

What's rollin'?

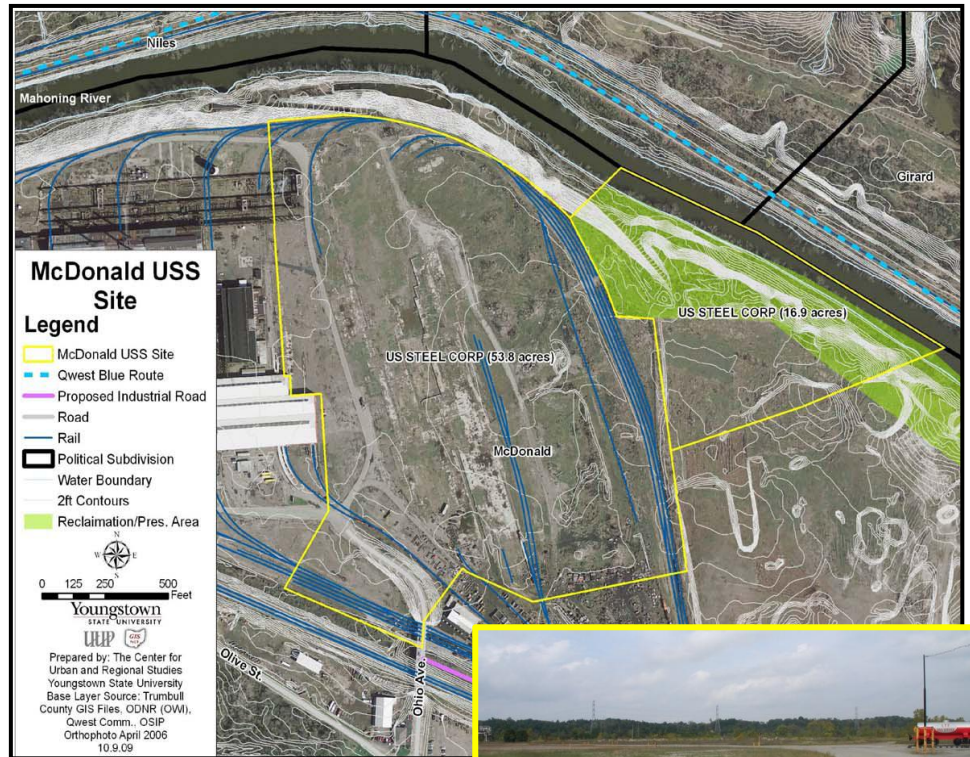
Village of McDonald Secures Access Agreement

The Village of McDonald has secured an agreement with US Steel Corporation to access approximately seventy acres of industrial property in the village to conduct environmental assessments.

According to McDonald Mayor Glenn Holmes, the agreement was the result of nearly two years of renewed discussions with US Steel Corporation after earlier attempts were unsuccessful. "The involvement of the MRCI and a certified professional were instrumental in helping the village get the agreement", stated Mayor Holmes.

Upon completion of a Phase 1 assessment, which documents historical uses of the property, the village anticipates filing an application for Clean Ohio funding to conduct a Phase 2 environmental assessment later this year. A Phase 2 assessment would identify and determine the actual level of any contamination that would have to be remediated.

With the addition of the USSteel site, over 400 acres of former industrial property in the river corridor will be in various stages of environmental assessment/remediation with 160 acres having been remediated.



**Mahoning River Corridor Mayors' Association
MRCI Transportation / Infrastructure Committee
Friday, April 8, 2011, 10:00 AM
@ Eastgate Regional COG**

In addition to a project status review, there will be a presentation and discussion on strategies to enhance rail development in the corridor and an intermodal opportunity for the Mahoning Valley.

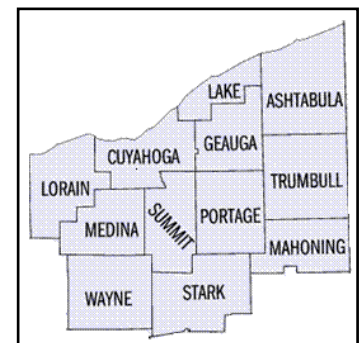
**Northeast Ohio Sustainable Communities Consortium
Implementation of the HUD Sustainable Communities
grant continues to move ahead.**

At recent meetings of the NEO Sustainable Communities Consortium Board of Directors a Code of Regulations governing the Consortium was adopted, an Executive Committee formed, and a Chair, Vice Chair and Project Manager were selected.

Medina County Commissioner Steve Hambley and Akron area metropolitan organization (AMATS) director

Jason Segedy have been elected NEO Consortium Chair and Vice Chair, respectively. Hunter Morrison, currently YSU Director of Campus Planning and Community Partnerships, has been selected to be the NEO Consortium Program Director. In the immediate future Hunter will be establishing an office for the consortium and hiring needed staff.

Currently, the Board consists of 24 members representing the four metropolitan planning organizations in Northeast Ohio, seven counties (Cuyahoga, Lorain, Mahoning, Stark, Summit, Trumbull, Medina), six cities (Akron, Canton, Cleveland, Elyria, Warren, Youngstown), three housing authorities, Cleveland State University and three private non-profits organizations. Work continues to identify



and reach out to other counties, cities, universities and non-profits to join the Consortium.

The Executive Committee of the Consortium consists of the Chair, Vice Chair, representatives from the four metropolitan planning organizations, four sub region representatives, and the Fund for Our Economic Future. John Getchey, Eastgate Executive Director, and Bill Miller, Executive Director of Trumbull County Planning Commission represent the Mahoning Valley region on the Executive Committee.

In the very near future the work streams to address the following seven livability principles that are the focus of the planning process will be forming.

- Provide More Transportation Choices.
- Promote equitable, affordable housing.
- Enhance Economic Competitiveness.
- Support Existing Communities.
- Coordinate Policies and Leverage Investment.
- Value Communities and Neighborhoods.
- Preserve and Restore Natural Systems

applications will be accepted later this year. In the meantime, the MRCI will be looking at various projects that could benefit from the program.

MRCI and Corridor Mayors' Association Collaborating with YSU College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

The Mahoning River Corridor Initiative and Mahoning River Corridor Mayors' Association are working with the YSU College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) on a USEPA Technical Assistance to Build Sustainable Communities grant as part of YSU STEM's "Green Valley Initiative".

If funded the grant would enable YSU to provide technical assistance to river corridor communities to help put vacant/abandoned properties to productive re-use through urban gardening.

Funding would be used to conduct technical assistance workshops on best management practices and implementation strategies, for officials and interested parties in the corridor communities.



Area –Wide Brownfield Planning Strategy Workshop

On March 21, 2011, representatives of the MRCI and Mahoning Valley Organizing Collaborative participated in a brownfield planning strategy workshop hosted by the Ohio Department of Development and Smart Growth America to learn more about USEPA area-wide brownfield planning and how grants that are to be available can be used by the MRCI communities. In addition to ODOD, USEPA and Smart Growth America representatives, participants included representatives from communities in Ohio, New York, West Virginia.

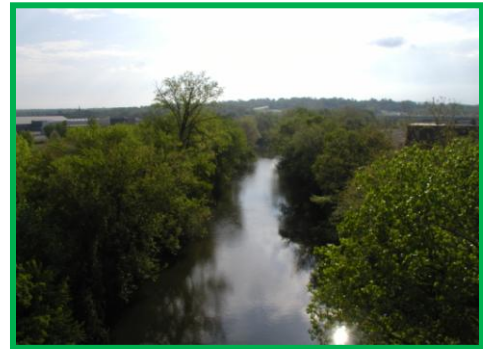
Area-wide Brownfield Planning Grants can include entire watersheds, a city block or an urban corridor, be multi-purpose (include transportation, recreation, economic development, etc.), and must promote EPA 'smart growth principles'.

Funds can be used for the following purposes:

- Inventory of sites
- Community engagement and Involvement (e.g. CDCs, NGOs)
- Market Analysis
- Institutional Controls (e.g. zoning, LEED standards)
- Policy Actions (e.g. land use regulations, riparian setbacks)
- Action Plan

The level of funding that will be available has not yet been determined, but it is anticipated grant

Corridor Scenes



River View @ South Ave., Youngstown.)



Astro Shapes/Cene Park (Struthers)

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