



April - June 2025

Volume 62 Issue 2



Planning Progress

RPC's Annual Dinner

Over 135 guests attended this year's Annual Dinner at Tozzi's on 12th on March 12th. The guest speaker was the Executive Director of the McKinley Presidential Library and Museum, Kimberly Kenney. The title and focus of her speech was "The People's House."

Kenney's presentation covered the design and major restorations of the White House throughout the years. She featured an in-depth look at the rooms of "McKinley's White House."





Community Development

Now is the time to start thinking about future Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) projects in your community. Community Development staff are available to discuss potential projects with your municipality, township or non-profit organization. The virtual application workshop for fiscal years 2026-2028 will be held on August 8, 2025 at 9:00 AM. If you are interested in discussing a potential project idea or have questions, contact Lisa Snyder lcsnyder@starkcountyohio.gov or Diane Sheridan dmsheridan@starkcountyohio.gov.



The Board of Stark County Commissioners receives an annual allocation of HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) funding which is administered by Stark County Regional Planning Commission. Program funds must be used exclusively to support affordable housing activities for those who are at or below 80% of the Area Median Income. A virtual application workshop will be held on October 3, 2025, at 9:00 AM for those who wish to hear more about HOME funds and the fiscal year 2026 application process. If you have questions regarding the HOME program, contact Lisa Snyder lcsnyder@starkcountyohio.gov or Diane Sheridan dmsheridan@starkcountyohio.gov.

ATTENTION CONTRACTORS

The Stark County Regional Planning Commission is searching for contractors who are committed to undertaking quality housing rehabilitation work under federally funded programs.

If you're interested in bidding on upcoming home improvement projects, SCRPC has grant funds available!

Work May Include:

Plumbing	Electric
Heating	Roofs
Siding	Gutters
Insulation	Windows
Doors	...and MORE

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

To learn more about contracting with the SCRPC on our upcoming home rehabilitation projects, visit, call or email us today!



201 3rd Street NE, Suite 201
Canton, OH 44702

Call Us at 330-451-7302

Email Us at spwilliams@starkcountyohio.gov

Visit Us Online at www.rpc.starkcountyohio.gov

Public Comment Period Ending April 11th on the SCATS TIP and STIP

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) is developing the FY 2026-2029 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). This includes projects from all Ohio Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), ODOT Central and District Offices, and others throughout the state. The Stark County Area Transportation Study (SCATS) is the MPO for Stark County.

SCATS is accepting public comments on the FY 2026-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) through April 11, 2025. The TIP is the schedule of highway, transit, pedestrian, and other transportation projects that will be implemented over the next four years. Projects must be included in the TIP in order to be eligible for federal funding.

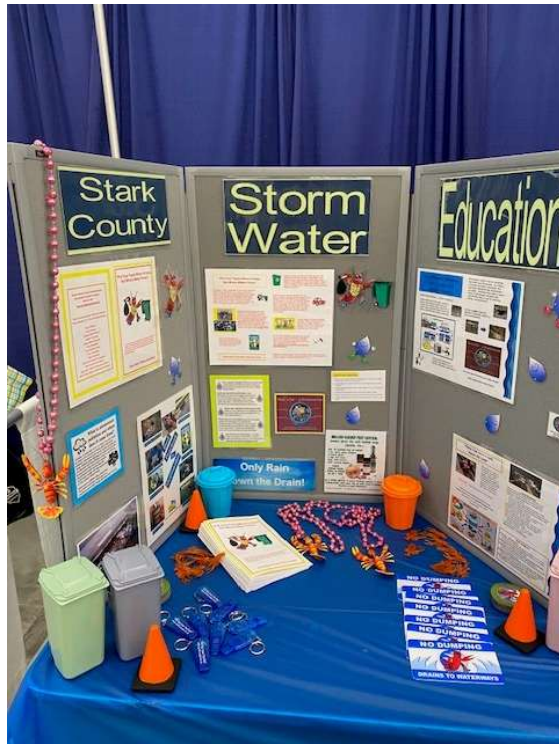
Major upcoming projects include: in 2026, roundabouts on West Tuscarawas Street in the city of Canton, a roundabout at Main Street and Tremont Avenue in Massillon, repair of a bridge on the Sippo Valley Trail, and a complete-streets corridor project on Colonial Boulevard in Canton; in 2027, SARTA bus purchases, a roundabout at State Route 241 and Shuffel Street, safety improvements on Lake Avenue in Massillon, another bridge repair on the Sippo Valley Trail, and paving on Applegrove Street in Plain and Jackson Townships; in 2028, a roundabout at Easton Street and the Glenoak High School entrance in Plain Township, paving of the Hoover Trail, a roundabout in Greentown at Cleveland Avenue and State Street in Lake Township, and paving projects on Cleveland Avenue (Lake Township), Hills and Dales Road (Jackson Township), and 12th Street NW (city of Canton); and in 2029, a roundabout at Fulton Drive, 25th Street, and Harrison Avenue in Canton, roundabouts on State Route 627 at the US Route 30/62 ramps and at Nave Street in Massillon, a roundabout at Perry Drive and 12th Street NW in Perry Township, another bridge repair on the Sippo Valley Trail, paving of the Towpath Trail in Massillon, intersection improvements at Applegrove Street and Freedom Avenue, and paving on Portage Street in Jackson Township and South Main Street in North Canton.

The SCATS TIP can be reviewed at: <https://www.starkcountyohio.gov/transportation>.

The ODOT STIP can be reviewed at: <https://www.transportation.ohio.gov/stip>.

Comments are being accepted through April 11, 2025.

Stormwater Education Updates



The theme for this year's Stormwater Education Program is "Put Trash Where It Goes, Not Where Water Flows." This year, the Stark County Home & Garden Show was held March 14th and 15th at the HOF Village Dome. We had a booth at the show which had several thousand people that attended. A lot of information and giveaways were handed out at the booth.



Be on the look out! Coming up in late spring is our annual Billboard Coloring Contest. Students K-5 can enter the contest by coloring the official picture that focuses on this year's theme and features Clawd, the stormwater mascot. Four winning entries will have their artwork on billboards throughout Stark County for the month of June. The deadline for the contest is April 18th. For more information or to get the coloring sheet, please contact Malia Burgasser at 330-451-7405 or email mrwatkins@starkcountyohio.gov. Our next newsletter will show the winning entries.

Stark Parks Comprehensive Plan Update Underway



SCRPC executed a contract with Stark Parks to update their comprehensive plan to cover the years 2025-2035. SCRPC and Stark Parks staff are currently working through the public engagement process for the development of the Stark Parks Plan. The community's input is essential, and we want to ensure that your voice is heard as we shape the future of our local parks and recreational spaces.

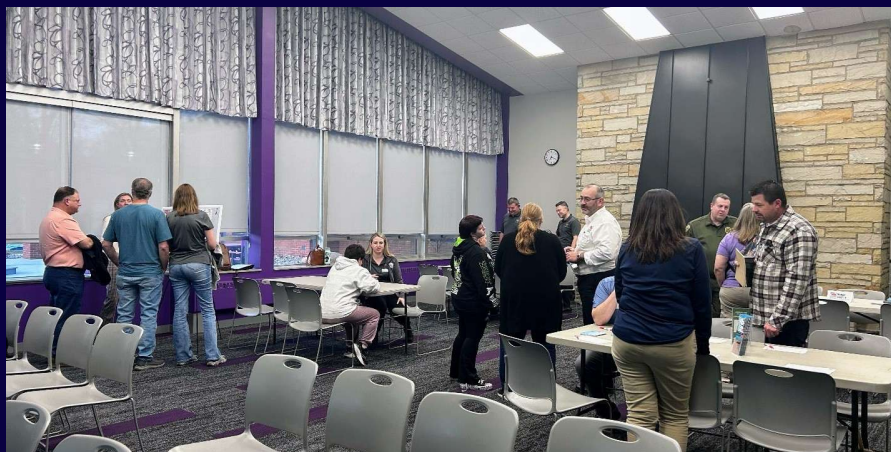
As part of the public participation process, an online survey has been created that invites community members to share their feedback, ideas, and concerns about the future of Stark Parks which will remain open through June 30, 2025. Additionally, in partnership with Stark Parks, SCRPC is hosting a series of public meetings during the months of March, April and May throughout Stark County. These meetings will provide opportunities for community members to engage directly with the planning team and Stark Parks staff, ask questions, and provide input on key issues. See the next page for specific dates and locations or visit Stark Parks' website to learn more. Your input will play a crucial role in guiding the development of the plan.

What's Next?

After the public meetings and survey collection, the planning team will begin analyzing the feedback and incorporating it into the final parks plan. A draft of the plan will be made available for public review later this year, with additional opportunities for feedback. The final Stark Parks Plan will serve as a long-term roadmap for park improvements and enhancements, helping to ensure that Stark Parks remain vibrant, inclusive, and well-maintained for years to come. We encourage everyone to participate and contribute their thoughts as we work together to create a parks system that meets the needs of the community. For more details on upcoming meetings or to take the survey, visit the Stark Parks website at www.starkparks.com. The QR code can also be scanned to take the survey.



Upcoming Meeting Locations 2025	General Public Session
Glenwood Intermediate School 1015- 44 th St. NW Canton, OH 44709	Wednesday, April 2 – 7PM
Magnolia Village Fire Station 125 High Street Magnolia, OH 44643	Thursday, April 10 – 7PM
Lake Community Branch- Stark Library 565 Market Ave. SW Uniontown, OH 44685	Thursday, April 15 – 7PM
Massillon Library 208 Lincoln Way E Massillon OH 44646	Wednesday, April 23 – 7PM
Nimishillen Fire Station #2 4422 Maplegrove Ave. Louisville, OH 44641	Monday, May 5 – 7PM
Brewster Village Hall Community Room 302 S. Wabash Avenue Brewster, OH 44613	Tuesday, May 13 – 7PM
Minerva Library 677 Lynnwood Dr. Minerva, OH 44657	Wednesday, May 21 – 7PM



Meeting at Mt. Union – March 13th

Perry Township Comprehensive Plan Nearing Completion



A draft of the Perry Township Comprehensive Plan is now open for public comment. The Perry Township Trustees contracted with SCRPC to create a comprehensive plan for the township. A draft has been completed, and a public meeting is scheduled for April 1st at the Perry Township Hall to go over the surveys and public engagement activities and results; discuss the different sections of the plan; and review some of the recommendations for the township. The draft will then be open for public comment through April 30th. Once the public comment period has ended, the comments received will be taken into consideration for edits to the comprehensive plan. After the edits are completed, the Perry Township Trustees can adopt the plan. For more information on Perry Township Comprehensive Plan, please visit perrytwp.com.

Stark County Land Bank 50/50 Demolition Assistance Program

Each year the Stark County Land Bank allocates funding for its 50/50 Demolition Assistance Program (DAP). The program aims to assist Stark County, its political subdivisions, and qualified non-profit organizations with strategic demolition of residential and commercial properties that are beyond repair or rehabilitation. This funding is provided as a matched reimbursement of up to 50% of hard-demolition costs that are incurred on the project.

Properties must meet certain eligibility requirements in order to qualify for funding assistance. The DAP program policies are also available online.

The Land Bank is accepting applications for 2025 projects. For more information about applying for demolition funding assistance, please contact Sarah Peters, Land Bank Manager, at 330-451-7387 or visit the Land Bank's website at:

<https://starkcountylandbank.org>



April

7	Subdivision Review	1:30 AM
8	SCRPC	7:00 PM
28	SCATS	1:30 PM

May

5	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
6	SCRPC	7:00 PM
27	SCATS	1:30 PM

June

2	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
3	SCRPC	7:00 PM
30	SCATS	1:30 PM

Visit our website:
www.rpc.starkcountyohio.gov

Stark County Regional Planning Commission
201- 3rd St. N.E., Suite 201
Canton, Ohio 44702
330-451-7389



Executive Director: Robert Nau

President: Joseph Skubiak

