

**For Immediate Release**
August 28, 2013**Contact:** Stephanie Gostomski at (614) 466-6619
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Local Communities Receive State Assistance

Funds will be used to consolidate services and create jobs

The Ohio Development Services Agency awarded four loans totaling \$1.7 million dollars. This money will be put to use on projects all across the state. The Local Government Innovation Fund was created to help communities in their efforts to promote collaboration among governments and cut costs for the services they provide.

“These projects have a direct on communities,” said David Goodman, director of the Ohio Development Services Agency. “They will also lower costs for taxpayers.”

The Local Government Innovation Council met today to approve the projects which fall into nine categories: technology, public safety, facilities, economic development, fleet management, public works, administration, health and human services and educational instructional support.

Local project information:

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Project Title</u>	<u>Loan Amount</u>
Allen Water District	Southwest Regional Waterline Improvement Area Phase 1	\$500,000
Butler Township Trustees	Sign Department of Mercer County	\$500,000
Mercer County Engineer	Vehicle Storage Wing	\$500,000
Village of Mt. Orab	Facility Acquisition & Storage Wing	\$200,000

The Allen Water District project will extend water services to communities and businesses in Northwest Ohio, which allow Rudolph Foods in Lima to grow and create jobs.

The Butler Township Trustees project will be the construction of a signage area to handle all Mercer County roadway signs, eliminating the need for the individual townships to maintain their own facilities. 14 townships in Mercer county collaborated on this project.

The Mercer County Engineer project will be the construction of a building to house fleet dump trucks and miscellaneous equipment for road work. 14 townships and three government entities collaborated on this project, and will be utilizing the space.

The village of Mt. Orab project is merging the business operations of the Sterling Township government and the emergency services of the Village of Mt. Orab. The money will be used to upgrade a vacant building in Southwest Ohio, and will be used to house a fire department substation and administrative space. The new site is expected to reduce fire response times to make the community safer.

Find out about more about this program for your community at
http://development.ohio.gov/cs/cs_localgovfund.htm.

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