

NEWS RELEASE From Mayor Dean DePiero

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PARMA FUNDING STILL AVAILABLE FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY REBATES

(PARMA) – The City of Parma has announced funds are still available for residents to take advantage of the city's Energy Efficiency Rebate Program. The innovative project is designed to help Parma homeowners and business owners with the costs of making energy efficient home and/or building improvements including cash rebates on the purchase of appliances.

"The program is a timely bonus for our residents in view of our tough economy," said Parma Mayor Dean DePiero. "We rolled out the project in November and we still have money available for folks who are looking to purchase appliances or make their homes energy efficient."

The rebate program was created from a federal grant of more than \$600,000. It offers cash rebates on Energy Star qualified appliance such as clothes washers (\$150), refrigerators (\$150), dish washers (\$150) and freezers (\$50) and even expands to energy efficient hot water tanks, entrance doors (\$50), windows (\$25) and whole house insulation (\$500). There is a \$750 maximum rebate limit per household. Retail outlets have promoted the appliance rebate program in local newspaper advertising supplements.

"The grant gave us the option of using the funds to make public buildings energy efficient or passing the money on to local homeowners to do the same," said Mayor DePiero. "We decided it would have a greater impact if we passed the savings on to our residents. Those who can use the rebate should act now before the money runs out."

Mayor DePiero said local homeowners are getting more bang for their buck when coupling the city's rebate program with the Columbia Gas Home Performance Solutions Program. According to Mayor DePiero, in many cases, insulating an entire home will mean far less time to recuperate your initial investment.

Owners of commercial buildings can also take part in the program through rebates and loans to make energy efficient lighting and heating improvements. Low interest loans for large scale residential and commercial projects are also available.

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The rebate program is only for Parma residents and business owners, and rebates apply to any qualifying energy home improvement or appliance. The rebate program will end when all funds are exhausted. Mayor DePiero encourages all interested parties to visit www.cityofparma-oh.gov/energy.aspx, www.cityofparma-oh.gov/energy.aspx, www.cityofparma-oh.gov/energy.aspx, www.columbiaGasOhio.com/HPS and www.energystar.gov for information on applications, qualifying products and services. For City of Parma rebate information call (216) 661-7372. For information on Columbia Gas Home Performance Solutions call (877) 644-6674.

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