

Erie County Department of Planning and Development and
Erie Regional Planning Commission



Steve Poggiali, Director

The County's Department of Planning and Development/Regional Planning Commission is responsible for the following duties: the establishment of a comprehensive long-term planning framework for the future development of the County; conducting special studies; administration of the County's subdivision regulations; preparation, submission and administration of grant applications including applications for Community Development Block Grant and Community Housing Improvement Program funding; Lead Abatement Removal Program; fostering economic development activities; community development and housing activities; Fair Housing and landlord-tenant programs; planning services for the members of the Erie Regional Planning Commission; administration of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO); transportation planning; administration of the County's floodplain program; and computerized mapping services for the County's political subdivisions.

During 2014, the Planning Department continued to work on the **2010 Lead Hazard Control Program**. Working with the **Erie County Health Department** staff completed lead abatement in 210 units. Between the 2008 and 2010 Lead Hazard Control Programs lead abatement was completed in 430 units.

The Planning Department received an additional \$267,000 in **Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP) Grant** dollars to go along with \$400,000 received during FY 2013. The additional funding was part of a joint application filed with the City of Vermilion. The total award was for \$575,000 with Vermilion receiving \$308,000. The CHIP program is designed to assist low/moderate income homeowners improve their existing home, remedy emergencies/emergency utility payments and to assist Habitat for Humanity .

The **Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)** projects completed in 2014 included the **First Street Resurfacing** project in Sandusky and the **West River Road** project in Vermilion. It should also be noted the **US Route 250/Strub Road** intersection project was also completed with ODOT Safety Funding. Staff worked with a real estate consultant to begin the purchase Right Of Way (ROW) for the State Route 4/Stub Road Intersection Project. Staff completed the **Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update** and the **Lake Erie Coastal Plan Update**. Staff also **began working on the 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan Update**. Staff also assisted Perkins Township on their efforts to work with the **Kroger Marketplace** project.

Other 2014 Accomplishments:

Regional Planning was awarded \$115,000 for the **Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)** Grant activities includes the following:

- **VOA Sandusky Operating Expenses (\$17,250)**
 - **VOA Homeless Shelter ADA Improvements (\$30,000)**
 - **Milan Township ADA Improvements (\$20,000)**
 - **Berlin Heights Road Improvements (\$24,750)**
 - **Fair Housing (\$2,000)**
 - **Administration (\$21,000)**
- ⇒ Served as Secretary on **Erie County Port Authority Board**.
 - ⇒ Worked with the **Erie County Land Reutilization Corporation (ECLRC)** to complete 39 demolitions throughout the county funded by the **Moving Ohio Forward Program (MOF)**. Staff also assisted ECLRC in applying for the Neighborhood Initiative Program (NIP) which was awarded \$500,000 by the Ohio Housing Finance Agency to demolish vacant and abandoned blighted properties with the goal to create productive properties in the future.
 - ⇒ Worked with Friends of **NASA Plum Brook** to maintain and seek economic development possibilities at the Plum Brook facility.
 - ⇒ Completed **27 lot splits**
 - ⇒ Provided **mapping services/completed** quarterly and annual reports.
 - ⇒ Attended **Sandusky Bayfront Corridor** and Sandusky Main Street meetings.
 - ⇒ Attended **City of Vermilion Main Street Economic Restructuring Committee** meetings .
 - ⇒ Responded to a number of **floodplain** complaints and issued permits for qualified projects requiring a floodplain permit.
 - ⇒ Served as President of **Ohio Association of Regional Councils (OARC)** ,delivered opening remarks at the **OARC Candidates Forum** and served on a Roundtable Discussion at the **Ohio Conference on Freight**.
 - ⇒ Completed the **Lake Erie Coastal Plan Update**.
 - ⇒ Participated in **numerous training sessions** throughout the year.