Ohio Main Street Program: economic development through historic preservation and community engagement







OUR MISSION IS TO:

Save the places that matter
Build community
Live better

Community Development



OHIO MAIN STREET PROGRAM



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7UsGyYye1JY&t=2s









Our mission is to transform Downtown Marion into a thriving, vibrant destination for shopping, dining, entertainment, and cultural experiences. By fostering economic growth, supporting local businesses, and enhancing community engagement, we aim to create a welcoming and dynamic downtown for residents and visitors alike.

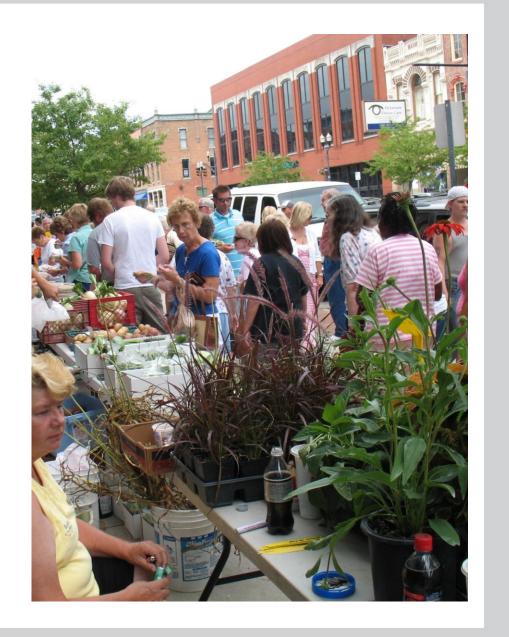


The mission of Uptown Westerville Inc. is to strengthen and beautify Uptown Westerville while fostering economic vitality, historic preservation, and a sense of community.

Revitalization



- 4-Point Approach
- Ohio Main
 Street Program
- Technical Assistance

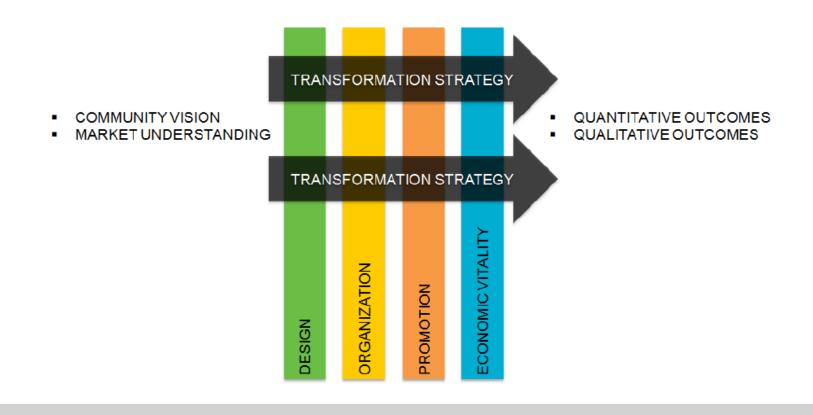






The Main Street Approach

- Identify the community vision for success
- Create community transformation strategies



THE EIGHT PRINCIPLES

COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH

Relies on quality

Meaningful public/private partnerships

Involves changing attitudes

Focuses on existing assets

A self-help program

Incremental in nature

Implementation-oriented

Ohio Main Street Program Requirements

- Full-time paid professional manager
- Work plans for board and committees
- On-going training for manager, board members and volunteers
- Grassroots driven
- Accountability: monthly statistical reporting & annual evaluation





Organization

- Strong organizational foundation
- Formation of standalone non-profit organization
- Governmental side of managing a non-profit

Marion, Ohio Crowned "Strongest Town" in International Competition

By Staff Reporter · 鹼Thu, Apr 10, 2025



Introducing Your 2025 Strongest Town Champion

Marion, Ohio

Marion, OH -April 10, 2025 - In a stunning victory that has local residents and officials celebrating, Marion, Ohio, has been named the "Strongest Town" in the prestigious international competition held by Strong Towns, a non-profit media advocacy ganization







Design

- Enhancing physical elements
- Capitalizing on unique assets
- Historic preservation
- Enhance appeal to residents
- Pedestrian friendly streets
- Public art
- Visual merchandising





Promotion

- Hub of economic activity
- Creating positive image
- Celebrating and preserving architecture and history
- Encouraging local businesses to market cooperatively
- Changing perceptions of the district





Economic Vitality

- Harnessing local economic opportunity
- Creating supportive business environment
- Supporting downtown housing
- Make the most of the community's unique sense of place



REINVESTMENT STATISTICS



Our mission is: Save the places that matter. Build Community. Live better.

2024 Economic Development

Building Community



Direct Economic Impact (\$20 per person) \$14,287,640



Special Event Attendance 714,382



Net New Full Time Jobs 187



Events Hosted in 2024 908



Net New Part-Time Jobs 206



Façade Improvements 81



New Businesses Opened



Building Rehab Projects 139



Private Rehab Investment \$80,112,743



Downtown Housing Units 2.452



Now Housing Unit



Ohio Main Street Program 2024 Community Profile

(20 communities, 2020-2024)



2024 Population 412,645 .81% increase 24,273 average population



2024 Median Family Income \$65,640 22.07% increase



2024 Median Home Value \$235,950 73.80% increase



Median Average Age 38.79 2.24% increase

REINVESTMENT STATISTICS



Public Investment \$33,781,488



New Housing Units 134



Downtown Vacancy Rate 13.14%



Volunteer Hours Donated 39,532



Avg rent per sq ft \$16.86



Value of Volunteer Hours \$1,323,927



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2024











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QUESTIONS?

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HERITAGE OHIO

Vital Places. Vibrant Communities.

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