

MEDIA RELEASE

Canton City Public Health

From: Jim Adams, Health Commissioner

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420 Market Avenue North, Canton, OH 44702

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For Immediate Release

U.S. EPA Awards Grant to Support Air Quality Monitoring Near Republic Steel

(Canton, OH) - On November 3, 2022, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced that the City of Canton will be awarded a grant of \$302,775 to implement enhanced air quality monitoring near Republic Steel. Funding was made possible through the American Rescue Plan and the Inflation Reduction Act. This air quality monitoring project will collect data for two (2) years and will be managed by Canton City Public Health Air Pollution Control Division (Canton APC).

Dialogue from public meetings held by Canton APC and Ohio EPA from 2017 to 2022 played a major role in the design of this project, which will involve the placement of additional air monitoring equipment at the corner of Marietta Avenue NE and Georgetown Road NE. The equipment will monitor PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ (particulate matter at sizes smaller than 2.5 microns and 10 microns respectively), SO₂ (Sulfur Dioxide), and VOCs (volatile organic compounds). Four sets of smaller sensors measuring the same pollutants will be placed throughout the community and managed by Community Operators. Data from this equipment will be shared on Canton APC's website with updates occurring on at least a weekly basis.

Canton APC will schedule a kick-off meeting in early 2023 to explain the details of this project and receive input and participation from the community. Routine meetings will be held to update residents on progress, provide education as needed, present comparisons of data, and allow for continued community involvement.

Questions concerning this project should be directed to Terri Dzienis, Director, Canton APC, at (330) 438-4640.

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