

What is Mediation?

Mediation is where a third party facilitates and helps parties reach their own private resolution of a dispute.

In mediation, people decide for themselves how to solve their problem. The mediator does not make a decision or provide judgment, but assists the parties in listening and understanding the other's position.



Contact Us

City of Stow

Law Director Amber Zibritosky

3800 Darrow Road
Stow, Ohio 44224
law@stow.oh.us
(330) 689-2869

City of Tallmadge

Law Director Megan E. Raber

46 North Avenue
Tallmadge, Ohio 44278
mraber@tallmadge-ohio.org
(330) 633-0859

City of Cuyahoga Falls

Law Director Russell Balthis

2310 Second Street
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221
LawDepartment@cityofcf.com
(330) 971-8190

NEIGHBORHOOD MEDIATION PROGRAM (NMP)



A Collaborative Effort Including:

City of Stow

Law Director Amber Zibritosky

City of Tallmadge

Law Director Megan E. Raber

City of Cuyahoga Falls

Mayor Don Walters

The University of Akron School of Law

Summary of Program

The Neighborhood Mediation Program (NMP) is a collaboration of the City of Stow, the City of Tallmadge, the City of Cuyahoga Falls and the University of Akron School of Law to provide citizens with an avenue to resolve conflict with neighbors. Everyone cherishes the sanctity of his or her own home. Occasionally, situations arise between neighbors that affect the health, safety, and welfare of the neighborhood and the peace of the community. The NMP provides a FREE, voluntary pathway to facilitate communication between disputing parties and provides a mechanism to reach a mutually agreeable resolution.

Initial Referral

Police Departments, Law Departments, Zoning Departments, City Council, etc. may field an initial complaint from a citizen regarding a concern about a neighbor. If the matter seems appropriate for NMP, the complaint is referred to the Director of Law, and/or designated staff of the city of residence. The Director of Law will screen the initial complaint and initiate referral for participation in NMP. The Director of Law will attempt the coordination of a mutually agreeable date and time for mediation between the parties.

Matters for NMP

Examples of matters that are usually appropriate for mediation include disputes as to:

- Tree Branches
- Use of Easements
- Snow Plowing
- On-Street Parking
- Animals
- Noise Complaints
- Disposal of Rubbish
- Basic Watercourse Issues
- Other Basic Disputes that Affect the Health, Safety, and Welfare of the Neighborhood

Matters NOT for NMP

Examples of matters that are not usually appropriate for this program include:

- Pending or Potential Criminal Violations of the Codified Ordinances
- Matters Pending in Civil Litigation
- Property Line Disputes Requiring a Survey
- Items Already Acted Upon by the Referring City

Mediation Schedule

Each referring City shall designate one date and time per month at a designated facility to conduct NMP mediations. Such dates and times are subject to change.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
1st Saturday of the Month	9:00 AM	Tallmadge Rec Center Conference Room
2nd Wednesday of the Month	12:00 PM	Stow City Hall Boards & Commissions Room
3rd Thursday of the Month	7:00 PM	Cuyahoga Falls Natatorium Conference Room

Mediations

The mediator facilitates the mediation process in an attempt to resolve the parties' dispute. At the conclusion of the mediation, it is the hope that the parties have reached a settlement that shall be reduced to writing by the mediator in the form of a memorandum of understanding.