

ZANESVILLE MUSKINGUM COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY

Newsletter

February 2025



www.zmcport.com

A Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to 2025! Our agency is looking forward to this upcoming year. We are excited and optimistic about our future in Zanesville and Muskingum County. We have more people working in Muskingum County than ever before and our mission has stayed the same - **business retention, business attraction, and creating a *climate* where businesses can thrive.**

Over the past four years, our **Business Retention** and Expansion Program has allowed us to assist businesses with a capital investment of over \$93M, with 1,355 jobs retained and 352 new jobs created. During that time, we were able to leverage over \$4.6M in state/federal grants. In 2024 alone, businesses that received Port Authority assistance invested \$33.1M and created close to 100 new jobs.



Marker Development, as part of our **Business Attraction** efforts, broke ground for a new speculative building which is being constructed at the National Road Business Park. This 203,000-square-foot facility, which will meet the demands of prospective businesses, is tentatively planned to be completed in the summer of 2025. This investment will improve our marketing ability for companies looking for building space in a continued solid local economy. Over the past decade, we have seen over \$2B in new capital investment in production, manufacturing, and distribution.

The Port Authority and its partners led the local Appalachian Community Grant initiative to enhance communities in the areas of infrastructure, healthcare, and workforce as part of our **Climate Initiative**. We are pleased to share that we have secured funding for several projects in our community. Over \$7.6M was awarded for Secret Auditorium & Music Hall and the surrounding streetscape in the City of Zanesville.

The Port Authority also assisted in financing over \$25M in housing projects over the past three years. Adding more housing options will be critical to business growth in our community. Working with local/state partners, the Port Authority continues to identify areas where infrastructure development is strategically needed within our community. The efforts that are taking place now will have a lasting impact on our community for decades to come – *we must get this right!*

We will continue to market available sites and buildings, identify areas for residential development that align with the long-term comprehensive plan, and collaborate with both new and existing companies to support their critical investments and expansion plans. We also plan to enhance our "in-fill" speculative building program within existing business parks to continue to maximize small

tracts of land within our ownership.

We thank you for your continued support and look forward to a prosperous 2025!

#SuccessLivesHere

Best regards,



Matt Abbott
Executive Director

2024 by the Numbers

- Employment in Muskingum County increased by **2.7% over 2023**
- The average annual wage in Muskingum County was **\$50,601** - an increase of **2.2% over 2023**.

- 26 RFI's submitted with a potential investment of over **\$36.4B** and **7,300 jobs**.
- Working with state and regional partners, we leveraged **\$6.7M** in grant funding for our community.

**Marker Spec
Building** - National
Road Business Park

Plaskolite, LLC

NEW/ EXPANSION PROJECTS 2024

201,600 SF Class A
Industrial Building

305 Prosperity Pkwy
Zanesville, OH 43701

Marker Development
will act as landlord or
sell outright

Click [HERE](#) to view full
property listing



Marker Speculative Building

Expansion of existing
Airport Business Park
facility

Investment of \$11.9M

Creation of 38 new full-
time jobs, retention of
150

Learn more about
Plaskolite [HERE](#)



Plaskolite, LLC

NEW
Investment
2024

2024 JobsOhio Small Business Grants

Four local businesses were awarded a Jobs Ohio Small Business Grant. This grant was developed to provide additional financial support for qualified projects in designated communities.

The program recognizes that smaller communities may benefit from investments and job creation on a smaller scale than communities that experience higher levels of corporate investment on a regular basis.

- AJ Enterprises | Investment of \$190,000 | Increased payroll, added employees
- Beagle Hill Services | Investment of \$116,000 | Increased payroll, added employees
- Rittberger Meats | Investment of \$64,000 | Increased payroll, added employees
- 740 Storage | Investment of \$902,200 | Increased payroll, added employees

Two New Housing Developments
Bringing Affordable, Workforce Housing
plus!
74.5ac. Falls Twp. Development to Offer
Single and Multi-Family Housing



Munson Crossing

109 Brighton Blvd. | Zanesville, OH

- Port Authority acted as pass-through entity for bond financing – earned \$61,125
- Project will foster services to support families, aging-in-place, and workforce housing concepts.
- Property will provide affordable workforce housing.
- Fourteen (14) one-bedroom units, twenty-three (23) two-bedroom units and six (6) three-bedroom units for a total of 43 units.

- Port Authority acted as a pass-

through use of bond financing – earned \$62,240

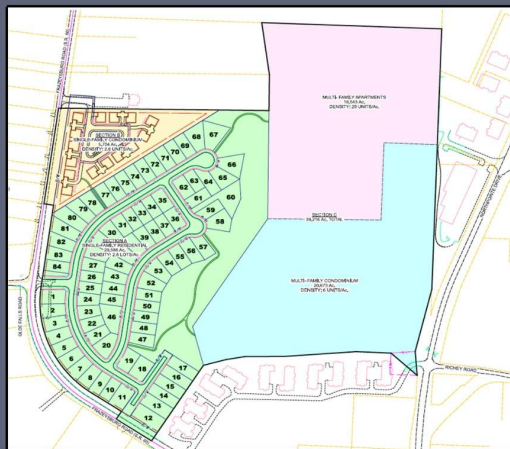
- Zane Commons will target households with incomes at 30% to 80% of area median gross incomes.

- Fourteen (14) one-bedroom units, twenty-four (24) two-bedroom units and six (6) three-bedroom units for a total of 44 units.



Zane Commons

1428 Sharon Ave. | Zanesville, OH



Leisure Farms

Falls Township | Zanesville, OH

- 74.51-acre residential site

- Early development concept includes:

- Single-Family Houses
- Single-Family Condominiums
- Multi-Family Condominiums
- Multi-Family Apartments

- ZMCPA assisted with early site work, including: aerial, topographic, and utilities surveys and preliminary design work

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