

Project Background: Lead Service Line Replacement

- Toledo Department of Public Utilities long-term goal is to eliminate all lead service lines from the Toledo system.
- Toledo Department of Public Utilities has replaced city-owned lead service lines systematically for 20 years through the water main replacement program;
- In 2020, Toledo began a program to replace its estimated 30,000 LSLs at a rate of 1,000 per year for the next 30 years; estimated cost of \$60 million. This project will ensure that replacements are targeted in a data-driven and cost-effective way to reduce the amount of time residents live with a lead service line bringing water into their homes.

Project Funding Background

- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is working to improve the environment and public health conditions of low-income and minority communities. As part of these efforts, in April 2020, EPA re-opened the State Environmental Justice Cooperative Agreement Program (SEJCA) and made available funds for US States, Territories, Tribal Governments, and local governments to propose projects focusing on COVID-19 and other areas of environmental justice concern.
- The SEJCA program provides funding to eligible entities to work collaboratively with underserved communities to understand, promote and integrate approaches to provide meaningful and measurable improvements to public health and/or the environment in those communities.
- The City submitted a grant application under the Title: Using Artificial Intelligence to Reduce Lead Exposure and Promote Environmental Justice in June 2020.
 - On September 10, 2020 City was informed is project was not funded
 - On September 25, 2020 City was informed that due to availability of additional funds the project would be funded
- **Funding Period:** October 2020 to October 2022.
- **Funding Amount: \$200,000.** There is no cost share or match requirement.
 - Our partner and sub-awardee, Blue Conduit, will receive \$120,000 for their work using Artificial Intelligence (AI); Supplies, which include filters, are budgeted at \$30,000;
 - the other sub awardees will receive a total of \$50,000.
- Six neighborhoods were selected based on scoring high on parameters identified by EPA as indicators of environmental burden and their participation on past sustainability initiatives and activities that DPU has carried out or are on-going.