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CLERMONT COUNTY PARTNERSHIPS PROVIDE MODEL FOR JOB RETENTION AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
New partnerships lead to infrastructure improvements that will keep jobs local and stimulate growth

Batavia, OH – Highlighting what is possible when multiple jurisdictions come together with a like-minded goal, Clermont County leaders are providing more details about a unique funding opportunity that was made possible through the state of Ohio. The Clermont County Transportation Improvement District (CCTID), Clermont County Engineer’s Office (CCEO), Union Township, JobsOhio and the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) recently worked together to plan and accelerate several major road projects to open up and support the Eastgate area, a growing regional employment center, vital to southwest Ohio and the regional economy.

Last year, three Clermont County manufacturers announced expansions: A & P Technology, Inc., L-3 Fuzing & Ordnance Systems and Multi-Color Corporation. Local transportation officials identified more than \$1 million in roadway and local network improvements that were needed to improve access, safety and travel in the vicinity of the three companies. Representatives from the local Transportation Improvement District, Engineer’s Office and Union Township worked with JobsOhio and ODOT’s Jobs & Commerce Office to leverage local funds to secure state roadwork grants covering nearly 85 percent of the cost of the combined projects.

Roadwork projects will now move forward at the Merwin/10-Mile intersection with SR 125, on McMann and the intersection of Old SR 74 and East Tech Drive. Following the roadway improvements and planned local business expansions – which would not have been possible without the infrastructure upgrades – the three companies will collectively employ nearly 1,400.

“I’ve been in public service for more than 30 years and I’ve never seen anything like this,” said Ken Geis, Union Township Administrator and member of the CCTID Board of Trustees. “The level of responsiveness and support from the state to address our employers’ transportation needs has been incredible,” Geis continued. “The governor, ODOT and this rapid-response Jobs & Commerce team get it. They just flat out get what it means to make sure that the jobs in Clermont County stay in Clermont County and they have done everything in their power to make that happen.”

ODOT’s Jobs & Commerce Office is recognized as a rapid-response team to help communities support major employers with roadwork need for growth. Jobs & Commerce works with communities and JobsOhio to develop and deliver roadwork for economic development projects more quickly than might have otherwise been possible. In 2012, the first year for JobsOhio and Jobs & Commerce, Clermont County and Union Township leaders secured grants for roadwork in the Eastgate area to support the Total Quality Logistics expansion and the new Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Clermont Campus.

“Clermont County and Union Township leadership have the know-how to really stretch local dollars by leveraging state roadwork grants,” said Melissa Taylor, southwest Ohio regional manager for the Office of Jobs & Commerce.

Clermont County Transportation Improvement District

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“They bring projects to our attention early and often and have the local ‘muscle’ to make them happen. They do their part to take care of their existing employers, and we’re doing our part to ensure the same level of responsiveness and support,” Taylor continued.

Clermont County Engineer and CCTID board member Pat Manger added, “We’re putting our best foot forward here in Clermont County by bringing together the resources to stimulate our local economy and support job growth with transportation improvements. And ultimately, those improvements will help to enrich the quality of life for residents of Clermont County. I’m very proud of the work we’re doing.”

About the Clermont County Transportation Improvement District

The Clermont County Transportation Improvement District (CCTID) works across geographic and political lines to improve the quality of life for Clermont County residents by stimulating economic development through regional transportation improvements. The five-member board is made up of representatives from the Clermont County Engineer’s Office, the Clermont County Chamber of Commerce, the City of Milford, and Miami and Union Townships.

The CCTID is currently working on more than a dozen roadway improvements that will increase safety, support better traffic flow through the area, and provide the infrastructure for continued economic development throughout the county. More information about the CCTID and their project work can be found on-line at: GoClermont.org.

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