



Two initiatives receive Dayton Recovery Plan funding

-Westside Makerspace, Nalls Law Group-

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The City of Dayton announces the newest investments of Dayton Recovery Plan funds, following approval of contracts by the City Commission. Investments of \$1,025,000 for the Greater Dayton Union Cooperative's Westside Makerspace and \$41,400 for the Nalls Law Group were approved March 22.

Funding for both projects will be provided through the Dayton Recovery Plan's \$7.6 million Supporting Black and Brown Businesses initiative. The Dayton Recovery Plan is a \$138 million framework for community COVID relief and investment for the future, made possible by the federal American Rescue Plan Act.

"These projects are essential to helping us build support for Black and Brown businesses in our community," said City Manager Shelley Dickstein. "The Dayton Recovery Plan focuses on how to build generational success, and these two organizations are working hard to help make that happen."

The Greater Dayton Union Cooperative will use its funding to support land acquisition for the Westside Makerspace in West Dayton. It will also use the funds for environmental review, building design and engineering, construction, accounting and legal services, and resources such as technology tools and equipment. The Dayton Recovery Plan funds will be matched by approximately \$500,000 in private and organizational funds and in-kind support.

The Westside Makerspace is a STEM and arts co-op and a collaborative effort to provide a location for entrepreneurs, youth and hobbyists to develop and practice skills using shared tools, equipment and workspaces that otherwise are inaccessible to the community. The Westside Makerspace is temporarily located at the Central State University Dayton campus in West Dayton.

"We began our community-led design process to mobilize the skilled individuals who will become our makerspace community and to design the permanent space with our community's needs in mind," said Westside Makerspace Project Manager Samantha Walker-Baskin. "The support of the Dayton Recovery Plan helps us make this dream a reality and will give us a larger space to offer personal art studio and office space to our members, classroom space to host our various youth programs and potentially a gallery and storefront for artists and entrepreneurs to share."

The second funding agreement approved by the City Commission will be used to build a new video conference and connectivity center for the Nalls Law Group. The funds will be used for

renovation, construction, materials, equipment and technology for a new video conference center. The Nalls Law Group is located just north of downtown Dayton.

For additional information, see video presentations on the [Westside Makerspace](#) and the [Nalls Law Group](#).

[About the Dayton Recovery Plan](#)

The Dayton Recovery Plan is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to address the infrastructure, economic and equity issues that exist in the city by using a data-driven approach to analyze socio-economic, health, and demographic data to make informed funding decisions. These investments directly impact minority communities disproportionately impacted by the pandemic and long-standing economic and social inequities in Dayton. The Dayton Recovery Plan is our city's innovative plan to utilize Dayton's share of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. The \$138 million award is the largest grant in Dayton's history. For a plan overview, go to daytonohio.gov/drp.

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