

**For Immediate Release**

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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 northwest Ohio, one city and three counties received funding totaling \$1.2 million. The city and counties receiving grants are:

City of Defiance will receive a \$300,000 Downtown Revitalization grant to rehabilitate 30 buildings and improve alleyways in the city’s central business district. The project will benefit 15,782 residents.

Hardin County will receive a \$300,000 Neighborhood Revitalization grant to improve streets, water and sewer facilities, parks and a community center in the village of Mount Victory. The project will benefit 583 residents.

Lucas County will receive a \$300,000 Downtown Revitalization grant to rehabilitate 28 buildings and improve a park facility in the village of Whitehouse’s central business district. The project will benefit 2,700 residents.

Wood County will receive a \$300,000 Critical Infrastructure grant to make improvements to Jefferson Street in Perrysburg Township. The project will benefit 1,373 residents.

The Critical Infrastructure, Downtown Revitalization 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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