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Governor

Christiane Schmenk
Director

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Veterans Development, LLC Receives Brownfield Loan Program Funding *Environmental assessment to be conducted at the former Brecksville VA Medical Center*

COLUMBUS— Today, the Ohio Water Development Authority Board approved a loan of \$470,000 from the Brownfield Loan Program for Veterans Development, LLC to perform a Phase II Environmental Assessment at the former Brecksville VA Medical Center. The Brownfield Loan Program is a partnership between the Ohio Water Development Authority and the Ohio Department of Development.

“When we redevelop these blighted sites, we create opportunities for job creation and community development,” said Christiane Schmenk, Director of the Ohio Department of Development. “We are happy to partner with the Ohio Water Development Authority in administering the Brownfield Loan Program.”

The former Brecksville VA Medical Center is located on Brecksville Road, less than two miles south of the downtown. It includes 34 structures on 103 acres, and the assessment is expected to be complete in late 2012. The site is being envisioned as a future Commerce Park with office uses, restaurants, shops, and a community center, all in an ecologically-friendly, walkable environment. The redevelopment will bring increased tax revenue, jobs, and a new destination for residents and businesses in the region.

The Brownfield Loan Program provides below-market-rate loans for the assessment, cleanup, and/or demolition of brownfield sites. The projects will stimulate economic development on former brownfield sites resulting in newly created or retained jobs.

For more information on the program, please visit www.development.ohio.gov/urban/blp.htm.

*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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