

THE NORTHWEST BULLETIN

MAUMEE VALLEY PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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OVERVIEW

This quarterly newsletter will provide updates on projects, funding opportunities, and upcoming dates and deadlines for grants within the five-county region (Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Paulding, and Williams).

ABOUT MVPO

MVPO is a regional planning organization that is here to serve our five-county region with grant applications, projects, and administration. Counties pay annual membership dues for our services, which enables us to help our communities identify project needs, apply for grants to fit those needs, and administer the grants to complete projects.

DEADLINES

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Allocation projects for Paulding and Henry Counties are due to Maumee Valley Planning on **Monday, April 9, 2018**. Questions? Contact Sandy Kessler at 419-784-3882 or planner@mvpo.org.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



Maumee Valley Planning Organization (MVPO) recently submitted 11 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Allocation projects to the Ohio Development Services Agency for Defiance, Fulton, and Williams County. CDBG Critical Infrastructure projects were also applied for, which are typically larger grants that serve a pressing infrastructure need. CDBG grants fund projects for low and moderate income populations and the removal of slum & blight. Eligible activities include construction or improvement of public facilities, like senior centers, fire protection equipment, curbs and sidewalks, and parks, just to name a few. This program is on a 2-year cycle, with each County receiving roughly \$150,000 for 3-4 projects. If you have a project in mind or are formulating one, you can contact us and we can assist your community. Henry County and Paulding County are eligible to apply in 2018, while our other Counties will be eligible in 2019.

HOUSING



Housing is a large component of MVPO's work. The Community Housing and Impact Preservation Program (CHIP) aids in home repair and rehabilitation for homeowners that income-qualify. MVPO has helped 116 households, with the goal of assisting 136 households in all communities.

Repair and replacement items include:

- Roof/Gutters
- Heating Systems
- Plumbing
- Electrical
- Lead Paint
- Water/Sewer
- Structural
- Water Heaters
- Accessibility

MVPO is still taking applications in all communities for all activities. Contact our office for more information or visit www.mvpo.org/housing.

TRANSPORTATION TRENDS

MVPO is also designated as a Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) and as such participates in infrastructure projects for roads, trail development, and coordinated transit.

• TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

MVPO offers technical assistance for transportation planning activities such as map creation, traffic counts, data collection, and more.



• SAFETY SCOOP

The Village of Swanton completed their Safe Routes to School Travel Plan and applied for Safe Routes to School funds sidewalks, crosswalks, signage, and materials to encourage walking and biking to school for K-8 students.

• FUNDING



Eligible townships for 2018 have been announced! ODOT provides up to \$50,000 per township in safety sign materials (signs, posts and hardware) for townships. Applications are due June 8th, 2018. Visit www.mvpo.org/transportation to view the list of eligible townships.

Have a high crash intersection or stretch of road that needs safety improvements? ODOT accepts applications for safety projects costing less than \$500,000 all year long.

Funds for transportation improvement projects are also available for projects with an economic development component. Applications are due May 31, 2018.

PLANNING SERVICES

Strategic and comprehensive plans are often necessary to apply for most grant funds. Having a vision for your community and updating it regularly will help when determining needs through goals, strategies, and project lists. MVPO is currently partnering with the Paulding County Vision Group in preparation of their Strategic Plan. MVPO is also working with the Fulton County Regional Planning Commission to redevelop their comprehensive plan.

MVPO writes and administers grants through many different funding sources, with projects in economic and community development, housing, transportation, and removal of slum and blight.

Have a project idea but not sure where to get started? Contact MVPO to discuss potential funding sources.

NOTEWORTHY GIS SERVICES



The Village of Paulding requested the services of MVPO to build a Geographic Information System (GIS) of their water and sanitary sewer lines. The Village plans to catalog their infrastructure for easier future access and maintenance.

COUNTY LAND BANKS

MVPO is partnering with several land banks to administer funding via the Ohio Housing Finance Agency's Neighborhood Initiative Program. Henry, Paulding, and Williams County Land Banks are all participating in the program, in which the land banks acquire, demolish, and green residential properties to increase property values, improve communities, and return land to tax-productive uses. The Williams County Land Bank has acquired over 20 properties and has demolished 13 structures.