



July - September 2026

Volume 63 Issue 3



Planning Progress

We Are Moving!



**Current Location: 201 3rd St, NE,
Suite 201, Canton, Ohio 44702**



**New Location: 110 Central Plaza S,
Suite 300, Canton, Ohio 44702**

SCRPC anticipates moving to the new location in mid-August. Visit our website and social media pages for updates!

Public Engagement Underway for County and Village Comprehensive Plans

The Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SCRPC) has launched the public participation phase of two important planning initiatives that will help shape the future of our communities for years to come.

On June 1, SCRPC began gathering public input for Stark County's next long-range Comprehensive Plan. The County's current plan, adopted in 2017, extends through 2040. The new plan will guide future land use, transportation investments, and development decisions through 2050. Community feedback is essential to identifying the County's strengths, challenges, opportunities, and priorities.

To encourage participation, SCRPC staff attended Canton's First Friday in June and will continue outreach efforts at upcoming community events in Alliance and Massillon. Residents, employees, business owners, and stakeholders throughout Stark County are encouraged to complete the online survey, which will remain open through September 2026..



At the same time, SCRPC is partnering with the Village of Minerva to develop the Village's 2027 Comprehensive Plan. Public input gathered during the early stages of the planning process will help establish a vision for future growth, development, and community priorities. The survey seeks feedback on what the residents value most about Minerva, the challenges facing the community, and areas where future improvements should be focused.

To support the effort, SCRPC attended the Minerva Homecoming and will continue community outreach at upcoming Second Friday events. The Minerva survey will remain open through the end of July 2026..

Residents are encouraged to participate in both planning efforts by completing the appropriate survey. Survey links and QR codes are available on the SCRPC website and Facebook page. Continued updates on both Comprehensive Plans will be shared as planning progresses.

Your input today will help shape the future of Stark County and its communities for generations to come.



Scan for Village
of Minerva
Survey

Scan for Stark
County 2050
Survey



Stormwater Nimishillen Creek CleanUp



SAVE THE DATE!

Creek LEAP
2026

September 19, 2026 • 9:00 AM

📍 **Meet at the McKinley Presidential Library & Museum**

- 🌿 Help Protect Wildlife
- 🌿 Support Healthy Ecosystems
- 🌿 Keep Our Community Beautiful

Cleaning the waterways of the
McKinley National Memorial &
Canton City Parks!

Fun for all ages & groups!

Contact Lynette for Details: 330-455-7043 ext. 208 - science@mckinleymuseum.org

Save the Date Application Workshop



The Community Development Department will hold the fiscal year 2027 application workshop for Stark County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnerships (HOME) programs on August 7, 2026 at 9:00 AM. This will be a virtual workshop.

The workshop signals the opening of the request for proposals process. Effective August 7, 2026, applicants can begin working on proposals/applications via Neighborly. Complete proposals for both programs will be due by 12:00 PM on October 16, 2026.

The link to the workshop will be provided via e-mail later. If you wish to discuss potential project ideas or have questions, you may contact Lisa Snyder at Lcsnyder@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

SCATS' 5310 Program

Connecting Mobility and Independence through the FTA Section 5310 Program

Access to safe, reliable transportation plays a critical role in maintaining independence, accessing housing, and participating fully in community life. For many older adults and individuals with disabilities, transportation can become the greatest barrier to participation, maintaining stable housing opportunities, and aging in place.

The Federal Transportation Administration's Section 5310 Program, also known as the Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities program, exists to help address those challenges. The program provides funding for transportation service and mobility improvements that go beyond the minimum requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act, helping communities better serve residents with specialized transportation needs.

As the cost of living continues to rise, transportation and housing remain two of the largest expenses individuals will face in their lifetime. As individuals age, they are more susceptible to developing a disability. For older adults and people with disabilities, the ability to access medical care, grocery stores, employment opportunities, and community services can often depend on the availability of affordable and accessible transportation options. Programs like Section 5310 help reduce transportation burdens while supporting independence, dignity, and quality of life.

Last year, Stark County urbanized area was apportioned **\$460,784**. Several local transportation providers and community organizations across Stark County applied to receive Section 5310 funding. Five different organizations' capital projects were reimbursed and nearly **\$40,000** in operational assistance was provided.

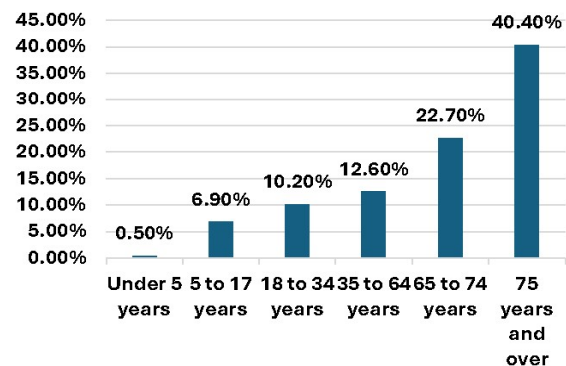
The FY2026 Section 5310 Program is now underway through the Stark County Area Transportation Study (SCATS) & Stark Area Regional Transit Authority (SARTA). This year's federal apportionment of **\$485,225** continues the program's commitment to improving mobility and expanding access to transportation resources for vulnerable populations across Stark County.

The deadline for applications was June 26, 2026. Eligible applicants include non-profit organizations, public transportation providers, and local government entities that provide transportation services to benefit older adults and individuals with disabilities. Awardees will be contacted by SCATS & SARTA for follow up FTA requirements.

By investing in accessible transportation, nonprofits and our communities can help ensure residents are able to remain connected to housing, healthcare, employment, and essential daily services. The Federal Transit Administration Section 5310 Program continues to be an important tool in advancing mobility, accessibility, and equitable opportunities for our most transportation vulnerable.

For more information about Stark County's Section 5310 program, check our [Mobility Coordination Committee](#), please direct questions to [Spencer Gibbs](#) at SCATS & [Chris Tyson](#) at SARTA.

Percent of People Living in Stark County with a Disability, by Age



Source: 2024 Census Estimates

Stark County Land Bank Update

Stark County Land Bank recently awarded Grant Funding through the Ohio Department of Development

The Stark County Land Reutilization Corporation (Land Bank) will receive a grant through the Brownfield Remediation Program from the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD). In total, ODOD is awarding \$61 million to support 160 projects across the state.

This round of funding was made possible with support from the Ohio General Assembly in the most recent biennium budget bill, House Bill 96, which allocated \$200 million toward the program. As required by the bill, \$1 million has been reserved for applicants in each of Ohio's 88 counties for Fiscal Year 2026, with awards being made via a merit-based process.



This grant will support the Stark County Land Bank with assessment & corrective action at Former Joel's Garage; a property located on E. Main Street in the city of Alliance. This project will complete the Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Removal (BUSTR)-directed assessment activities at a former auto service station to achieve a No Further Action designation. Additional assessments for asbestos, lead-based paint, and regulated waste will support the city's plan to renovate the existing building for emergency-response storage use.

The Stark County Land Bank had previously received funding through the Brownfield Remediation Program in 2024 totaling \$3,626,258 for three (3) remediation projects. The Brownfield Remediation Program has provided nearly \$780 million to support 841 projects in 87 counties since its launch.

July

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

August

3	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
4	SCRPC	7:00 PM
31	SCATS	1:30 PM

September

8	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
8	SCRPC	7:00 PM
28	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: David Thorley

