

# NEFCO

## NORTHEAST OHIO FOUR COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

175 South Main Street, Suite 211  
Akron, Ohio 44308-1308

(330) 643-8514 • Fax (330) 643-5046  
www.nefcoplanning.org

*Richard Regula, Chair*

*Joseph Hadley, Jr., Executive Director*

### Regular Meeting of the General Policy Board

**Wednesday, April 19, 2023**  
**City of Green**  
**Community Hall at Central Park**  
**1755 Town Park Blvd.**  
**Uniontown, OH 44685**  
**8:30 a.m.**

### Agenda

1. Call to Order
  - a. Determination of a Quorum
  - b. Approval of the Agenda for the April 19, 2023 NEFCO General Policy Board meeting  
**ACTION REQUESTED**
  - c. Pledge of Allegiance
  - d. Audience Participation (members of the public)  
Any individual or representative of a group may take three (3) minutes to address the General Policy Board on any topic on the agenda.
2. Consideration of the draft minutes of the regular meeting of the NEFCO General Policy Board on March 15, 2023 **ACTION REQUESTED**
3. Consideration of the Financial Status Report: Income and Expenditures through March 31, 2023  
**ACTION REQUESTED**
  - a. March bank reconciliations
4. City of Akron requests letter of support for USEPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant application  
**ACTION REQUESTED**
5. Appointment of CY2023 NEFCO Budget and Work Program Committee **ACTION REQUESTED**
6. NEFCO FY2023 Work Program
  - a. Economic Development Planning
    - 1) Economic Development Administration (EDA)
      - a. NEFCO submits final Performance Progress and Financial Reports for CARES grant
      - b. Economic Recovery and Resiliency (ER&R) Implementation Committee; status
      - c. Current EDA funding opportunities
      - d. NEFCO submits letter of support for PARTA's Reimagining the Gateway USDOT FTA Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities application (attached)
      - e. BroadbandOhio update

- 2) Economic Development Planning Information
  - a. March unemployment rate (Bureau of Labor Statistics)
  - b. New publication from Main Street America: A Housing Guidebook for Local Leaders (NADO)
  - c. Do zoning reforms benefit renters? (*Route Fifty*)
  - d. ULI releases report on Zoning for a More Equitable, Resilient, and Sustainable Future (NARC)
  - e. The barriers to getting more unconnected households online (*Route Fifty*)
  - f. Old zoning laws share blame for housing shortages (*Route Fifty*)
  - g. Low-income renters continue to be hit hardest by housing shortage (*Route Fifty*)
  - h. New HUD playbook guides underserved communities in accessing broadband funding (NARC)
- 3) Funding Opportunities (upcoming deadlines contained in status report)
- 4) Regional Economic Development News (contained in status report)
  
- b. Environmental Planning
  - 1) Voluntary annual 208 Plan facilities planning areas (FPAs) updates for the region began March 21, 2023; deadline for proposed FPA update submittals: **June 19, 2023**
  - 2) FY2024 Water Quality Management Planning contracts with Ohio EPA; status
    - a) Funding from next state budget to remain at \$75,000/yr.; federal funding pass-through to increase to \$98,000/yr.
    - b) Ohio EPA emphasizes the use of these funds for Section 208 planning
    - c) Scope of services being developed by staff for review by Ohio EPA
  - 3) NEFCO Board-approved 208 Plan amendments, June 2020 through January 2023, submitted to Ohio EPA for state certification; status
  - 4) Ohio EPA Webinar: [\*Troubleshooting Noncompliance at Small Wastewater Treatment Plants\*](#); May 2, 2023, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., CEUs approved: 3 hours for wastewater operators and registered environmental health specialists (REHS) and REHS-in training
  
7. Federal and State legislation or information of importance to local governments
  - a. Federal
  - b. Ohio House Finance Committee FY24/25 budget substitute bill highlights
  - c. State legislation
  
8. For the Good of the Order: an opportunity for members to share news about their community/county/agency, or to list an important issue affecting them
  
9. Other Business

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** Wednesday, May 17, 2023, is the date for the next meeting of the NEFCO General Policy Board at the **City of Green Community Hall at Central Park**, 1755 Town Park Blvd., Uniontown OH 44685