

**For Immediate Release**

October 7, 2013

Contact: Penny Martin at (614) 644-8774Penny.Martin@development.ohio.gov**State Gives Money for Local Infrastructure Improvements**

The Ohio Development Services Agency awarded 23 communities grants to assist with public facility, street, bridge and neighborhood improvements. The grants total more than \$8 million and will generate more than \$12.7 million in additional project funds.

“The state is committed to investing in neighborhoods and business districts to improve the quality of life in a community and position it for growth,” said David Goodman, director of the Ohio Development Services Agency.

In central Ohio, one city and four counties received funding totaling \$1,759,000. The counties receiving grants are:

City of Mount Vernon will receive a \$300,000 Critical Infrastructure grant to replace the Sychar Road and North Catherine Street bridges. The project will benefit 1,589 residents.

Coshocton County will receive a \$300,000 Neighborhood Revitalization grant to improve streets, parks and fire protection facilities in the village of West Lafayette. The county will also receive a \$300,000 Critical Infrastructure grant to install waterlines to the GentleBrook Homes in Lafayette Township. The projects will benefit 1,237 residents.

Knox County will receive a \$300,000 Critical Infrastructure grant to help replace 13 bridges in Brown Township. The project will benefit 1,099 residents.

Logan County will receive a \$259,000 Critical Infrastructure grant to improve the water and sewer facilities in the village of West Mansfield. The project will benefit 783 residents.

Madison County will receive a \$300,000 Critical Infrastructure grant to improve storm water drainage along Church and Market Streets in the village of Mount Sterling. The project will benefit 1,863 residents.

The Critical Infrastructure and Neighborhood Revitalization programs are competitive grants within the Community Development Block Grant program. Projects funded through these programs improve public facilities and infrastructure as well as rehabilitate buildings in a community’s central business district.

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