

## RESOLUTION NO. 002-2024

*Community Planning Grant Application and Submission*

Cuyahoga County, Ohio

**Be It Resolved** by the Township Trustees of Olmsted Township that

**Whereas**, the primary goal of the Community Planning Grant Program is to provide services that strengthen local planning and promote best practices; develop and update tools, strategies, and regulations to improve the economic development and quality of life for the residents and local businesses, and

**Whereas**, we will work to identify short/long range goals to match Township priorities; prepare residents and businesses for the future development; provide opportunities for community input and engagement; and,

**Whereas**, Olmsted Township will focus on updating the zoning codes to benefit the residents of Olmsted Township and the surrounding areas. Through a thorough evaluation, analysis, and modification of zoning regulations, the Township aims to foster a more sustainable approach to development. Prioritizing the needs and preferences of the township's residents, the goal is to align the zoning code with the community's vision.

**Now Therefore be resolved** that Olmsted Township Board of Trustees are submitting an application for the 2024 Community Planning Grant through Cuyahoga County Planning to achieve goals as stated above on this date 11 January 2024, and

**Be it further resolved** that it is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Board of Trustees concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Adopted the 11<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2024

Attest: Bonnie W. [Signature]  
Township Fiscal Officer

[Signature]  
[Signature]  
[Signature]  
Township Trustees



# County Planning

## 2024 Community Planning Grant Application

### Instructions

Please review the Program Manual for project and applicant eligibility, and instructions for completing this application. Applications, including this document and any attachments, must not exceed twelve (12) pages.

Applications must be received via email at [planning@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:planning@cuyahogacounty.us) or by hardcopy at Cuyahoga County Planning Commission, ATTN: Community Planning Grant Program, 2079 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 5-300, Cleveland, Ohio 44115, no later than **3:00pm on Friday, January 12, 2024**. If submitting a hard copy, please provide (1) unbound copy and a flash drive by the above deadline. Incomplete applications or late applications will not be considered. County Planning is not responsible for the timeliness of the delivery system, so please allow adequate time for mailing/shipping.

### Attachments

Up to six (6) pages of attachments can be submitted with this application. Attachments can include supporting documentation such as a cover letter, maps, photographs, and support letters.

Please contact Planning Manager Jim Sonnhalter with any questions at [jsonnhalter@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:jsonnhalter@cuyahogacounty.us) or 216-443-3713.

### Section 1: About the Applicant

Applicant Community: Olmsted Township Date of Application: 1/12/2024

Co-Applicant Community (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Project Point of Contact\*: Gary Yelenosky Title: Township Administrator

Address: 7900 Fitch Road

City: Olmsted Township State: Ohio Zip: 44138

Telephone: 440-427-5573 Email: gyelenosky@olmstedtownship.org

### Section 2: Project Information

Project Title: Olmsted Township Zoning Code Update

Project Location (be as specific as possible): Olmsted Township

Brief Project Description: Review, Modify, Create Zoning Code Regulations for Olmsted Township

*\*This is the community's primary point of contact/project manager. It is anticipated that the project point of contact will be responsible for, but not limited to, being communicative with County Planning throughout the project, disseminating information to stakeholders and the public, responding promptly to questions, and having the level of authority necessary to make decisions on behalf of the project.*

**Section 3: Detailed Project Description**

Describe the need in the community for planning and technical services, including demographic, economic, or other issues/changes that have or are impacting the community. Provide a detailed description of the scope of work to be completed including project background and goals, specific issues to be addressed, potential strategies for implementation, and the anticipated timeframe for completion. Please also indicate any internal deadlines you must meet for this work to be completed. (maximum one page – 30 points)

Olmsted Township has emerged as one of the fastest-growing suburbs in Cuyahoga County over the past two decades, experiencing a significant surge in population. With this growth, the township faces the challenge of harmonizing its historical roots with future development. In addressing this, Olmsted Township is actively seeking planning and technical services to assist in updating its zoning code. The Township is specifically looking for support in the following areas:

- 1) Comprehensive review of the existing Township Zoning, including the Joint Economic Development District (JEDD), with a focus on the Township's center at Bagley and Stearns Road.
- 2) Identification of zoning needs, issues, and opportunities within the community.
- 3) Drafting and/or modification of new zoning regulations and additional design standards.
- 4) Identification of necessary updates to the zoning map.
- 5) Preparation of an updated zoning map (paper copy and GIS based)
- 6) Publication of Zoning Regulations and map updates on the Township's Website, ensuring increased accessibility to residents and businesses

By undertaking these initiatives and with the assistance of the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission, Olmsted Township aims to proactively manage its growth, uphold its heritage, and foster a sustainable and well-planned future for its residents.

**Section 4: Engagement, Capacity, and Support**

Describe how you determined that this project is a priority for the community, including any forms of engagement or planning efforts that have been completed thus far. Describe typical methods used to engage the public in planning processes and how you anticipate members of the public will be engaged in this proposed project. Additionally, describe your community's capacity for facilitating this public process, who will be involved from the city, the level of support from the city administration and/or council, and how you intend to collaborate with other groups. Applicants are encouraged to include any Resolution of Support from their City Council with their application. (maximum one page – 30 points)

In April 2023, Olmsted Township commissioned Fallon Research to conduct a survey and gather feedback on the current state of the Township. A significant number of respondents expressed concerns about the Township's development, not necessarily opposing growth, but emphasizing the importance of well-thought-out and sustainable development practices. Recognizing these concerns, the Township sought assistance from the Cuyahoga Planning Commission to update the zoning code, aiming to address the thoughtful and sustainable development needs voiced by local residents.

More recently, Olmsted Township engaged Guide Studio to assist in planning the development of its downtown area, with a particular focus on the central intersection of Bagley and Stearns Road. The report prepared by Guide Studio outlined a priority list of improvements, with anticipated costs ranging from \$3 million to \$5 million.

Given the heightened demand for new or updated zoning regulations, the Township is committed to seeking public input. A series of public engagement workshops will be organized, open to residents and businesses, to facilitate a better understanding of the community's desires and needs. During these meetings, the Township administration, alongside the Trustees, will actively engage with various stakeholders to ensure that the zoning reflects the genuine preferences of the community. In addition the Township would gather input from its Board of Zoning Appeals and Zoning Commission. This collaborative approach aims to create a zoning framework that aligns with the aspirations of Olmsted Township's residents and businesses.

\*\*\*\*RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT\*\*\*\*



**Section 5: Project Impact**

Describe how the project will benefit the residents of the community and surrounding areas, and how the intended results of the project will address the community's needs. If applicable, describe how this project complements any regional projects or initiatives. Specify what metrics will be used to define a successful project outcome, and how the community will implement or otherwise utilize the outcome of the work completed by County Planning. (maximum one page – 25 points)

The updates to the zoning code will directly benefit the residents of Olmsted Township and the surrounding areas. Through a thorough evaluation, analysis, and modification of zoning regulations, the Township aims to foster a more sustainable approach to development. Prioritizing the needs and preferences of the township's residents, the goal is to align the zoning code with the community's vision.

Engaging with the public is a key component of this process, allowing the Township to incorporate diverse ideas and perspectives into the zoning code. Furthermore, enhancing the accessibility of the zoning code will facilitate a clearer understanding of the Township's vision for new developments. This clarity is crucial for ensuring that future developments align with the Township's priorities.

The ability to develop sustainably will have a direct impact on various aspects of public life, from addressing traffic issues to managing stormwater effectively. It is imperative for the Township to develop in a manner that is both responsible and responsive to the community's needs.

The result of the zoning code update will establish the framework and vision for the Township, serving as the guiding principle for all future development. Over the next 3 to 5 years, the Township is dedicated to implementing a multi-phase revitalization project, with a primary emphasis on the intersection of Bagley and Stearns Road. The most significant phase of this initiative will encompass standard and enhanced streetscape design, incorporating the following elements:

- Careful selection of resilient trees that can withstand the Township's climate, pests, and diseases, ensuring both sustainability and aesthetic appeal. These trees will contribute to the overall ambiance and create a more inviting environment, while also aiding in increasing the tree canopy and mitigating stormwater runoff.
- Installation of amenities such as benches, waste receptacles, and stylish lighting fixtures to enhance comfort, cleanliness, and visual appeal. These additions will contribute to a more welcoming atmosphere, establishing the area as a gathering space.
- Review of sign regulations and the promotion of guidelines for signs to facilitate navigation, creating a unified and recognizable Town Center.
- Establishment of a regulated banner program to promote events, sales, and public announcements, adding to a lively ambiance and attracting visitors.
- Integration of masonry elements, trellises, hardy trees, special paving, enhanced lighting, and site amenities to enrich the streetscape with texture, character, and

**Section 6: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)**

Scoring will be tied to DEI with points given to projects located in identified Cuyahoga County Equity Zones, in accordance with County Executive Order EO2021-0015. View Cuyahoga County Equity Zones map [here](#). Please identify the geographical boundaries of your project and whether your project is located in a recognized Equity Zone. (5 points) Additionally, describe how this project will address DEI through inclusive community engagement to benefit diverse populations in your community, areas with historic disinvestment, and/or areas with high concentrations of poverty. (10 points) (maximum one page – total of 15 points)

The revision of our zoning code will have far-reaching implications for the entire community. As an integral aspect of the evaluation process, the Township is committed to gathering input through a range of community engagement activities. While we may not currently have designated Equity Zones, it's important to note that the Township encompasses several densely populated areas with varying income levels, including low to moderate-income neighborhoods.

Olmsted Township takes pride in being an inclusive and welcoming community, offering support to all residents regardless of their sex, age, race, or religion. To ensure a comprehensive and inclusive decision-making process, the Township actively seeks input from residents in low to moderate-income brackets. This approach underscores our commitment to considering diverse perspectives and addressing the needs of all members of our community.

**Section 7: Applicant Certification**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have the authority to apply for professional planning assistance on behalf of the entity described herein, and that the information contained herein and attached hereto is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized so to do, have signed this application.

Community Name: Olmsted Township

Mayor / Manager Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 1/11/2024

Printed Name: Gary Yelenosky Title: Township Administrator

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*Co-Applicant (if necessary)*

Community Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor / Manager Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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*Co-Applicant (if necessary)*

Community Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor / Manager Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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*Co-Applicant (if necessary)*

Community Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor / Manager Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

*Attach additional pages after this page (optional)*