

Demolitions Key to Neighborhood Vitality

Harrison Township continues to take aggressive action to promote safe, attractive neighborhoods by demolishing vacant, dilapidated housing.

“Blighted properties reduce surrounding property values and create nuisances for neighbors,” said Township Administrator Kris McClintick. “Removing these properties grows neighborhood pride and maintains good property values.”



Federal Community Development Block Grant funding has been tapped for two initiatives: The first provides \$75,000 to demolish up to ten vacant properties throughout the township. The second will see \$109,000 used to remove the few remaining properties that have been abandoned since the 2019 tornadoes, including the highly visible Lofty Oaks condominium complex.

Yet another initiative, with a nearly \$147,000 price tag, will receive one-half funding from the Montgomery County Land Bank and one-half from the Township. It will focus on demolishing five or six abandoned and fire-damaged houses. Because of environmental testing and disposal rules, these properties are up to three times more expensive to remove.

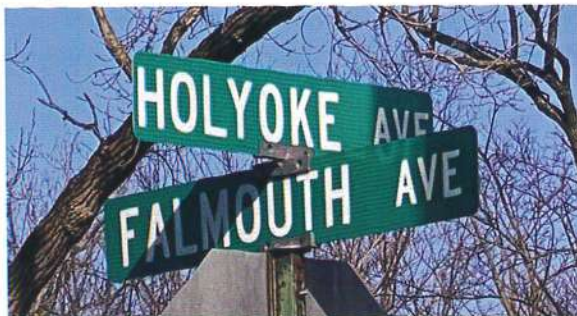
Finally, the Township has budgeted \$75,000 in local funds for demolitions of abandoned properties that need to be removed, but don't qualify for any grant program.

“This investment by the Township aligns with our planning roadmap and upcoming strategic plan,” said McClintick. “We see it as a way to promote neighborhood vitality.”

Fort McKinley Roads to be Repaved

Several roads in the south Fort McKinley neighborhood will be repaved this summer, including

- Ulrich Avenue
- Falmouth Avenue
- Byron Avenue
- Alpena Drive
- Fairport Road
- Wheeler Avenue
- Hancock Avenue
- Grant Avenue
- Holyoke Drive
- Gotham Road
- Wentworth Road



This \$357,000 project will be paid for with funds from the Ohio Public Works Commission, Harrison Township and the Community Development Block Grant program.

Residents can expect a door hanger as well as “no parking” signs 48 hours before the project starts on their road.



Road Closure to Be Brief

Philadelphia Drive has been closed in the area of Markey Road to allow for the replacement of a deteriorated culvert and inlet. (A culvert is a tunnel-like structure that allows a stream to flow under a roadway.) This Montgomery County Engineer's Office project will finish with roadway reconstruction in the immediate vicinity.

The road is open only to local traffic during most of the construction, which should be completed by mid-summer.

70-Year-Old Storm Drains Being Replaced

Residents on a portion of Grant Avenue will see major improvements to the storm drainage in their neighborhood with the replacement of rusted and decaying metal drain tile that was first installed in the 1950s. Seven hundred feet of drain tile and catch basins will be replaced from Holyoke Drive south to the dead end of Grant Avenue.

This project, and several similar ones, will be paid through motor vehicle license fees that have been allocated to Harrison Township.

The road will also be repaved after the storm drainage project is completed.

