



The Delaware County Economic Development Forum

The Newsletter of the Delaware County Economic Development (DCED) Department
**Delaware County Commissioners: Kristopher W. Jordan, Glenn A. Evans,
James D. Ward**
Economic Development Department: Timothy Boland, Director, Dottie Brown, Economic Development

Special points of interest:

- Community Development News
- Grants Line—Grant Programs
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101 N. Sandusky St.
Delaware Ohio 43015
Phone: 740-833-2100
Fax: 740-833-2099
www.delcoecon.org

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Berlin Township / Delaware County Create Economic Development Areas to Expand Twp. Economic Base!

On November 14, 2005, the Ohio Department of Development announced approval of the creation of three new Economic Development incentive areas in Berlin Township. These areas consist of an Enterprise Zone and two Community Reinvestment Areas, or CRA's. The Enterprise Zone and CRA #1—"A" overlay one another in an area extending from US-23 in the Shanahan Road/Peachblow Road Commercial and Industrial designated areas, then northward along the rail road tracks which bi-sect the Township, extending to and including the US-36 Corridor. These areas then extend eastward to the eastern Berlin Township line just west of the I-71 / US-36 exit. A second CRA, designated as CRA #2—"B", is located roughly at the northeast and southeast sides of the intersection of Cheshire and Africa Roads. All three incentive areas are located in the Olentangy Local School District.

The purpose for creating these Economic Development areas is to expand the non-residential commercial and industrial tax base of the Township by encouraging new investment through limited incentives. The location of these areas is based on the Township's adopted land use and zoning maps. Residential uses are not eligible for incentives in these new Economic Development Areas. Both the Enterprise Zone and CRA's offer tax exemptions for eligible commercial and industrial projects creating substantial new investment in real property, as well as new job & payroll creation. Incentives are to be provided on a negotiated basis with the Township, School District and County. For more information, please contact the Delaware County Economic Development Department.

Economic Development Project Update:

Davidson Company Receives approval for Economic Development Funds – Future Growth Anticipated in Orange Township!

The Davidson Company, located at 7830 & 7832 N. Central Drive in Lewis Center, in the Orange Point Commerce Park, recently received approval for funding from the Ohio Department of Development Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Economic Development (ED) Program and the Delaware County Low-Interest Business Development (RLF) Program to assist in facilitating the Company's proposed acquisition project.

The Company is a major supplier of high quality material handling solutions serving the manufacturing and distribution industries. Specific products provided by the Company include lifts, conveyors, overhead monorails & cranes to support and facilitate industrial processes. The Company currently employs 21.5 employees and with the advent of this project, Davidson anticipates that employment will rise to over 30 employees over the next two years.

Tim Boland, Delaware County Economic Development Director, stated that the County viewed this project as an excellent fit with its strategy of assisting rapidly growing small–medium sized industrial and commercial companies with their gap financing needs. Davidson Company is a strong member of the southern Delaware County economic industrial base.



Project Spotlight—

Downtown Ashley



Village of Ashley Downtown Streetscape Completed!

One of the most anticipated projects scheduled for 2005 has been the Ashley Downtown (DT) Streetscape Project — the County awarded an infrastructure grant for this project which, along with Transportation Enhancement Funds from ODOT and funding from the Mid Ohio Planning Commission (MORPC) and the Village, assisted in the revitalization of Downtown Ashley. The project which began construction earlier this year - was completed in time for the Village's Sesquicentennial celebration which was held in October, 2005.

The Streetscape Project received a County Revolving Loan Fund Infrastructure grant in the amount of \$183,336. The improvements funded through this grant, enhancement dollars, and substantial support from MORPC, include new curb & gutter, brick pavers, new street furniture, and period street lighting fixtures. This revitalization has had an immediate impact on the DT and provides the opportunity for future private investment - Congratulations Ashley!

What is the RLF?

The County's Low-Interest Business Development Revolving Loan Fund (RLF program), in cooperation with bank participation, can provide low-interest development loans for all types of businesses to finance their acquisition, construction, renovation, and/or equipment and fixture investment needs. Manufacturing, services, retail, & commercial uses, R&D and distribution are all eligible to be considered for fixed asset gap-financing through this program. Interest rates currently range from 3% - 4%. Rates are fixed, with terms between 7–15 years depending on the life of the asset being financed. There is a LMI job creation component, with up to \$25,000 in funds available per job created. The maximum loan amount per project is \$500,000. For more information, please contact Tim Boland at DCED.

Delaware County Grants & Programs Clearinghouse:

County Announces Grant Program Awards:

The Delaware County Economic Development (DCED) Dept. is pleased to announce that the Ohio Department of Development has awarded funding for the following projects as part of the County's FY05 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Formula Program:

- Village of Ostrander—Storm Drainage Program (Phase): \$39,800
- Village of Ashley—Water & Sewer Project (Phase): \$50,000
- Village of Galena—Curbs & Sidewalk Program: \$20,200
- Porter Township—Olive Green Street Repair Program: \$20,300
- Ashley Villa Senior Housing Rehab Program: \$10,700
- County Fairgrounds— Handicap Accessibility Program: \$14,300

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IN OUR NEXT ISSUE:
UPDATE ON PROJECTS ALONG
THE US-23 GROWTH CORRIDOR!

The County wishes to congratulate these communities and organizations. It is anticipated that a public hearing will be held on the 2006 CDBG program in February 2006, with notices of funding availability for the FY2006 Formula Program sent to all Delaware County communities in March. Grant applications will be due in June of 2006.

Housing Funds Still Available: Funding in the amounts of \$238,000 for Rehab, \$84,000 for down payment assistance, and \$6,500 for home repairs is still available through the County's Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP). Please call 740-833-2100 for more information.

ATS – Ohio Expands in Orange Township!

ATS-Ohio (Automation Tooling Systems) expanded into a second facility in Orange Township during the 2nd quarter of 2005. The project was assisted through a Delaware County / Orange Township Enterprise Zone Agreement. ATS is a global leader in the industrial automation field, serving the automotive, medical/healthcare, consumer, telecommunications, electronics-semiconductor-computer, and electrical industries. The Company specializes in systems integration, assembly systems, material handling automation, and vision integration. The Company currently has 245 employees. ATS was named Business of the Year by the Powell Area Chamber (Olentangy Commerce). The project involved the acquisition of a 37,000 sq. ft. facility at 535 Enterprise Drive located in the Green Meadows Corporate Park. The Company's existing facility is located at 425 Enterprise Drive, also in the Park. This project will result in 50 new jobs.

