



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ohio Housing Finance Agency Awards Canton \$4.2 Million Grant for Demolitions

CANTON, Ohio – The City of Canton will receive \$4.2 million to help cover the costs of housing demolitions, the Ohio Housing Finance Agency (OHFA) announced on Friday. Canton is one of the eleven recipients to receive a portion of the nearly \$50 million available through the OHFA's Neighborhood Initiative Program (NIP).

The grant was awarded to the city through a competitive process. The city was eligible for \$2 million but received more than double that amount. Funding amounts were awarded based on a number of factors including population and the amount of vacant and blighted properties owned or identified for acquisition in the area, according to a press release from the OHFA.

“This grant will help with our goals tremendously,” Mayor Healy said. “The fact that Canton received far more than we asked for shows OHFA’s ability to recognize the great need for these funds in our community.”

Unlike the Moving Ohio Forward grant, the demolition funds do not need to be matched by the city, but the city must acquire the properties before demolishing them. Currently, the city has almost 300 residential properties on its demolition list and the funds from the grant will cover the demolition of approximately 250 properties in the city.

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