

NEWS RELEASE From Mayor Dean DePiero

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PARMA AWARDED FEDERAL STIMULUS BOOST PLUS CRIME PREVENTION FUNDING

(PARMA) – The City of Parma has received an additional Community Development Block Grant allocation of about \$264,000 through the Federal Stimulus package. This separate allocation is designed to target a community improvement project or projects that will immediately benefit low to moderate income homeowners. It is also geared to create job retention and creation opportunities for low to moderate income workers.

"We consider ourselves fortunate to get this added economic stimulus," said Parma Mayor Dean DePiero. "It will be put to good use for our community at a time when cities everywhere are struggling to finance improvement projects and retain jobs."

The Department of Housing and Urban Development would like the City of Parma to have the funds under contract within four (4) months of their release – expected to be in May of 2009.

In addition, Parma will receive about \$96,000 from a federal Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG). The money is intended to assist the following programs: Law enforcement, prosecution and courtroom, prevention and education, community corrections, drug treatment and enforcement, planning, evaluation and technology improvements and crime victim and witness projects.

"These are competitive grants made available by the Department of Justice," said Mayor DePiero. "We're doing all we can to make sure we get our fair share in federal dollars – helping to keep our community on top of crime prevention and safety programs for our residents."

Mayor DePiero says the City of Parma will also apply for a federal grant offered by the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Office. Up to \$1 billion in grant funding is available for the hiring and rehiring of additional career law enforcement officers on the state and local level.