



NEWS RELEASE

From Mayor Dean DePiero

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PARMA RECEIVES GRANT FOR REGIONAL DISPATCH COLLABORATIVE STUDY

(Parma) – The state of Ohio has awarded the City of Parma a grant to undertake a feasibility study for the establishment of a collaborative regional emergency safety force dispatch service. The City of Parma plans to partner with Cleveland State University to conduct the study, entirely funded by the Ohio Department of Development.

“We are working closely with our neighboring cities while looking forward to the results of the study,” says Parma Mayor Dean DePiero. “This proposal is a key ingredient in having first responders work as a regional team for police, fire and EMS calls. The bottom line is saving lives, time and taxpayer dollars.”

The City of Parma has taken the lead role in forming a regional emergency communications system with several neighboring suburbs. Mayor DePiero says the City of Parma has previously collaborated with other cities to study various concepts of regionalism, and this grant provides another avenue of study.

Other cities that have committed to the emergency dispatch collaborative feasibility study are: Parma Heights, Brooklyn, Brooklyn Heights, Broadview Heights, Brecksville, North Royalton, Middleburg Heights, the Village of Linndale, Valley View, Independence, Seven Hills, Garfield Heights, Berea and Brook Park.

The grant, one of 15 awarded by the Ohio Department of Development totaling \$1 million, was announced by Lieutenant Governor Lee Fisher. “Collaboration and cooperation among local governments is essential to provide the best services to Ohio’s citizens and businesses,” said Fisher. “This program will help entities plan and invest in strengthening regional economies.”

Mayor DePiero says this regional cooperation could ultimately lead to other collaborative efforts including communication over a shared emergency communications system

“We recognize that by working together and improving best practices, we can achieve efficiencies and money that, in turn, can improve services while saving taxpayer resources.”

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