

Important Upcoming Dates:

- January 17, 2008 Funding Applications Meeting
- February 6, 2008 Mandatory First-time Applicant Training
- March 14, 2008 Applications Due to CDA 2:00 p.m.

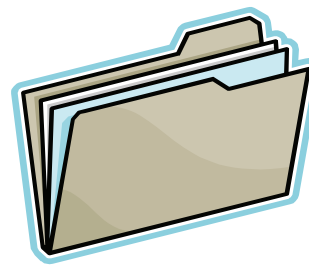
34th Year Application Cycle to Begin Expect Minor Changes to the Process

Even before HUD has announced the 34th Year funding amounts for entitlement communities, CDA is preparing for the application process. Dates have been set for the public participation meetings and application meetings. CDA will again conduct four neighborhood participation/input meetings in January, one on each side of town.

The application meeting is scheduled for **1:00 PM January 17, at the Chevy Centre community room.** Application will be made available to all interested agencies after a brief presentation. Applications can also be picked up from CDA Monday –Friday 8 AM-4 PM after the 17th.

CDA has created a separate application for ESG funding requests. The CDBG and HOME grant requests will share the same application.

Last year CDA received a total of 39 applications for CDBG funding totaling over five million dollars; five requests for HOME funds



totaling one and a quarter million dollars; and nine requests for ESG funds totaling a quarter million dollars. The process is highly competitive and awards are based on, the amount of funding available, consistency with five-year consolidated goals, and the soundness of the application.

A change in the process this

year will require first time applicants to attend a mandatory training session February 6th. This change is necessary to ensure that potential funded project administrators will be aware of the requirements necessary to enter into an agreement. In the past there have been long delays in getting projects started due to the applicant not having the necessary documentation ready. It is our hope that this training session will better prepare new applicants for the next steps in receiving funding as well as what to expect in reporting and requesting reimbursements once the project is funded.

For more information on the application process contact Sherry Moore at 330 744-0854.

Wean Foundation invites Grant Proposals

The Raymond John Wean Foundation has invited proposals for grassroots community organizations to apply for grants ranging from \$500 to \$5,000. The goals of the grant program are to develop organization leadership and capacity building, stimulate resident driven projects that address a neighborhood concern, provide forums for groups to connect, and to increase op-

portunities for positive community involvement. All nonprofit groups are encouraged to attend a session and submit an application for funding. We appreciate The Wean Foundation's commitment to the Mahoning Valley. For more information contact Cheryl Crooks at 330-394-5600. Email CCrooks@RJWeanFdn.org. Web Site: www.RJWeanFdn.org

Inside this issue:

Citizen Participation	2
Your Money	2
NVPC Study	2
Neighborhoods	3
Baldwin Homes	3
Highlight Success	3
2010 Update	4

Citizen Participation Meetings Set for January

HUD requires entitlement communities to submit a citizen involvement plan for approval and that citizen input be sought during the application and year end reporting process. CDA views this requirement as a very important part of its mission to serve the needs of people and not just fulfilling another HUD requirement. We seek and encourage citizen input so much so, that we annually “bring the meeting to the people”. Four meetings are conducted, one on each side of town, to ensure all those who want to participate, can.

The purpose of the meetings is to provide information to the public about the City’s 5-year Consolidated Plan and one-year Action Plan and to receive citizen comments regarding the

priorities and goals of the Community Development Block grant Program, HOME program

7:00 Tuesday January 22

**Park Vista
1216 First Ave**

7:00 Thursday January 24

**OCCHA
3660 Shirley Rd**

7:00 Tuesday January 29

**Associated Neighborhood
Center
1649 Jacobs Rd**

7:00 Thursday January 31

**Chaney High School
731 S. Hazelwood Ave**

and Emergency Shelter Grant program. Plan on attending one of the four meetings and take part in the development of the CDA plan.

The City of Youngstown was recognized by the American Planning Association in 2007 and is featured in a recent planning text book “Designing Public Consensus” for the public participation of the Youngstown 2010 plan.



“Effective internal controls can safeguard your cash and property ”



Your Money: Financial Management

One element of financial management for subrecipients of CDBG funding is to have effective internal controls (IC). IC’s consist of a combination of procedures, specified job responsibilities, qualified personnel, and record keeping that together create accountability in an organization’s financial system and

safeguard its cash, and property. Answer the following questions to determine if your internal controls are adequate. Do you have a written policy and procedures that define staff qualifications and duties, lines of authority, separation of functions, and access to assets? Do you have written accounting procedures

for approving and recording transactions? Are financial records periodically compared to actual assets and liabilities to check for completeness and accuracy? Some basic elements include having an organizational chart, written defined duties, and a formal system of authorization and supervision.

National Vacant Properties Campaign to conduct study

Mahoning County and the City of Youngstown are partnering with the Wick Neighbors and the National Vacant Properties Campaign (NVPC) to conduct an in-depth analysis of the issues surrounding vacant properties. Details are being finalized and the process will begin shortly with a final report being anticipated within 12 months. The

NVPC has helped other cities such as Buffalo and Cleveland



Solutions to Abandonment

address this issue.

Goals Include: Identify the barriers and opportunities, Provide a menu of options based on similar communities in Ohio, Evaluate the adoption and implementation of strategies, and Publish a Policy Brief. For more information, contact Wick Neighbors at 330-259-1750 www.wickneighbors.org

Neighborhood Planning Spotlight: Idora

“Develop a Neighborhood strategy for every neighborhood ”

The Idora Neighborhood was once a thriving residential area with a bustling commercial district located along Glenwood Avenue. It also was regionally famous for the Idora Amusement Park that provided entertainment and recreation activities for the entire Mahoning Valley. The park closed in 1984 after experiencing a fire. The neighborhood has deteriorated over the last twenty years in a manner similar to Idora Park.

The neighborhood faces serious issues that must be addressed including, vacancy, disinvestment, blight, and public safety. The neighborhood is framed by strong boundaries namely Mill Creek Park to the north, south, and west and Glenwood Avenue serving as the eastern boundary. The time is now for the Idora

Park Neighborhood to be stabilized. Eight graduate students from The Ohio State University, Urban Planning program have been working with the City of Youngstown and the Idora Park Neighborhood residents to develop a neighborhood strategy. Several well attended public input and stakeholder meetings have already taken place. A neighborhood strategy draft is ready to be adopted and implemented. The strategy calls on residents to organize and take part in the future of their neighborhood. The strategy also calls for the City of Youngstown to target housing rehab assistance, demolition, property acquisition, infrastructure improvements, and safety services in the neighborhood. CDA has already identified and is in the

process of providing housing rehab assistance to eleven owner-occupied families representing approximately a \$250,000 investment in the neighborhood.

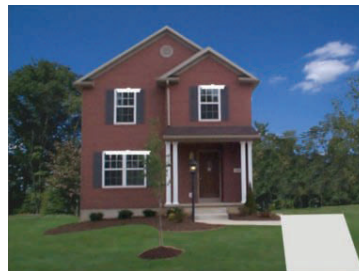
Idora is one of six neighborhoods that the City of Youngstown is currently targeting and developing neighborhood strategies for. Other neighborhoods include Boulevard Park on the southside, the Garden District on the westside, Wick Park and North Heights on the northside, and Sharon Line on the eastside. It is the goal of the city to develop a neighborhood strategy for every neighborhood.

For more information on the Idora Neighborhood plan contact Karen Perkins, Youngstown Planning Dept. at 330-742-8842.

New Baldwin Housing Underway One home complete, more to follow

An opportunity for the American Dream awaits income-eligible home buyers. With one of ten homes completed and the second home well underway, Common Wealth remains hopeful that sales will occur. An affordable, modern design product can be purchased for around \$75,000. The Baldwin

homes are located on the near



north side, within walking distance of YSU

For more information contact Common Wealth at 330-744-2667 or Vivian Martin of Essence Realty at 330-744-4775

Highlight on a Successful Program: Interfaith Home Maintenance Service

For 33 years Interfaith has been providing a much needed service to low-income home-owners. Interfaith helps to keep homes in a safe, sanitary and decent condition thereby enhancing the quality of life of not only people but neighborhoods within Mahoning County. Each year Interfaith performs essential repairs in more than 500 area

homes, 90% of those homes are located in the City of Youngstown.



Examples of what Interfaith does include:

Window/Door Replacement

Furnace Repair

Hot Water Tank Replacement

Build a wheelchair ramp

Rebuild a front porch

Replace a water line

Interfaith is a non-profit organization that relies on funding from various organizations, foundations, and donations. For more information contact Interfaith at 330-743-7800 or Email ihms@ihmsrepair.com

Community Development Agency

9 W. Front Street
Youngstown, Ohio 44503

Phone: 330-742-8830
Fax: 330-744-7522
E-mail: CDA_Director@CityofYoungstownoh.com



HUD's mission is to increase homeownership, support community development and increase access to affordable housing free from discrimination. To fulfill this mission, HUD will embrace high standards of ethics, management and accountability and forge new partnerships--particularly with faith-based and community organizations--that leverage resources and improve HUD's ability to be effective on the community level.



CDA's Mission is to positively impact on the quality of life for city residents while remaining sensitive to their needs and concerns. To accomplish this, CDA will efficiently and effectively administer resources to help eliminate slum and blight in neighborhoods, foster suitable and positive living environments, and expand economic opportunities. Resources will be amplified by partnering with organizations having similar missions. Services will be provided in a manner that is fair, consistent, compliant and professional, with respect for the dignity of the citizens served.

Youngstown 2010 Update

Catch the latest news and progress on the Youngstown 2010 Citywide Plan here! The 2010 planning team, made up of City and YSU staff, stated during the planning process that all of the projects in Chapter 8 - Implementation, will either be complete or in progress by the year 2010. Nevertheless, projects are not limited to only the ones listed in the 2010 Plan. The Williams' administration and the Youngstown community continue to innovatively interpret the 2010 Vision and undertake new and exciting projects all the time. Here are some of the highlights:

- The Fifth Avenue neighborhood is the

latest neighborhood to be profiled under the "Moving to Youngstown" tab on the 2010 website.

- International attention continues with a recent visit by several professors from the Osaka, Nagoya, Tokushima, Yamanashi, and Meijo Universities of Japan. The group, led by Dr. Hiroshi Yahagi from the Graduate School of Creative Cities, Osaka University, met with various city officials, neighborhood groups, and community leaders to gain insight on

population decline strategies and possibly applying them to the future of Japanese cities.

- Treez Please is the latest neighborhood group to form in the City. This group, among others, will play an integral part



in helping Youngstown 2010 achieve a citywide green network. Visit treezplease.org today.