



OHIO CONFERENCE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, INC.



Dear Friends and
Colleagues,

I just want to thank everyone for the opportunity to serve as your president for the 2011-2012 year. This has been a very memorable experience for me and I have appreciated all of your words of encouragement and your support throughout the year. As an organization we have survived major changes and emerged even stronger.

We can be proud of the large turnouts for the trainings and quarterly meetings

President's Farewell

By: Verna Vance, OCCD President

this year, and the positive comments we've received on the meeting agendas. This is due, of course, to Donna Colglazier, our Vice-President, and the timely and useful information she presented each quarter. Thanks, Donna, for your hard work.

Huge thanks goes to the executive committee who made wise decisions for change throughout the year and who worked together to keep the organization strong.

The membership committee is to be commended for their efforts in creating our new brochure. Thanks, also, to all the committee chairpersons and the members who served on them. The executive committee recognizes their commitment to the organization and especially at a time when many are coping with reduced

staffs and increased responsibilities in their communities.

Kudos to all of the OCCD staff: Jack Riordan, Debra Mayes, and Patricia Richards. The effort they put into this organization shows how dedicated they are to our continuing mission of improving our communities and making them well rounded healthy places to live, work and play.

I know changes will continue, and that's really a good thing. One of those good changes is our new President, Angela Brown. I am confident that she and her new board will be able to meet any future challenges and I know you will give her the same encouragement and support you've given me.

Enjoy the summer, and I'll see you in October, with another New Year.

Dear Membership,

In accordance with Article VII, Section 4 of the OCCD Constitution and By-Laws, the OCCD Nominating Committee has selected the following nominees for each office of the Association and for the non-office members of the Executive Committee for the 2012-2013 year. This slate of nominees will be officially presented to the membership for election on Wednesday, July 25, 2012, during the OCCD Business Meeting at the 2012 Summer Meeting.

Non-elective officers:

President – Angela Brown, Kettering
Past President – Verna Vance, Montgomery County

Elective positions:

President Elect – Donna Colglazier, Butler County
Vice President – Ken Lengjaza, Marion County RPC
Treasurer – Kathy Werkmeister, Mid Ohio RPC
Secretary – Amy Riegel, Dayton
Board Member – Dale Hartle, Ohio Regional Development Corp.
Board Member – Michael Keys, Warren
Board Member – Rollin Seward, Franklin County

Appointed positions:

Board Member – Amy Schocken, CDC of Ohio
Board Member – Lisa Patt-McDaniel, OCCB

As provided in Article IX, Section I of the by-laws, additional nominations shall be made by a Full Member, in writing, and bear the endorsement of at least two Full Members in addition to the signature of the nominating member.

As interim chairperson, I would like to thank the members of the Nominating Committee for their help.

Respectfully,
Anita Stocker, Chair Nominating Committee

OCCD Summer Quarterly Meeting July 25 – 26, 2012

By Donna D. Colglazier, OCCD Vice President

Happy Summer!

...and the close of another year of OCCD. I write this as my last article as the Vice-President of OCCD. So... after this, I can rest! Over the past year, I hope that I have provided agendas that have benefited you in your daily walk as community development professionals.

The Ohio Conference of Community Development will hold its Annual Summer Meeting at a new location: the Holiday Inn Downtown, located at 175 East Town Street in Downtown Columbus. I'm excited for the new venue and location that is more conducive to walking around and enjoying downtown Columbus.

Speaking of walking around, we will kick off the summer meeting with a downtown walking tour of several community revitalization projects located within the Capital South area. For those not willing or able to participate in the approximate six block walking tour, a bus tour is also being provided and will target the same points of interest as the walking tour.

The tour will include visiting Columbus Commons; nine acres of green space located in the heart of Downtown.

The park now stands at the former site of the City Center. Construction began on the park mid 2010 with the official debut held Memorial Day Weekend 2011. The Franklin County Courthouse is an annex to the existing courthouse next door, boasting 325,000 square feet of offices and courtrooms. The building was constructed to LEED Gold standards and includes a green rooftop, natural lighting, and modern energy efficiency. The Lazarus Building serves as a mixed-use space for offices, retail, restaurants, and a green rooftop rain garden. In 2005 the store closed after more than 150 years as a downtown Columbus fixture. Recent renovations have enabled the store to continue being a part of Columbus' urban fabric.

The OSU Urban Arts Space, located in the Lazarus Building, is a 10,000 square foot exhibition and non-traditional performance space, welcoming over 35,000 patrons a year. Exhibits present for the OCCD tour include *Progress and Promise*, visualization studies and retail façade designs in the Neighborhood Commercial Revitalization (NCR) corridors of urban Columbus;

2012 *High School Juried Exhibition*, presenting the works of high school artists from Ohio; and *We Don't Have All Night*, an exhibition of artists who utilize experimental applications of paint and unconventional materials.

The Scioto Mile, the Annex at River South, and the Main Street Bridge will also take part of the tour. What better way to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Columbus by visiting and being a part of the downtown experience.

During the Award Luncheon, OCD and HUD will present awards for best practices. HUD's 2012 Recognition Awards will be selected based upon the criteria of a Placed-Based Approach to Transform a Community or Neighborhood through a single project or series of projects that have focused available resources, including NSP, HOME, CDBG, SHP, in a targeted manner, helping to transform the entire area including the overall image of the community or neighborhood.

Eligible nominations for OCD's 2012 Director's Awards for Excellence in Housing and Community Development must

describe how the project has impacted the overall community and benefited its citizens, in particular, low- and moderate-income individuals. In addition, projects or services that have helped to reduce or prevent homelessness in the state of Ohio are eligible for nomination.

After lunch, the awardees of OCD and HUD best practices will showcase their projects. After the award winners' presentations, our legislative session will be presented by Pamela Hanover, Esq., Squire, Sanders and Dempsey, L.L.P., who will bring us up to date information on the ever changing legislative actions.

At the conclusion of Wednesday's sessions and after a short break, the evening will continue with a reception and annual award banquet. To recognize and encourage creative programs, OCCD annually presents the "OCCD President's Award for excellence and innovation in the delivery of housing and community development services." Please contact OCCD for more information, if you are interested in submitting a project for consideration.

The Award Banquet is also

the time when we pass the gavel, bid a fond farewell to Verna Vance as President of OCCD, and welcome Angela Brown as the incoming President of OCCD. We will hear from both of these ladies at the Banquet, as we close out one year of OCCD and initiate anew.

Thursday will be presented a little differently than usual for our conferences. HUD will be hosting an "All Grantee Meeting" for their Entitlement communities for the entire morning. For Small Cities, Joyce Barrett of Heritage Ohio will provide a session on Historic Tax Credits. After Ms. Barrett's presentation, the Office of Community Development will host a Roundtable discussion of the planning work groups that have been established. OCD will also hold the Small Cities meeting upon the conclusion of the Roundtable discussion.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the speakers, members, board members and friends of OCCD, who over the last year assisted me in preparing the agendas for the quarterly conferences. Your contribution is what keeps the organization running. Thank you.

Summer Meeting July 25 - 26, 2012

Tuesday

4:00 – 7:00 pm Executive Board Meeting

Wednesday

8:00 am Registration Opens

9:00 Welcome
Donna D. Colglazier, Vice President, OCCD

9:00 – 12:00 **Walking / Bus Tour: Capital South Area**

- Rollin Seward, Assistant Director, Franklin County Economic Development and Planning Commission
- Kathy Werkmeister, Director, Housing and Community Services, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

12:15 – 1:30 **Award Luncheon – Sponsored by Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing**

- OCD and HUD Awards for Best Practices

1:30 – 1:45 OCCD Business Meeting & Election of Officers

1:45 – 2:45 **Community Presentations of OCD Award Winning Projects**

- Awardees yet to be determined

2:45 – 3:00 Break

3:00 – 4:00 **Community Presentations of HUD Award Winning Projects**

- Awardees yet to be determined

4:00 – 4:30 **Legislation in the Works**

- Pamela I. Hanover, Esq., Squire Sanders LLP

5:30 – 6:30 **Reception – Sponsored by Squire Sanders LLP**

6:30 – 8:30 **Award Banquet**
 OCCD President's Award
 President's Farewell Address
 Inauguration of New President

Thursday

8:00 am Registration Opens

Entitlements

9:00 – 12:00 **All Entitlement Grantee Meeting**

- Jorgelle Lawson & Rich Hendershot, U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development

Small Cities

9:00 – 12:00 **Historic Tax Credits**

- Joyce Barrett, Executive Director, Heritage Ohio

10:00 – 11:30 **Roundtable Discussion of Planning Work Groups**

- Mike Hiler, Deputy Chief, Office of Community Development

11:30 – 12:00 **Small Cities Meeting**
 Office of Community Development

12:00 – 1:30 OCCD Executive Board Meeting & Training

REGISTRATION: The registration fee for the 2012 Summer Annual Meeting is \$95 for members for the first registration and \$125 for non-members; this includes the luncheon and banquet. You may register for the Awards Luncheon only, the fee is \$35. The fee for the Banquet only is \$45. Registrations should be mailed to Patricia Richards, OCCD Office, P.O. Box 776, Urbana, OH 43078, faxed to (937) 652-3523 or emailed to office@occd.org. Registration materials are available on our web site at www.occd.org. The registration deadline is July 19, 2012.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Advance reservations are important and should be made directly to Holiday Inn Downtown (614) 221-3281. Specify the OCCD conference and ask for the special rate of \$99.00; make your reservations before July 11, 2012. Hotel parking is included in the room rate. For those not staying at the hotel, there is a daily \$10 parking fee.

Summer Meeting 2012

Bus/Walking Tour

Columbus, Ohio

Wednesday, July 25th 9:00am - 12:00pm



Columbus Commons is 9 acres of live, green space located in the heart of Downtown. The park now stands at the former site of the City Center. By mid 2010, construction on the park began, with one-third of the site reserved for market-driven development. The Columbus Commons had its official debut Memorial Day Weekend 2011.



The **Franklin County Courthouse** is an annex to the existing courthouse buildings next door and its 325,000 square feet house offices and courtrooms. The building was constructed to LEED Gold standards and includes a green rooftop, natural lighting, and energy-efficiency features.

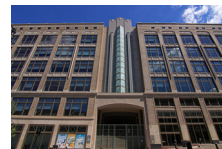


OSU Urban Arts Space, located in the Lazarus Building, is a 10,000-square foot exhibition and non-traditional performance space, welcoming over 35,000 patrons a year. The space is a part of OSU's vision to better prepare students, especially those in art, for their chosen

career as artists, designers, and arts administrators, while forging a link to downtown Columbus.

OSU Urban Art Space Exhibits:

- **Neighborhood Design** Center's exhibition entitled *Progress and Promise* will present visualization studies and retail facade designs in the Neighborhood Commercial Revitalization (NCR) corridors of urban Columbus.
- The *2012 High School Juried Exhibition* presents the works of high school age artists from any district of Ohio. Accepted by a panel of local arts leaders, participating high school artists will work with Urban Arts Space staff to gain hands-on, practical knowledge of the exhibiting process.
- *We Don't Have All Night* is an exhibition with an unfussy and playful attitude, featuring the works of nine painters who utilize experimental applications of paint and unconventional materials.



The **Lazarus Building** serves as a mixed-use space for offices, retail, restaurants, and a green rooftop rain garden. For more than 150 years, the Lazarus department store was a fixture in downtown Columbus. In 2005, the store closed, but the building was soon renovated to LEED Gold standards and continues to be part of Columbus' urban fabric.



The **Scioto Mile** is an urban oasis comprised of more than 145 acres of lush parkland. Stretching along the riverfront from the vibrant Arena District to the natural beauty of the Whittier Peninsula, the Scioto Mile reconnects downtown to the Scioto River through an integrated system of parks, boulevards, bikeways and pedestrian paths.



The **Annex at River South** is a premier Downtown apartment development from Lifestyle Communities featuring East Coast townhouse-style apartments. Positioned in the new River South District, Columbus' entertainment districts, theaters, parks, and museums are all within walking distance.



The **Main Street Bridge** is a 700-foot, three-span, inclined arch suspension bridge over the Scioto River. The bridge is the first in North America and only the fifth in the world to use an inclined arch superstructure.



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2011 - 12 Executive Committee

President	Verna Vance, Montgomery County
Past President	Nancy Cook, Sustainability Grants Manager, Department of Planning and Urban Development, Akron
President Elect	Angela Brown, Community Development Manager, Kettering
Vice President	Donna Colglazier, Community Development Administrator, Butler County
Treasurer	Ken Lengieza, Director, Marion County R.P.C.
Secretary	Kathy Werkmeister, Director of Housing and Community Services, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Board Members	Michael Keys, Executive Director, Department of Community Development, Warren Rollin Seward, Assistant Director, Economic Development and Planning Department, Franklin County Dale Hartle, Director, Ohio Regional Development Corporation Phyllis Dunlap, CT Consultants, Inc. (Appointed) Lisa Patt-McDaniel, Director of Community Development, Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing (Appointed)



Debra Mayes
OCCD Housing Coordinator

OCCD Summer Annual Meeting Trivia –

- Announcement made of hiring of Jack and I at OCCD Summer Annual Meeting – July 2004
- Last hosted Summer Annual Meeting in Canton – July 2005
- First Summer Annual Meeting at Deer Creek State Park – July 2006
- First eight OCCD Community Development Professionals received certifications at Summer Annual Meeting – July 2007
- Four additional OCCD Community Development Professionals received certifications at Summer Annual Meeting – July 2008
- Five year anniversary of the hiring of Jack and I – Summer Annual Meeting – July 2009
- Last year of OCCD training day prior to Summer Annual Meeting unless requested by OCD or HUD – July 2010
- HUD training day prior to Summer Annual Meeting and coffee – July 2011

There may be a test.....

Hope you didn't miss this –

Fair Housing & Zoning Training

The Federal Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 (FHAA) was enacted to create a housing market free of discriminatory barriers to specific protected groups, including persons with disabilities. Seeking to promote the goals of the FHAA, The Housing Advocates Inc. (HAI) a Cleveland based public interest law firm and fair housing group has studied the zoning laws in 71 communities throughout Ohio to determine if any zoning code provisions may violate the FHAA. Some of the provisions found to be suspect include restrictive definitions of family, specialized requirements for spacing between group homes or lot widths of individual group homes, and overly restrictive conditioned approval for establishing group homes.

The process of helping communities understand their affirmative duty to make reasonable accommodations for residents with disabilities pursuant to the FHAA was discussed **April 24** at the Crowne Plaza North.

Ed Kramer with experience in civil rights, fair housing, real estate, class actions, and small business consulting for both profit and nonprofit and appellate work was the presenter. He is the co-founder and present Director and Chief Counsel of The Housing Advocates, Inc a public interest law firm since 1975. He has argued more than fifty cases before the U.S. Court of Appeals and appeared in three U.S. Supreme Court cases during his more than thirty-six years of practice. He also is an Adjunct Professor of Law at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law and Director of the Fair Housing Law Clinic, a clinical program run in cooperation with Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. Ed has authored over forty articles and publications on housing, landlord-tenant, real estate law and civil rights. Mr. Kramer actively litigates housing and lending cases, as well as consults on fair housing cases throughout the country. He is Co-Chair of the Fair Housing Litigation Group of the American Association for Justice [fka American Trial Lawyers Association], on the Board of Advisors, Fair Housing Coach, Brownstone Publications and remain on the Advisory Council of the Fair Housing Legal Support Center at the John Marshall College of Law, Chicago, Ill. Mr. Kramer discussed federal agencies and court cases on how to handle housing for persons with disabilities in both a legally and ethical way. Ultimately, the seminar and the give and take of question and answers from the audience was a tool for establishing conformance with federal and Ohio fair housing law to provide equal housing opportunities.

A copy of Mr. Kramer's presentation can be found on the OCCD website (www.occd.org) under Quarterly Meetings > 2012 Spring Quarterly > Post Meeting Materials > Fair Housing.

OCCD Regional Information Session

Between today as I write this article and the time that you receive this newsletter, OCCD will have held the second regional information session around the State in Warren, Ohio. These sessions are designed to:

- **Involve** membership unable to attend trainings and quarterly meetings due to travel, short staff, new to position, etc.;
- **Promote** the value of OCCD membership, attending trainings and quarterly meeting;
- **Educate** local, state and federal elected officials on the value CDBG and HOME funded programs that are available;
- And highlight the success stories of the region.

Special Thanks to ORDC as the Spring Meeting Reception Sponsor



Ohio Regional Development Corporation (ORDC) sponsored the Reception at the OCCD Spring Quarterly Meeting at the Crowne Plaza Columbus North in April. Our thanks and appreciation for their support.

Jorgelle Lawson, Director of the Columbus Office, and Richard Hendershot, Program Manager, HUD Office of Community Planning & Development and Michael Hiler, Deputy Chief, Office of Community Development speak to the various programs and funding administered by their agencies.

Host Michael Keys, Executive Director, City of Warren Department of Community Development, planned a panel discussion on *Blight, Brownfields, & Economic Development*. Invited to participate in the panel were **Dan Mamula** - Manager, Mahoning River Corridor Initiative; **Sarah Boyarko** - Vice President Economic Development, Youngstown Warren Regional Chamber; **Walter Good** - Director Business Development, Team NEO; **Anita Stocker** - Director of Community & Economic Development, Geauga County and **Rick Leonard** - District Director, Congressman Ryan's Office.

I will report on the actual session in the Fall Newsletter.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the **OCCD/OCCD 2012 Community Development Conference** November 7-9, 2012 at Salt Fork!

REMINDER

Power Point presentations from the OCCD Quarterly meetings are posted to the OCCD website when permission is given by the speakers. Occasionally, due to the size of the presentation because of pictures, this is not possible.

NOTE

The OCCD Fall Quarterly Meeting will held **October 24-25, 2012** at the Crowne Plaza North, Columbus
The OCCD 2013 Winter Quarterly Meeting will be held **January 23-24, 2013** at the Embassy Suites, Dublin.
The OCCD 2013 Spring Quarterly Meeting will be held **April 24-25, 2013** at the Crowne Plaza North, Columbus.

Check out the above as well as other scheduled trainings on the OCCD Calendar of Training & Events (www.occd.org) - Training Center) where you will also find regularly updated information on trainings and events being sponsored by OCCD as well as other partner organizations. In addition, join us on our OCCD Facebook page or if you have comments on the contents of this column or are too shy to comment on Facebook send me an e-mail trainingcoordinator@occd.org.



◀ "Like" us on facebook!

p.s. The cruise was great! Our traveling buddies, who were skeptics, already want to plan the next one!

WORTH NOTING

Newsletter Deadline

Deadline for submission of copy for the newsletter is September 7, 2012. Send printed and disk to: OCCD Office, P. O. Box 776, Urbana, OH 43078, Attn: Newsletter Editor. Or, email to: office@occd.org. Or fax to: 937-652-3523.

Retirees

OCCD wishes to recognize retiring members. If one of your associates is retiring, please send an announcement with a short paragraph about the retiree. We will publish it in the next newsletter and honor them at the quarterly meeting. Send notices to Pat Richards, P.O. Box 776, Urbana OH 43078 or office@occd.org

Job Openings

Do you have a vacant position? Let OCCD promote it on our web page, with existing mailings or in our newsletter. Call Pat Richards at (937) 652-3523 or e-mail her at office@occd.org for details.

Meeting Evaluations

In the upcoming Quarterly Meetings, the Audience Response System will be utilized as an evaluation tool at the conclusion of sessions. Separate cards will be distributed for suggested and/or recommended future session topics. The OCCD Executive Board wishes to thank all those who take the time to provide input at the Quarterly Meetings.

A Tale of Three Cities and a Village

by: Jack Riordan

Returning to Vietnam after 45 years included a great deal of anxiety and a little fear about what Nam would be like; would the Vietnamese hate me for what I was, not who I was, would the Vietnamese be automatons; would Wal-Mart commercialism replace the countless tiny shops and stores; would the delicate beauty of girls and women be destroyed by the sameness of communism? The first indication that they would not hate me was the announcements on Vietnam Airline. They were only in Vietnamese and English. The fear about the automaton sameness and loss of female charm was gone before we left the airport. On the way from Ton Son Nhut Air Port little shops and big stores lined the street.

I also wondered what the streets would be like without the War related vehicles. Would people still be carrying baskets on the ends of poles? Would they still push or pull two or four wheeled carts? Would there still be the mishmash of bicycles, bicycles with various attached carts for carrying people or goods, or motorized tricycles, motor scooters, motor cycles, the ubiquitous three wheeled Lambretta buses that haul ten people, or two of their enormous pigs (they loved pig fat)? Would draft animals still pull two wheeled donkey carts, two wheeled ox carts, pulled by either one or two Oxen? Would the miniature blue taxis still ply their trade? Add to this list every make and model of automobile manufactured in the free world since 1930 that were on the roads of Vietnam in 1966. Saigon traffic was an absolute opera of sight, sound and smells.

All that vehicular chaos has been replaced. The Streets of Saigon now Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi are chockablock with Japanese motor scooters and a few cars, buses, and taxis. The roads outside of Saigon turned out to be jammed with trucks of every description in endless streams of containers, flat beds and dump trucks creeping along or stopped at toll booths. Interestingly, two wheeled vehicles do not pay tolls. Vietnamese traffic is now a loud Rock Concert with bad speakers. The entrepreneurs have replaced the "Wash Car: rest stops for GIs with assorted services" with hammock hotels where the drivers of all these trucks can get a glass of tea and a few hours rest on a hammock out of the traffic and heat in the shade.

In Saigon we stayed in the Majestic, one of the old French Colonial Hotels. Ho Chi Minh City has not lost Saigon's French flavor; great bakeries, restaurants, and monumental colonial architecture of public buildings abound in the center of the City. There are also massive skyscrapers and



parks and beautification efforts from what once were street stalls and parking lots. The street scene is much the same, people selling all kinds of things for tourists' and visiting international business guests. Vietnam was still a haven for small business development. Every flat cubic centimeter of sidewalk is a potential site for commerce. The latest craze is cut out postcards that fold out with intricate scenes or buildings. There are also a lot of folks selling local foods mostly variations on "Pho" the national soup and the tropical fruits that were in season.

One of the consequences of the motor scooter culture, (just as we have a car culture they now have a motor scooter culture) the scooters are everywhere not only on the streets but also the sidewalks both parked and moving. So as you walk you have to make your way around them and the squatting street sellers. They have also led to a new form of thievery. We were warned about the passenger on the back of scooters reaching out and grabbing your watch, purse or parcels while the driver races away. We were careful at the curb but felt safe on the sidewalk until one of the bikers on the side walk eased up to my wife and snatched her gold necklace and was gone — lost in the maze of alleys and traffic as I tried to give chase. The sidewalk people were all sympathetic and said we should report it to the police. But justice takes time and we were here for only a few days. It was surprising how much you can understand just by looks and gestures.

Another problem of massive use of inexpensive scooters is that almost every driver and passenger covered all of their exposed skin with long sleeves, gloves and even masks to protect their skin and lungs from the fumes and dust. The scooter culture was also present in Hanoi. Scooters provide independent transportation. It is relatively convenient except when it rains which is almost every day. Rainy season showers are usually intense but last only ten or fifteen minutes. They add a degree of danger from more slippery roads and the need to have rainwear handy. They are very careful drivers and despite the close quarters they avoid accidents, I supposed because there is no metal cocoon around them.

From a public policy it would be better to follow the Singapore model which relies on an extensive bus and underground mass transit system. Singapore which also has a strictly controlled political system used its authority, so today it has more

subway lines than London and more are under construction. It also restricts car ownership by requiring a permit to own a car that cost as much as the car. Singapore still a garden city does not allow unrepainted cars on its tree lined streets. There is little public investment needed by Vietnam to have the scooter culture at the moment, but the effect on public health as a result of the scooter culture was not calculated and even ignored in an article in the English language Viet Nam News.

Another problem is the shortage of housing and the smallness of existing units for the poor and working class. The sidewalk is the living room for most and bedroom for some; breathing in exhaust for long periods must have long term serious health consequences. Singapore's approach to housing over the last 40 years is a possible solution. Over 75 percent of Singapore's population lives in government built public housing which is offered for sale at low rates through lotteries.

Child labor and poverty are also rampant. A May 22, article in Viet Nam News titled, "POVERTY GIVES CHILDREN NOWHERE TO TURN" recounts that 73% of the 26,000 child laborers in hard and dangerous jobs are between 10 and 14 years of age. Poverty dictates that the children leave their rural homes and seek jobs in major cities to make up lost income and help pay hospital costs of sick parents. One case documented in the article concerns a 14 year old whose father suffered serious brain damage as a result of a traffic accident. He was working in a beer joint in Hanoi from 6 in the morning to 11:30 at night with a 2 hour siesta break. In addition to the long hard work, these kids are preyed upon for protection by gangsters in their rented sleeping quarters and are also subject to physical and sexual abuse. Although the government is working with an International Labor Organization to set up a Child Labor Protection Program to keep them in their hometowns and in school, the resources proposed are minimal and the problem widespread. The glitzy attraction of the big cities is magnetic. This certainly is not the communal Communism I expected to be the problem following our withdrawal from Viet Nam.

A second health hazard is cigarette smoking which is rampant. In Saigon the street vendors have replaced Gauloises with Winstons but smoking is a national passion, so the tens of thousands of children whose living and play rooms are the sidewalks will have more unhealthy lives because of smoking and the scooter fumes. Because of the absolute freedom of movement provided by scooters it will be very difficult to reduce their use to improve the environment. Reducing public smoking is doable with wide spread public education programs.

Another issue is fresh meat sales. In Hanoi fresh meat was cut and sold on a table with no refrigeration or protection, right on the street near our hotel. Although somewhat better in Ho Chi Minh City, meat was sold in the massive central market from open air displays without refrigeration. I did buy some Jack Fruit which was sliced from the enormous fruit but put into a clear plastic container like those used here for berries. I hope to get back in a few years to see how they are adjusting and developing.

Hanoi turned out to be a great place to visit. We stayed at the Elegance Ruby Hotel in the old quarter, which similar to the Middle Ages in Europe, has streets and tiny passageways dedicated to various types of items, such as musical instruments, shoes, and metal pots. In the 13th Century 36 guilds established the Old Quarter each with their own street to make and sell their products.

The highlight for me was getting back to Phuoc Thien the tiny village I lived in for 21 days in 1966, sleeping on the porch of the Ancestor Temple with a six man US Army medical Team and a unit of the Vietnamese popular forces which are like our National Guard. It was a remote little armed outpost, then 3 hours from Saigon. Although there was lots of highway construction, getting there now was still almost three hours and revealed one of the problems resulting from uncontrolled growth and development. For me one of the main beauties of Vietnam had been its agriculture, the ever changing green colors of rice at it grows, the irrigated small orchards and vegetable farms, the extensive river systems and streams and canals. Then all was visible as you drove along the rural highways. As we drove through Bien Hoa and Binh Duong, the main area of operations then, the road is now one long continuous stretch of shops with houses above or yards filled with ever conservable type of rusting constructions equipment. Next to what is a junk yard will be a magnificent 3 or 4 story house with roof gardens and balconies. The good and the bad jumbled together. There appears to be no zoning. If you have enough money you can buy the road frontage of a rice field and put in a used bulldozer yard.

Phuoc Thien was the place I got to know and better understand the Vietnamese people and their culture. Because war is 95% boredom and 5% horror, I got to spend a lot of time with the kids. They let me into their nature pursuits capturing birds and bugs. I took a lot of pictures of them and some of the shops and activities of this agricultural service center. The little town sold the things the farmers

could not grow or make and provided veterinary care for the oxen and water buffalo. I carried some of these pictures with me. They caused some excitement when I began to show them to the women in the market. A little cluster gathered and examined the pictures. They identified some of the kids and buildings in the photos. They said the pretty little girl holding the bug was dead. One woman recognized herself when she was 4 or 5. Her head had been shaved and it was covered with some white medication to treat head lice or something. Another insisted that I write her a letter, which I will and send with some other photos.

I had feared that this place would have been changed so I would not recognize it, but I could see remnants in a few buildings that were there then. The Ancestor Temple had been replaced with a smaller building and there seemed to be more schools and other public buildings. The Village itself was much bigger stretching along the still bad road, but in a few places I could see the beauty of the rice fields and small farms beyond the buildings.

Ho Chi Minh the founder behind independent Vietnam, is looked upon as Uncle Ho a friendly relative, not a dictatorial ruler who sacrificed for them and guided his countrymen to independence from the French, Americans, and the Chinese. We were actually helping Ho Chi Minh gain independence from France after the Second World War until fighting the Cold War with Russia changed our foreign policy to support the former Colonial Powers. Their last war with China was in 1979. The Vietnamese have fought China on and on for a thousand years. The last battle with China resulted from Chinas invasion because Vietnam had over thrown the bloody Khmer Rough in Cambodia.

From their English language news publications and my limited understanding Vietnam has not let communism change it, but it has changed communism. That creative dynamism that made war so difficult is now present in its economy. Vietnam is not looking inward but is searching outward for foreign partners. Old enemies are forgiven or forgotten. I ran into Australian Army Officers at the Majestic Hotel who told me that they were now advisors to the Vietnamese Army. As I prepared to send this to Pat the news was full of Panetta's visit to Hanoi to work out the beginning of efforts to counter balance China.

The old women with the cats said, "It was good that you finally went back. Now forget your guilt and pain and concentrate on the wonders of your life and family."

The opinions expressed by the columnists are the authors and not necessarily shared by the Executive Committee or the members of the Ohio Conference of Community Development, Inc.



The HUD Report

Jorgelle R. Lawson
CPD Director,
U.S. Dept. of HUD

Of all of the seasons, summer is the most illusive. Each year we wait and then wait some more for the summer to come and then it is over before we even start to realize it has begun. And each year, when it is over, we can't wait for the next one to begin. (Quote - author unknown) Summer at HUD means about half of our entitlements have received their formula funding, and we are busy trying to get the other half out along with homeless new/renewal funding. This summer we are also trying to ensure all the HPRP funds get expended.

Staffing Updates

I am pleased to announce that our NSP employees, Kyle Darton, Orient Au-Vang, and Brian White have had their terms extended for another year. They will be with us until September of 2013!

CPD COLUMBUS FIELD OFFICE PROGRAM UPDATES:

HPRP & CDBG-R Expenditure Deadline – The expenditure deadline both HPRP and CDBG-R is fast approaching: September 30, 2012. HUD is concerned that many grantees have yet to expend 100% of the funding. If you need technical assistance to resolve any issues that are preventing you from expending the funds, let us know.

CDBG-R – For those grantees that are not at 100% for

CDBG-R expenditures, please continue to expend so that all funds are gone by September 30, 2012. For those grantees at 100% expended, we are beginning to initiate the grant close-out process. Documents are forthcoming.

One CPD TA - The OneCPD Integrated Practitioner Assistance System (OneCPD) represents a fundamental change in the way HUD's "program-specific" technical assistance has been structured and delivered over the years to State and local government grantees and nonprofits. OneCPD is structured and now operating as a single cross-program, assessment-based, and outcome-focused delivery system with several key objectives: (1) improve grantees' ability to assess conditions in the affordable segment of their local housing market; (2) improve grantees' ability to implement housing, community development, and economic development programs; (3) increase organizational capacity to leverage private and public dollars; and (4) improve grantees' understanding of and compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements. OneCPD is being managed by HUD Headquarters with extensive involvement of the Field Offices. Needs assessment and follow-up technical assistance is just starting to occur for the second round. Nationally, approximately 25 to 30 grantees are now receiving assistance with the initial round of TA funding. In the very near future, the second round funding will be available, and we will be identifying grantees

in Ohio that we believe will benefit from OneCPD TA. If you believe your program is in need of TA, please notify our office.

Revised HUD Labor Standards Handbook issued

HUD has released Revision 2 of its Handbook, "Federal Labor Standards Requirements in Housing and Urban Development Programs" (1344.1). This replaces Revision 1, Change 1, which was issued in December 1986. You can access the handbook at the following link: http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/administration/hudclips/handbooks/sech/13441

Rural Wealth Creation: Concepts, Strategies, and Measures

Interesting reading - This report presents a conceptual framework for rural wealth creation, drawing upon the U.S. and international development literature. The framework emphasizes the importance of multiple types of assets (physical, financial, human, intellectual, natural, social, political, and cultural capital) and the economic, institutional, and policy context in which rural wealth strategies are devised. The report discusses the role of wealth creation in the rural development process, how wealth can be created in rural communities, and how its accumulation and effects can be measured. The report can be found at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/err131/>

Have a wonderful summer! Please continue to check your e-mails for updates from my office. If there are any changes in e-mail addresses, please let your CPD Rep or Myrna Cokes know as soon as possible.



Update from the Ohio Department of Development

Christiane Schmenk,
Director
Ohio Department of
Development

The summer of 2012 is upon us and the Ohio Department of Development continues to evolve its operation as we strive to provide quality programs and services to Ohio's business and communities. Our mission to strengthen Ohio's economy by creating jobs and enhancing the competitive assets of our state is unwavering and we are working to improve customer service by interacting with our stakeholders and partners to enlist their feedback.

Recently, I had the opportunity to conduct two stakeholder meetings in Columbus with the Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association (MEMA) and the Lawrence County Economic Development Corporation (LCED). The feedback from the two sessions was very beneficial and helped our team identify more opportunities for program improvements and partnerships with other state agencies and private advocacy groups. If you are interested in having a department spokesperson visit your region or wish to organize a stakeholder meeting, please contact the Office of Communications at (614) 466-2609 or Penny Martin at Penny.Martin@development.ohio.gov.

The Office of Community Development also is working with stakeholders through the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Planning Work Groups. The purpose of the Planning Work Groups is to help develop a program strategy intended to compensate for federal budget fluctuations, increase the local programmatic sustainability, and generate greater program impact. The Planning Work Groups are currently underway and input is critical to achieving our goal to create a strategy for the long-term sustainability of CDBG funding. Final recommendations from the work groups will be presented to an advisory panel and stakeholders during the OCCD's Annual Summer Meeting on July 24. We appreciate everyone who committed their time and energy in helping us achieve this goal.

At OCCD's Annual Summer Meeting luncheon ceremony in Columbus on July 25, we will recognize this year's honorees receiving the Director's Awards in Excellence in Housing and Community Development. The entries this year were very competitive and I want to thank those of you who submitted nominations for consideration. I look forward to personally congratulating the honorees on their exemplary program activities that have significantly impacted local residents and their communities.

Thank you for the commitment and tireless work you shoulder in helping your neighborhoods and Ohio's most vulnerable residents. I look forward to learning more about how we can enrich our partnerships to make Ohio a better place to live and work.



Franklin County HEALTHY CORNER STORE INITIATIVE

Franklin County's Healthy Corner Store Initiative is a partnership between the United Way of Central Ohio and the Ohio State University's Center for Farmland Policy Innovation to identify communities that have both the need and the capacity to begin implementing creative food desert solutions resulting in more local produce options for consumers. The total initiative was awarded \$25,000 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Specialty Crop Block Grant to design and implement this program.

In 2011, Franklin County committed \$25,000 in CDBG funds to bring this pilot program to the Franklinton/Harrisburg Pike community, which is a USDA-designated food desert and is over 70% low- to moderate-income. Research shows that most corner stores sell and prominently display primarily prepackaged convenience items that are high in salt, sugar and fat. Very few of these stores offer fresh produce, whole-grain baked goods or low-fat dairy products. Franklinton-area residents have no full-service grocery stores in their community, and those limited-service stores that are located nearby are difficult to access without a car.

The initiative provides technical assistance and minor store improvements to three corner

stores in the community that do not currently offer fresh, healthy food to include produce in their stores' offerings, and to match demand to the new supply of fresh fruits and vegetables. To encourage peer learning and a great sense of community, the stores are networked together to encourage economies of scale in purchasing fresh produce, community education, and outreach.

In addition to increasing the supply of fresh, healthy foods in this community, the Healthy Corner Store Initiative partners drive demand by conducting outreach and education in the community to encourage healthy eating habits, including providing free cooking demonstrations to children and families using locally available produce.

As a result of this project, approximately 1,500 people in the Franklinton/Harrisburg Pike community are gaining new access to fresh, healthy produce. The initiative has conducted initial assessments of the community, and continues to work with corner store owners, establish arrangements with food producers, and will be collecting data for a final results report. Through this effort, providing access to healthy fruits and vegetables can be replicated in other food desert communities.

HUD Recognition Awards – Self Nomination

HUD will be presenting Recognition Awards at the annual Ohio Conference of Community Development (OCCD) meeting in July.

Self-nominations are due by July 6, 2012.

Please send the nominations via hard copy.

to Jorgelle Lawson at the CPD Office – 200 North High Street, Columbus, OH 43215.

OCCD

FY-2012 HUD Recognition Awards

Placed-Based Approach to Transform a Community or Neighborhood (Self-nomination) – A single project or series of projects that have focused available resources (including NSP, HOME, CDBG, SHP) in a targeted manner to help transform the entire area, including the overall image of the community or neighborhood. Award to be determined based on data supplied by the grantee about the before and after transformation of the community or neighborhood, including the relationships and collaboration developed in the placed-based approach. Pictures are required. Multiple awards may be given.

Legislation . . . In the News

By: Pamela I. Hanover
Squire Sanders (US) LLP
OCCD Legislative Committee

The following is a summary of recent General Assembly activity relating to economic development matters through June 6, 2012.

LEGISLATION RECENTLY ENACTED

House Bill 1 (Governor signed February 18, 2011.) House Bill 1 authorizes the Governor to form JobsOhio, a nonprofit corporation with the purpose of promoting economic development, job creation and retention, job training and the recruitment of business to Ohio. The board of directors will be comprised of nine members, with the Governor serving as chair of the board and the other eight directors appointed by the Governor. Note that further changes to the formation of JobsOhio were made as part of House Bill 153, described below.

The Bill requires the Director (Director) of the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) to contract with JobsOhio as soon as practical for JobsOhio to assist the Director and ODOD to provide services and carry out functions of ODOD, including the operation of programs, all as determined by the Director in consultation with the Governor. All contracts between the Director and JobsOhio are to be approved by the State Controlling Board prior to execution. ODOD is to retain the function of approval and disapproval of awards. All contracts for grants, loans and tax incentives will be between ODOD and the recipient and enforced by ODOD. JobsOhio is prohibited from executing contracts that obligate ODOD for loans, grants and tax credits or incentive awards recommended by JobsOhio to ODOD.

The Bill specifies that the corporation is not a State agency or public body. Although many provisions applicable to governmental entities do not apply to JobsOhio, the Bill imposes certain requirements with respect to financial disclosures, conflicts of interest and other ethics matters, open meetings and public records. Employees of JobsOhio are not public employees for purposes of the Public Employees Retirement System and collective bargaining laws.

Public money held by JobsOhio is required to be accounted for separately from other funds and may not be commingled with other funds. A chief investment officer of JobsOhio, who will serve at the pleasure of the Governor, will have the power to execute contracts, spend funds and hire employees on behalf of the corporation.

Within six months following the effective date of the Bill, the Director is required to submit a report to the General Assembly recommending statutory changes to improve the functioning and efficiency of ODOD, to transfer specified functions of ODOD to JobsOhio or other existing agencies, or to eliminate designated functions of ODOD.

House Bill 18 (Governor signed May 4, 2012.) This Bill authorizes grants of \$500 per new full-time employee that is paid at least minimum wage for businesses that increase payroll and expand into a facility that has been vacant for at least twelve months. The business must employ either at least 50 employees or at least 50% of its Ohio employees at that site. The program would sunset after three years.

House Bill 58 (Governor signed March 7, 2011.) This Bill includes a provision expanding for a temporary period (for projects recommended by July 1, 2011) the State's job retention tax credit program and the related program for municipal corporations for certain projects retaining at least 1,000 jobs.

House Bill 114 (Governor signed March 30, 2011; certain provisions effective immediately and others effective June 29, 2011.) This Bill is the Transportation Budget Bill. It makes appropriations and contains authorizations for State transportation programs. Among other things, it includes the authorization for the Ohio Department of Transportation to enter into public-private agreements (P3s) with private entities regarding any aspect of transportation facilities, including their development, construction or operation. An affected public entity may also be a party to a P3 agreement.

The Bill also increases the competitive bid requirement threshold for port authorities from \$25,000 to \$100,000 (which increases for inflation). The Bill further expands the types of projects transportation improvement districts (TIDs) may construct and operate to include parking facilities and freight rail tracks and related freight rail facilities.

House Bill 153 (Governor signed June 30, 2011; certain provisions take effect immediately or on specific dates referred to in Bill, all others take effect September 29, 2011.) The State Budget Bill (amended substitute Ohio House Bill 153) was signed by Governor John Kasich June 30, 2011, with selected vetoes. The Bill contains the following provisions among many others, with various effective dates:

Revenue Measures

- Reduces Local Government Fund distributions to 75% of FY 2011 levels for the period between August 2011 and June 2012 and to 50% of FY 2011 levels for all months in FY 2013, with certain protections for counties receiving less than \$750,000.
- Eliminates the estate tax beginning January 1, 2013.
- Accelerates the phase-out of reimbursements to local governments for tangible personal property tax losses and utility personal property tax losses and holds reimbursements at calendar year 2013 levels in subsequent years.

Economic and Community Development

- Grants longer notice rights to joint vocational school districts (JVSDs) for tax increment financing (TIF) projects and provides that if there is a compensation agreement with a school district for a TIF project, a JVSD is to receive compensation at the same rate and under the same terms.
- Amends the JobsOhio program to, among other things, remove the requirement that the Governor serve as a member and chairperson of the Board.
- Requires a comprehensive study of the Ohio Housing Finance Agency programs be undertaken by a committee consisting of various State officials and members of the General Assembly.
- Expands the job retention tax credit.
- Extends the tax credit for rehabilitating historic buildings.
- Authorizes a nonrefundable personal income tax credit for eligible investors making a qualified investment in a defined small business enterprise.
- Extends the allowable term for ODOT public-private partnership agreements.
- Extends by two years the eligibility for a property tax exemption for a qualified energy project.

- Provides a one year extension of the Enterprise Zone Program to October 15, 2012.

Prevailing Wage Requirements and Contracting Authority

- Gradually increases the monetary threshold for prevailing wage requirements for public improvements, other than for roads, sewers, ditches and related improvements, to \$125,000 in the first year, \$200,000 in the second year and \$250,000 in the third year for new construction, and to \$38,000 in the first year, \$60,000 in the second year and \$75,000 in the third year for reconstruction projects. There is no biennial adjustment for these amounts.
- Prohibits prevailing wage on public improvements by school districts and educational service centers.
- Provides that a contractor and subcontractor shall not be responsible for penalties for prevailing wage violations by their subcontractors if the contractor or subcontractor has made a good faith effort to ensure that its subcontractor complied with prevailing wage requirements.
- Provides that a contractor or subcontractor who underpays its employees is not subject to any further proceedings for prevailing wage violations if the underpayment is less than one thousand dollars and full restitution is made to the affected employee.
- Requires an interested party who files a prevailing wage complaint with the Department of Commerce to allege a specific violation by a specific contractor or subcontractor. The complaint is to be in writing on a form furnished by Commerce and is to include sufficient evidence to justify the complaint. The Director of Commerce is prohibited from investigating any complaint that fails to allege a specific violation or that lacks sufficient evidence to justify the complaint.
- Exempts from prevailing wage requirements public improvements undertaken by or for port authorities.
- Eliminates the prevailing wage requirement for many economic development programs, including for the Ohio Job Ready Site Program, projects funded under Chapters 122, 165, or 166 of the Revised Code, certain energy resource development projects, air quality projects funded by OAQDA, and rail service projects funded by the Ohio Rail Development Commission.
- Authorizes public improvement contracts with construction managers at risk with a guaranteed maximum price and design-build firms through a competitive selection and ranking process.
 - A construction manager at risk and design-build firm are required to provide surety bonds in accordance with rules to be developed by the Director of Administrative Services.
 - A public authority hiring a design-build firm must first hire a "criteria architect or engineer" to assist in preparing conceptual plans, specifications, design criteria, and to provide administrative assistance.
 - The criteria used by a construction manager at risk and design-builder in selecting a subcontractor must be approved by the public authority; the criteria must also be consistent with rules to be established by the Director of

Administrative Services.

- Allows for the award of a bid to a single general contractor in lieu of the requirement to award separate HVAC, plumbing and electrical bids.
- Permits a public authority to hire a design professional or design-builder without following the competitive selection process if the estimated fees are less than \$50,000 and the design firm meets certain qualification requirements.

House Bill 225 (Governor signed December 21, 2011; effective March 22, 2012.) This Bill extends for three years certain temporary provisions of the new community authority program that otherwise would expire December 31, 2011, including provisions with respect to trustee selection, authority for cooperative agreements with political subdivisions for revenue sharing or services, reducing the term of the lease an eligible developer must hold from 75 to 40 years, and expanding the definitions of community facilities and proximate city.

House Bill 327 (Governor signed June 6, 2012.) This Bill would provide a six-year trial-period for taxpayers to receive a job creation (not job retention) tax credit for employment of employees working from their residence in Ohio if the employer employs at least 200 additional employees that are not home based and making over 130% of the federal minimum wage.

House Bill 371 (Governor signed December 21, 2011; effective March 22, 2012.) This Bill modifies the Local Government Innovation Program established in the June 2011 Budget Bill, including, among other changes requiring certain percentages be awarded to large and small subdivisions and revising the application process. This loan and grant program was created to encourage political subdivisions to plan and implement projects expected to create more efficient services, particularly by collaborating with other political subdivisions. Loans will bear interest at zero percent. Loan awards will be made quarterly and grant awards will be made twice a year, both under a competitive process beginning July 1, 2012.

Under the Program, applications are submitted directly to the Department of Development, which will submit them to the newly established Local Government Innovation Council (the "Council") for evaluation and selection. The Council may award up to \$100,000 in total grants and \$100,000 in total loans to an individual political subdivision per innovative project, or up to \$500,000 in grants and loans per project for projects involving a group of political subdivisions (averaging no more than \$100,000 per subdivision).

To ensure that awards are made to subdivisions of different sizes, funds for each round of awards are required to be allocated in the following manner:

- At least 30% to political subdivisions that are not counties and have a population of less than 20,000 residents or counties with a population of less than 235,000 residents; and
- At least 30% to political subdivisions that are not counties and have a population of 20,000 residents or more or counties with a population of 235,000 residents or more.

Projects eligible for funding include the costs of feasibility studies as well as the costs of implementing projects. The Council and Department of

Development staff will evaluate proposals based on several factors across four categories: financing, collaboration, success measures and significance measures. For example, more points are awarded for a higher local match, for including more than one participating subdivision, and for higher estimated savings resulting from a proposed collaboration.

House Bill 408 (Governor signed June 6, 2012.) This Bill, among other things, changes the composition of the metropolitan housing authority in counties with a population between 700,000 and 900,000, including adding new members appointed by a township association and by a municipal league of the county, subject to approval of the board of county commissioners.

House Bill 436 (Governor signed June 4, 2012.) This Bill creates the SiteOhio Certification Program, administered by the Department of Development. Any person or political subdivision may submit eligible projects to the Department for certification. If certified, the projects would be listed on the Department's website and marketed. Eligible projects include sites and facilities primarily intended for commercial or industrial use, not residential, retail or government use. The Department of Development is to establish eligibility criteria.

House Bill 487 (Awaiting Governor's signature.) This Bill, among many other things, extends the enterprise zone program another year, to October 15, 2013.

LEGISLATION PASSED BY HOUSE OR SENATE

House Bill 50 (Introduced January 26, 2011; passed by House on May 22, 2012.) This Bill, as introduced, required that a political subdivision owning land be considered a landowner in determining whether 100% of the landowners of an area proposed for annexation signed the petition in an expedited Type II annexation (one involving no more than 500 acres). A Substitute Bill accepted by the Committee on March 20, 2012 and passed by the House provides instead that if a Type II annexation occurs and there is a public parcel being annexed, no municipal income tax may be levied on income from activities on the property, except on a resident of the municipal corporation.

Senate Bill 314 (JobsOhio II; introduced March 22, 2012; passed by Senate May 1, 2012; companion Bill, House Bill 489, was passed by House April 25, 2012.) This Bill changes the name of the Ohio Department of Development to the "Development Services Agency" (the "Agency") and includes the following changes:

- Creates the Office of TourismOhio within the Agency, and an advisory board to advise the Director of the Agency and the Director of the Ohio of TourismOhio.
- Eliminates the Development Financing Advisory Council on July 1, 2012, and any surviving duties are transferred to the Agency.
- Increases the membership of the Third Frontier Commission from six to seven persons.
- Transfers the responsibilities of the Director of the Department of Development in administering the Voluntary Action Program to the EPA Director.
- Eliminates the Water and Sewer Commission and the Water and Sewer Fund.

LEGISLATION INTRODUCED IN HOUSE

House Bill 10 (Introduced January 11, 2011; fifth hearing in House Ways and Means Committee on March 2, 2011.) This Bill authorizes a refundable credit against State income taxes for completion of a voluntary action to remediate a contaminated site and for the return of the sites to productive use. The credit would be equal to the taxpayers share of 25% of the remediation expenditures paid or incurred for voluntary actions initiated on or before December 31, 2017.

House Bill 17 (Introduced January 11, 2011; referred to the House Ways and Means Committee.) This Bill authorizes a \$2,400 income tax withholding credit for an employer that in 2011 employs for at least 24 continuous months an individual previously unemployed for four consecutive weeks immediately preceding the date of hire.

House Bill 44 (Introduced January 20, 2011; referred to House Economic and Small Business Development Committee.) This Bill creates the State's Small Business Working Capital Loan Program under which the State Treasurer, upon request of the Director of the ODD, may invest up to \$100 million with participating lending institutions for loans to eligible small businesses.

House Bill 56 (Introduced January 26, 2011; second hearing in House Judiciary and Ethics Committee on December 6, 2011.) This Bill amends a number of procedures governing residential foreclosure proceedings, including enabling a court to deem foreclosed residential properties abandoned if the plaintiff does not timely seek a writ of execution or if the property fails to sell at sheriff's auction 3 times.

House Bill 101 (Introduced February 15, 2011; first hearing in House Ways and Means Committee on June 1, 2011.) This Bill would revise the State job creation and retention tax credit programs for a six year trial period for certain large projects to permit certain employees who work at home in Ohio and make at least three times the federal minimum wage to be counted as "employed in the project" as long as they total no more than ten percent of the project employees.

House Bill 168 (Introduced March 22, 2011; second hearing in House Economic and Small Business Development Committee on April 7, 2011.) This Bill establishes the Career Training Workforce Development Grant program to award grants to eligible students at certain for-profit institutions. The Program would be funded from casino license fees.

House Bill 181 (Introduced March 30, 2011; first hearing in House Financial Institutions, Housing and Urban Development Committee on April 14, 2011.) This Bill would require the landlord of any residential rental property to provide tenants with a specified notice if the property becomes subject to a foreclosure action. The Bill further provides that upon a court's approval of a sale at auction of the rental property, the tenant's rental agreement converts to a month-to-month lease, unless the tenant and the new property owner agree to continue the lease.

House Bill 220 (Introduced May 5, 2011; sixth hearing in House Economic and Small Business Development Committee on June 23, 2011; Substitute Bill accepted June 2, 2011 and an amendment accepted June 16, 2011.) This Bill authorizes a refundable commercial activity tax credit for losses incurred on eligible EB-5 (foreign investment) projects.

House Bill 254 (Introduced June 8, 2011; referred to House Ways and Means Committee See Senate Bill 322.) This Bill

authorizes an income tax credit based on employee withholdings for a manufacturer that expands production or restarts production at an idle facility.

House Bill 332 (Introduced September 21, 2011; second hearing in House Ways and Means Committee on January 25, 2012.) This Bill authorizes a nonrefundable personal income tax credit (i) to a homeowner of up to 50% (with a cap of \$1,000) of the cost to renovate a residence to improve its accessibility and (ii) of up to \$2,500 to a homeowner purchasing or constructing a new accessible residence or to a contractor constructing a new accessible residence. The credit is not available for rental property. Guidelines are to be established by the Department of Development and applications are to be submitted to the Department of Development.

House Bill 357 (Introduced October 26, 2011; referred to House Finance and Appropriations Committee.) This Bill requires JobsOhio and state agencies to obtain Controlling Board approval prior to providing grants, loans, guarantees or job creation and retention tax credits to companies or persons relocating from one taxing district to another, or who decreases payroll or eliminates positions at an existing location.

House Bill 407 (Introduced January 5, 2012; referred to House Ways and Means Committee.) The Bill would exempt from real property taxation the value of single-family residential property owned by a developer or builder until the property is transferred, whether the dwelling is intended to be built or is partially or wholly constructed.

House Bill 476 (Introduced March 13, 2012; referred to House Finance and Appropriations Committee.) This Bill establishes a Local Government Job Fund. When the State's unemployment rate is 6 percent or higher, the State would divert certain surplus revenues to local governments to create and retain jobs and for other purposes related to increasing employment. The funds would be distributed to counties and municipal corporations proportional to the amount of local government funds received.

LEGISLATION INTRODUCED IN SENATE

Senate Bill 14 (Introduced February 1, 2011; first hearing in Senate Financial Institutions Committee on June 15, 2011.) This Bill requires registration of residential mortgage servicers and otherwise regulates residential mortgage servicers.

Senate Bill 50 (Introduced February 1, 2011; first hearing in Senate Ways and Means and Economic Development Committee on February 17, 2011.) This Bill authorizes a refundable income tax credit for residential landlords who improve a rental unit's energy efficiency equal to fifteen percent of the cost of purchase and installation.

Senate Bill 206 (Introduced August 22, 2011; assigned to Senate Ways & Means Committee.) This Bill amends the job creation and job retention tax credit programs to generally count permanent or temporary personnel employed through employment agencies as employees under those programs.

Senate Bill 320 (Introduced April 3, 2012; assigned to Senate Ways & Means Committee.) This Bill would extend the Enterprise Zone tax abatement program another year, to October 15, 2013.

Senate Bill 322 (Introduced April 3, 2012; assigned to Senate Ways & Means Committee. See House Bill 254.) This Bill authorizes an income tax credit based on employee withholdings for a manufacturer that expands production or restarts production at a facility that has been idle for at least twelve months.



2012 Fair Housing Month Celebrated

April was declared Ohio Fair Housing Month by Governor John R. Kasich, and in recognition of National/Ohio Fair Housing Month, the Ohio Department of Development's (ODOD) Office of Community Development (OCD) presented the **Ohio Fair Housing Month Award** to the WSOS Community Action Commission and the Medina County Department of Planning Services. These awards are presented to organizations, communities, and individuals that effectively embody the spirit of fair housing, and were presented during the Ohio Conference of Community Development's spring quarterly meeting in Columbus on April 25. Here is more information about each of the winners:

WSOS Community Action Commission, Inc.

WSOS Community Action Commission was recognized by OCD for its work on local Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) for Morgan, Huron, Sandusky, Wyandot, Putnam, Van Wert, and Clermont counties, and the cities of Norwalk and Fremont.

During the Fiscal Year 2010 program period, each OCD Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program grantee was required to submit a comprehensive analysis. WSOS Community Action Commission presented a concise but very comprehensive analysis of the barriers to fair housing for each of the jurisdictions. The analysis included a discussion of information collected related to the county's or city's current fair housing profile. It addressed various aspects of the status of housing (and especially affordable housing) and how it impacted the federally- and state-recognized protected classes; the local demographics of the city or county and its political subdivisions; housing characteristics and the availability of affordable housing as indicated by the U.S. Census; the rental and sale of housing; housing finance and mortgage lending; public housing and other housing assistance programs; advertising for the sale and rental of housing; community administrative policies; and other policies and practices that may impact access to fair housing. The analysis also included an identification of impediments to fair housing choices, as well as areas in which no impediment has been identified, but a potential is found to exist for acts of discrimination to occur.



Accepting the award on behalf of WSOS was Ruthann House, Vice President, and Ben Kenny, Community Development Coordinator.

Medina County Department of Planning Services

Medina County Department of Planning Services hosted a series of regional Fair Housing and Zoning Law workshops that were open to the public.

The Fair Housing Act (FHA) makes it unlawful to utilize land use policies or actions that treat certain groups of people less favorably than others. FHA also makes it unlawful to refuse to make reasonable accommodations in land use and zoning policies where necessary to ensure those with disabilities have an equal opportunity to use and enjoy housing.

Planning and zoning documents, including zoning and land use regulations, are sometimes written without thought to "fair housing" especially relating to individuals with disabilities, and may occasionally reflect instances of housing discrimination. The Medina County workshops included information on how zoning and planning documents and the lack of knowledge of fair housing rules and regulations shape housing development and the rental process, as well as sometimes create "regulatory barriers" to equal opportunity housing.

The workshops were approved for American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), Real Estate and Continuing Legal Education credits.



Accepting the award on behalf of Medina County was Tom Russell, Associate Planner (retired), and Susan Hirsh, Medina County Department of Planning Services.

After the Fair Housing Award presentations, Ronnell Tomlinson, Ohio Civil Rights Commission, Director of Housing Enforcement and Mediation addressed the OCCD spring quarterly meeting participants. In his remarks, Mr. Tomlinson talked about Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity and Fair Housing Law. Sexual orientation and gender identity are not a protected group under the federal or state fair housing laws. However, on February 3, 2012, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) published a final rule in the Federal Register entitled **Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs Regardless of Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity**. This ensures that HUD programs, including the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program, Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP), Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program. This rule became effective March 5, 2012.

Additional information is available at www.hud.gov/officeofcommunitydevelopment/sexualorientationandgenderidentity or http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/fair_housing_equal_opp/LGBT_Housing_Discrimination

Next year, the nation will celebrate the 45th anniversary of the Fair Housing Act. Therefore, OCD is encouraging communities to make a special effort to promote fair housing laws in 2013, especially in April.

If you have questions regarding fair housing, please contact Joyce Hill, Office of Community Development Civil Rights Specialist, at (614) 466-2285 or Joyce.Hill@development.ohio.gov.

We Need Your Fracking Impact Stories

The Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio (COHHIO) is hearing stories about the impact that the hydraulic fracking industry is having on the availability of affordable housing in your county. We're especially interested in identifying the relationship between industry growth and the displacement of low-income tenants. As a trusted partner, your insights are critical to our efforts to paint a realistic picture of affordable housing insecurity in eastern Ohio.



The link to the survey is:
www.surveymonkey.com/s/COHHIOFrackingSurveyMay2012
If you prefer to speak by phone about industry impact, please call Cathy Johnston 614-280-1984, Ext. 25 or Suzanne G. Acker 614-280-1984, Ext. 11. Thank you in advance for your time.

*Small Towns,
Big
FUTURES*
*Ohio RCAP's
Rural Community Conference*

HIGHLIGHTS

- Concurrent Sessions involving infrastructure, economic development, and leadership/management will be held.
- Featured speakers will include Senator Portman (invited); Brian Cole, Author of Building Communities- 25 Strategies to Advance America; Dr. Ned Hill (invited); and the History Channel's Inspector America, Timothy Galarnyk.
- A full brochure and registration form will be distributed in early June.

August 14 & 15, 2012
Hilton Columbus at Easton


www.ohiorcap.org
1-800-775-9767

AMY SCHOCKEN JOHN CLEEK WHITAKER WRIGHT

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PHONE (614) 445-8373 cdcfohio@sbcglobal.net FAX (614) 445-8431

Donald B. Eager & Associates

Fair Housing Consultants 

Fair Housing Plan Administration
Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice

Donald B. Eager
deager@greenapple.com 740-653-2498 www.dbeager.com
2102 Scenic Drive NE Lancaster, OH 43130

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TERRI L. NEVER JOINS POGGEMEYER DESIGN GROUP, INC.

BOWLING GREEN, Ohio - Poggemeyer Design Group, Inc. (PDG) is pleased to announce that Terri L. Never has joined the firm as a Client Relations Representative.

Ms. Never has over 20 years experience in client development, cultivating creative solutions and offering value-added services for industrial clients. Her diverse background and experience includes business development for a major contractor, waste services firm, pharmaceuticals and agriculture commodities operations.

Ms. Never has a Bachelor in Business Management & Organization Development Degree from Spring Arbor College and an Associate Degree in Business Marketing/Agribusiness from Owens Community College.

PDG is a multi-disciplined consulting firm providing architectural, engineering, planning, and project financing services with offices in Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Nevada, and California.

For additional information visit their website at www.poggemeyer.com.



Calendar of Events

2012

**July 25-26, 2012 – OCCD
Summer Annual Meeting**
Holiday Inn, Downtown Columbus
Registration: Pat Richards 937.652.3523

August 13-17, 2012
NeighborWorks Training Institute
Cincinnati, Ohio
Info: 800.438.5547

September 30 to October 5, 2012
4th International EcoSummit
Ecological Sustainability:
Restoring the Planet's Ecosystem Services
Registration: to be announced later

**October 23, 2012 – OCCD
TBD**
Crowne Plaza North Columbus
Registration: Pat Richards 937.652.3523
Training Info: Debra Mayes 937.215.5872

**October 24-25, 2012 – OCCD
Fall Quarterly Meeting**
Crowne Plaza North Columbus
Registration: Pat Richards 937.652.3523
Training Info: Debra Mayes 937.215.5872

**November 7-9, 2012 – OCCD/OC
2012 Community Development
Conference**
Salt Fork Lodge
Registration: Pat Richards 937.652.3523
Training: OCD 614.466.2285

Nov. 27-29, 2012
OHFA- OCCH Ohio Housing Conference
Greater Columbus Convention Center
Info: 614.224.8446

2013

**Jan. 22, 2013 – CHIP Application Training
OCCD/OC**
Embassy Suites Dublin
Registration: Pat Richards 937.652.3523
OCD: Shanna Garrett 614.466.4472

**Jan. 23-24, 2013 – OCCD
Winter Quarterly Meeting**
Embassy Suites, Dublin
Registration: Pat Richards 937.652.3523
Training Info: Debra Mayes 937.215.5872

**April 23, 2013 – OCCD
TBD**
Crowne Plaza North Columbus
Registration: Pat Richards 937.652.3523
Training Info: Debra Mayes 937.215.5872

**April 24-25, 2013 – OCCD
Spring Quarterly Meeting**
Crowne Plaza North Columbus
Registration: Pat Richards 937.652.3523
Training Info: Debra Mayes 937.215.5872

Note: For all OCCD Trainings/Quarterly Meetings contact Patricia Richards – 937.652.3523 or office@occd.org regarding registration information and Debra Mayes – 937.215.5872 for additional training information.

• Registration available six (6) weeks prior to training on OCCD website – www.occd.org •

Individual Websites for Training & Events Information

OCCD – Ohio Conference of Community Development, Inc. www.occd.org

OHCP – Office of Community Development, Ohio Department of Development
<http://development.ohio.gov/cdd/ohcp/CalendarofEvents.htm>

Ohio CDC – Ohio Community Development Corporation Association
<http://www.ohiocdc.org/training.html>

Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing www.occh.org/news/events.cfm

HUD <http://www.hometa.info/index.cfm?do=viewTrainings>

Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland www.clevelandfed.org

ICF For CDBG use: <http://www.cpdtraininginstitute.com>
For HOME use: <http://www.hometa.info>

Ohio Housing Finance Agency www.ohiohome.org

COOHIO – Coalition on Homelessness & Housing in Ohio <http://www.cohio.org>

Enterprise Community Partners www.enterprisecommunity.org