



Report to Athens County Commissioners

November 29, 2022

The **Athens County Economic Development Council's** mission is to be a catalyst for quality jobs and progress in Athens County and throughout the region by creating a seamless network of economic development resources through partnerships with government, business and nonprofit organizations.

2022 Overview

Throughout 2022, the ACEDC has:

1. Assisted local businesses grow and expand
2. Secured investments for economic and site development projects
3. Supported entrepreneurship through talent retention efforts
4. Managed ODOD Brownfield Remediation Program
5. Engaged in industry diversification efforts
6. Facilitated Appalachia Community Grant project proposals
7. Advocated for critical community infrastructure improvements and technical assistance
8. Leveraged outdoor recreation assets/partnerships to secure funding
9. Managed TIF, DRD, EZA and City/County Revolving Loan Fund programs
10. Issued revenue bonds for affordable, low-income housing developments
11. Supported build-out of remote work hub network

The ACEDC helped Athens County secure over \$8mm from state and federal sources throughout 2022.

Program	Funding Secured
Opportunity Appalachia TA Assistance	\$25,000
Project RISE TA Assistance	\$95,000
USDA Community Facilities Grant (Glouster)	\$53,000
Economic Development Administration	\$5,019,200
OhioSE Site Readiness Grants	\$17,033
JobsOhio Inclusion Grants	\$25,000
ODOD Brownfields Remediation	\$1,400,367
<i>*Enterprise Zone Tax Abatements</i>	<i>Value TBD</i>
Program Sponsorships (YAP)	\$2,250
<i>*ARPA Funded Projects</i>	<i>\$1,750,000</i>
Total ED investment in Athens County, 2022	\$8,386,850

**Funding not directly secured by ACEDC.*

Project Spotlight

In 2022, the Athens County Port Authority secured over \$5 million dollars from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) to support the construction of a 60,000 SF speculative building.

Economic Impact

- Create 100+ FTE jobs in manufacturing sector
- Generate \$5,000,000 in private investment
- Direct Sales/Output Impact: \$36,537,222
- Direct Compensation Impact: \$6,691,279
- Indirect Jobs: 81
- Induced Jobs: 157

- Expect bids by Q4 2022
- Construction to begin Q2 2023
- Completion 2024
- Building expandable up to 120,000 SF



Brownfield Remediation Projects

The Athens County Port Authority secured over \$1,400,000 from the Ohio Department of Development's Brownfield Remediation program for the cleanup/remediation and demolition of 6 properties in Athens County.

ROUND 1

- Trimble School (Demo) - \$468,532
- Chauncey School (Assessment) - \$23,404
- 4030 Washington Road, Albany (Assessment) - \$148,540
- Chauncey Mine Land (Assessment) - \$12,280
- 83 Columbus Road (Assessment) - \$13,341

ROUND 2

- 83 Columbus Road (Remediation) - \$45,239
- 63 S. Court Street (Remediation & Demo) - \$431,920
- Chauncey School (Remediation) – \$280,515

TOTAL: \$1,423,771



Downtown Revitalization

Downtown revitalization has been a focal point of JobsOhio/OhioSE throughout 2022. These efforts are particularly important in smaller, rural communities that have experienced disinvestment over the last 20-40 years.

CHAUNCEY

The ACEDC helped secure Opportunity Appalachia technical assistance and ODOT remediation funds for several properties in Chauncey to support development efforts that align with the Village's vision and zoning.

The ACEDC is also working with the Village to explore establishing a Main Street program to ensure sustainable development.

GLOUSTER

The ACEDC has worked closely with the Glouster Revitalization Organization to support the renovation of the Knights of Pythias building which will serve as a catalyst for other village redevelopment projects.

The ACEDC has also worked closely with the land bank to secure funding for critical building repairs for land bank properties.

ALBANY

The ACEDC supported the Village of Albany's request for county ARPA funds for the lift station and sewer extension down Carpenter Road that will attract developers and support the build-out of the Albany business park.

The ACEDC is also working with a consultant on a village-wide housing survey to establish a Community Reinvestment Area in Albany.

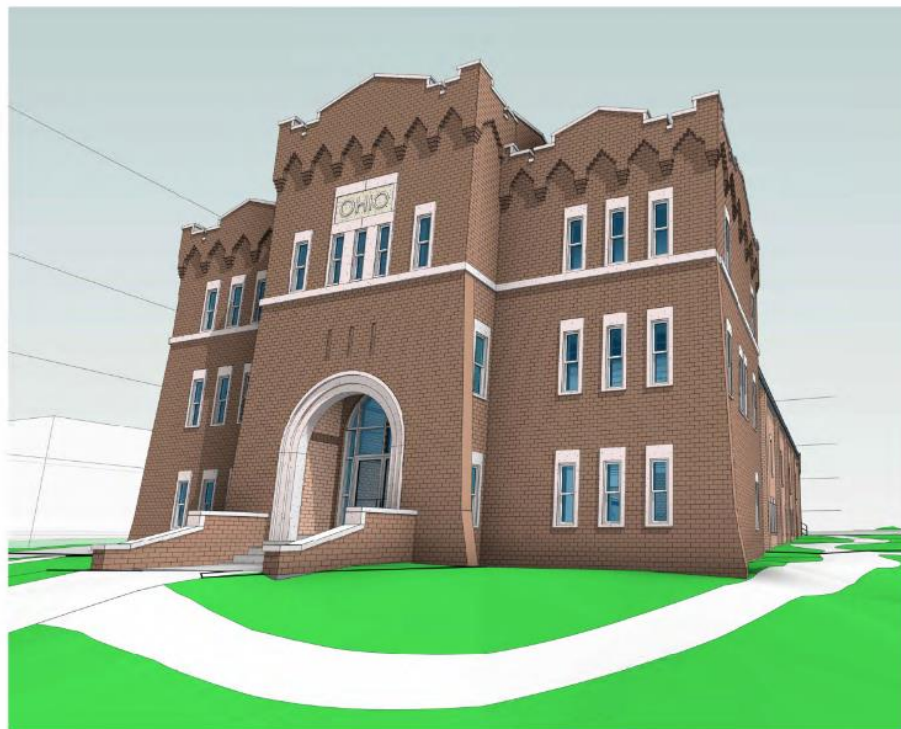
The ACEDC has worked closely with Village council, the village engineer, and property owners on park designs/plans, including a preliminary engineer report from DLZ.



Appalachia Community Grant Program

The Appalachia Community Grant Program (ACGP) is the \$500mm investment in the 32 Appalachian counties. Projects must be cross-regional, catalytic and transformative.

- The ACEDC is supporting projects that touch Athens County including the City of Athens' "At Work in Appalachia" implementation application, which will create a remote work network that will support the regional workforce through the revitalization of downtown buildings in several communities including Athens, Glouster, Somerset, Logan and Coshocton.



Management of Local Economic Development Tools & Programs

- **Tax Incentive Review Council:** TIFs are tools that lock in the taxable worth of real property at a specific value. Payments from increased assessed value of any improvement to real property are directed to a fund for infrastructure improvement. The EDC manages annual review of the East State Street TIF, in addition to all active Enterprise Zone agreements (3) and Downtown Redevelopment Districts (3).
- **Revolving Loan Funds:** The City and County RLFs were created through Community Block Development Grants funds. They provide gap financing on a portion of economic development projects ranging from fixed assets and buildings/land to infrastructure and site preparation to working capital. Both loans are administered by the EDC.
- **Revenue Bonds/Sales Tax Exemption:** The Port Authority issued revenue bonds for third and fourth phases of the the WODA Cooper housing project.

Organizational Relationships

Administration	Operation	Partnerships
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ohio InSite• Business Retention & Expansion• Tax Incentive Review Council Admin• JobsOhio Regional Representation• Revolving Loan Funds (City & County)• Site Development• Small Business Relief Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Athens County Economic Development Council• Athens County Port Authority• Young Athens Professionals<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Talent Retention/BRE-Networking	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ohio Southeast• JobsOhio• Buckeye Hills• USDA Rural Development• US EPA• Ohio University• Utility Providers• Entrepreneurial Development Group• Office of Workforce Development• ACCVB• Athens Area Chamber of Commerce

Looking Forward: 2023 and beyond

Initiatives the EDC will continue to explore and deploy in 2023:

- Complete the ACPA speculative building project and secure tenant(s).
- Implement ACGP funding/remote work hubs.
- Revitalization of downtown/uptown villages; establishing Main Street program.
- Buildout of Albany Industrial Park/attracting developers.
- Support housing developments throughout the county.
- Participate in City of Athens CIC.

Questions?

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