

For Immediate Release
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State Recommends \$10 Million in Job Ready Sites Grants

Grants will develop sites for business attraction

COLUMBUS – Seven Ohio communities are slated to receive Job Ready Sites grants totaling \$10 million to prepare sites for future economic development opportunities. The Ohio Department of Development approved the projects through the Ohio Job Ready Sites Program, which is administered through the Ohio Department of Development's Office of Redevelopment. The approved grants are contingent upon Controlling Board approval on May 7, 2012. This is the fourth and final competitive award round for the Ohio Job Ready Sites Program.

"These projects are crucial to the state's continued growth and development," said Christiane Schmenk, Director of the Ohio Department of Development. "We appreciate the opportunity to work with Ohio's communities as they prepare sites for business development."

The City of Cleveland (Cuyahoga County) has been approved for a \$1 million grant that will be used, along with local matching funds, to make infrastructure and building improvements to the Victory Building property. The city will prepare 2.62 acres for more than 165,000 square feet of technical center and research lab space. The project includes core and shell rehabilitation, demolition of an existing building, improvements to the electrical service, and completion of a roadway and water and sewer improvements.

The City of Dayton (Montgomery County) has been approved for a \$750,000 grant that will be used, along with matching funds, to make improvements to the McCall Building to prepare the building for manufacturing and industrial use. The project includes replacing the roof and providing security services.

The City of Trenton (Butler County) has been approved for a \$750,000 grant that will be used, along with matching funds, to prepare 184 acres of manufacturing space, including construction of a public roadway at the Trenton Industrial Park.

The City of Twinsburg (Summit County) has been approved for a \$2.2 million grant that will be used, along with local matching funds, to make infrastructure improvements to the Cornerstone Business Park. The City of Twinsburg and its project partners will prepare 167 acres of industrial and manufacturing space, including a 100,000-square-foot facility for Performance Food Group as well as complete demolition and debris removal, fill the high bay basement, construct 2,700 linear feet of onsite roads, extend water and sewer lines, install electrical lines, demolish and rework the railroad lines, complete wetlands mitigation, and install storm sewer pumps and lines.

The Northwestern Water and Sewer District (Henry Township, Wood County) has been approved for a \$500,000 grant that will be used, along with matching funds, to prepare 80 acres of manufacturing and industrial space at the Southwood Commerce Center. The project includes improvements to public roadways and sanitary sewer system as well as provides a natural gas line extension.

The Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority (City of Toledo, Lucas County) has been approved for a \$2.8 million grant that will be used, along with matching funds, to prepare 80 acres of manufacturing space at the Overland Industrial Part at Jeep Parkway. The project includes asphalt and debris

removal, filling and grading the site, roadway, roundabout, and installation of railroad switches and side track.

The Youngstown-Warren Regional Chamber (Trumbull County) has been approved for a \$2 million grant that will be used, along with local matching funds, to make infrastructure improvements to the Ohio Commerce Center property. The Chamber and its partners will prepare 266 acres of industrial and manufacturing space, including street resurfacing, railroad crossings, and railroad line improvements. Modifications to the State Route 45 bridge, such as headroom track extension, drop and swap rail improvements, and onsite track improvements are also included in this project.

*The **Ohio Job Ready Sites Program** was created to bolster the state's inventory of available facility locations served by utility and transportation infrastructure. Sites improved under the program are kept ready for future business prospects seeking locations for new or expanded operations.*

*The **Office of Redevelopment**, located within the Department's Community Services Division, assists communities with place-based redevelopment which creates wealth from personal, business, and community successes. The Office works to identify the resources and financing necessary to enhance the economic viability of local communities.*

*Working with our partners across business, state and local governments, academia, and the nonprofit sector, the **Ohio Department of Development** works to attract, create, grow, and retain businesses through competitive incentives and targeted investments. Engaged every day in marketing, innovating, investing, and collaborating, the **Ohio Department of Development** works to accelerate and support the teamwork that is necessary for success by providing financial, informational, and technical assistance to those making an investment in Ohio's future.*

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