

**FAIRFIELD COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LANCASTER, OHIO**

PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Carri Brown, County Administrator
Holly Mattei, Regional Planning Commission

**Fairfield County to hold Community Development Implementation Strategy
Meeting – March 17, 2015 at 1:00 p.m.**

The Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission, on behalf of the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners, is currently seeking applications from the county's cities, villages, townships and private, non-profit 501(c)(3) corporations or organizations for its FY 2015 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Allocation Program. The County anticipates receiving approximately \$154,000 in Allocation funds for FY 2015. The County will be holding a Community Development Implementation Strategy (CDIS) meeting to identify and prioritize proposed projects. This meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 17, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. in the 3rd Floor Commissioners' Hearing Room, 210 E. Main Street, Lancaster, OH.

CDBG programs are federally funded grants which are administered by the Ohio Development Services Agency. The programs can fund a wide range of activities including, street, water, drainage, and other public improvements, housing rehabilitation, neighborhood revitalization, downtown commercial revitalization, and other community development and housing activities. All activities must be designed to primarily benefit low and moderate income persons or aid in the prevention/elimination of slum and blight.

“This meeting will be a vital component of the citizen participation process that the county utilizes to qualify projects and determine where funding is most needed to assist our low to moderate income residents” said Holly Mattei, the Executive Director of the Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission. “Cities, villages, townships and non-profit organizations wishing to apply for funding must have a representative at this meeting in order for projects to be considered. We also encourage any citizen, agency or business with a project idea to attend the meeting.”

The County may also apply for the Neighborhood Revitalization Program and Critical Infrastructure Program competitive grants for up to an additional \$300,000 of funds for each grant. The competitive grants will be further discussed at the CDIS meeting.

For any questions regarding the CDBG programs or the CDIS meeting, please contact Holly Mattei at 740-652-7110.