

Jefferson-Gahanna Joint Economic Development Zone Economic Development Plan

Jefferson Township (Franklin County), Ohio (the “Township”) and the City of Gahanna, Ohio (the “City”) are creating the Jefferson- Gahanna Joint Economic Development Zone (the “JEDZ”) for the purpose of facilitating new or expanded growth for commercial and economic development within the JEDZ.

The Jefferson-Gahanna Economic Development Plan for the JEDZ (the “Plan”) includes the imposition of a tax on the income of the persons working within the JEDZ and on the net profits of businesses located within the JEDZ. The rate of that tax will be the same as the rate of the tax imposed by the City on its residents and businesses, which is currently 1.5%. A portion of the proceeds of that tax will be used to administer and collect the tax and to pay certain legal costs associated with the creation of the JEDZ. The remaining proceeds will be used by the JEDZ Board to pay for the administrative costs of the JEDZ Board, by the Township for the purposes of the JEDZ and for such other purposes as may be deemed appropriate by the Township, and by the City for such purposes as may be deemed appropriate by the City.

The Plan also incorporates the use of other economic development programs, specifically those created by the Township and/or Franklin County, such as an Enterprise Zone and Community Reinvestment Area, which will also help provide tax abatements or other incentives for improvements located within and in close proximity to the JEDZ.

The Plan provides funds not only for the maintenance of current fire, emergency medical and safety services to the JEDZ, but also for the provision of enhanced or additional fire, emergency medical and safety services to the JEDZ, which may foster conditions for promoting and enhancing economic development in the JEDZ.

It is anticipated that the funds derived from the JEDZ, and other funds available to the Township, may be used by the JEDZ and the Township in connection with the consideration, promotion, creation and implementation of the following plans, programs, policies and purposes:

- (1) Establish programs for the elimination of blight, including litter, and increased code enforcement;
- (2) Creation and Implementation of a property maintenance code;

- (3) Improve streets in and around the JEDZ, including, but not limited to, resurfacing, sidewalks, curbs, gutters, improved traffic signs and signals, tree plantings, landscaping, and street lighting;
- (4) Creation of a business retention and expansion program;
- (5) Formulate one or more studies focusing on the improvement of access to the JEDZ;
- (6) Planning for the development of the JEDZ and adjacent areas;
- (7) Marketing the JEDZ for economic development;
- (8) Creation and implementation of a school safety grant program for school districts located within the JEDZ;
- (9) The potential development of a community center within the Township; and
- (10) Any and all other programs, improvements or studies deemed necessary for the promotion, improvement and economic development of the JEDZ area and the Township.

The intent of the Plan is that its provisions will be implemented and/or completed within the term of the JEDZ. The Plan is intended to support the Township Community Core Values and to be consistent with the Township Comprehensive Plan. The Plan also is integrated with economic development planning for the entire Township, and is expected to provide the stimulus for the economic revival of the Township and to maintain and create jobs and economic opportunities for the residents of the Township, the City, and surrounding areas.