

LCCA NEWS

November 2008

State Approves Grant

Awarded was an application submitted by the Lorain County Community Alliance, which ensures Lorain County will receive an \$80,000 grant to conduct a storm water management study that will investigate the options and feasibility of alternatives to the existing fragmented approach by individual governments to address flood control issues. The goal is to implement a storm water management plan that will save local Governments money, promotes regional collaboration and cooperation, and enhance compliance with Ohio laws and EPA regulations for water quality.

Rep. Lundy Recipient Whitmore Award

The Lorain County Community Alliance (LCCA), announced State Representative Matt Lundy as the 2008 recipient of the Mike Whitmore Award for Vision In Government at their 9th Annual Summit on Friday, October 3rd, 2008 at the Lorain County Administration Building in Elyria. Erin Synk accepted the award on behalf of Representative Lundy who was attending the funeral service of Captain Michael Medders Jr. Ms. Synk expressed that Representative Lundy is deeply grateful to be honored by the Alliance, a Northeast Ohio forerunner in the movement towards collaborative regionalism. Past recipients of the Mike Whitmore Award include Assistant County Prosecutor Jerry Innes, Lorain County Commissioner and Alliance Chair Betty Blair, and Ron Twining, Assistant County Administrator who has 28 years of public service.

Bulk Salt

Members who took advantage of joining the Alliance Bulk Salt program are happy to know that even with the projected price increase and scarcity of salt this coming season, Lorain County Engineer Ken Carney and ODOT have acquired the proper bids to secure salt for those contracted members. For further information regarding the Alliance Bulk Salt Purchase Program contact Bill Holtzman at 329-5590.

Leadership Lorain County

Administrative Coordinator Virginia Haynes is enrolled in the Leadership Lorain County Class of 2009 on behalf of the Alliance. An Update will be presented at the December 5th Alliance meeting.

Safety Council Update

The Lorain County Safety Council announced that 154 area companies received part of the Workers Compensation Premium Rebate. The dollar amount rebated was less than last year due to the fact that it only reflects 2% participation with an additional 2% rebate being earned for no accidents or injuries or bringing down amount of accidents or injuries. This is the 2nd highest amount in the Northeast Ohio region again this year. LCCA members interested for 2009 participation contact Virginia Haynes 440-328-2335.

All Aboard Ohio

The Alliance may not have secured grant money this time from the ODOD for Commuter Rail however the proposed project which would run trains on the Norfolk Southern line linking Vermilion, Lorain and Cleveland, is far from over. Funding is still a possibility from the Ohio Rail Commission and the Northeast Ohio Area Coordinating Agency. At the recent Fall All Aboard Ohio Fundraiser, Ken Prendergast, Interim Executive Director of All Aboard Ohio, gave encouraging news and updates on the West Shore Corridor Campaign. Featured speaker Steve Meyer, Project Manager for the Utah Transit Authority, presented on the *UTA FRONTRUNNER*, a 44 mile commuter rail from Weber County to Salt Lake City further solidifying the viability and need of the Westshore Corridor Project. Meyer is now managing the next 45 miles of commuter rail from Provo to Salt Lake City. www.allaboarohio.org

Next Meeting Friday, December 5, 2008

The December 5th Alliance meeting will feature a presentation by the Lorain County Solid Waste Management Staff. The focus will be on the duties and responsibilities of the Department and the Recycling Programs that are available.

Additionally Brad Masi, Executive Director of New Agrarian Center and co-founder of both the Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Food Policy Council and the City Fresh Program, will address local food policy and economic development benefits.

**Alliance meetings are held on the 4th Floor of the Lorain County Administration and start at 9:00 a.m. ~February 6th Alliance meeting will be in conjunction with Team Lorain County. Details will be posted on the Alliance Website www.lccommunityalliance.com*

Annual Alliance Summit 2008



Lorain County Commissioner Lori Kokoski,
Mayor of the City of Lorain, Tony Krasienko
Mayor of Sheffield Village, John Hunter

Over 90 people were in attendance with the focus of the Summit being Job Creation and Retention. Due to the financial crisis in Washington, invited keynote speakers, 9th District U.S. Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, and 13th District U.S. Congresswoman Betty Sutton, were unable to present as the House was still in session. CEO and President of Team Lorain County, Steve Morey and Medina County Commissioner and Recipient of 2008 Wally F. Ehrnfeldt Award for Outstanding Regional Contribution, Steve Hambley presented. Added to the Agenda was Ken Prendergast, Director of Research and Communications for All Aboard Ohio. He elaborated on the earmark secured by Congresswoman Sutton that was initiated by the Alliance for Commuter Rail. The LCCA sponsored two applications to ODOD, one for Commuter Rail one for Storm Water Management. The Meeting concluded with lunch sponsored by Lorain County Engineer Ken Carney.

Website

The Alliance website received over 2,588 visitors to the site during October. A convenient membership form is available online. Dues are payable in February 2009. ~www.lccommunityalliance.com~

Administrative Coordinator Virginia Haynes Lorain County Community Development 440-328-2362 vhaynes@loraincounty.us
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Innovative Program Focuses on Retention and Expansion of Lorain County Businesses

A new program to assess the needs of existing companies and provide a proactive, systematic approach to countywide retention and expansion of business in Lorain County was announced by the Lorain County Commissioners. The new economic development program, called *Business Connection*, will track and assist Lorain County businesses. The program, sponsored by the Lorain County Growth Partnership, will bring together teams from partner organizations to gather data from Lorain County companies by conducting 100 face-to-face interviews in 2009. Information collected by the team will be used to identify the needs of Lorain County businesses and enhance the County's ability to retain, expand and attract businesses and jobs. Data collected will provide a valuable and innovative business retention and expansion tool that addresses the needs of existing businesses and the cities and towns in which they live. Partner organizations in the Lorain County Growth Partnership include the Lorain County Chamber of Commerce, Team Lorain County, Lorain County Community College and the Lorain County Joint Vocational School. For more information about the program contact Phil Mikita at (440) 328-2364 or visit the Lorain County Growth Partnership website at www.lcgp.net

"Partnerships for the Future"

Welcome New Members

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lorain County

Marcus Madison

marcus@bigloraincounty.org

First Merit Bank

Kenneth Glanc

Kenneth.glanc@firstmerit.com

Laborers Local 758

Pete Pappas petepappp@hotmail.com

Dr. David J. Hintz Davidjhintz@yahoo.com

Lorain County Office on Aging

Director Patricia Littleton

plittleton@loraincounty.us

Team Lorain County

Christine M. Kish ckish@teamloraincounty.com