

**For Immediate Release**  
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## Ohio Communities Collaborate through New Funding Opportunity

*Local Government Innovation Fund assists with 51 projects*

**COLUMBUS** – Ohio communities now have the funding assistance they need to consolidate services, improve efficiencies, and ultimately cut costs. Today, the Local Government Innovation Council approved more than \$ 3.4 million in grants and \$ 2.9 million in loans to Ohio communities. This new program provides financial assistance which encourages collaboration, shared services, and efficiency at the local level to reduce the cost of community services and provide a foundation for fiscal sustainability. The loans and grants are contingent upon State Controlling Board approval.

“Teamwork leads to great successes. Today’s investments foster collaboration that will ensure valuable services are delivered, while overcoming financial issues that plague many local communities,” said Christiane Schmenk, Director of the Ohio Department of Development. “The large response to this new program shows local governments are willing to do what is necessary to provide for their communities and their citizens.”

The Ohio Department of Development received 105 grant applications and 12 loan applications. The response to this program has been strong, and the requests fall into nine distinct categories: Technology, Public Safety, Facilities, Economic Development, Fleet Management, Public Works, Administration, Health and Human Services, and Educational Instructional Support.

The Local Government Innovation Fund is a competitive statewide program that provides loans and grants. The program will award up to \$100,000 in grant funds per feasibility study, up to \$100,000 in loan assistance per entity for demonstration projects, and up to \$500,000 in loan assistance for collaborative demonstration projects.

### Round 1 Local Government Innovation Fund award recipients are as follows:

Type	Lead Applicant	Project Name	Category	Grant Award
Grant	City of Miamisburg	Community Wellness Center	Facilities	\$67,500
Grant	Area Cooperative Computerized Educational Support System (ACCESS)	Mahoning County Regional Shared Service System	Technology	\$100,000
Grant	City of Toledo, Department of Public Services	Regional Composting Facility	Public Works	\$100,000
Grant	First Suburb Consortium	FSC: First Suburb Consortium	Economic Development	\$100,000

Grant	Barnesville Exempted Village School District	Project S.H.A.R.E. (Schools Harnessing Administrative Resources Efficiently)	Administration	\$100,000
Grant	Gallia County Commissioners	Appalachian Ohio's Open Geographic Information System Web Access	Technology	\$100,000
Grant	Stark County Regional Planning Commission	Stark County Building Departments Shared Services Feasibility Study	Administration	\$75,000
Grant	Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments	Northwest Ohio Regional Water District	Public Works	\$100,000
Grant	Lake Township Trustees (Wood County)	Shared Dispatching Services and Formation of a Council of Governments	Public Safety	\$87,840
Grant	Fairfield County	Fairfield County Advanced Innovative Management Solution	Administration	\$96,688
Grant	Summit County	Summit County Shared Broadband Initiative (Project or Initiative)	Technology	\$100,000
Grant	Brown County ADAMHS Board	Making Efficient Resources and Governance Examples	Health & Human Services	\$63,175
Grant	North Central Ohio Educational Service Center	Roadmap to IT Solutions	Technology	\$100,000
Grant	Akron City Schools	Shared Teacher and Administrative Recruitment for Ohio 8 Coalition	Administration	\$100,000

Grant	Meigs County Commissioners	Meigs County Water and Sewer Authority Feasibility Study and Plan	Public Works	\$100,000
Grant	Erie County Board of Developmental Disabilities	The Yes Express: Transportation that Works for Community & Business	Fleet Management	\$100,000
Grant	Chillicothe City School District Board of Education	Shared Transit Facility East Seventh Street	Fleet Management	\$94,000
Grant	City of Dayton	Collaborative Fuel Initiative	Fleet Management	\$100,000
Grant	Jefferson County Board of Commissioners	Project Unite: Using Networking Initiatives To Excel	Technology	\$49,900
Grant	Mid East Ohio Regional Council of Government (MEORC)	Region 5 County Collaborative Project Implementation	Health & Human Services	\$100,000
Grant	City of Grandview Heights - Employee Benefits	Grandview Heights: Employee	Administration	\$60,000
Grant	City of South Euclid	Regional Consolidated Public Safety Dispatch Feasibility Study	Public Safety	\$51,386
Grant	Portage County Regional Planning Commission	Asset Mapping	Economic Development	\$94,052
Grant	Shelby County ESC	Area Education and Workforce Training Institution	Educational Instructional Support	\$100,000
Grant	Educational Service Center of Lorain County	Pooled Transportation Resources	Fleet Management	\$63,150

Grant	Sourcing Office (Butler County)	The Integrated Development Budget: A Collaborative Innovation Project	Technology	\$100,000
Grant	Northwest Ohio ESC	Project S.A.V.E.	Administration	\$60,000
Grant	Mifflin Township Board of Trustees	Regional Council of Governments (RCOG) Feasibility Study	Administration	\$82,800
Grant	Chagrin/Southeast Council of Governments	Joint Communication Center Chagrin/Southeast Council of Governments	Public Safety	\$55,000
Grant	City of Kettering	Books to Brushes, a Kettering Collaborative for a New Library/Cultural Arts Centre	Facilities	\$90,000
Grant	Cuyahoga County	Merger/Shared Services Study for Moreland Hills, Orange, Pepper Pike, and Woodmere	Administration	\$100,000
Grant	City of Mansfield, Department of Finance	Mansfield Efficiency Improvement Planning Project (MEIPP)	Administration	\$63,000
Grant	Educational Service Center of Cuyahoga County	Cuyahoga County Shared Pupil Transportation Study	Fleet Management	\$100,000
Grant	Gallia Vinton Educational Service Center	Rio Connections: Shared Services Project	Educational Instructional Support	\$42,875
Grant	Medina City School District	Enhancing Student Safety	Educational Instructional Support	\$90,000

Grant	Perry County Board of Commissioners	Perry County 9-1-1 PSAP Consolidation Feasibility Study	Public Safety	\$35,827
Grant	Logan County Family & Children First	Collaborative Case Management System Project	Health & Human Services	\$100,000
Grant	Champaign County of Development Disabilities	Champaign and Shelby County of Development Disability Shared Services	Health & Human Services	\$90,000
Grant	City of Defiance	Defiance-Napoleon Water System Interconnection Feasibility Study	Public Works	\$99,000
Grant	Southwest Ohio Computer Association	Southwest Ohio Computer Association	Technology	\$70,000
Grant	Wood County Port Authority	Feasibility Study for Southwood EMS	Public Safety	\$81,300

Type	Lead Applicant	Project Name	Category	Loan Award
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Loan	Union County Council of Governments	Consolidated Network	Technology	\$400,000
Loan	Copley Township, Ohio	Southwest Summit Communications,	Public Safety	\$300,000
Loan	Beavercreek Township Fire Department	Migration to Ohio's P25 Multi-Agency Radio Communications System (MARCS)	Public Safety	\$197,000
Loan	Trumbull County Engineer	Trumbull County Salt Storage and Joint Purchasing Initiative	Public Works	\$500,000

Loan	Educational Service Center of Central Ohio	Related Services Staff Scheduling and Medicaid Reimbursement Project	Administration	\$300,000
Loan	Ashland County Department of Job and Family Services	Efficiency Project	Health & Human Services	\$100,000
Loan	Village of Tuscarawas	Community Salt Shed	Public Works	\$67,000
Loan	Marion County	Marion County, Ohio, Countywide 911 Dispatch and Emergency Operations Center	Public Safety	\$500,000
Loan	Licking County Commissioners	Licking County 911 Center Renovation	Public Safety	\$500,000
Loan	Columbiana County Recorder's Office	Digitizing, Redacting, and Local/Remote Access of Land Records	Technology	\$100,000

*The **Office of Redevelopment**, located within the Ohio Department of Development'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 support business attraction and retention efforts by providing targeted investments that assist in job creation, as well as provides assistance and services to Ohio's communities and individuals. 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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