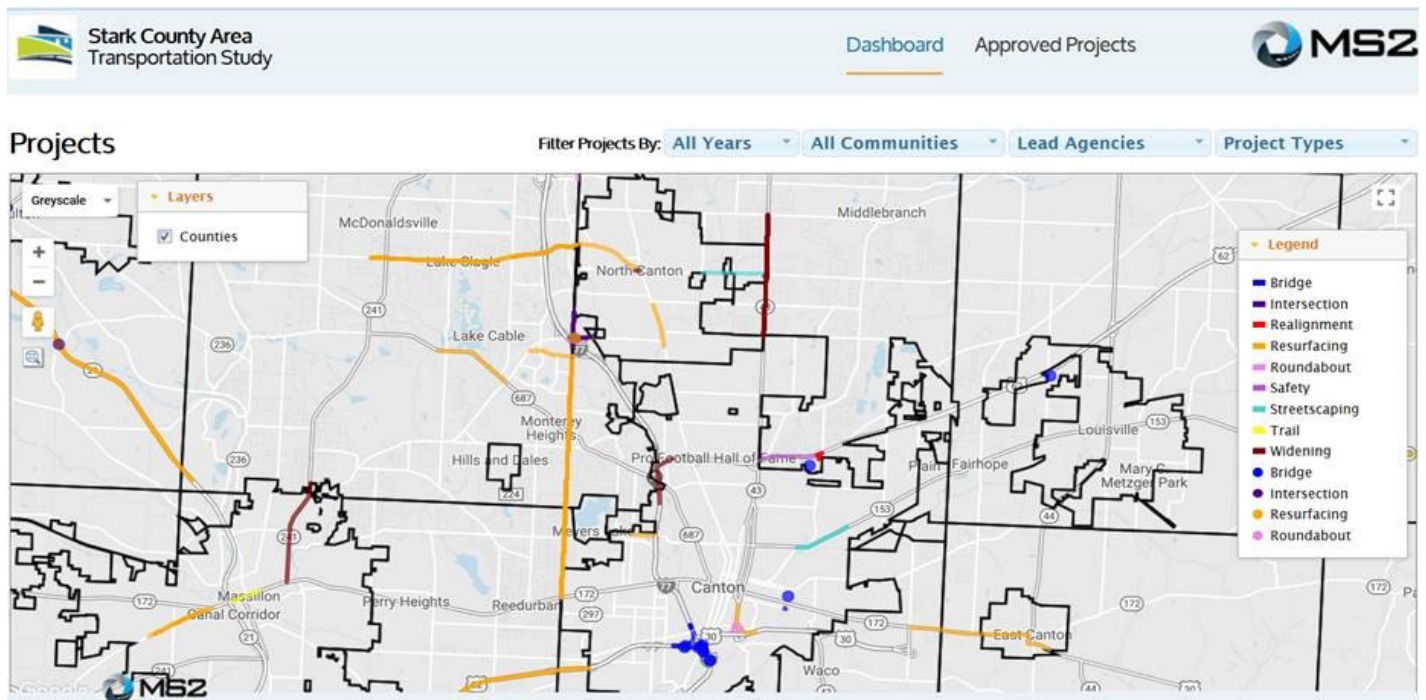
www.rpc.starkcountyohio.gov



SCATS Launches New Project Management System

Earlier this year, SCATS started utilizing its new project management system. What is a project management system? It is an on-line tool that allows users to keep track of the projects in SCATS's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The project management system is accessible to the public at the following URL: <http://scats.ms2soft.com/tdms.ui/pmds.ui/>. The start page contains a map showing current TIP projects. Users can get information about a project just by clicking on it within the map. Users can also find projects by clicking on "Approved Projects", which will send them to a listing of the projects.

The management system allows SCATS staff and project sponsors to update information on a project in real time. Another useful aspect of the management system is that it allows SCATS staff to create customizable reports on one or more projects. The project management system website is maintained by the consulting firm, MS2, in Ann Arbor, Michigan. MS2 is constantly upgrading, tweaking, and improving the system to make it better.



Community Transportation Planning Grants Program Update

Last fall the SCRPC solicited for applications to award Community Transportation Planning Grants to local communities in Stark County.

There were ten submissions for this round of funding: two each from the Stark County Engineer, the City of Canton and the City of Massillon; and one application each from the Village of Brewster, the Stark Area Regional Transit Authority, the City of Alliance, and the City of Canal Fulton.

At its January meeting, the SCATS Policy Committee approved awarding funds for three studies: a school travel plan and connectivity study for the Village of Brewster, a traffic signal corridor study in the City of Alliance, and a school travel plan and city-wide active transportation plan for the City of Canal Fulton.

The study in Brewster will focus on a school travel plan from downtown Brewster to the Fairless School complex on US 62. It will identify needs for improving the safety of students traveling to the schools, identifying pedestrian and cycling loop routes to local parks, and connecting to future sections of the Stark Parks county-wide multi-use trail system.

The traffic signal corridor study in the City of Alliance will seek to improve movement along 1.3 miles of West State Street from the traffic signal at the Walmart retail complex to the Sawburg/Beechwood Avenue intersection. The goal is to improve air quality by reducing vehicle wait times, reduce delays caused by accidents, and improve the overall level of service. Proposed improvements and signal changes should increase the safety of pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers, while improving traffic flow and the overall travel experience in the commercial corridor.

The City of Canal Fulton Active Transportation and Connectivity Study includes a school travel plan for connecting the city to the Northwest Local Schools complex on Erie Avenue NW. Goals for the study also include: reviewing the city's sidewalk needs, especially identifying how to improve ADA access; identifying optimal means for interconnecting neighborhood areas, especially along the Cherry and Locust Street corridors; reviewing options for connecting into the Stark Parks county-wide multi-use trail (and improving connections with the Towpath Trail); as well as encouraging active means of transportation by connecting neighborhoods and points of interest such as parks, retail, and places of work.

SCATS is in the process of selecting consultants for these projects. Dependent upon the costs of these studies once contracts are executed, several of the unfunded submissions may proceed later this year. Please contact Karl Lucas at 330-451-7386 or kblucas@starkcountyohio.gov with any questions.

Hall of Fame Land Use and Transportation Study Public Meeting



SCRPC Executive Director, Robert Nau introduces Bryan Newell, Project Manager with Gannett Fleming, Inc. (far left)

On Tuesday evening, March 20th, the first public meeting for the Hall of Fame Land Use & Transportation Study was held at McKinley High School. The meeting attracted close to ninety attendees, mostly residents who live near the Pro Football Hall of Fame and the Hall of Fame Village development now in progress.

The goals of the study are fivefold: to engage the community, identify how to improve connectivity between the HOF area and downtown Canton, identify how to leverage development while identifying needs, improve knowledge of how smart technology can help meet some the upcoming needs, and encourage implementation of solutions that will be identified in the study by creating a tool to assist in prioritizing projects.

There were three primary information stations for providing comments at the meeting. A connectivity station seeking to identify how to improve access to locations participants identified in the HOF area and downtown Canton, as well as identifying countywide points of interest; a smart technology station to gauge the knowledge of participants in how technology can help find solutions to transportation and connectivity issues; and a land use station to identify local needs, as well as locations for where additional development could occur.

While the study does not directly involve development within the “footprint” of the HOF Village development, it will result in projects that will help residents, as well as visitors, as we live in and enjoy what our community offers.

If you have questions or comments about the study, please feel free to contact Karl Lucas at 330-451-7386 or kblucas@starkcountyohio.gov. Also, please take the survey that can be found at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HOF_LandUse_Transportation_Survey



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

Upcoming Events

April

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

May

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

June

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

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