



Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission

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News & Updates: November 20, 2012

OVRDC Ground Breaking

On Thursday, November 15, 2012, OVRDC broke ground for what will be OVRDC's new office, located just off of State Route 220 near Waverly (73 Progress Drive in the Zahns Corner Industrial Park). Several local, state and regional officials were present during the ground breaking ceremony.

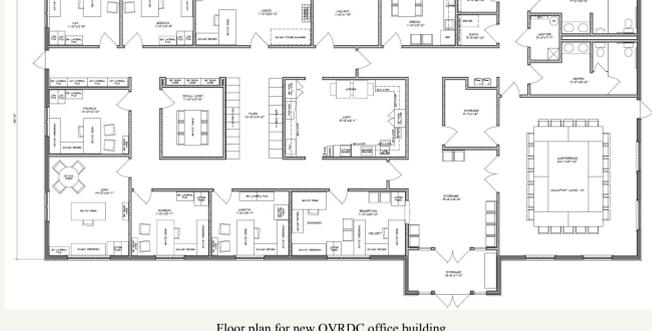


Left to Right: Doug Corcoran, OVRDC Treasurer; Bob Proud, OVRDC Chairman; Roger Rhonemus, OVRDC Vice-Chairman; Steve Shepherd, SODI Executive Director; John Hemmings, OVRDC Executive Director; John Mullins, Mullins Construction; Randy Mullins, Architect; Ted Wheeler, Pike County Auditor; Harry Rider, Pike County Commissioner; Teddy West, Pike County Commissioner and Greg Simonton, DOE Federal Coordinator.



3D model showing the look of the new OVRDC building

Mr. John Hemmings, OVRDC Executive Director, thanked several people and organizations for their support. Mr. Hemmings mentioned that the new office (5,160 square foot) will be built on 2.5 acres of land donated by Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative (SODI). The budget for the new office is \$800,000, OVRDC has saved money though the years, and has received a grant for the construction of the new building. SODI is borrowing the remainder of the funds and will enter into a lease-to-purchase agreement with OVRDC. The new OVRDC building will be complete in the Spring of 2013.



Floor plan for new OVRDC office building

Community Facilities Program

OVRDC recently met with representatives from the Governor's Office of Appalachia (GOA) to review and discuss upcoming projects and the needs of our area. At the meeting, we learned that state funds originally allocated to the Community Facilities Program were re-allocated for economic development projects throughout the Appalachian area of the state. These projects required a rapid response to promote job creation and business and industrial growth especially as related shale development. We understand the critical economic development needs of our district and realize that many communities are still struggling financially to provide basic services. We will maintain a list of all communities and non-profits who have expressed an interest in the Community Facilities Program and will notify you if the program is re-activated or if other funding sources may be available. Please feel free to call either Michele Throckmorton or John Hemmings should you have any questions.

OVRDC has Twitter

OVRDC has a new Twitter page. We are re-tweeting important information and updates from other offices and bureaus and tweeting information and updates from our office. If you have a Twitter feed and you'd like OVRDC to follow and possibly re-tweet what is going on in your area, send an email to jpurdon@ovrdc.org or a direct message to us on Twitter and we will follow you. Check us out (and follow us!) at Twitter.com/OVRDC.

Happy Thanksgiving



New Program will Create Thousands of Jobs in Ohio

The Ohio Development Services Agency (DSA) announced the launch of a program designed to find new uses for abandoned sites. The Ohio Vacant Facilities Fund was enacted in HB 18, signed by Governor Kasich on May 4, 2012, and will provide grants to assist businesses in creating new jobs in vacant and underutilized commercial buildings and business parks.

The program seeks to encourage companies to locate in vacant commercial facilities, reusing existing buildings and infrastructure. For-profit employers are eligible to receive \$500 in grant funds for every new full-time position created in the vacant facility and lasting one year.

"The Ohio Vacant Facilities Fund will help the state address the issue of vacant properties, while leveraging private investment and the creation of up to 4,000 new jobs for Ohio's communities," said Christiane Schmenk, director of the Ohio Development Services Agency.

The program requires that employers must occupy a building or business park that has been at least 75 percent vacant for at least 12 months and increase company employment at the facility. The new employees must increase the employer's base payroll at the time the vacant facility is occupied and earn a wage greater than or equal to Ohio's minimum wage. Employers must hire at least 50 employees or bring half of its current Ohio employees to the facility.

Grant funds can be used for acquisition, construction, enlargement, improvement, or equipment of the facility. The funds are reimbursed after the new employees have been employed for one year, allowing a company to make further investment in the new business location.

Prior to occupying the vacant facility, the first step for employers is to submit a pre-certification request form to the Ohio Development Services Agency's Office of Redevelopment. The office will review the request and certify vacancy and base employment. Following approval of the pre-certification, employers can occupy the facility and increase employment at the business site. Once the new employees have been employed for one year, the employer can submit a grant application to verify the job creation and receive grant funds for eligible expenses.

The Ohio Vacant Facilities Fund has been allocated \$2 million from funds already budgeted for the Ohio Development Services Agency and is currently authorized through August 2015. Program materials are available at: <http://development.ohio.gov/cs/ovff.htm>. Pre-Certification Requests will be accepted beginning November 26, 2012.

U.S. Census Bureau Releases 2011 American Community Survey (ACS) 1-Year Estimates

The 2011 American Community Survey (ACS) 1-Year estimates, the most relied-on source for up-to-date socioeconomic information every year. The survey is the only source of local estimates for most of the 40 topics it covers, such as educational attainment, occupation, language spoken at home, nativity, ancestry and selected monthly homeowner costs. The estimates are available for the nation, all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, every congressional district, every metropolitan area, and all counties and places with populations of 65,000 or more.

To find statistics for your area, please visit the Census Bureau's [American FactFinder](http://AmericanFactFinder).

To learn more about this release, visit our [2011 Data Release page](http://2011DataRelease).

In addition, the Census Bureau released today a set of [American Community Survey Briefs](http://AmericanCommunitySurveyBriefs).

These short reports supplement detailed tables with additional analysis on three key topics. These include the following:

- [Household Income for States: 2010 and 2011](http://HouseholdIncomeforStates2010and2011)
- [Poverty: 2010 and 2011](http://Poverty2010and2011)
- [Health Insurance Coverage of Young Adults Aged 19 to 25: 2008, 2009, and 2011](http://HealthInsuranceCoverageofYoungAdultsAged19to2520082009and2011)

The ACS provides reliable statistics that are indispensable to anyone who has to make informed decisions about the future. These statistics are required by all levels of government to manage or evaluate a wide range of programs, but are also useful for research, education, journalism, business and advocacy. If you have questions about this survey, please call our Customer Services Center on 1 (800) 923-8282.

Upcoming Export & Business Assistance Events in Ohio

December 6, 2012 - The Fisher College of Business at Ohio State University and the Small Business Administration (SBA) will begin hosting a monthly training on an international trade topic. The **Exporter Forum** will occur on the first Thursday of each month and cover a different topic on international trade. These FREE events will take place from 7:30am-9:00am at Mason Hall on the OSU campus. The first topic will be *Export Assistance: Government programs and grants*. Participants will have a chance to learn about the various programs offered to companies to help them export and will hear from representatives from the SBA, State of Ohio, and the U.S. Department of Commerce. For more information and to register, please contact [Alex Kohls](mailto:Alex.Kohls) at 614-633-6372.

December 2-7, 2012 - The Ohio Aerospace Institute, Ohio Development Services Agency, Cleveland Foundation, and International Trade Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce invite Ohio aerospace companies to take part in [Aeromart Toulouse 2012](http://AeromartToulouse2012). E-mail [Alain Ngoie](mailto:Alain.Ngoie) to receive a booking form and [click here](http://clickhere) to provide details regarding your company's capabilities. Visit www.IMAGE.development.ohio.gov to apply for a 50% reimbursement! **Deadline to register: November 16, 2012.**

December 3-7, 2012 - The U.S. Commercial Service is leading an **Aerospace and Defense Trade Mission to Turkey** for small- to medium-sized exporters. The mission will be making stops in Ankara and Istanbul. For more information, please contact [Amy Magat](mailto:Amy.Magat) at (213) 894-3966 and visit www.IMAGE.development.ohio.gov to apply for a 50% reimbursement!

December 11, 2012 - The SBA will be holding a **HUB Zone Boot Camp** in Columbus. This event is designed to introduce your business to the program, help determine if your business is eligible, and support your business' efforts to participate in the program. To register, please contact [Jill Nagy-Reynolds](mailto:Jill.Nagy-Reynolds).

December 13, 2012 - The SBA will be holding an **8(a) Training** on Best Practices in Columbus. To register, please contact [Jill Nagy-Reynolds](mailto:Jill.Nagy-Reynolds) or [Stephon Ash](mailto:Stephon.Ash).

January 10, 2012 - The SBA will be holding an **8(a) Training** on Cost Price Analysis in Columbus. To register, please contact [Jill Nagy-Reynolds](mailto:Jill.Nagy-Reynolds) or [Stephon Ash](mailto:Stephon.Ash).

January 15, 2012 - The SBA will be holding a **HUB Zone Boot Camp** in Dayton. This event is designed to introduce your business to the program, help determine if your business is eligible, and support your business' efforts to participate in the program. To register, please contact [Jill Nagy-Reynolds](mailto:Jill.Nagy-Reynolds).

February 12, 2012 - The SBA will be holding a **HUB Zone Boot Camp** in Wilmington. This event is designed to introduce your business to the program, help determine if your business is eligible, and support your business' efforts to participate in the program. To register, please contact [Gwendolyn List](mailto:Gwendolyn.List).

February 14, 2012 - The SBA will be holding an **8(a) Training** on Federal Government market research process in Columbus. To register, please contact [Jill Nagy-Reynolds](mailto:Jill.Nagy-Reynolds) or [Stephon Ash](mailto:Stephon.Ash).

March 4-8, 2013 - The Food Export Association is organizing a **Food Show PLUS!** program and Buyers Mission in conjunction with [FOODEX 2013](http://FOODEX2013), the largest food and beverage tradeshow in Japan. Food Show PLUS! services include a competitive product analysis for up to three products in three retail stores, distribution of show invitations to key buyers in Japan, introductions with interested buyers, a guided retail tour, background checks for three top leads, assistance with follow-up letters in Japanese, a shared interpreter at the show, and one-on-one meetings with buyers from Southeast Asia. Contact [Emily Tucker](mailto:Emily.Tucker) at (614) 466-5336 to sign up. **Deadline to register: December 10, 2012. Early deadline: November 13, 2012.**

March 6-15, 2013 - The Ohio Development Services Agency and Council of Great Lakes Governors invite Ohio companies to take part in a multi-sector **Trade Mission to South Africa**. Mission participants will receive one-on-one business appointments with prospective partners, follow-up assistance, a market overview with industry information and target company profiles, in-country business briefings, and in-country logistics assistance. Contact [Lindsay Beckman](mailto:Lindsay.Beckman) at (614) 466-2264 to sign up for this mission to the most advanced, broad-based, and productive economy in Africa. Visit www.IMAGE.development.ohio.gov to apply for a 50% reimbursement! **Deadline to register: January 23, 2013.**

March 12, 2012 - The SBA will be holding a **HUB Zone Boot Camp** in Dayton. This event is designed to introduce your business to the program, help determine if your business is eligible, and support your business' efforts to participate in the program. To register, please contact [Jill Nagy-Reynolds](mailto:Jill.Nagy-Reynolds).

March 14, 2012 - The SBA will be holding an **8(a) Training** on Preparing for the Ohio Business Matchmaker in Columbus. To register, please contact [Jill Nagy-Reynolds](mailto:Jill.Nagy-Reynolds) or [Stephon Ash](mailto:Stephon.Ash).

Save the Date! April, 4, 2013 - The U.S. Commercial Service, Southern Ohio District Export Council, and Xavier University will be hosting the **7th Annual International Trade Conference** in Cincinnati, Ohio. This year's conference will focus on the "hot markets" of India, Indonesia, Russia, and South Korea and will provide market updates, tools, and resources for U.S. companies interested in selling to or expanding into these countries.

April 9, 2012 - The SBA will be holding a **HUB Zone Boot Camp** in Hamilton. This event is designed to introduce your business to the program, help determine if your business is eligible, and support your business' efforts to participate in the program. To register, please contact [Gwendolyn List](mailto:Gwendolyn.List).

April 11, 2012 - The SBA will be holding an **8(a) Training** on Contract Compliance in Columbus. To register, please contact [Jill Nagy-Reynolds](mailto:Jill.Nagy-Reynolds) or [Stephon Ash](mailto:Stephon.Ash).

Register Now! April 30-May 3, 2013 - Xavier University will be hosting **MedCon 2013** in Cincinnati, Ohio. This conference will cover many topics including the newest regulations and legislation that affect the medical device industry. The FDA and industry experts will deliver these very important presentations. To register, go to <http://xaviermedcon.com>.

May 5-13, 2013 - The Council of Great Lakes Governors is leading a multi-sector **Trade Mission to Australia with an optional add-on to Indonesia and Singapore** from May 11-17, 2013. Contact [Pat Perrin](mailto:Pat.Perrin) at (614) 466-6133 for more details. Visit www.IMAGE.development.ohio.gov to apply for a 50% reimbursement!

May 9, 2012 - The SBA will be holding an **8(a) Training** on Doing Business with the EPA in Columbus. To register, please contact [Jill Nagy-Reynolds](mailto:Jill.Nagy-Reynolds) or [Stephon Ash](mailto:Stephon.Ash).

May 13-17, 2013 - The Ohio Development Services Agency and Food Export Association invite U.S. food companies to participate in **Food Show PLUS! at Seoul Food and Hotel**. By participating in the **Food Show PLUS!** program, companies have the opportunity to maximize their tradeshow effectiveness by receiving pre-show feedback on competitive products, translation of marketing material into Korean, on-site food industry interpreters, scheduled meetings with potential buyers, site visits to local retailers, in-market research, and follow-up assistance. Contact [Lindsay Beckman](mailto:Lindsay.Beckman) at (614) 466-2264 to sign up. **Deadline to register: February 19, 2013. Early deadline: January 22, 2013.**

May 14, 2012 - The SBA will be holding a **HUB Zone Boot Camp** in Piqua. This event is designed to introduce your business to the program, help determine if your business is eligible, and support your business' efforts to participate in the program. To register, please contact [Jill Nagy-Reynolds](mailto:Jill.Nagy-Reynolds).

May 20-24, 2013 - The Ohio Development Services Agency and Reed Exhibitions International Sales Group invite Ohio companies to take part in [Feiplastic 2013](http://Feiplastic2013), the largest space in Latin America for networking and presenting the latest trends and new product launchings in the plastics sector. Ohio businesses participating in this São Paulo tradeshow will receive booth space, a directory listing with company logo, enhanced "Map You Show" website listing featuring products and video demos, and company logo on an Ohio banner above the pavilion. Contact [Emily Tucker](mailto:Emily.Tucker) at (614) 466-5336 to sign up and visit the IMAGE website to apply for a 50 percent reimbursement.

Update! The Ohio International Market Access Grant for Exporters (IMAGE) program continues to accept applications!