

Regular Meeting #10 - 2025
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
March 4, 2025

Review Meeting

The Commissioners met at 7:00 p.m. at the Greenfield Township Fire Department located at 3245 Havensport Rd., Carroll, OH. Commissioner Fix called the meeting to order, and the following Commissioners were present: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and David Levacy. County employees present: County Administrator, Aundrea Cordle; Communications & Information Coordinator, Bennett Niceswanger; Budget Director, Bart Hampson; Sheriff's Deputy, Kevin Romine; Facilities & EMA Director, Jon Kochis; Eligibility Referral Specialist, Heather Kochis; Utilities Director, Tony Vogel; Auditor, Dr. Carri Brown; JFS Director, Corey Clark; Treasurer, Jim Bahnsen; FCFC Manager, Jim Bahnsen; Economic & Workforce Development Director, Rick Szabrak; and IT Director, Dan Neeley. Also in attendance: Jessica Kull, Jeff Williamsen, Liz Moe, Robert Slater II, Gina Matos, Frank Uhl II, and Paul Dixon.

Welcome

Commissioner Fix opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance. He stated the purpose of the evening meetings is to offer residents the opportunity to attend during the evening when they would otherwise not be available during the day.

Public Comments

Frank Uhl II of Hocking Township is a union worker and spoke in favor of the Eastern Cottontail solar project, adding that it will provide many benefits to the surrounding areas.

Robert Slater II of Walnut Township serves as the ad hoc member for Walnut Township on the OPSB and attended the first day of the evidentiary hearings for the Eastern Cottontail solar project. He offered several of his grievances with the process so far.

Jeff Williamsen of Winding Oak Rd. stated that the proposed solar project will need to account for the energy that is needed during times when the solar panels aren't functioning.

Legal Update

None.

County Administration Update

- *The County Administration Update was provided by County Administrator, Aundrea Cordle, unless otherwise noted.*

Week in Review

Recognizing Veterans Services Director Park Russell

Next week the Commissioners' will be recognizing Park Russell, Veterans Services Director, for his dedication to serving the veterans of Fairfield County for 24 years. This doesn't include his years of military service to his country.

Highlights of Resolutions

Administrative Approvals

The review packet contains a list of administrative approvals.

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Resolution Review

There are 12 resolutions on the agenda for the Regular voting meeting.

Resolutions of note:

- There is a resolution to authorize a joint use agreement between Ohio University and the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners. This is needed in order to utilize the 500,000 that the legislature previously approved.

Director Szabrak stated that the agreement has been a long process and he is happy that both sides are satisfied with the language of the agreement.

- There is a resolution to approve a grant agreement between the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners and Ohio Emergency Management Agency for the FY24 Emergency Management Performance Grant Award

Director Kochis stated that this is an annual allocation from the federal government.

- A resolution to authorize the County Administrator to sign a letter of intent on behalf of Fairfield County Protective Services to partner with the Gallia County Child Wellness Center

Administrator Cordle stated that the letter of intent will add Fairfield County to a program with 10 other Ohio counties.

Director Clark added that the 10 counties together will be investing 45,000, with the State matching those funds. By placing the children under their protection in that facility, the county will save several hundred dollars per day.

Administrator Cordle stated that Gallia County will be the fiscal agent, but Fairfield County will be a member of the governing board.

Commissioner Levacy recalled speaking with Governor DeWine about how the state should be involved in this process.

Commissioner Fix has heard from other counties that they too struggle with placing children. He asked how long the children can stay at the Gallia County Child Wellness Center.

Director Clark stated it is a short term residential stay, but the kids can stay 30-60 days and in that time will be assessed to see if they are a good candidate to receive additional resources.

Commissioner Fix asked if there will be ongoing operational costs.

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Director Clark stated the placement costs will pay for the operations. The center charges \$370 a day for member counties, and double that amount for non-member counties. Fairfield County pays 700-800 dollars a day for other facilities in the state so this will offer considerable cost-savings.

- A resolution authorizing the approval of the Fairfield County Prevention, Retention and Contingency Plan (PRC Plan) between Fairfield County Job & Family Services and the Ohio Department of Job & Family Services. This was recently approved by the Family Services Planning Committee which is also the Executive Committee of the Family and Children First Council.

Director Clark stated that the PRC plan revision is a process they undergo every 2 years. Some of the revisions include improved language for housing assistance.

- A resolution to request appropriations for receipts for Major Crimes Violent Crimes Reduction Grant Fund 7911 and an advance for the Flock Camera system in the County.

Director Kochis stated that the MCU grant has been immensely helpful for MCU operations.

Budget Review

- Budget Director, Bart Hampson, stated the county has experienced increased health insurance costs in 2025 compared to 2024. He will continue to look into what is causing those increases.

Commissioner Davis asked what the difference was between revenue and expenses.

Director Hampson stated the difference is nearly double what it was for the same time period in 2024.

Administrator Cordle stated that the HR team is in constant communication with NFP to see how the county can maximize savings and decrease expenses. She added that these numbers should not raise any alarms, but the county is seeing a pattern it has not seen before.

Calendar Review/Invitations Received

Items Requiring Response

Informational Items

- Fairfield 33 Development Alliance Board Meeting, Thursday, March 6, 2025, 8:30 a.m. at the Workforce Center
- State of Pickerington Address, Thursday, March 6, 2025, 11:00 a.m. at Grace Fellowship, 1449 Refugee Rd., Pickerington

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- Invitation to the CCAO Central Region Meeting, Friday, June 6, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in Morrow County, address TBD

Correspondence

- Letter from the City of Lancaster regarding a TIF ordinance
- 2026 Meals on Wheels levy budget
- Correspondence Regarding Industrial Solar
- Letter from county resident regarding SR 188

Updates from Elected Officials and Department Heads

Clerk of Courts Branden Meyer spent the day testifying at the Statehouse regarding legislature that the Ohio Clerk of Courts Association was concerned with.

Treasurer Bahnsen stated the Treasurer's Office had passed along the property tax collections to the Auditor's Office.

Auditor Brown stated that the BOR online tool is available. The next Budget Commission meeting will be related to Board of Health apportionments. She had the pleasure of providing a presentation for the Recovery Court last week. She also was thankful for the uniform presence at the Administrative Courthouse and the Auditor's Office. In April there will be more communication about state vendor licenses and a one-time fee. The Celebrate Women Conference is open for registration. Those from her office who cannot attend will have the opportunity to attend the POWER seminar.

Director Szabrak stated that they held the Safety Fair with the Chamber of Commerce at the Workforce Center which had a great turnout. OU is hosting a teachers conference at the Workforce Center which will give them the chance to show off the labs to teachers from around the state.

Director Clark spoke on Adult Protective Services' partnership with Fairfield Federal and Vinton County Bank to help seniors avoid scams. He shared a story of a success they recently had where they were able to assist a senior avoid losing a large amount of money to a scammer.

Commissioner Levacy stated he brought up this partnership to the Elder Abuse Commission and believes it should be used statewide.

Director Clark stated that they have plans to add more banks to the partnership.

Director Vogel has 6 apprentices who went through the Workforce Center who will soon be taking their exams.

Director Szabrak thanked Director Vogel for everything he has done for the Water and Wastewater students.

Commissioner Fix learned that the Village of Amanda was not familiar with the Workforce Center and believes the county should make contact with the municipalities to encourage students to enroll at the Workforce Center.

Director Neeley stated that he looks forward to attending the POWER event on Thursday. He will also be participating in an all-county IT personnel meeting.

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Old Business

Commissioner Davis attended a meeting Monday with bond council and Fairfield Medical Center to discuss the issue surrounding the hospital trying to sell an off campus building to the Harcum House in which the transaction was scheduled to be closed but the title came back conduit upon debt. He also asked for an executive session at the end of the evening.

New Business

Commissioner Levacy offered his appreciation to Greenfield Township for hosting the Commissioners, and for Commissioner Davis serving as the ad hoc member on the OPSB.

Commissioner Davis met with Vivek Ramaswamy on Monday. He also attended the first day of the OPSB evidentiary hearings and thinks the hearings will likely continue.

Commissioner Fix attended a CCAO meeting where they are proposing an amendment to annexations because some counties are experiencing issues with aggressive annexation. He is hopeful that CCAO can come to a solution that does not punish counties who are not experiencing aggressive annexations.

Regular (Voting) Meeting

The Commissioners continued to the Voting portion of the meeting with the following Commissioners present: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and David Levacy. County employees present: County Administrator, Aundrea Cordle; Communications & Information Coordinator, Bennett Niceswanger; Budget Director, Bart Hampson; Sheriff's Deputy, Kevin Romine; Facilities & EMA Director, Jon Kochis; Eligibility Referral Specialist, Heather Kochis; Utilities Director, Tony Vogel; Auditor, Dr. Carri Brown; JFS Director, Corey Clark; Treasurer, Jim Bahnsen; FCFC Manager, Jim Bahnsen; Economic & Workforce Development Director, Rick Szabrak; and IT Director, Dan Neeley. Also in attendance: Jessica Kull, Jeff Williamsen, Liz Moe, Robert Slater II, Gina Matos, Frank Uhl II, and Paul Dixon.

Announcements

None.

Approval of Minutes for February 25, 2025

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Minutes for the Tuesday, February 25, 2025 meeting.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

Approval of Roundtable Minutes for February 25, 2025

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Roundtable Minutes for the Tuesday, February 25, 2025 meeting.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

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Approval of Resolutions from the Fairfield County Commissioners

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Fairfield County Commissioners:

- 2025-03.04.a A resolution authorizing to Appropriate from Unappropriated into a major expenditure category to the Capital Improvement Project Fund# 3435 and fund to fund transfer.
- 2025-03.04.b A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in major expenditure object categories for the Health Insurance Fund# 5376.
- 2025-03.04.c A resolution authorizing fund to fund transfers from the General Fund # 1001 to: #4809, #4851, #4714, #4819, #4895, #4878 for Debt Service Payments for 2025.
- 2025-03.04.d A resolution authorizing a fund to fund transfer for the 2nd half 2025 Allocation for Soil & Water.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis and Jeff Fix

Approval of a Resolution from Fairfield County Economic & Workforce Development

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from Fairfield County Economic & Workforce Development:

- 2025-03.04.e A resolution authorizing the joint use agreement between Ohio University and the Fairfield County Board of County Commissioners.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

Approval of Resolutions from the Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency:

- 2025-03.04.f A resolution to approve a Grant Agreement between Fairfield County Board of Commissioners and Ohio Emergency Management Agency for the FY24 Emergency Management Performance Grant Award.
- 2025-03.04.g A resolution authorizing an account to account transfer for EMA Fund 2090 (Subfund 8221) COTS Grant 2024/2025

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

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Approval of Resolutions from Fairfield County Job & Family Services

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from Fairfield County Job & Family Services:

- 2025-03.04.h A Resolution to authorize the County Administrator to sign a letter of intent on behalf of Fairfield County Protective Services to partner with the Gallia County Child Wellness Center.
- 2025-03.04.i A resolution authorizing the approval of the Fairfield County Prevention, Retention and Contingency Plan (PRC Plan) between Fairfield County Job & Family Services and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.
- 2025-03.04.j A resolution to approve a memo exp./ memo receipt for the costs of Birth Certificates paid to Fairfield County Health Departments as a memo expenditure for fund# 2072 Public Children's Services

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

Approval of a Resolution from the South Central Major Crimes Unit

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the South Central Major Crimes Unit:

- 2025-03.04.k A resolution to request for appropriations for receipts for Major Crimes Violent Crimes Reduction Grant Fund 7911 and advance

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

Approval of the Payment of Bills

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution for the Payment of Bills:

- 2025-03.04.l A resolution authorizing the approval of payment of invoices for departments that need Board of Commissioners' approval.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

Executive Session

On the motion of Steve Davis and the second of David Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to enter executive session to discuss the acquisition of property at 7:51 p.m.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: Steve Davis, David Levacy, and Jeff Fix

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to exit executive session at 8:06 p.m.

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Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Steve Davis, David Levacy, and Jeff Fix

Adjournment

With no further business, On the motion of Steve Davis and the second of David Levacy, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 8:07 p.m.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: Steve Davis, David Levacy, and Jeff Fix

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, in the Commissioners' Hearing Room, 210 E. Main St., Lancaster, OH.

Motion by: David Levacy

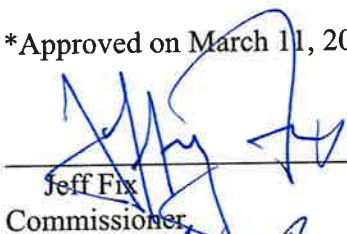
Seconded by: Steve Davis

that the March 4, 2025, minutes were approved by the following vote:

YEAS: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix
ABSTENTIONS:

NAYS: None

*Approved on March 11, 2025


Jeff Fix
Commissioner


Steve Davis
Commissioner


David Levacy
Commissioner


Bennett Niceswanger, Asst. Clerk



REVIEW AGENDA

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioners:

Steven A. Davis
Jeffrey M. Fix
David L. Levacy

County Administrator

Aundrea N. Cordle

Deputy County Administrator

Jeffrey D. Porter

Clerk

Rochelle Menningen

Tuesday, March 4, 2025

7:00 p.m.

**Greenfield Township Fire Department
3245 Havensport Rd., Carroll, OH**

1. Review

Purpose of Review Meeting: *To prepare for formal actions of county business, such as Commission resolutions; and to provide time for county leadership to connect about matters of county business.*

2. Welcome**3. Public Comments**

Purpose of Public Comments: *This is a time for voters and taxpayers (members of the public) to provide comments. There is a time limit of 3 minutes. While this is a time for comments to be provided, it is not a time for questions and answers. The Commission has a full agenda of county business.*

4. Legal Update**5. County Administration Update**

- a. Week in Review
- b. Highlights of Resolutions
- c. Budget Review
- d. Calendar Review/ Invitations Received
 - i. Fairfield 33 Development Alliance Board Meeting, Thursday, March 6, 2025, 8:30 a.m. at the Workforce Center
 - ii. State of Pickerington Address, Thursday, March 6, 2025, 11:00 a.m. at Grace Fellowship, 1449 Refugee Rd., Pickerington
 - iii. Invitation to the CCAO Central Region Meeting, Friday, June 6th, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in Morrow County, address TBD
- e. Correspondence
 - i. Letter from the City of Lancaster regarding a TIF ordinance
 - ii. 2026 Meals on Wheels levy budget
 - iii. Correspondence Regarding Industrial Solar
 - iv. Letter from county resident regarding SR 188

S E R V E • C O N N E C T • P R O T E C T



REVIEW AGENDA

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioners:

Steven A. Davis

Jeffrey M. Fix

David L. Levacy

County Administrator

Aundrea N. Cordle

Deputy County Administrator

Jeffrey D. Porter

Clerk

Rochelle Menningen

6. Updates from Elected Officials and Department Heads

7. Old Business

8. New Business

9. Regular (Voting) Meeting

10. Adjourn

SERVE • CONNECT • PROTECT

Quarters Total 2021, Total 2022, Total 2023, Total 2024, Quarter 1 2025 – American Rescue Plan Fiscal Recovery Funds, as of 2.20.2025.

From the \$30,606,902.00 received as the first and second tranche of fiscal recovery funds.

\$30,606,902.00 has been appropriated, \$27,343,818.70 expended, \$3,090,708.85 encumbered or obligated.

Project/Category		As of 2/20/25 Appropriations	As of 2/20/25 Expenditure	As of 2/20/25 Obligation
Public Health				
R15a	Public Health, PPE	199.90	199.90	0.00
R16a	Public Health, Medical Expenses	206,838.33	206,838.33	0.00
R16b	Public Health, COVID Medial Costs County Benefits Program	399,949.66	399,949.66	0.00
R17a	Public Health, Vaccination Clinic and Related Expenses	66,362.57	66,362.57	0.00
R17b	Public Health, Capital Investments and Public Facilities of the County	3,426,059.58	3,422,579.58	3,480.00
R17c	Public Health, Capital Investment for Air Quality Improvements	56,674.00	56,674.00	0.00
R17d	Public Health, Capital Investment for Health Equipment, Mobile Morgue	49,498.87	49,498.87	0.00
R17e	Public Health, Capital Investment for Sheriff Cruiser to Respond to Increased Violence	54,250.98	54,250.98	0.00
R18a	Professional Communications on Behalf of the Board of Health	34,577.94	34,577.94	0.00
R18b	Public Health, Creation of a Community Health Assessment (CHA)	48,943.10	48,943.10	0.00
R19a	Public Safety Payroll Support	1,545,884.42	1,545,884.42	0.00
R19b	Public Health Payroll Support	185,406.39	185,406.39	0.00
R19c	Other Public Sector Payroll Support	275,236.47	275,236.47	0.00
R110a	Mental and Behavioral Health	0.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Public Health		6,349,882.21	6,346,402.21	3,480.00
Negative Economic Impacts				
R210a	Emergency Assistance for Non-Profit Organizations, a Subgrant to the City of Lancaster	0.00	0.00	0.00
R210b	Emergency Assistance for Non-Profits, Subgrant The Lighthouse	120,000.00	120,000.00	0.00
R210c	Salvation Army	500,000.00	500,000.00	0.00
R210d	Habitat for Humanity	610,000.00	610,000.00	0.00

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Project/Category		As of 2/20/254 Appropriations	As of 2/20/25 Expenditure	As of 2/20/25 Obligation
R210e	ADAMH/LSS Housing Projects	3,000,000.00	800,564.01	2,199,435.99
R210f	Harcum House	100,000.00	100,000.00	0.00
R210g	Fairhope Hospice	100,000.00	100,000.00	0.00
R210h	Housing Project	700,000.00	700,000.00	0.00
R210i	Lancaster Festival	100,000.00	100,000.00	0.00
R211a	Subgrant for Tourism, Support for the Fairfield County Fair	499,996.00	499,996.00	0.00
R211b	Aid to Tourism, Travel, Hospitality	18,278.01	18,278.01	0.00
R29a	Emergency Assistance Business Planning	146,829.87	146,829.87	0.00
R213a	Support for Agriculture and the Growing Community	35,000.00	35,000.00	0.00
R213b	Technical Assistance for Townships & Others	399,354.84	399,354.84	0.00
R213c	Contracts for Services to Support Residents Suffering Effects of the Pandemic	96,700.00	96,700.00	0.00
Subtotal Negative Economic Impacts		6,426,158.72	4,226,722.73	2,199,435.99
R310a	Housing Support, Affordable Housing Strategic Plan	39,554.00	39,554.00	0.00
Subtotal Services Disproportionately Impacted Communities		39,554.00	39,554.00	0.00
Premium Pay				
R41a	Premium Pay, Premium Pay for Emergency Management Agency Workers	27,907.72	27,907.72	0.00
Subtotal Premium Pay		27,907.72	27,907.72	0.00

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Project/Category		As of 2/20/25 Appropriations	As of 2/20/25 Expenditure	As of 2/20/25 Obligation
Infrastructure				
R52a	Clean Water: Centralized Collection and Conveyance, Airport	550,210.54	550,210.54	0.00
R52b	Clean Water: Centralized Collection and Conveyance, Walnut Creek Sewer District	750,000.00	750,000.00	0.00
R52c	Clean Water: Centralized Collection and Conveyance, Regional Lift Station	2,761,835.85	2,448,140.26	313,695.59
R56a	Clean Water, Stormwater	539,895.00	539,895.00	0.00
R511a	Drinking Water: Transmission/Distribution, Grant Hampton	800,318.61	800,318.61	0.00
R511b	Drinking Water: Transmission/Distribution, Airport	100,805.00	100,805.00	0.00
R511c	Drinking Water: Transmission/Distribution, Greenfield	221,535.69	0.00	221,535.69
R511d	Drinking Water: Transmission/Distribution, Baltimore	613,000.00	613,000.00	0.00
R511e	Drinking Water: Transmission/Distribution, Pleasantville	834,000.00	731,947.53	102,052.47
R516a	Broadband, "Last Mile" Projects	0.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Infrastructure		7,171,600.69	6,534,316.94	637,283.75
Revenue Loss				
R61a	SaaS and Technological Equipment	369,959.32	369,959.32	0.00
R61b	Recorder Document Scanning	337,984.72	337,984.72	0.00
R61c	Clerk of Courts Case Management	375,000.00	375,000.00	0.00
R61d	MARCS Tower Project	566,210.00	566,210.00	0.00

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Project/Category		As of 2/20/25 Appropriations	As of 2/20/25 Expenditure	As of 2/20/25 Obligation
R61e	Dispatch Consoles	543,820.85	543,820.85	0.00
R61f	Fairfield Center Purchase	2,708,752.85	2,708,752.85	0.00
R61g	Fairfield Center Renovation	3,344,528.02	3,208,277.92	136,250.10
R61h	Community School Attendance Program	501,137.00	501,137.00	0.00
R61i	Workforce Center Expansion	0.00	0.00	0.00
R61j	Smart Growth	197,657.97	197,657.97	0.00
R61k	United Way and Dolly Parton's Imagination Library	25,000.00	25,000.00	0.00
R61l	Auditor Historical Records Scanning	0.00	0.00	0.00
R61m	Engineer's Radios	80,000.00	80,000.00	0.00
R61n	Auditor Printers	4,357.66	4,357.66	0.00
R61o	Auditor Copiers	11,983.30	11,983.30	0.00
R61p	Bremen ADA Ramps	26,954.00	26,954.00	0.00
R61q	Transportation School Education Vehicles	38,357.90	38,357.90	0.00
R61r	Safety and Security	454,622.00	431,430.94	23,231.06
R61s	MAPSYS Custom Taxing Authority Management Application	52,433.00	43,000.00	9,433.00
R61t	County Radios	61,537.50	0.00	61,537.50
R61u	Transportation	243,000.00	243,000.00	0.00
R61v	Transportation Rebranding	20,057.45	0.00	20,057.45
R517a	Beavers Field Utilities	36,606.46	36,606.46	0.00
Revenue Loss		10,000,000.00	9,749,490.89	250,509.11

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Project/Category		As of 2/20/25 Appropriations	As of 2/20/25 Expenditure	As of 2/20/25 Obligation
Administration				
R71a	Administrative Expenses	591,798.66	419,424.21	0.00
Subtotal Administration		591,798.66	419,424.21	0.00
Grand Total		\$30,606,902.00	\$27,343,818.70	\$3,090,708.85

ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY ITEMS
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE
FEBRUARY 23, 2025 TO March 02, 2025

Fairfield County Commissioners

- AA.02.25-2025.d An Administrative Approval for the payment(s) of the United Health Care (UHC) invoice for the Fairfield County Self-Funded Health Benefits Program – Fairfield County Board of Commissioners [Commissioners]
- AA.02.26-2025.a An Administrative Approval for the payment of invoices for departments that need Board of Commissioners' approval and have bills presented that are not more than \$77,250 per invoice. [Commissioners]

Fairfield County Job and Family Services

- AA.02.26-2025.b An Administrative Approval for an agreement between The Law Firm of Shihab & Associates and Fairfield County Job and Family Services -Protective Services Department. [JFS]
- AA.02.26-2025.c An Administrative Approval regarding a Subgrant Agreement between Perry County Department of Job and Family Services and Fairfield County Department of Job and Family Services. [JFS]

Fairfield County Regional Planning Commission

- AA.02.25-2025.a An Administrative Approval for the Notice of Award for Engineering and Architectural Review Services for the PY2024 Neighborhood Revitalization grant (Village of Bremen). [Regional Planning Commission]
- AA.02.25-2025.b An Administrative Approval for the Notice of Award for Engineering and Architectural Review Services for the PY2024 Allocation Grant (Village of Amanda). [Regional Planning Commission]
- AA.02.25-2025.c An Administrative Approval for the Notice of Award for Environmental Review Services for PY2024 Allocation and Neighborhood Revitalization Program Grant. [Regional Planning Commission]

Fairfield County Sheriff

- AA.02.26-2025.d An Administrative Approval for an agreement between the American Correctional Association (ACA) and the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) [Sheriff]



CITY OF LANCASTER

Mayor Don G. McDaniel

104 East Main Street

Room 101

Lancaster, OH 43130

740-687-6600

mayor@ci.lancaster.oh.us

February 21, 2025

TO: Fairfield County
Board of County Commissioners
210 East Main Street
Lancaster, Ohio 43130
Attn: Aundrea Cordle, Fairfield County Administrator

Commissioner Fix:

This letter constitutes notice of the intent of the City of Lancaster, Ohio, Fairfield County (the "City") City Council (the "City Council") to consider and vote upon a Tax Increment Financing Ordinance pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.40(C) (the "TIF Ordinance"). This notice is required under Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.40(E). Please see **EXHIBIT A** attached hereto for an identification of the Parcels of the Property (each as defined by the TIF Ordinance) that, upon approval of the TIF Ordinance by the Council, will comprise the Powers Run Incentive Districts #1 through #5 (each an "Incentive District" and collectively, the "Incentive Districts") authorized by the TIF Ordinance.

Specifically, the TIF Ordinance would establish the Incentive Districts and would authorize a one hundred percent (100%) tax increment financing exemption on the increased assessed value with respect to the Parcels located within the Incentive District for a period of up to thirty (30) years (the "TIF Exemption"). The TIF Exemption would commence, with respect to each Incentive District, on the earlier of (i) the first tax year following the effective date of the TIF Ordinance for which Improvements (as defined in the TIF Ordinance) attributable to the construction of structures within the boundaries of the Incentive District totaling at least \$100,000 in assessed value (e.g., 35% of true value) first appear on the tax list and duplicate of real and public utility property, or (ii) tax year 2034 (the "Commencement Date"). The TIF Exemption would end, with respect to each Incentive District, on the earlier of (i) thirty (30) years after the Commencement Date, or (ii) the date on which the Public Infrastructure Improvements (as defined in the TIF Ordinance) are paid in full and the City can no longer require service payments in lieu of taxes from the owners, all in accordance with the requirements of R.C. Sections 5709.40, 5709.42, and 5709.43.

For notice purposes only, the total estimated true value in money of the Improvements associated with the development of the Incentive Districts collectively is approximately \$138,240,000.00. This estimated true value may vary depending on the final buildout of all eligible land within the Incentive Districts and the prevailing market conditions for construction of residential products within the Incentive Districts, and is subject to actual assessment of value by the Fairfield County Auditor.



CITY OF LANCASTER

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This notice is required under R.C. Section 5709.40(E), pursuant to which the City must provide notice to the Board of County Commissioners of the TIF Exemption associated with the Incentive District and the City's intention to adopt the TIF Ordinance not later than forty-five (45) business days prior to formally adopting the TIF Ordinance. A copy of the proposed TIF Ordinance is attached hereto in substantially the form of **EXHIBIT B**. The City plans to consider and may pass the TIF Ordinance pursuant to R.C. Section 5709.40(C) at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, June 9, 2025, at the Council Meeting Room of the Lancaster City Hall, located at 104 East Main Street, Lancaster, Ohio 43130, or during a subsequent meeting.

You are invited to attend the meeting of the City Council to present your views or to submit comments in writing, addressed to the Clerk of City Council.

Very truly yours,

Don McDaniel, Mayor

Enclosures



EXHIBIT A

Description of Parcels

The Property consists of those Parcels identified in the records of the Fairfield County Auditor as having the permanent parcel identification numbers noted below as of the date of the passage of the Ordinance to which this Exhibit A is attached.

It is expected that the Developer may submit a record plan application to the Planning and Zoning Committee of the City to re-plat the Property and convey fee simple ownership to future owners of the 333 lots consisting of single-family homes. Such re-plat may occur after the adoption of the Ordinance to which this Exhibit A is attached. For the avoidance of doubt, the Parcels of the Property to be included within each Incentive District shall consist of, and the authorizations of the Ordinance to which this Exhibit A is attached shall apply to, the Parcels comprising the Property identified below, as such Parcels may be sub-divided, combined, re-combined, re-numbered, or re-platted from time to time by the Developer, the City, and the Fairfield County Auditor.

The Powers Run Incentive Districts shall be comprised of:

0534008020

0534164600

0270166299

For ease of reference, the first map that follows shows the Powers Run Incentive Districts labeled by their numbers and highlighted in yellow.

(See attached.)



EXHIBIT B

Public Infrastructure Improvements

The Public Infrastructure Improvements consist generally of acquiring and constructing the Public Infrastructure Improvements described below, as selected in the sole discretion of the City in accordance with the Ordinance to which this Exhibit B is attached, the TIF Statute, its related rules and laws, and other generally applicable Ohio law, including but not limited to, the following:

- Construction, reconstruction, extension, opening, improving, widening, grading, draining, curbing, or changing of, as well as the continued maintenance of, the lines and traffic patterns of roads, highways, streets, bridges (both roadway and pedestrian), traffic calming devices, sidewalks, bikeways, medians, and viaducts accessible to and serving the public, and providing lighting systems, signalization, and traffic controls, and all other appurtenances thereto; and
- Construction, reconstruction, or installation of, as well as the continued maintenance of, public utility improvements (including any underground publicly owned utilities), storm and sanitary sewers (including necessary site grading therefore), police equipment and police station buildings and improvements, fire equipment and fire buildings and improvements, water and fire protection systems, and all other appurtenances thereto; and
- Construction, reconstruction, or installation of publicly owned gas, electric, and communication service facilities, and all other appurtenances thereto; and
- Construction or reconstruction of one or more public parks, including grading, trees and other park plantings, park accessories and related improvements, and all other appurtenances thereto; and
- Construction or installation of streetscape and landscape improvements including trees and shrubs, landscaping mounds and fencing, tree grates, planting beds, signage, curbs, sidewalks, street and sidewalk lighting, trash receptacles, benches, newspaper racks, burial of overhead utility lines and related improvements, and all other appurtenances thereto; and
- Construction of one or more public parking facilities, including public surface parking and public parking structures and related improvements, and all other appurtenances thereto; and
- Demolition and excavation, including demolition and excavation on private property when determined to be necessary for economic development purposes; and

- Acquisition of real estate or interests in real estate (including easements) necessary to accomplish the foregoing improvements; and
- Any on-going administrative expenses relating to the Public Infrastructure Improvements as well as maintaining the Service Payments in the Powers Run Incentive District TIF Fund, including but not limited to, engineering, architectural, legal, and other consulting and professional services; and
- All inspection fees and other governmental fees related to the foregoing; and
- Any and all other costs of the Public Infrastructure Improvements, as determined by the City in its sole discretion and in accordance with the Ordinance to which this Exhibit B is attached, the TIF Statute, its related rules and laws, and other generally applicable Ohio law.

The Public Infrastructure Improvements specifically include the costs of financing the Public Infrastructure Improvements, including the items of “costs of permanent improvements” set forth in Ohio Revised Code Section 133.15(B), and incurred with respect to the Public Infrastructure Improvements. “Costs” specifically include any reimbursement payments for the reimbursement of the costs of the Public Infrastructure Improvements and the debt service on any bonds or other obligations issued to finance the Public Infrastructure Improvements (including fees and administrative expenses of, and fund reserve funds necessary to pay or service any financing, refinancing or other obligations) (the “Debt Service”), all as determined by the City in its sole discretion and in accordance with the Ordinance to which this Exhibit B is attached, the TIF Statute, its related rules and laws, and other generally applicable Ohio law.

EXHIBIT C

Form of Cooperative Agreement

(attached hereto)



ORDINANCE NO. ____ - ____

ORDINANCE CREATING FIVE INCENTIVE DISTRICTS AND DECLARING IMPROVEMENTS TO CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE INCENTIVE DISTRICTS TO BE A PUBLIC PURPOSE, AND EXEMPT FROM REAL PROPERTY TAXATION; IDENTIFYING CERTAIN PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS THAT, ONCE MADE, WILL BENEFIT OR SERVE THE PARCELS IN THE INCENTIVE DISTRICTS; REQUIRING THE OWNERS OF THOSE PARCELS TO MAKE SERVICE PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES; ESTABLISHING AN INCENTIVE DISTRICT PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT TAX INCREMENT EQUIVALENT FUND FOR THE DEPOSIT OF SUCH SERVICE PAYMENTS; AUTHORIZING PAYMENTS TO THE LANCASTER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT; AND APPROVING RELATED MATTERS

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code (“R.C.”) Sections 5709.40, 5709.42, 5709.43, 5709.82 and 5709.83 (the “TIF Statute”) provide that this City Council (the “Council”) of the City of Lancaster, Ohio (the “City”) may, under certain circumstances, establish one or more incentive districts within the City, and declare the Improvements (as defined below) to real property located within those incentive districts, to be a public purpose, exempt a percentage of such Improvements from real property taxation, identify certain public infrastructure improvements that, once made, will benefit or serve that real property, identify one or more specific projects being, or to be, undertaken in the incentive districts that place additional demand on the designated public infrastructure improvements, provide for payments in lieu of taxes by the owners of the real property, and establish a public improvement tax increment equivalent fund and accounts and subaccounts therein; and

WHEREAS, all of the real property comprising each of the five (5) Incentive Districts authorized by this Ordinance, as defined below and described on Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein (the “Property” with each parcel comprising the Property being referred to individually as a “Parcel”) is located within the City and is not currently subject to another real property tax exemption authorized pursuant to R.C. Section 5709.40(B) nor included within an existing incentive district established under R.C. Section 5709.40(C); and

WHEREAS, this Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the City to establish five (5) Incentive Districts (each an individual “Incentive District” and collectively, the “Incentive Districts”) inclusive of the Property, declare the Improvements to the Property to be a public purpose, and to exempt a percentage of such Improvements from real property taxation as provided in this Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the TIF Statute, (i) each Incentive District is not more than three hundred (300) total acres in size, (ii) each Incentive District is enclosed by a continuous boundary, and (iii) the boundaries of each of the Incentive Districts are coextensive with the boundaries of, and will include only, the respective portions of one or more Parcels comprising the Property, as specifically identified and depicted by Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein; and

WHEREAS, Forestar (USA) Real Estate Group Inc. (the “Developer”) intends to act as the initial lot developer of approximately 128.88 acres of real property located at 2106 Pleasantville Road within the City (“Project Site”); and

WHEREAS, the initial development by the Developer shall include installation of certain public infrastructure in anticipation of transferring the Project Site or portions thereof, from time to time, to one or more home building companies (the “Site Preparation Project”), and the home building companies that develop the Project Site after completion of the Site Preparation Project are expected to construct approximately 333 single-family homes in one or more phases (the “Building Project,” and together with the Site Preparation Project, the “Project”).

WHEREAS, the public infrastructure improvements described by Exhibit B attached hereto and incorporated herein (the “Public Infrastructure Improvements”) will benefit or serve the Parcels comprising each of the Incentive Districts and as required by R.C. Section 5709.40(C)(3)(a), this Council has determined that the Project will place additional demand on the Public Infrastructure Improvements to be located at the Property and within each of the Incentive Districts; and

WHEREAS, as required by R.C. Section 5709.40(A)(5)(f), this Council has approved a written Economic Development Plan (the “Plan”) for each of the Incentive Districts and delineated an “overlay” (as defined by R.C. Section 5709.40(A)(6)) upon a map of each of the proposed Incentive Districts pursuant to its adoption of Ordinance No. [____ - ____] on [_____, ____], effective [_____, ____]; and

WHEREAS, as required by R.C. Section 5709.40(A)(5)(f), Curtis Shonk who serves as the engineer for the City, has certified, effective [_____, ____], that the public infrastructure serving each of the Incentive Districts is inadequate to meet the development needs of the Incentive Districts, all as further evidenced by the Plan; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to R.C. Section 5709.40(C)(2)(a), the City held a public hearing on [____, 2025], which such hearing occurred not later than thirty (30) days prior to the date on which this Council considered adoption of this Ordinance, notice of the public hearing was sent by first-class mail to each owner of each Parcel to be located within the boundaries of the proposed Incentive Districts not later than thirty (30) days prior to the public hearing, and this Council has not received written request for any Parcel to be excluded from inclusion in any Incentive District from any owner pursuant to R.C. Section 5709.40(C)(2)(a); and

WHEREAS, under R.C. Section 5709.42, this Council has determined to require the owner or owners of each Parcel comprising the Property within each Incentive District, together with their successors and assigns (each an “Owner”, and collectively the “Owners”), to make service payments in lieu of real property taxes on the portion of the Improvements exempted from real property taxation pursuant to this Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, under R.C. Section 5709.43, this Council has determined to establish a municipal public improvement tax increment equivalent fund for the deposit of service payments in lieu of taxes (the “Powers Run Incentive District TIF Fund”); and

WHEREAS, it is the intention of this Council to pay to the Lancaster City School District (the "School District") certain compensation payments in the amount of the taxes that would have been payable to each of the School District if the Improvements had not been exempted from real property taxation pursuant to this Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, this Council desires that the Treasurer of Fairfield County, Ohio (the "County Treasurer") forward service payments in lieu of taxes to the appropriate taxing authorities the portion of the Service Payments that represent payments required under R.C. 5709.40(F) and to the School District in the manner prescribed by Section 4 of this Ordinance, all in accordance with R.C. Sections 5709.40, 5709.42 and 5709.43; and

WHEREAS, the City sent notice of this Council's intention to exempt the Improvements from real property taxation to the Board of Education of the School District in accordance with R.C. Sections 5709.40(D) and 5709.83 and hereby ratifies the giving of such notice by the City; and

WHEREAS, notice of this proposed Ordinance was delivered to the Board of County Commissioners of Fairfield County at least forty-five (45) business days prior to date on which this Council considered adoption of this Ordinance pursuant to R.C. 5709.40(E)[, and the County, by the passage of Resolution No. [_____] on [_____, ____]: (i) did not object to the exemption for either of the period or the exemption percentage provided in this Ordinance with respect to any of the Incentive Districts; and (ii) waived any and all notices the City or this Council may be required to give the County with regard to this Ordinance and each of the Incentive Districts;, including, without limitation, any and all notices under R.C. Sections 5709.40 and 5709.83;] and;

WHEREAS, this Council has determined to approve this Ordinance and dispense with the rule that this Ordinance shall be read on three (3) different days pursuant to R.C. Section 731.17(A).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Lancaster, Fairfield County, State of Ohio that:

SECTION 1. This Council hereby establishes each of the following Incentive Districts: Powers Run Incentive District No. 1, Powers Run Incentive District No. 2, Powers Run Incentive District No. 3, Powers Run Incentive District No. 4, and Powers Run Incentive District No. 5. Each Incentive District consists of a portion of one or more Parcels comprising the Property. The boundaries of each Incentive District are depicted on Exhibit A hereto and incorporated herein.

Pursuant to R.C. Section 5709.40(C), this Council finds and determines that it is in the best interest of the City to declare the increase in the assessed value of each Parcel comprising the Property within each Incentive District after the effective date of this Ordinance (the "Improvements") to be a public purpose and to authorize an exemption from real property taxation equal to one hundred percent (100%) of such Improvement (the "TIF Exemptions"). The TIF Exemption shall commence, with respect to each Incentive District, on the earlier of (i) the first tax year following the effective date of this Ordinance for which Improvements attributable to the construction of one or more structures within the boundaries of the individual Incentive District collectively totaling at least \$100,000 in assessed value (e.g., 35% of the true value) first appear on the tax list and duplicate of real and public utility property, or (ii) tax year 2034 (the "Commencement Date").

The TIF Exemption shall end, with respect to each Incentive District, on the earlier of (i) thirty (30) years after the Commencement Date, or (ii) the date on which the Public Infrastructure Improvements are paid in full and the City can no longer require Service Payments from the Owners, all in accordance with the requirements of the TIF Statute.

The Public Infrastructure Improvements described in Exhibit B hereto made, to be made, or in the process of being made are hereby designated as Public Infrastructure Improvements that benefit or serve, or once made will benefit or serve, the Incentive Districts. As required by R.C. Section 5709.40(C)(3)(a), this Council hereby determines that the Project will place additional demand on the Public Infrastructure Improvements to be located at the Property and within each of the Incentive Districts.

SECTION 2. Pursuant to R.C. Section 5709.42, this Council directs and requires each Owner of each Parcel comprising the Property included within each Incentive District to make annual service payments in lieu of real property taxes with respect to the Improvements allocable to each Parcel to the County Treasurer on or before the final dates for payment of real property taxes. Service payments in lieu of taxes, including any penalties and interest at the then current rate established under R.C. Sections 323.121 and R.C. 5703.47, will be charged and collected in the same manner and in the same amount as the real property taxes that would have been charged and payable against the Improvements if it were not subject to the TIF Exemptions authorized by this Ordinance. Such service payments in lieu of taxes, penalties and interest, and any other payments with respect to Improvements that are received by the County Treasurer in connection with the reduction required by R.C. Sections 319.302, 321.24, 323.152 and 323.156, as the same may be amended from time to time, or any successor provisions, as the same may be amended from time to time (the "Property Tax Rollback Payments," and together with the service payments in lieu of taxes and penalties and interest described above, the "Service Payments"), will be allocated and distributed in accordance with Section 4 of this Ordinance. No Owner shall, under any circumstances, be required for any tax year to both pay Service Payments with respect to an Improvement and reimburse local taxing authorities for the amount of real property taxes that would have been payable to local taxing authorities had the Improvement not been exempted from taxation pursuant to this Ordinance.

SECTION 3. This Council hereby establishes, pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the TIF Statute, the Powers Run Incentive District TIF Fund into which the City shall deposit all Service Payments collected with respect to the Property and received from the County Treasurer. Within the Powers Run Incentive District TIF Fund, the City Auditor of the City is hereby authorized to establish one or more accounts or sub-accounts associated with the applicable Incentive District, as may be required from time to time in the sole discretion of the City Auditor, including the following separate sub-accounts:

1. Powers Run Incentive District No. 1 TIF Fund Sub-Account;
2. Powers Run Incentive District No. 2 TIF Fund Sub-Account;
3. Powers Run Incentive District No. 3 TIF Fund Sub-Account;
4. Powers Run Incentive District No. 4 TIF Fund Sub-Account;
5. Powers Run Incentive District No. 5 TIF Fund Sub-Account;

The City, in its sole discretion, may utilize Service Payments deposited into the Powers Run Incentive District TIF Fund and its associated accounts and sub-accounts for the purposes authorized by the TIF Statutes, this Ordinance, and other generally applicable Ohio law, including, but not limited to, paying costs of the Public Infrastructure Improvements in a manner consistent with the TIF Statute and the Cooperative Agreement. The Powers Run Incentive District TIF Fund shall exist so long as Service Payments are collected and used for the purposes described above, after which the Powers Run Incentive District TIF Fund and its associated accounts and sub-accounts are to be dissolved and any surplus funds remaining in the Powers Run Incentive District TIF Fund shall be transferred to the City's general fund, all as set forth under R.C. Section 5709.43.

SECTION 4. At the same time and in the same manner as real property tax distributions, the City requests that the County Treasurer distribute the Service Payments applicable to each Incentive District as follows:

FIRST, to the appropriate taxing authorities the portion of the Service Payments that represent payments required under R.C. 5709.40(F), as required by the County Treasurer pursuant to R.C. Section 5709.43(C); and

SECOND, to the School District the amount of the real property taxes that would have been payable to each of the School District if the Improvements had not been exempted from taxation pursuant to this Ordinance; and

THIRD, the remainder to the City for deposit into the Powers Run Incentive District TIF Fund.

The City shall then use the Service Payments for such uses as may be identified and approved by the City from time to time, as follows:

[FIRST, if applicable, to pay compensation to the Board of County Commissioners of Fairfield County, for the duration of the TIF Exemption with respect to each Incentive District, equal to [_____] (____%) of the real property taxes that would have been payable to Fairfield County but for the TIF Exemptions applicable to each Incentive District authorized pursuant to this Ordinance; and]

SECOND, to pay or finance the costs associated with any Public Infrastructure Improvements defined by R.C. Section 5709.40(A)(8), identified in Exhibit B, and selected in the sole discretion of the City, made, to be made, or in the process of being made that benefit or serve, or, once made, will benefit or serve the Parcels of the Property included within the Incentive Districts, including payment of interest and payment of any obligation issued to pay such costs, all as authorized under Ohio Revised Code Section 5709.40 and more particularly defined by Exhibit B attached hereto and incorporated herein, and

THIRD, for any other lawful purpose pursuant to this Ordinance, the TIF Statute, its related laws and rules, and other generally applicable Ohio law.

SECTION 5. The Cooperative Agreement (the "Cooperative Agreement") by and among the City, the Developer, and the Lancaster Port Authority, and such other parties as those parties may determine, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit C and incorporated herein by this

reference, is hereby approved, and the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute and deliver the Cooperative Agreement with such changes as are not inconsistent with this Ordinance, are not substantially adverse to the City and are approved by the Mayor, all of which shall be evidenced conclusively by the execution of the Cooperative Agreement by the Mayor. The Cooperative Agreement shall govern the use of Service Payments paid in connection with this Resolution.

SECTION 6. This Council further authorizes the Mayor and the City Auditor, together with their designees, are authorized and directed to sign any other agreement, document, instrument, amendment, or certificate and to take such actions as are necessary or appropriate to consummate or implement the matters described in or contemplated by this Ordinance.

SECTION 7. This Council further authorizes and directs the Mayor and the City Auditor, or their designees, and other appropriate officers of the City to: (i) make such arrangements as are necessary and proper for the collection of Service Payments from the Owners of any of the Parcels comprising the Property and included within any of the Incentive Districts, (ii) facilitate the payment of the Service Payments from the County Treasurer to the City for deposit into the Powers Run Incentive District TIF Fund, (iii) prepare and sign all agreements, documents, instruments, amendments, or certificates as may be necessary to implement this Ordinance from time to time, including, but not limited to, any applications for real property tax exemption and remission (Form DTE-24) that may be required with respect to each Incentive District; and (iv) take all other actions as may be appropriate to implement this Ordinance.

For the avoidance of doubt, R.C. Section 5709.911 shall govern the priority status of the TIF Exemptions authorized pursuant to this Ordinance. Pursuant to R.C. 5709.40(C) and 5709.911, the City intends to apply for the TIF Exemptions authorized pursuant to this Ordinance.

SECTION 8. Pursuant to R.C. Section 5709.40(I), the Mayor and the City Auditor, together with their designees, are authorized and directed to deliver a copy of this Ordinance to the Director of the Ohio Department of Development (“ODOD”) within fifteen (15) days of its adoption. On or before March 31st of each year that a TIF Exemption authorized pursuant to this Ordinance remains in effect, the Mayor and the City Auditor, together with their designees, are authorized to prepare and submit the status report required under R.C. Section 5709.40(I) to the Director of ODOD.

SECTION 9. In accordance with R.C. Section 5709.832, this Council hereby determines that no entity doing business upon any Parcel or any portion of any Parcel comprising the Property and included within any Incentive District shall deny any individual employment based on considerations of race, religion, sex, disability, color, national origin, or ancestry.

SECTION 10. The City acknowledges that it has created, or has joined, an applicable Tax Incentive Review Council (the “TIRC”) with the membership of the TIRC constituted in accordance with R.C. Section 5709.85. The TIRC shall, in accordance with R.C. Section 5709.85, annually review all TIF Exemptions resulting from the declarations set forth in this Ordinance and any other such matters as may properly come before the TIRC, all in accordance with R.C. Section 5709.85.

SECTION 11. This Council finds and determines that all formal actions of this Council and any of its committees concerning and relating to the passage of this Ordinance were taken in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in those formal actions were in meetings open to the public, all in compliance with the law including R.C. Section 121.22.

SECTION 12. That this Council has dispensed with the rule that this Ordinance shall be read on three (3) different days by a vote of at least three-fourths (3/4) of the members of the Council, and this Ordinance shall be effective at the earliest date allowable by law upon its adoption and approval by the Mayor.

PASSED:

ATTEST:

Anitra Scott
Clerk of Council

Jeffrey Porter
President of Council

Submitted to Mayor:_____

APPROVED:

Don McDaniel, Mayor

Stephanie L. Hall, Law Director
Approved as to Form

CERTIFICATE

The undersigned, Clerk of the Council of the City of Lancaster, Ohio, hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Ordinance No. []-[], passed by the Council of the City of Lancaster, Ohio on the [] day of [].

Clerk of Council



2026 LEVY BUDGET EXHIBITS

EXHIBIT DESCRIPTION

- 1 Cover Letter
- 2 2026 Levy/Operating Budget
- 3 Description of Line Items 9900 & 530000
- 4 Salary by Position (details wages by department)
- 5 Year End Units of Service Report
- 6 Annual Specification Compliance Review COAAA
- 7 The Senior Hub-Meals on Wheels Fairfield County Annual Report



Exhibit #1

February 28, 2025

To: Aunie Cordle
County Administrator
Fairfield County Commissioner's Office

From: Anna Tobin
Executive Director
Meals on Wheels of Fairfield County, Inc.

Subject: 2026 Levy Budget Packet

Please find the enclosed 2026 levy budget and operations budget as approved by the Meals on Wheels Board of Trustees on February 27, 2025. Also included in the budget packet are the supporting documents, the annual report, 2024 units of service report, and the annual compliance review by COAAA. The financial audit will not be completed until later in the year. Once we have approval from the State, we will forward a copy of it to your office.

I look forward to meeting with you and the commissioners at a determined time to review the 2026 submission and answer any questions.

Sincerely,

Anna Tobin
Executive Director



The Senior Hub-Meals on Wheels Fairfield County
1515 Cedar Hill Road, Lancaster, Ohio 43130

MEALS ON WHEELS-OLDER ADULT ALTERNATIVES OF FAIRFIELD COUNTY, INC.
Exhibit #2
2026 Budget

		Proposed	Proposed	Approved	Approved
		2026 Levy	2026 Full	2025 Levy	2025 Full
REVENUE					
4000	Public Support including fundraising		58,500		42,400
4500	2025 levy Funds Collected	4,700,000	4,700,000	4,640,000	4,640,000
	Unappropriated funds on account needed in the 2025 budget			147,115	147,115
4600	Grants		10,000		10,240
5000	Contract Revenue		1,058,760		963,360
6000	Program Revenues		258,180		224,580
6300	Misc. Revenue		20,250		16,000
6600	Interest		84,000		54,000
TOTAL REVENUE- levy funds represent 74% of our budget		4,700,000	6,189,690	\$4,787,115	\$6,097,695
EXPENSES					
76% levy					
7000	Salaries; incl. vacation, sick, holidays*	1,870,293	2,460,912	1,843,383	2,394,004
7100	Employee Taxes, BWC	196,796	258,942	211,134	274,200
8000	Professional Fees	95,023	125,030	99,854	129,680
8100	Supplies and Raw Food	730,551	1,209,475	867,034	1,232,200
8200	Telephone	7,296	9,600	9,148	11,880
8300	Office Expenses	39,520	52,000	26,565	34,500
8400	Occupancy	90,364	118,900	103,142	133,950
	property taxes	4,000	4,000	3,080	4,000
8500	Rental/Maintenance	48,336	63,600	35,297	45,840
8600	Printing/Promotion	16,074	21,150	10,511	13,650
8700	Fleet Expense	152,760	201,000	146,993	190,900
8800	Training/Recognition	9,120	12,000	9,240	12,000
8900	Specific Assistance	464,113	580,141	429,443	535,316
9000	Dues/License/Subscriptions	5,236	6,890	3,581	4,650
9100	Travel Expense	2,280	3,000	1,848	2,400
9200	Fundraising Expense	6,840	9,000	6,930	9,000
9400	Miscellaneous	5,320	7,000	4,582	5,950
9500	Insurance	288,078	379,050	295,353	383,575
530000	Service Provider Contracts/ personal care/homemaking	200,000	200,000	170,000	170,000
53111	Levy Fees	90,000	90,000	70,000	70,000
550305	Grants to community	240,000	240,000	240,000	240,000
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES		4,562,000	6,051,690	\$4,587,115	\$5,897,695
CASH FLOW OPERATIONS		138,000	138,000	\$200,000	\$200,000
9900	Less 2026 Capital Expenditures				
	Hot Shot -replace with AWD Vehicle	35,000	35,000	40000	40000
	Delivery Vehicle Replacement	35,000	35,000	30000	30000
	Additional Vehicle	35,000	35,000	90000	90000
	Computers	20,000	20,000	15000	15000
	Floor Mixer	13,000	13,000	25000	25000
	Total	138,000	138,000	200,000	200,000
CASH FLOW		0	0	0	0
Levy Account Projected Balance Year End 2026					
Projected carryover levy funds coming into 2026 fiscal year			1,997,553		
Unappropriated funds used in 2026 budget			0		
Balance of Levy funds on account going into 2027			1,997,553		

The Senior Hub-Meals on Wheels Fairfield County

Line item: 530000 Contract Services		Exhibit #3
Contracts Agreements:	Proposed Contract Amount	Services Provided
Canal Winchester Human Services	\$10,000	Transportation
Center for Independence of Lancaster	\$35,000	Transportation
Interim Healthcare of Lancaster	\$40,000	Homemaking, Personal Care, IH Respite
Home Helpers	\$25,000	Homemaking, Personal Care, IH Respite
Right at Home	\$45,000	Homemaking, Personal Care, IH Respite
First Light Home Health	\$25,000	Homemaking, Personal Care, IH Respite
Total Provider Services	\$170,000	
Line Item 9900		
Hot Shot	35,000	
Replacement Vehicle	35,000	
Additional Vehicle	35,000	
Computers	20,000	
Floor Mixer	13,000	
Total	138,000	

The Senior Hub-Meals on Wheels Fairfield County, Inc			Exhibit # 4		
COMPENSATION REPORT-2026					
POSITIONS	Levy	Percentage of Levy to Full	Intergovernmental and Other	Percentage of Intgovernmental and Other	Total
Executive Director	76,931	0.75	22,979	0.25	99,910
Director of Nutrtition Services	46,520	0.75	13,895	0.25	60,415
Director of Administrative Services	55,890	0.75	16,694	0.25	72,584
Director of Aging Services	47,576	0.75	14,211	0.25	61,787
Nutrition Services- 16 FT 38 PT	1,036,792	0.75	309,691	0.25	1,346,483
Aging Services 8 FT 7 PT	457,207	0.75	136,568	0.25	593,775
Administrative Services 3FT 2 PT	150,118	0.75	44,840	0.25	194,958
Totals	1,871,032		558,880		2,429,912

Year to Date Statistics Dec 2024 Exhibit #5

	Clients	YTD Units	Unit	STLY	STLY Units
<u>NUTRITION DIVISION</u>	Served	12/31/2024	Defined	Served	12/31/2023
Commodities Supplemental Food Program	369	3,127	One Food Box	366	3,128
Congregate Meals	600	38,303	One Meal	562	34,145
Ensure Nutritional Supplement	55	242	One Case	51	186
Home Delivered Meals	1,653	296,464	One Meal	1,588	280,797

AGING SERVICES DIVISION

Activities	200	2,735	One Instance	128	1,230
Application Assistance	1	1.5	One Hour	0	0
Assessments	1,767	1,453.50	One Hour	1,612	1,281.50
Case Management	406	182.75	One Hour	465	278.00
Chore Assistance	0	0	One Task	5	5
Digital Connect Program	30	30	One Item		
Durable Medical Equipment	313	4,037	One Client	311	3,814
Friendly Visitor	10	217.76	One Visit	9	69.75
Home Maintenance/Modification	34	\$44,315.90	Dollars Spent	40	\$29,861.40
Homemaking	154	2,816.75	One Hour	144	2,288.25
Emergency Response Systems	591	5,468	Per Month	578	5,256
Medication Dispensers	13	77	Per Month	12	69
OSHIIP	34	47.25	One Hour		
Personal Care	38	3,302.75	One Hour	30	2,300.00
Pet Program	56	509	One Service	63	444
Representative Payee	23	614.75	One Hour	26	681.75
Shopping Assistance	21	135	One Delivery	25	173
Tele-Friend	25	36.5	One Hour	28	70.5
Transportation (one-way trips)	152	3,518	One-Way Trip	110	1,919
Financial Assistance	39	\$30,997.50	Dollars Paid	9	\$4,182.85
<u>CAREGIVER SUPPORT:</u>					
CSP Daycare	0	0	One Day	0	0
CSP ER Home Delivered Meals	0	0	One Meal	0	0
CSP Emergency Utility	0	\$0.00	Dollars Paid	0	\$0.00
CSP Home Repair	0	\$0.00	Dollars Spent	0	\$0.00
CSP In-Home Respite	34	2,426.25	One Hour	27	1,935.50
CSP Institutional Respite	0	0	One Day	0	0
CSP Lifeline ERS	22	151	One Month	14	117
CSP Medication Dispenser	1	4	One Month	1	3

3776 South High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43207-4012
www.coaaa.org/ email: coaaa@coaaa.org



Your Aging and Disability Resource Network

Exhibit #6

(614) 645-7250
1-800-589-7277
(614) 645-6200 TTY/TDD

Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 173-39-04 Provider Structural Compliance Review Exit Conference Summary

October 24, 2024

Provider: Meals on Wheels, Older Adult Alternatives of Fairfield Co.

Review Dates: October 16 & 17, 2024

Service(s) Reviewed: HDMs, ERS, HME and Transportation

Reviewer(s): Cheryl Wilson, LSW

Provider Staff Present: A. Tobin, Executive Director; S. Arledge, Director of Administrative Services and A. Goines, Director of Nutrition Services

Individuals Reviewed: L.T. #1797951, B.C. #1202286, T.G. #8807510, T.H. #1248206, P.H. #1860969, D.O. #1764407, S.R. #1069030, G.S. #1906685, L.T. #1187140, C.B. #3424242, C.C. #8710944, A.G. #1992901, B.M. #8842711, K.M. #8803703, P.M. #8777152, V.M. #8831936, K.M. #8754431, D.S. #8851230, G.C. #1435261, A.C. #1823616 and K.M. #8754431

Verification of units billed

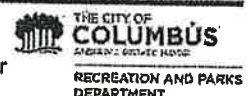
A sample unit of service (billing) audit was completed for the period of March through August 2024 for the above individuals. Documentation of service was consistent with units billed and paid

OAC 173-39-02 ODA Provider Certification Requirements for Every Provider:

No deficiencies noted

Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging – Katie White, Director

Serving: Delaware • Fairfield • Fayette • Franklin • Licking • Madison • Pickaway • Union Counties
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Columbus, Ohio 43207-4012
www.coaaa.org/ email: coaaa@coaaa.org



Your Aging and Disability Resource Network

(614) 645-7250
1-800-589-7277
(614) 645-6200 TTY/TDD

Older Americans Act/Alzheimer Respite Unit of Service Verification Review

Policy: The Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging shall verify all units of service provided to a minimum of 10% of participants, with a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 30 participants for a 1-month period. The review of additional months shall be conducted if errors or exceptions totaling 7% or more are found during the unit of service verification review.

Provider: The Senior Hub/Meals on Wheels Fairfield County

Review date: October 16 and 17, 2024

Services reviewed: Personal Care, Home Modification, Transportation, Supportive Services, Nutrition Services

Month(s) and year reviewed: July 2024 *one home mod consumer reviewed for June 2024

Total number of units billed: 402

Total number of units documented: 402

Total number of units over-billed: 0

Error rate (# of units over billed/# of units billed): 0

Next steps:

✓ *None needed; there were no errors found.*

Plan of Correction needed.

Evidence of Compliance needed.

COAAA fiscal department will make necessary adjustments and contact you if further action is needed.

OAC 173-39-02.1-173-39-02.17 ODA Certified Provider Service Specifications

Home Delivered Meals

No deficiencies noted

Emergency Response Services

No deficiencies noted

Non-Emergency Medical Transportation

No deficiencies noted

No evidence of compliance requested

☒ **Final Summary**

☐ **Letter to follow**

☐ **Revised Summary**

Please sign and return a copy of this letter upon receipt.

If you have any questions regarding your review, please contact me at cwilson@coaaa.org or (614) 645-8424.

Cheryl Wilson
Signature of Reviewer

10/24/24
Date

Anna John
Signature of Provider Staff

10/24/24
Date

2024 STRUCTURAL COMPLIANCE REVIEW

SIGNATURE PAGE

My signature below verifies receipt of the 2024 Older Americans Act summary for The Senior Hub/Meals on Wheels Fairfield County.

Anna Tobin, Executive Director

Provider staff name and title (please print)

Anna Tobin

Provider staff signature

10/22/24
Date

Mail, Fax or E-mail to Jackie Marchan-Rish

Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging

3776 S. High Street

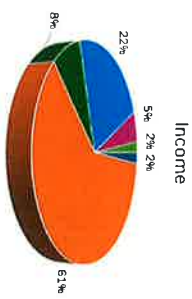
Columbus, Ohio 43207

Fax: (614) 645-1907

E-mail: jmarchan@coaaa.org

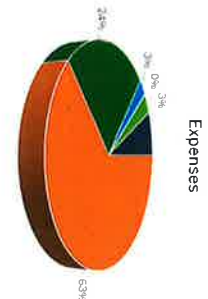
Income

Public Support	\$110,031
Senior Services Levy	\$3,395,742
Grants	\$436,400
Contract Revenue	\$1,263,248
Program Revenue	\$286,417
Misc including interest	\$105,939
Total Income	\$5,597,777



Expenses

Nutrition Services	\$3,297,210
Aging Services	\$1,258,761
Administration	\$135,621
Fundraising	\$9,044
Community Grants	\$170,000
Capital Expenditures	\$377,224
Total Expenses	\$5,247,860



The Senior Hub-Meals on Wheels Fairfield County is a 501(c)3 non profit organization supported in part by a senior services levy, Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging, donations, grants, and fundraising events. The financial information presented in this report was prepared by management of the agency and has not been audited by an external auditor. Audited financials will be available later in the year.

Community Grants

During 2024, The Senior Hub awarded \$170,000 of levy funded grants to 17 senior serving organizations within Fairfield County. The grant awards help to extend our reach, ensure the needs of older adults are met, and support our mission of improving the quality of life for older adults living in Fairfield County.

Leadership Team

Anna Tobin	Executive Director
Sarah Arledge	Director of Administrative Services
Amber Goines	Director of Nutrition Services
Sheila Stouder	Director of Aging Services



FIFTY 50 YEARS



Older adults served in Fairfield County

3,067



8,546

Hours of in-home Healthcare Services, including Homemaking, Personal Care, and Respite

778

Veterans and their dependents served



627

Emergency Response Systems & Medicine Dispensers

2,629

Hours of Case Management, Payee Services, Medicare Counseling, Therapist

4,037



Pieces of adaptive equipment on loan

334,767

Meals served through Meals on Wheels Home Delivery and Congregate Dining

43 Caregivers

Received support through care consultation, supportive services, and support group activity

2,982

Units Friendly Visits, Tele-Friendly, Recreation, Education, and Digital Connect



3,504

Supplemental Food Boxes (including fresh produce), grocery deliveries, and liquid supplements

\$75,314

in Home Repairs and Financial Assistance



7,219

Volunteer Hours



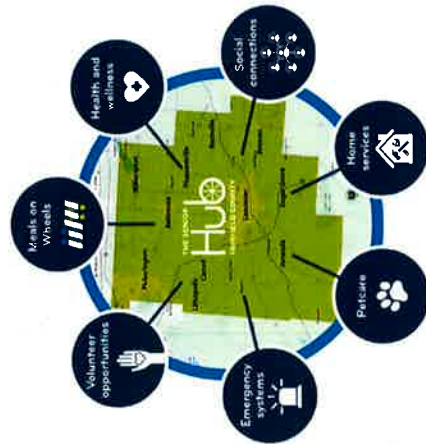
3/4/2025

2024 Board of Trustees

Jeff Wagner, President-Kumler Collision
 Doug Smith, Vice President- IMEG Corporation
 Donna Fox-Moore, Treasurer-Retired Administrator
 Jennifer Sitterley, Secretary-Sitterley Law Office
 Dale Dixon, Past President- Broker Wichert Insurance
 Corey Clark- Director Job & Family Services
 Margie Donnell-Lancaster Fairfield Chamber of Commerce
 Ben Hill COA- HHS & Company LLC
 Helen Harding- Retired BSN
 Christa Moody- Retired, Event Planner
 Kari James-Compliance Officer Fairfield Federal
 Kathryn Iles-Director Human Resources, Fairfield Homes
 Vicki Tauer-Retired Healthcare Manager
 Lara Wright-LSW, Case Manager Fairfield Medical Center

The Senior Hub-Meals on Wheels Fairfield County

1515 Cedar Hill Road
 Lancaster, Ohio 43130
 Phone: 740-681-5050
www.theseniorhubfc.org
 EIN #23-7331496



Our Mission

To enable independent living and improve the quality of life for older adults living in Fairfield County.

Our Vision

- Provide nutritional services,
- Encourage social interaction to reduce isolation,
- Act as a catalyst to develop, expand, and sustain a coordinated, county-wide system of services and facilitate access to services.

2024 Annual Report To The Community



THE SENIOR
Hub

**MEALS
on WHEELS**
FAIRFIELD COUNTY

MORE THAN A MEAL®

From: [Fair Fields](#)
To: shaffer@ohiosenate.gov; rep69@ohiohouse.gov; rep73@ohiohouse.gov; [Contact Web](#); taylor.nemeth@mail.house.gov
Subject: [E] URGENT ACTION REQUEST - Fairfield County, Ohio - Utility-Scale Solar Project: Community Concerns & Policy Reform
Date: Tuesday, February 25, 2025 11:55:26 AM
Attachments: [PRESS RELEASE - PUBLISHED.pdf](#)
[Q&A PRESS RELEASE - PUBLISHED.pdf](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

EDF Renewables Eastern Cottontail Project (24-0495-EL-BGN) OPSB Hearing Begins Tuesday, March 4th

We are writing to bring this matter to your attention and request your assistance to stop the proposed utility-scale solar project in Fairfield County, Ohio. This project has generated significant community opposition due to:

- Proximity to homes
- Loss of prime farmland
- Proximity to recreational area of Buckeye Lake
- Direct conflict with our county's land use plan

We believe that a modification to Senate Bill 52 is necessary to better protect directly impacted communities. Furthermore, we advocate for revised Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB) processes that:

- Prioritize the impact on residents near the project
- Implement a "no harm" policy for those directly affected

We are attaching, as a courtesy, the documents sent to media outlets.

- **Press Release:** Detailing community concerns and opposition.
- **Q&A Document:** Addressing key questions and providing project information.
- **Project Map:** Visualizing the project's location and impact area.
- **Impact Chart:** Illustrating the project's potential impact on local homes.

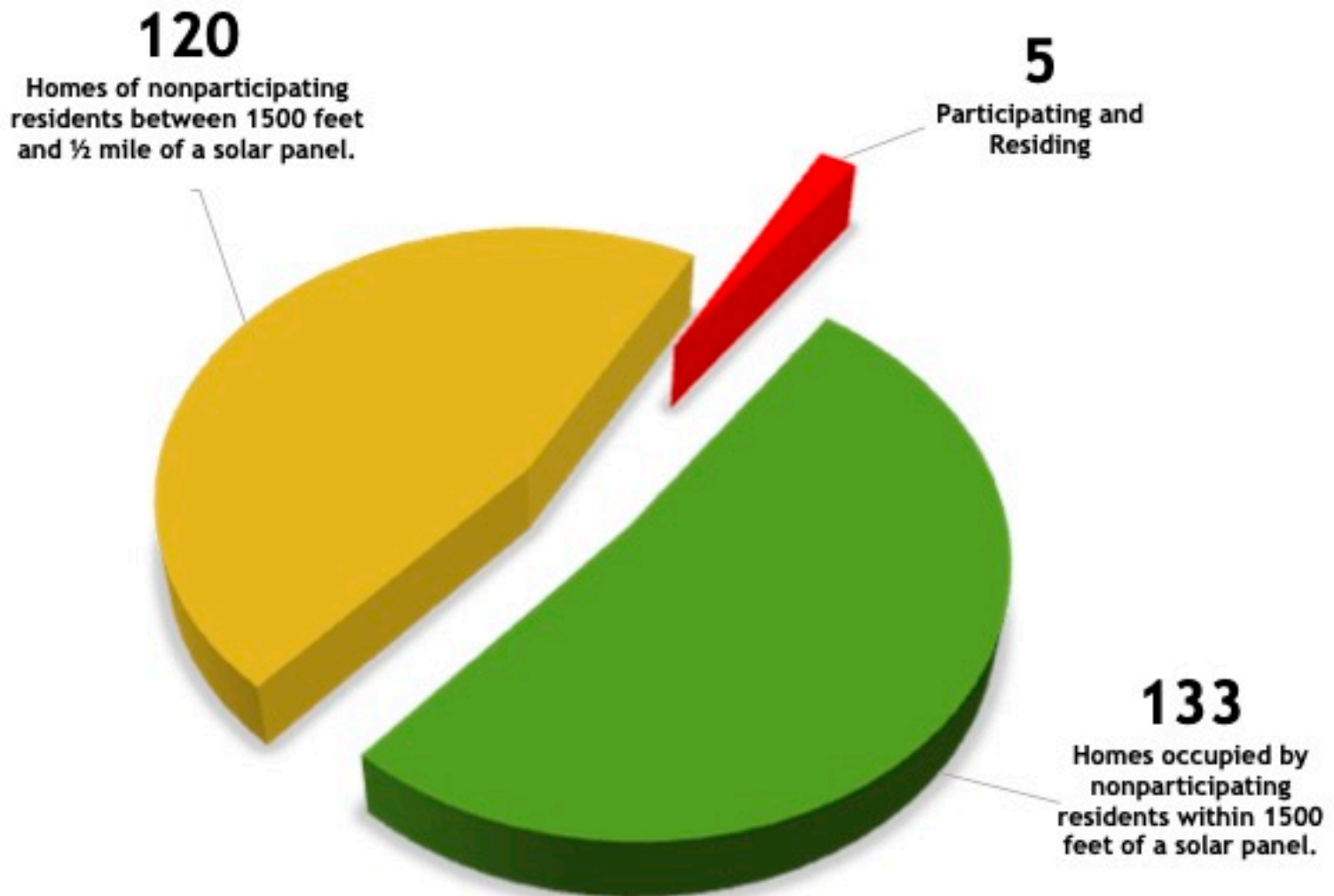
We ask for your support in defeating this project and protecting the residents of our community.

Sincerely,

Melissa Connor, Advocacy Communications Manager, Citizens for Fair Fields

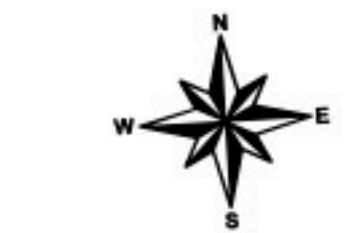
HOMES Impacted by the Eastern Cottontail Solar Project Area

Total homes within ½ Mile: **258**



Data Source: OPSB Application and Fairfield County Auditor and Eastern Cottontail Application.

Fairfield County, Ohio
CAUV Parcels
Northeast Quarter



October 7, 2024

0 400 800 1,600
Feet

g:\data\exp\ NE_Quarter_30Solar_81Mile.mxd 10/7/2024

Recorded solar leases shown on this map were obtained from the Fairfield County Recorder's Office.

https://opplaredo.fdlar.com/OHP/Fairfield/AsaWeb/0/search

Prime farmland is designated by soil characteristics as defined by USDA, Natural Resource Conservation Service.

https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/HomePage.htm

CAUV & Recorded Lease Data corrected to: Oct 2024

Disclaimer:

All data used for Fairfield County Auditor's GIS Department has been developed in most recent 10/7/2024. Accuracy Standards: All GIS data has been developed in the Ohio State Plane Coordinate System, NAD83, North American Datum (NAD83) 11/10.

Vertical datum: North American Datum (NAD83) 11/10.

Horizontal datum: North American Datum (NAD83) 11/10.

All data has been developed from public records that are considered uncopyrighted, change and is not intended for use in any other manner or represent the data in its for a particular use or purpose.

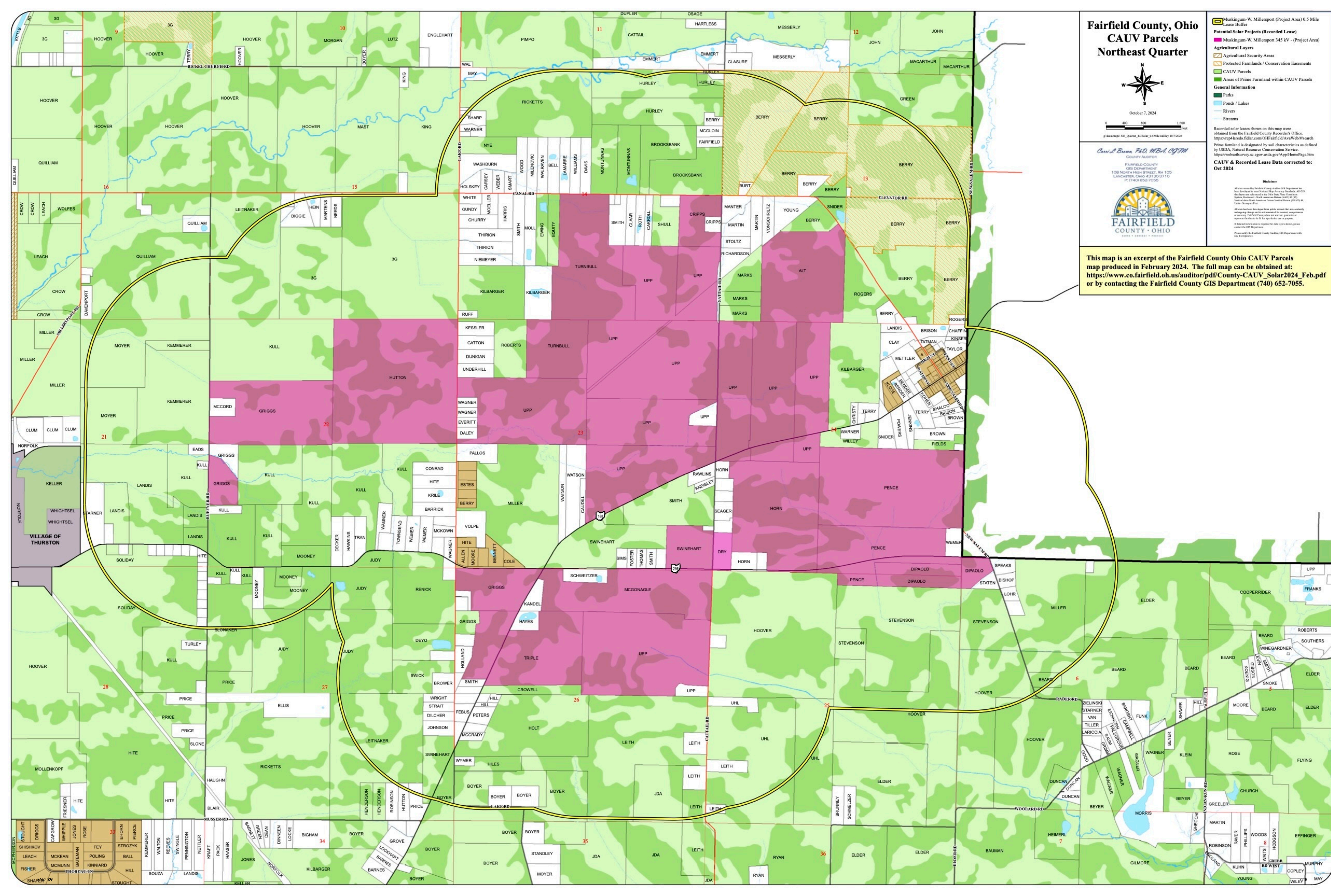
If needed information is required for data before shown, please contact the GIS Department.

Please verify the Fairfield County Auditor's GIS Department with any discrepancies.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY OHIO

2024 - 2025 - 2026

This map is an excerpt of the Fairfield County Ohio CAUV Parcels map produced in February 2024. The full map can be obtained at: https://www.co.fairfield.oh.us/auditor/pdf/County-CAUV_Solar2024_Feb.pdf or by contacting the Fairfield County GIS Department (740) 652-7055.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Group Opposes ‘Irresponsible’ Solar Project Near Buckeye Lake

Citing proximity to homes, prime farmland loss, conflict with county land use plans

MILLERSPORT, OHIO, February 21, 2025 – The Citizens for Fair Fields advocacy group is expressing strong opposition to the proposed EDF Renewables Eastern Cottontail Solar project in Fairfield County and the nearby Buckeye Lake community, citing significant negative impacts on residents and farmers in Fairfield County, Ohio.

They urge local, state, and federal authorities to reject the Eastern Cottontail Solar project in its current form and to explore alternative locations that do not pose such significant risks to residents and farmers. They also call for the modification of Senate Bill 52 to provide better safeguards for communities.

The proposed solar project, which aims to install 323,800 solar panels across 1,550 acres of prime farmland, poses a direct threat to the community’s well-being and the agricultural landscape. The project’s current design would place 258 homes within a half mile of the proposed project area, with 138 of those homes within 1,500 feet of a solar panel. This represents the highest residential impact compared to other solar projects of this size in Ohio. Additionally, the land in question is prime farmland that is actively used for food growth, further underscoring the potential negative impact on local agriculture.

“This 1,550-acre project would impose solar panels as far as the eye can see in a populated community of residents and farmers,” said Melissa Hoover Connor, spokesperson for the Citizens for Fair Fields advocacy group. “We are advocating for the rejection of this project to protect our homes, our farms, the unique recreational community of Buckeye Lake, and the future growth opportunities of our community. This project will impede our ability to attract new businesses and residents, limiting our potential for economic development.”

Homeowners and farmers alike have raised concerns about the decrease in property values, disruption to farming activities, and the overall impact on the quality of life in the area. The group emphasizes the need for renewable energy projects to be thoughtfully and responsibly planned, ensuring they do not harm the communities they are meant to serve.

Brad Berry, a local farmer and member of the advocacy group, added, “Our livelihoods depend on the land, and this project threatens to disrupt our farming operations. We support renewable energy, but not at the expense of our homes and farms.”

Additionally, Commissioner Jeff Fix has stated in a letter published on the Ohio Power Siting Board that the project conflicts with the Fairfield County Land Use Plan, further supporting the group’s opposition. Moreover, 12 of the 13 townships in Fairfield County have written letters to the Ohio Power Siting Board urging them to deny the project.

The Citizens for Fair Fields advocacy group urges authorities and the broader community to oppose the Eastern Cottontail Solar project and explore alternative locations, such as brownfields or former industrial sites. They also call for amending Senate Bill 52 to prevent irresponsible placement of utility-scale solar projects.

An evidentiary hearing at the Ohio Power Siting Board regarding this project starts on March 4th, and the Citizens for Fair Fields advocacy group encourages community members to participate by writing letters to local, state, and federal authorities to reject this project. Contact the Ohio Power Siting Board at (866) 270-6772 or email to contactOPSB@puco.ohio.gov.

About Citizens for Fair Fields

Citizens for Fair Fields is a grassroots organization of local farmers, friends, family, and neighbors in Fairfield County, Ohio. Their mission is to inform the community about proposed utility-scale solar projects and advocate for the preservation of prime farmland and natural spaces.

For more information, including a detailed Q&A document addressing community concerns, maps of the project site, and high-resolution color images, **contact:** Melissa Hoover Connor at (614) 374-1352. Or by email: citizensforfairfields@gmail.com

###

QUESTION & ANSWER

Group Opposes ‘Irresponsible’ Solar Project Near Buckeye Lake

Citing proximity to homes, prime farmland loss, conflict with county land use plans.

Q1: Why is the Citizens for Fair Fields advocacy group opposing the Eastern Cottontail Solar project?

A: The Citizens for Fair Fields advocacy group is opposing the Eastern Cottontail Solar project due to the significant negative impacts it would have on residents and farmers in Fairfield County and the nearby Buckeye Lake community. The project would place 258 homes within a half mile of the proposed project area and affect prime farmland actively used for food growth. Additionally, the community's well-being and the agricultural landscape would be threatened by the project's current design.

Q2: What specific concerns have been raised by homeowners and farmers regarding the project?

A: Homeowners and farmers have raised numerous concerns, including the potential for decreased property values, disruption to established farming operations, and a diminished quality of life. The sheer scale of the project, with 323,800 solar panels spread across 1,550 acres, has residents worried about the visual impact and the transformation of their rural landscape. Farmers are particularly concerned about the loss of productive farmland and the long-term impacts on soil health. The project's construction and operation could lead to topsoil damage, erosion, and altered drainage patterns, potentially impacting agricultural productivity for years to come, even after the project's lifespan. Additionally, the project's proximity to homes, representing the highest residential impact of similar projects in Ohio, has fueled concerns about noise, glare, and potential environmental impacts.

Q3: What happens to prime farmland during the installation of utility-scale solar projects?

A: Installing solar panels on prime farmland—land defined by the USDA as possessing the ideal physical and chemical characteristics for high crop yields—typically involves clearing, leveling, and often removing or significantly disturbing topsoil. This topsoil, the crucial nutrient-rich layer essential for plant growth, is vital for long-term agricultural productivity. Along with the potential for altered drainage patterns, the disturbance or removal of topsoil can severely and sometimes irreversibly damage the land's ability to produce crops, even after the solar project's lifespan. This effectively removes a valuable and finite resource from agricultural production, impacting food security and the livelihoods of farmers.

Q4: How does the proposed Eastern Cottontail Solar project conflict with the Fairfield County Land Use Plan?

A: The proposed Eastern Cottontail Solar project directly conflicts with several key aspects of the Fairfield County Land Use Plan. Commissioner Jeff Fix, in a letter published with the Ohio Power Siting Board, explicitly states this conflict and requested the OPSB deny the project. The plan prioritizes both development and the preservation of prime farmland, which this project converts to industrial use. It also emphasizes protecting recreational communities like Buckeye Lake. Finally, the significant and vocal opposition from residents, farmers, and numerous townships, as documented in letters submitted to the Ohio Power Siting Board, reveals a profound disconnect between the project and the community's clearly expressed desires, demonstrating a failure to adequately consider their needs and priorities as indicated in the County Land Use Plan.

Q5: How has the local community responded to the Eastern Cottontail Solar project?

A: The local opposition to the Eastern Cottontail Solar project has been overwhelming. In Fairfield County, there are over 2,000 individual requests to reject the project, submitted through letters, petitions, testimony at public hearings, and includes the Ohio Power Siting Board sheets. In contrast, the support for the Eastern Cottontail Solar project primarily consists of form letters and individuals that benefit financially, the majority of which are from individuals outside the county. This significant disparity underscores a disconnect between the corporate initiative and the actual sentiments within the community that is affected. The strong local opposition highlights the community's concerns and the urgent need for a more thoughtful and responsible approach to planning utility-scale solar projects.

Q6: What is the Citizens for Fair Fields advocacy group's stance on renewable energy?

A: The Citizens for Fair Fields advocacy group supports renewable, diversified, and responsible energy development. However, they believe such projects must be thoughtfully and responsibly planned to avoid harming the communities they are meant to serve. They advocate for alternative locations for the Eastern Cottontail Solar project, such as brownfields or less densely populated areas, where the community impact would be more positive and financially beneficial.

Q7: How has the growth of Columbus 'Boom Town' affected the electricity needs in the region, and what is your response to these needs?

A: As Columbus 'Boom Town' continues to grow eastward, the region's electricity needs are indeed greater. However, meeting these needs should not come at the expense of existing unique recreational areas, their residents, and neighboring farmers. We believe that renewable energy projects can be developed in a manner that respects and preserves these important community assets. Thoughtful planning and consideration of alternative locations are essential to achieving a balance between growing energy demands and protecting our community's well-being.

Q8: Why do corporations often seek to place solar grid panels on prime farmland?

A: Prime farmland offers ideal conditions for solar energy: ample sunlight, large tracts of available flat land, and often existing infrastructure. These factors, combined with potentially lower initial land acquisition or lease costs, financial incentives, and a sometimes-simpler permitting process, can make it attractive to corporations, despite the long-term costs to agriculture and food security. This pursuit of corporate benefit often imposes on existing constituents and can be demonstrably harmful to their livelihoods, communities, and environments.

Q9: What about property owners being able to exercise their property rights to do what they want on their own property?

A: Property rights are not absolute. They are balanced against community interests and are often subject to reasonable limitations, such as zoning and land use plans, which serve the public good. While landowners have rights, those rights do not extend to actions that significantly harm the community, infringe on neighboring property rights, or contradict established plans.

Q10: Why is it important for corporations to adopt "no harm" policies and guidelines for growth initiatives, especially in areas where communities are directly impacted?

A: "No harm" policies are crucial because they force corporations to consider the full range of potential impacts their growth initiatives might have on the people and environments where they operate. Without such policies, the pursuit of profit can easily overshadow the well-being of local communities. These communities often bear the brunt of negative consequences like environmental degradation, displacement, economic disruption, and social fragmentation, while the benefits of corporate growth may be concentrated elsewhere. A "no harm" approach requires corporations to proactively identify, assess, and mitigate these potential harms *before* projects are implemented. Ultimately, it's about recognizing that long-term business success is intertwined with the well-being of the communities where corporations operate.

Q11: What actions is the Citizens for Fair Fields advocacy group taking to oppose the project?

A: The Citizens for Fair Fields advocacy group is actively urging local, state, and federal authorities to reject the Eastern Cottontail Solar project in its current form. They are also calling for the modification of Senate Bill 52 to provide better safeguards for communities. Additionally, the group is encouraging community members to participate in the evidentiary hearing at the Ohio Power Siting Board on March 4th by writing letters to local, state, and federal authorities to express their concerns.

Q12: What alternative locations do you suggest for the Eastern Cottontail Solar project?

A: We suggest that the Eastern Cottontail Solar project be placed on brownfields or other less densely populated areas where the impact on residents and farmers would be minimal. Residents and officials should be engaged early to come up with solutions that would not impede or harm the community. These alternative locations would provide the necessary space for renewable energy projects while avoiding the negative consequences for prime farmland and residential communities.

Q13: Who can the public contact to show support for denying the project?

A: The public can contact the following entities to express their support for denying the Eastern Cottontail Solar project. It's crucial to reference the project's case number: **24-0495-EL-BGN** in all communications.

- **Ohio Power Siting Board (OPSB):** This is the primary decision-making body. Contact them with written comments, petitions, or by participating in public hearings.
 - Address: 180 E Broad St, Columbus, OH, 43215
 - Phone: (866) 270-6772
 - Email: contactOPSB@puco.ohio.gov
- **Fairfield County Commissioners:** Since the project impacts Fairfield County, contacting the commissioners Jeff Fix, Steve Davis and Dave Levacy is essential.
 - Address: 210 E Main St Ste 301, Lancaster, OH, 43130
 - Phone: (740) 652-7090
 - Email: contact@fairfieldcountyohio.gov
- **Ohio Governor Mike DeWine:** The Governor has influence over energy policy in the state.
 - You can contact the Governor's office through their website: <https://governor.ohio.gov/contact>
- **Ohio House of Representatives:** Contact your local state representatives to express your concerns.
 - House District 73 Representative Jeff LaRe: Rep73@ohiohouse.gov
 - House District 69 Representative Kevin D. Miller: Rep69@ohiohouse.gov
- **Ohio Senate:** Contact your state senator to express your concerns.
 - District 20 Senator Tim Schaffer: Schaffer@Ohiosenate.gov

Executive Branch:

- **The White House:**
 - Address: 1600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20500
 - Website: www.whitehouse.gov

U.S. Senate:

- **Senator Moreno:**
 - Address: SR-B33 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510
 - Phone: (202) 224-2315
- **Senator Husted:**
 - Address: SR-198 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510

U.S. House of Representatives:

- **Representative Troy Balderson:**
 - Address: 2429 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515-3512
 - Website: balderson.house.gov/contact

Ohio Power Citing Board,

I am writing in support of the Eastern Cottontail Solar project (Case #24-0495-EL-BGN) because of the significant economic and energy production benefits it represents for Fairfield County and the State of Ohio as a whole.

Eastern Cottontail will create hundreds of jobs for local residents, including more than 500 construction jobs and long-term operations and maintenance jobs. The project will also directly benefit critical local services that residents of Fairfield County depend on every day. In fact, it will generate \$1.98 million in annual tax revenue for schools, police departments, and other services for Ohioans.

This project will also generate home-grown, clean, American energy right here in Ohio – making our country less dependent on foreign energy while also reducing electricity costs for Ohioans.

Finally, the success of Eastern Cottontail Solar reinforces a critical American right of significant value in Ohio—property rights. Ohioans should be allowed to exercise their right to do what they please with their private land!

I ask that you support the Eastern Cottontail Solar project. It's important for our kids and our community, as well as for the future of Fairfield County, the State of Ohio, and our Nation!

Bring on all the Solar and stop the ethanol subsidies. Let's have a real energy market. Stop ethanol, go solar!

Sincerely,

Michael Walker
161 Fox Glen Drive East
Pickerington, OH 43147
mike@aemail.com

CC:

Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
State Representative Jeff LaRe
State Senator Tim Schaffer

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Sincerely,

Tracy Muck
3183 Country Club Rd SW
Lancaster, OH 43130
trcyknn7@icloud.com

CC:

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Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
State Representative Jeff LaRe
State Senator Tim Schaffer

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Sincerely,

Debra Smith
515 North Broad
Lancaster, OH 43130
debrasmith913@gmail.com

CC:

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Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
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State Senator Tim Schaffer

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Sincerely,

Sean O'Hara
10925 Millersport Rd NE
Millersport, OH 43046
kb9qwl@gmail.com

CC:

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Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
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State Senator Tim Schaffer

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Sincerely,

Linda Joffe
5811 Bastille y
Columbus, OH 43213
lindajoffe@gmail.com

CC:
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Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
State Representative Jeff LaRe
State Senator Tim Schaffer

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We need energy alternatives

Sincerely,

Karen Horn
5140 Baltimore Somerset Rd Ne
Pleasantville, OH 43148
the4horns@yahoo.com

CC:
Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
State Representative Jeff LaRe
State Senator Tim Schaffer

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Sincerely,

Douglas Sherman
10200 Lithopolis rd
Canal Wnchstr, OH 43110
discus7472@gmail.com

CC:

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Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
State Representative Jeff LaRe
State Senator Tim Schaffer

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It's better than housing developments, intel buildings or a Walmart in my neighborhood

Sincerely,

Glen Keller
10125 Deep Cut Rd
Millersport, OH 43046
glenkeller81@gmail.com

CC:

Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
State Representative Jeff LaRe
State Senator Tim Schaffer

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Sincerely,

Lisa Knouff
1281 BLOOMWOOD DR NW
Lancaster, OH 43130
lknouff@gmail.com

CC:

Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
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Sincerely,

Aimee Convery
33670 Carriage Park Dr
Solon, OH 44139
converyaim75@gmail.com

CC:

Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
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Sincerely,

David Comer
304 Lakeview Dr NE
Lancaster, OH 43130
bobbup@sbcglobal.net

CC:

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Sincerely,

Keith Moton
44 Langtree Dr
Pickerington, OH 43147
motonk@yahoo.com

CC:

Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
State Representative Jeff LaRe
State Senator Tim Schaffer

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We need to start focusing on clean energy and climate control instead of continuing to allow big oil to claim obscene profits

Sincerely,

Ernie Hay
2445 Columbus-Lancaster Rd NW
Lancaster, OH 43130
pistonthorn1@gmail.com

CC:

Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
State Representative Jeff LaRe
State Senator Tim Schaffer

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Sincerely,

Walter Bender
15378 Mount Olive Rd
Rockbridge, OH 43149
hhkennel@gmx.com

CC:

Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
State Representative Jeff LaRe
State Senator Tim Schaffer

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If approved, the project will create more than 500 local construction and long-term operations jobs, and more than 270 indirect jobs across local industries, including materials and supply chain. The overall job creation represents a game-changer for hundreds of working, local Ohio families.

Eastern Cottontail Solar will also generate \$1.98 million in annual tax revenue to fund critical, local services. That's nearly \$80 million in stable, long-term revenue over the entire project's life that will go directly to improving local schools, police departments, and other services that Fairfield County residents depend on each and every single day.

On top of all of this, the project will generate enough clean, affordable electricity to power the equivalent of 42,000 average American homes. This will help meet the increasing demand for electricity in central Ohio, reduce the amount of energy being imported from surrounding states, and help make our country less dependent on foreign energy imports, all while lowering electricity bills.

Local job creation, funding for critical local services, and affordable, local, clean electricity, all without any cost to taxpayers—how could the State of Ohio *not* support something so critical to its own future?

For the good of Fairfield County and Ohio as a whole, please support the Eastern Cottontail Solar Project.

It's clean renewable energy. What's not to love?!

Regards,

Joseph Miller
302 Olentangy St.
Columbus, OH 43204
bigryanmiller@gmail.com

CC:

Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
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There are benefits of solar farms that include the panels providing shade to grazing sheep. I personally believe placing panels on previously agri-farmed or cattle-farmed land could renew the soil and reduce soil erosion. I'm personally interested in this cause because I currently have solar panels on my home's roof.

Regards,

Susan Booher
2711 Bellwood Ave
Bexley, OH 43209
boohersusan@gmail.com

CC:

Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
State Representative Jeff LaRe
State Senator Tim Schaffer

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Regards,

Mason Juenger
3520 Karikal Dr
Westerville, OH 43081
masonpkj@gmail.com

CC:

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Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
State Representative Jeff LaRe
State Senator Tim Schaffer

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Regards,

K Sellman
2690 Sherwood Rd
Columbus, OH 43209
ksellmanbx@gmail.com

CC:

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Regards,

Stephen Sollars
5435 Tamarack Blvd
Columbus, OH 43229
ironbuckeye@gmail.com

CC:

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Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
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The more we develop, construct and deploy renewable energy technologies, like solar, the cheaper it will become. Renewable energy is the wise, responsible choice. For all our sake, please consider it. Thx.

Regards,

Jeff & Rachel Reeder
1303 Millington Court
Columbus, OH 43235
jreeder791@gmail.com

CC:

Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
State Representative Jeff LaRe
State Senator Tim Schaffer

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If approved, the project will create more than 500 local construction and long-term operations jobs, and more than 270 indirect jobs across local industries, including materials and supply chain. The overall job creation represents a game-changer for hundreds of working, local Ohio families.

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For the good of Fairfield County and Ohio as a whole, please support the Eastern Cottontail Solar Project.

Regards,

Albert Baumberger
4784 crosscreek dr
Columbus, OH 43232
a.baumberger@yahoo.com

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Regards,

Jessica Davis
851 Camden Ave
Columbus, OH 43201
volvo_chic@hotmail.com

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Regards,

Mary Nutter
2303 Fenton St.
Columbus, OH 43224
marymnutter@gmail.com

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Regards,

Robert Simeral
5045 Godown Rd.
Columbus, OH 43220
robsim90@gmail.com

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Regards,

Sherri Orr
375 howland dr
Gahanna, OH 43230
golfbum33@aol.com

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As our energy needs continue to grow in Ohio for manufacturing, housing, data centers, and beyond, it is important that our grid resilience expand as well. Solar is one we can meet that growth without overburden on the future of the environment and our limited resources.

Regards,

Mryia Williams
5654 English Rose Drive
Galloway, OH 43119
mryiaw@gmail.com

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Regards,

Joshua Oswald
1251 Darcann Dr
Columbus, OH 43220
joshua.oswald@gmail.com

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Don Dennison
Obetz, OH 43207
dennisond90@yahoo.com

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Regards,

Mary Skinner
635 E. Beaumont Rd
Columbus, OH 43214
mskinn52@yahoo.com

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Regards,

Michael Walters
8096 Willow Brook Crossing Dr
Blacklick, OH 43004
mw11cofc@yahoo.com

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Regards,

Tim Scarbrough
285 Reinhard Avenue
Columbus, OH 43206
timscarbrough1@yahoo.com

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Regards,

Marian Slyby
180 Cornell Ct
Westerville, OH 43081
mslyby650@gmail.com

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I support utility, commercial and residential solar and wind. Please restore Ohio's solar/wind regulations undone by First Energy scandal

Regards,

Ellen Zehner
1037 Woodtown Dr
Gahanna, OH 43230
ellen_zehner@yahoo.com

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Regards,

Laura Brown
1808 Merriweather Dr
Upper Arlington, OH 43221
laurie@brownj.net

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Mike Nichold
669 mccutcheon road
Gahanna, OH 43230
mnichols@ufcw1059.com

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Energy independence for the US and Ohio.

Regards,

Michael Ceballos
2554 Fair Ave
Bexley, OH 43209
michaelaceballos@yahoo.com

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Paul Hughes
1105 Oak ST.
Columbus,, OH 43205
ohio_hughes@hotmail.com

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Trude Brinley
708 College Crest Rd.
Westerville, OH 43081
tabrinley@me.com

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For the good of Fairfield County and Ohio as a whole, please support the Eastern Cottontail Solar Project.

Regards,

Lynn Floyd
Obetz, OH 43125
lynnfloyd1@gmail.com

CC:

Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
State Representative Jeff LaRe
State Senator Tim Schaffer

Ohio Power Siting Board,

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I've gone to the expense of putting solar panels on my house, I drive an electric car and I beg you to allow solar farms and wind farms in Ohio. There's absolutely no benefit to coal or oil burning power plants any longer. We know the future, the future is bright, but we have to bring The future into the present.

Regards,

David Garlikov
6032 Nicholas Glen
Columbus, OH 43213
davidgarlikov@gmail.com

CC:

Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
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Regards,

John Neff
7193 old redbud court
columbus, OH 43235
jneff@utmck.edu

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Regards,

Stuart Ludsin
385 Lambourne Avenue
Worthington, OH 43085
gratefulstu@gmail.com

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Regards,

Bonnie Lewis
2049 Willowick Cir
Columbus, OH 43229
bonniesigns@mac.com

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Regards,

Robert Z Larson
1214 Westwood Ave
Columbus, OH 43212
zeb.larson@gmail.com

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Regards,

Mark Peebles
208 N Roosevelt Ave
Bexl, OH 43209
peeplesm@columbus.rr.com

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Regards,

Donnetta Mahdk
45 N Guilford Av
Columbus, OH 43222
dmahdi614@gmail.com

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Gregory Singleton
1353 Woodnell Avenue
Columbus, OH 43219
nitebug61@gmail.com

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Solar is better for the environment so let it in Ohio

Regards,

Charles Moore
766 Oakland Park Ave.
Columbus, OH 43224-3210
cqqlhandlucky@aol.com

CC:

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Regards,

Michael Ayers
6009 Bitterroot Drive
Westerville, OH 43081
ayersm851@gmail.com

CC:

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I support Solar Energy.

Regards,

LuAnn Oliver
214 E Dunedin Ed
Columbus, OH 43214
luswoyer@gmail.com

CC:

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We need the solar farm to help reduction of air pollution. Columbus has one of the highest air pollution level in the nation! It is needed to be done to reduce the air pollution!!

Regards,

Andrew Waldron
315 Graceland Blvd
Columbus, OH 43214
apwaldron@gmail.com

CC:

Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
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Regards,

Mita Karhoff
832 Thorncrest Court
Galloway, OH 43119
mitakp@hotmail.com

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Regards,

Gary Bayes
598 Maplewood ave.
Whitehall, OH 43213
g4bayes@gmail.com

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Regards,

Jason Bleim
738 E Wheeling St
Lancaster, OH 43130
xeryon3772@gmail.com

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I support solar and wind energy. The oil and gas industry will catch on soon enough and hop on the band wagon when enough people support the technology. Give it a try and help save the earth.

Regards,

Lori Hartman
476 E. Stafford Avenue
Worthington, OH 43085
typha2@gmail.com

CC:

Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
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It is essential to have more sources of electric production than fossil fuels, solar certainly must play a big role with that.

Regards,

Joel Melin
12774 Westfall Circle
Pickerington, OH 43147
jem106@att.net

CC:

Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
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Local job creation, funding for critical local services, and affordable, local, clean electricity, all without any cost to taxpayers—how could the State of Ohio *not* support something so critical to its own future?

For the good of Fairfield County and Ohio as a whole, please support the Eastern Cottontail Solar Project.

Regards,

Ann Horner
199 S.5th Street
Columbus, OH 43215
aha9@twc.com

CC:

Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
State Representative Jeff LaRe
State Senator Tim Schaffer

Ohio Power Siting Board,

The Eastern Cottontail Solar Project (Case #24-0495-EL-BGN) in Fairfield County will create local jobs, fund schools and other important community services, and generate much needed clean electricity to power the State of Ohio. I ask that you join me in supporting this critical project.

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Regards,

Kia Williams
1944 Redwood Street
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068
hoagie-decals.0w@icloud.com

CC:

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Regards,

Lisa McClaskey
887 Lake Run Circle
Westerville, OH 43081
lisagirl117@yahoo.com

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Regards,

Btuce Gilbert
7533 Ogden Woods Blvd
New Albany, OH 43054
bg@gilbertgrouprealestate.com

CC:

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Regards,

Lucas Elder
35 Whitehead St
Westerville, OH 43081
lmelder13@gmail.com

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Saves from more expensive energy sources.

Regards,

James Booker
4086 Fitzpatrick Blvd
Canal Winchester, OH 43110
bookerjames582@gmail.com

CC:

Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
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Regards,

Gwendolyn Jeter
318 Harland Dr
Columbus, OH 43207
gjeter65@gmail.com

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Regards,

Tricia Jarrell
703 Jefferson Ave
Lancaster, OH 43130
donwon1964@yahoo.com

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Scientists tell us doing all we can for renewable energy is critical as we are facing the effects of Climate Change.

Regards,

Constance Mengel
535 Midgard Rd
Columbus, OH 43202
constancemengel@gmail.com

CC:

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Melanie Young
6301 kinver edge way
Columbus, OH 43213
melanieyoung16@gmail.com

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Regards,

Carole Robinson
120 Union Street
Lancaster, OH 43130
cazzysshop2024@gmail.com

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Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
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We need to consider and all energy sources.

Regards,

Chanda Busse
111 W Gay St
SOMERSET, OH 43783
chanda.busse@att.net

CC:

Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
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Regards,

carl shahan
127 Harmon Ave
Lancaster, OH 43130
shadie2@hotmail.com

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For the good of Fairfield County and Ohio as a whole, please support the Eastern Cottontail Solar Project.

Stop the lies from big energy and admit and realize that this is where the future for our children and grandchildren is.

Regards,

Heinz Raidel
8418 Palmer Rd NW
Etna, OH 43062
pastorheinzraidel@gmail.com

CC:

Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
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Regards,

Heidi Wright
339 Reber Ave
Lancaster, OH 43130-1761
hijo1020@gmail.com

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Regards,

Tahweenah Uhl
4595 Christmas Rock Rd Sw
Lancaster, OH 43130
tahweenahmackley@yahoo.com

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Regards,

John Carney
155 eastwood ave
westerville, OH 43081
jmc155@juno.com

CC:

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For the good of Fairfield County and Ohio as a whole, please support the Eastern Cottontail Solar Project.

For those claiming solar farms are an environmental hazard: farms are not environmentally friendly and have wiped out many native plant/animal species. At least with solar farms, it's a step toward improving our carbon footprint.

Regards,

Wanda Barbo
120 Kent Court SW
Lancaster, OH 43130
wleebbarbo@gmail.com

CC:

Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
State Representative Jeff LaRe
State Senator Tim Schaffer

Ohio Power Siting Board,

I am submitting this letter in strong support of the Eastern Cottontail Solar Project (Case #24-0495-EL-BGN), a utility-scale solar project that stands to be a financial boon for Fairfield County and the State of Ohio.

Solar projects like Eastern Cottontail Solar produce vitally important, low-cost, clean electricity. However, other benefits, which are sometimes lesser known, are just as important!

During construction, the project will create more than 500 local jobs, followed by additional, long-term maintenance and operations jobs. The indirect community benefits will be massive, as well – from materials, to supply chain, to other local industries, Eastern Cottontail Solar will create more than 270 indirect jobs. This means more money in Ohioans' pockets, more local jobs, and more support for the local economy.

Speaking of economic benefits, over the life of the project, Eastern Cottontail Solar will generate an estimated \$80 million in tax revenue for local schools, police and fire departments, parks, libraries, and other critical services—ones that every American relies on, regardless of where they live!

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Eastern Cottontail Solar is more than an investment in clean, low-cost energy—it is an investment in Fairfield County's economic prosperity and the future of the great State of Ohio!

Thank you,

Todd Wehrmann
Lancaster, OH 43130

CC:

Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
State Representative Jeff LaRe
State Senator Tim Schaffer

Ohio Power Siting Board,

I am submitting this letter in strong support of the Eastern Cottontail Solar Project (Case #24-0495-EL-BGN), a utility-scale solar project that stands to be a financial boon for Fairfield County and the State of Ohio.

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Thank you,

Ronald Slater
132 Olde Mound Lane
Pickerington, OH 43147

CC:
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State Senator Tim Schaffer

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Thank you,

Roslyn Valentine
6783 Bigerton Bend
Canal Winchester, OH 43110

CC:
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Thank you,

Lisa Conley
2895 Fairfield Union Rd NE
Lancaster, OH 43130

CC:
Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
State Representative Jeff LaRe
State Senator Tim Schaffer

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Thank you,

Jevin Williams
1698 pleasantview drive
Lancaster, OH 43130

CC:
Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
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State Senator Tim Schaffer

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I believe solar energy is part of the future of reducing our dependence on fossil fuels.

Thank you,

James Hopkins
805 E Wheeling St Apt 211
Lancaster, OH 43130

CC:

Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
State Representative Jeff LaRe
State Senator Tim Schaffer

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Thank you,

Victor Miller
1414 Zimmer St
Lancaster, OH 43130

CC:
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Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
State Representative Jeff LaRe
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Thank you,

Greg Hilty
614 N Main St
Baltimore, OH 43105

CC:
Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
State Representative Jeff LaRe
State Senator Tim Schaffer

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Thank you,

Tony Brame
8375 Cameron Ct NW
Pickerington, OH 43147

CC:
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Thank you,

Christina Stokes
8220 Shady Maple Dr.
Canal Winchester, OH 43110

CC:
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Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
State Representative Jeff LaRe
State Senator Tim Schaffer

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Thank you,

Dawn Edwards
5144 Aquila Dr
Canal Winchester, OH 43110

CC:

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Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
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Thank you,

James Whitt
13386 Falmouth Ave
Pickerington, OH 43147

CC:

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Thank you,

Jane Runyon
57 Peggy Green Lane
Pickerington, OH 43147

CC:

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Thank you,

Chris Moyer
224 Seneca dr
Lancaster, OH 43130

CC:

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Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
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I fully support increasing our solar capacity. Also, all the farmland around me is being destroyed for housing, mixed commercial, or warehouses (see- Pickerington road and Basil Western). Solar would be a far less damaging use for all this land people are selling off anyway.

Thank you,

Christina Beargie
8341 Willowbridge Pl
Canal Winchester, OH 43110

CC:
Fairfield County Commissioners – Steve Davis, David Levacy, Jeff Fix
Walnut Township Trustees – Bill Yates, Terry Horn, Doug Leith
State Representative Jeff LaRe
State Senator Tim Schaffer

Fairfield County Commissioners Office

Steve Davis

210 E. Main St.

Lancaster, OH 43130

Re: No Engine Brakes Sign

Mr. Steve Davis,

I live on St Rt 188 just west of Cedar Hill Rd. In the last few year's the traffic on St Rt 188 has increased dramatically especially the semi-truck traffic. These semi-trucks are using their engine brakes heading east going into the curve at Cedar Hill Rd. causing an incredible amount of noise for us home owners and at all times during a 24 hour period. Would you please request ODOT to have a 'No Engine Brake' sign installed heading east on St Rt 188 just west of the curve at Cedar Hill Rd.?

Also with the increase in traffic in general, would you consider reducing the speed to 40mph? It has become increasingly dangerous to get in and out of driveways. Traffic is going 65mph heading east going into the curve and waiting until the last possible second to brake for the curve. Then heading west, once out of the curve, they floor it. I can't tell you how mad people get if your turning into your own driveway just because they have to slow down or how many horn's they've honked. It's also extremely dangerous for anyone trying to cross the road to get their mail.

Please consider both proposals but especially the no engine brake sign as this is getting increasingly dangerous every day.

Thank you,

Christine Bennett

10660 Lancaster-Circleville Rd. (St Rt 188)

Amanda, OH 43102

614-370-4876

REGULAR MEETING #10 - 2025
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE
MARCH 04, 2025

AGENDA FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 04, 2025

- 7:00 PM Review
- Regular Meeting
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Announcements
- Approval of Minutes for February 25, 2025
- Approval of Roundtable Minutes for February 25, 2025
- Commissioners
- 2025-03.04.a A resolution authorizing to appropriate from Unappropriated into a major expenditure category to the Capital Improvement Project Fund# 3435 and fund to fund transfer. [Commissioners]
- 2025-03.04.b A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in major expenditure object categories for the Health Insurance Fund# 5376. [Commissioners]
- 2025-03.04.c A resolution authorizing fund to fund transfers from the General Fund # 1001 to: #4809, #4851, #4714, #4819, #4895, #4878 for Debt Service Payments for 2025. [Commissioners]
- 2025-03.04.d A resolution authorizing a fund to fund transfer for the 2nd half 2025 Allocation for Soil & Water. [Commissioners]
- Fairfield County Economic & Workforce Development
- 2025-03.04.e A resolution authorizing the joint use agreement between Ohio University and the Fairfield County Board of County Commissioners. [Economic & Workforce Development]
- Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency
- 2025-03.04.f A resolution to approve a Grant Agreement between Fairfield County Board of Commissioners and Ohio Emergency Management Agency for the FY24 Emergency Management Performance Grant Award. [EMA]
- 2025-03.04.g A resolution authorizing an account to account transfer for EMA Fund 2090 (Subfund 8221) COTS Grant 2024/2025 [EMA]

Fairfield County Job and Family Services

- 2025-03.04.h A Resolution to authorize the County Administrator to sign a letter of intent on behalf of Fairfield County Protective Services to partner with the Gallia County Child Wellness Center. [JFS]
- 2025-03.04.i A resolution authorizing the approval of the Fairfield County Prevention, Retention and Contingency Plan (PRC Plan) between Fairfield County Job & Family Services and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. [JFS]
- 2025-03.04.j A resolution to approve a memo exp./ memo receipt for the costs of Birth Certificates paid to Fairfield County Health Departments as a memo expenditure for fund# 2072 Public Children's Services [JFS]

South Central Major Crimes Unit

- 2025-03.04.k A resolution to request for appropriations for receipts for Major Crimes Violent Crimes Reduction Grant Fund 7911 and advance [Sheriff - Major Crimes Unit]

Payment of Bills

- 2025-03.04.l A resolution authorizing the approval of payment of invoices for departments that need Board of Commissioners' approval. [Commissioners]

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

Adjourn

Regular Meeting #8 - 2025
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
February 25, 2025

Review Meeting

The Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. at 210 E. Main St., Lancaster, OH. Commissioner Fix called the meeting to order, and the following Commissioners were present: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and David Levacy. County employees present: County Administrator, Aundrea Cordle; Deputy County Administrator, Jeff Porter; Clerk to the Board of Commissioners, Rochelle Menningen; Communications & Information Coordinator, Bennett Niceswanger; Budget Director, Bart Hampson; Treasurer, Jim Bahnsen; Auditor, Dr. Carri Brown; Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Steven Darnell; Utilities Director, Tony Vogel; Economic and Workforce Development Director, Rick Szabrak; Facilities and EMA Director, Jon Kochis; IT Director, Dan Neeley; Deputy JFS Director, JFS Director, Corey Clark; Engineer, Jeremiah Upp; FCFC Manager, Tiffany Wilson; Urban Technician, Chad Lucht; Heather O'Keefe; and Sheriff's Deputy, James Williams. Also in attendance: Sherry Pymer and Robert Slater II.

Virtual attendees: Deborah, Jason Grubb, Jennifer Morgan, Nicole Schultz, Tony Vogel, Lisa McKenzie, Jessica Murphy, Beth Cottrell, John, Lynette Barnhart, Barb Martin, Lori Hawk, Jerry Starner, Shannon, BGM, Greg Forquer, Jeanie Wears, Jeff Barron, Jared Collins, Marcy Fields, Josh Horacek, Shelby Hunt, Stacy Hicks, Abby King, Vince Carpico, and Park Russell.

Welcome

Commissioner Fix opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance.

Public Comments

Robert Slater II of Millersport spoke on the process for the upcoming evidentiary hearing for the Eastern Cottontail solar project and believes many of the other board members on the Ohio Power Siting Board are not qualified to pass judgement on the project because they are directors of State agencies. He also offered his concerns for the impact of the project on the residents.

Legal Update

None.

County Administration Update

- *The County Administration Update was provided by County Administrator, Aundrea Cordle, unless otherwise noted.*

Week in Review

Roundtable

The Commissioners will host a Roundtable for Elected Officials and Department Heads this afternoon from 1:00-4:00 at the Fairfield County Agricultural Center.

Commissioners' March 4th Meeting

The Commissioners' second evening meeting of 2025 will be next week, March 4th, at 7:00 p.m. This meeting will be held in Greenfield Township at the Greenfield Township Fire Department located at 3245 Havensport Road in Carroll.

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Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
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Department of Taxation

The Department of Taxation for the State of Ohio informed stakeholders that it was unable to provide a preliminary report for December due to transitioning to a new internal system and the need to devote resources to distribution accuracy.

Director Hampson stated that the report had changed after being the same for many years and needed to adjust the new report to match previous data.

Highlights of Resolutions

Administrative Approvals

The review packet contains a list of administrative approvals.

Resolution Review

There are 10 resolutions on the agenda for the Regular voting meeting.

Resolutions of note:

- A resolution to authorize a perpetual easement of 111.10 acres and the sale of 3.76 acres to ODOT for the interchange at Pickerington Rd and Route 33.

Commissioner Fix thanked Director Vogel for his assistance negotiating a suitable agreement with ODOT regarding the sale.

- A resolution to approve a proclamation that will be presented by the Commissioners at today's Roundtable for Elected Officials and Department Heads.
- An Engineer's Office resolution to approve an agreement with Woolpert, Inc. for environmental, survey and design work for the Refugee Rd Shared Use Path Project.

Engineer Upp stated that the resolution relates to the third phase for a series of projects on Refugee Road.

Commissioner Fix offered his appreciation for the work that has been done on that corridor and believes it has improved the flow of traffic.

Engineer Upp continues to have discussions with Pickerington North Schools to ensure they are addressing the concerns of the schools.

- Transit has a resolution authorizing a service agreement between Transit, Fairfield County, and DD to provide transportation for the Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

Budget Review

- Budget Director, Bart Hampson, had nothing to report.

Regular Meeting #8 - 2025
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
February 25, 2025

Calendar Review/Invitations Received

Items Requiring Response

Informational Items

- CCAO New Member Legislative Reception, February 25, 2025, 5:00 p.m., Ohio Statehouse Atrium, 1 Capitol Sq., Columbus ii.
- CFLP Board of Directors Meeting, February 28, 2025, 9:00 a.m., Licking County Transit Building, 745 E. Main St., Newark iii.
- CFLP Policy Committee Meeting, February 28, 2025, 10:00 a.m., Licking County Transit Building, 745 E. Main St., Newark

Correspondence

- Correspondence regarding industrial solar

Updates from Elected Officials and Department Heads

Treasurer Bahnsen stated that the traffic through the payment drive thru was robust. He also thanked County Administration for the designated parking spots at the front of the building for taxpayers.

Auditor Brown began by reminding all of the BOR deadline to submit complaints. The map of the month features Revenge, Ohio which no longer exists. She enjoyed conducting a presentation at the National AGA Conference and will conduct the same presentation at the later date for the Ohio AGA Conference.

Director Vogel thanked Treasurer Bahnsen for his offices assistance to a taxpayer who had mistakenly paid their taxes to Utilities instead of the Treasurer.

Director Szabrak held a hiring event in partnership with Job and Family Services where they were able to hire 2 additional part-time Transit drivers.

Director Neeley thanked Human Resources for helping to find a suitable candidate for a vacancy he has in his department.

Director Clark hosted a visit last week from ODJFS, DAS and their consultants who reviewed the entire public assistance process to see how they can make improvements. He is looking forward to seeing those improvements.

Deputy Administrator Porter stated the county experienced a significant increase in the year over year health insurance costs.

Old Business

Commissioner Davis provided some Uber trips to several riders recently and shared a story of driving two immigrants to Rickenbacker to then take public transit to work.

Commissioner Levacy has seen some good progress on the Fairfield County Veterans Hall of Fame and appreciates the committee's help in getting it started.

Regular Meeting #8 - 2025
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Commissioner Fix attended the housing summit last week. He was encouraged to hear that the Ohio Chamber of Commerce and Statehouse were fully engaged in trying to figure out a solution to housing.

New Business

Commissioner Fix will be attending the legislative update later in the evening.

Commissioner Levacy saw Franklin County and Columbus are working on providing tiny homes to low-income individuals.

Commissioner Davis will film a Commission Connection video which will concentrate on the county's policy regarding incarcerated juveniles.

Regular (Voting) Meeting

The Commissioners continued to the Voting portion of the meeting with the following Commissioners present: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and David Levacy. County employees present: County Administrator, Aundrea Cordle; Deputy County Administrator, Jeff Porter; Clerk to the Board of Commissioners, Rochelle Menningen; Communications & Information Coordinator, Bennett Niceswanger; Budget Director, Bart Hampson; Treasurer, Jim Bahnsen; Auditor, Dr. Carri Brown; Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Steven Darnell; Utilities Director, Tony Vogel; Economic and Workforce Development Director, Rick Szabrak; Facilities and EMA Director, Jon Kochis; IT Director, Dan Neeley; Deputy JFS Director, JFS Director, Corey Clark; Engineer, Jeremiah Upp; FCFC Manager, Tiffany Wilson; Urban Technician, Chad Lucht; Heather O'Keefe; and Sheriff's Deputy, James Williams. Also in attendance: Sherry Pymmer and Robert Slater II.

Virtual attendees: Deborah, Jason Grubb, Jennifer Morgan, Tony Vogel, Lisa McKenzie, Jessica Murphy, Beth Cottrell, John, Lynette Barnhart, Lori Hawk, Jerry Starner, Shannon, Greg Forquer, Jeff Barron, Marcy Fields, Josh Horacek, Shelby Hunt, Stacy Hicks, Abby King, Vince Carpico, and Park Russell.

Announcements

Rochelle stated the Transit resolution 2025-02.25.i has a contract with pages that are out of order and will correct the order before the resolution packet is finalized.

Approval of Minutes for February 18, 2025

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the Minutes for the Tuesday, February 18, 2025 meeting.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

**Regular Meeting #8 - 2025
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
February 25, 2025**

Approval of Resolutions from the Fairfield County Commissioners

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Fairfield County Commissioners:

- 2025-02.25.a A Resolution Authorizing a Perpetual Easement for Limited Access for Highway Purposes of 111.10+/- and the Sale of 3.760 Acres of Property owned by the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners and granted to the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT)
- 2025-02.25.b A Resolution Authorizing the Approval of a Proclamation to be Presented at the February 25, 2025, Roundtable
- 2025-02.25.c A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated & memo transactions Fund# 3011, FY2023 FAA Grant, subfund# 8329.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis and Jeff Fix

Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Clerk of Courts – Legal Division

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Fairfield County Clerk of Courts – Legal Division:

- 2025-02.25.d A resolution approving an Account to Account Transfer into a Major Expenditure Object Category-1110, Clerk of Courts Legal

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

Approval of a Resolution from the Fairfield County Engineer

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from the Fairfield County Engineer:

- 2025-02.25.e A Resolution to Approve an Agreement between Fairfield County and Woolpert, Inc.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

Approval of Resolutions from the Fairfield County Sheriff

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolutions from the Fairfield County Sheriff:

- 2025-02.25.f A Resolution to Appropriate from Unappropriated in a Major Expenditure Object Category for Sheriff; Fund # 2442, Commissary
- 2025-02.25.g A Resolution to Appropriate from Unappropriated in a Major Expenditure Object Category for Sheriff; Fund # 2593, Concealed Carry

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2025-02.25.h A Resolution to Appropriate from Unappropriated in a Major Expenditure Object Category for Sheriff; Fund # 2711, Continued Professional Training

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

Approval of a Resolution from Fairfield County Transit

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution from Fairfield County Transit:

2025-02.25.i A Resolution Authorizing the Approval of a Service Agreement by/between Fairfield County Transit and Fairfield County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

Approval of the Payment of Bills

On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to approve the following resolution for the Payment of Bills:

2025-02.25.j A Resolution Authorizing the Approval of Payment of Invoices for Departments that Need Board of Commissioners' Approval

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

Adjournment

Commissioner Fix gave his appreciation for all the offices that submitted their reports before the roundtable meeting so that the Commissioners have time to review them beforehand.

With no further business, On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 9:28 a.m.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:

Voting aye thereon: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 4, 2025, at the Greenfield Township Fire Department, 3245 Havensport Road, Carroll, OH.

Regular Meeting #8 - 2025
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Motion by: David Levacy

Seconded by: Steve Davis

that the February 25, 2025, minutes were approved by the following vote:

YEAS: David Levacy, Steve Davis, and Jeff Fix
ABSTENTIONS:

NAYS: None

*Approved on March 4, 2025

Jeff Fix
Commissioner

Steve Davis
Commissioner

David Levacy
Commissioner

Bennett Niceswanger, Asst. Clerk

Roundtable Meeting #9 - 2025
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
February 25, 2025

Review Meeting

The Commissioners met at 1:00 p.m. at the Agricultural Center at 831 College Ave., Lancaster, OH. Commissioner Fix called the meeting to order, and the following Commissioners were present: Jeff Fix, Steve Davis, and David Levacy. County employees present: Aundrea Cordle, Jeff Porter, Rochelle Menningen, Bennett Niceswanger, Abby Watson, Leighann Adams, Bart Hampson, Rick Szabrak, CJ Roberts, Engineer Jeremiah Upp, Daniel Neeley, Jon Kochis, Jason Grubb, Tiffany Wilson, Corey Clark, Rachel Elsea, Auditor, Dr. Carri Brown, Judge Terre Vandervoort, Recorder Lisa McKenzie, Clerk of Courts Branden Meyer, Tony Vogel, Baylie Blevins, Kelly Frank, Austin Lines, Treasurer James Bahnsen, Michael Kaper, Marcey Fields, Marcy Shafer, Shannon Carter, Nikki Drake, Chad Lucht, Sheriff Alex Lape, and Angela Krile.

Welcome

Commissioner Fix opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance and thanked everyone who submitted their department updates ahead of the meeting.

Proclamation

Commissioner Fix provided a proclamation to Dr. Carri Brown for receiving the Excellence in Government Leadership award at the National AGA Conference.

Dr. Brown thanked the Commissioners and everyone in the room for their support and leadership throughout the county. She thanked Rachel Elsea for her part in the application.

2025-2028 Strategic Plan, Final Review

Ms. Cordle spoke about the previous Roundtable and added that the ideas provided at that meeting were incorporated into the 2025-2028 Strategic Plan draft.

Angela Krile stated that the goals for the Strategic Plan draft were established based on feedback from the department heads and elected officials. Opportunities were identified to improve broadband and infrastructure, expand Social Services, and providing affordable housing. Updates relating to workforce included childcare reform and ways to remove barriers for individuals who wish to work. County Operations must continually improve so that the county remains a leader in the state.

Ms. Cordle stated that other agencies have been incorporated into the pillars of the Strategic Plan as part of the action items. She emphasized that the cooperation of all the agencies in the county will help to bring the goals of the Strategic Plan to fruition.

Commissioner Fix thanked all those involved in the drafting of the 2025-2028 Strategic Plan. He wishes for the plan to be a living-breathing document as the county moves forward.

Contract Routing, Competitive Bidding, and HB 497

Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Austin Lines, provided updates on the changes included in HB 497. He explained the competitive bidding process, which products and services require competitive bidding, and the process for requests for qualifications. He also explained the process for reviewing contracts and reminded the attendees that contracts are reviewed to form and cannot contain indemnification clauses by law.

**Roundtable Meeting #9 - 2025
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
February 25, 2025**

County Website, Updated Bid Tab

Mr. Niceswanger stated that under HB 497 public notices can be posted on the county website and social media accounts instead of being advertised in the newspaper. There will be a new section added to the "Bids" tab on the county website for public notices to be posted.

Ms. Cordle stated that public notices can still be advertised in the newspaper, but the new bill allows the county to save time and money by posting them to the website and social media pages.

Ms. Elsea asked if the social media account being used must be the county's account, or if other agencies can post their own public notices to their accounts.

Mr. Lines stated that it should be posted to the county's social media account.

Ms. Cordle stated that there will be a template that Mr. Niceswanger uses for the social media posts so the notices remain consistent.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Levacy stated that he appreciates everyone in the room for their part in the county's success. He added that many people throughout the state look to Fairfield County as the model system.

Leadership Conference

Mr. Porter stated that the Leadership Conference will be held on April 15th at Alley Park in Lancaster and will include presentations by CORSA on required training.

Department Updates

Nikki Drake with the Fairfield Soil and Water Conservation District spoke on the funding that is available to assist farmers who were impacted by the drought in 2024. One of her employees recently was licensed to operate drones which will assist their organization in their field operations.

Shannon Carter with OSU Extension stated that her office offers programs in family consumer sciences and gardening, which are always open to the public. They will be hosting 4H Discovery Days at the fairgrounds for youth interested in learning more about 4H.

Kelly Frank with the Coroner's Office stated that Luann Davidson had retired from her position. She and the Chief Investigator recently attended training for death investigation.

Baylie Blevins with the Health Department stated their office has onboarded a new community health worker. The child fatality review will begin next week which offers insight from their community partners.

Marcy Schaffer with the Parks District stated that they finished their winter hike series, and will have a new trail opening this spring in Smeck Park. They have also transferred several properties to other governing authorities which were unsuitable for park use.

Recorder Lisa McKenzie stated that property fraud has increased in recent years so she will be offering training opportunities to local HOA's.

Roundtable Meeting #9 - 2025
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Juvenile Court Judge Terre Vandervoort stated that the court was awarded an ARPA grant to assist with families experiencing attendance issues. The court was able to build a collaboration with other agencies and the schools to have a case management system. She anticipates it will serve over 100 families once it is ready.

Rachel Elsea with the Auditor's Office summarized the DocLink system and how it will be utilized by the Budget Commission. The Auditor's Office will be hosting the upcoming CAAO meeting at the Records Center.

Tiffany Wilson with Family and Children First Council stated that she plans to begin the Parent Education class next month to assist families with strong willed children in their home. Her office is also searching for a suitable applicant for a position as a parental coordinator.

Marcy Fields with ADAMH stated that the StarLight Center is operational. Venture Place is almost ready to begin site work. They will be hosting their annual dinner on Tuesday, April 29th at Crossroads which will focus on the theme of Raising Hope.

Leighann Adams with the Dog Shelter stated that the shelter has approximately 50 dogs in their care right now. They will be hosting a microchipping event this summer for residents.

Ms. Cordle added that the Dog Shelter is in need of cream cheese donations which helps staff to administer medication to dogs.

Abby Watson with Human Resources stated the new ben admin system called BeSwift is progressing. It will make for an easier experience with users selecting their employee benefits and communicating with the providers. The plan is to implement it slowly with full use by 2025 open enrollment.

Sheriff Alex Lape spoke about the implementation of the Next Generation 911 system his office uses. The system allows callers to approve temporary access to their phones so dispatchers and first responders can see the scene unfolding before they arrive. The system also can translate from Spanish to English and will soon have the capability to translate other languages. He also spoke briefly on the DD levy renewal for which he is a member of the levy committee.

Michael Kaper with the Land Bank thanked the Commissioners and County Administrator for the added security staff at the Courthouse, as well as the additional parking spots for those paying taxes. The Land Bank received funding for a mini grant program which allows them to assist with smaller projects.

Treasurer Bahnsen added that the security presence at the Administrative Courthouse has changed the mood as people have come in to pay taxes. His office is working to improve the processing of foreclosures which historically can take up to a year to conclude.

Tony Vogel provided an update on the utility projects in Violet Township. He also spoke on some of the larger subdivisions that are serviced by the City of Lancaster and those serviced by the county.

Clerk of Courts Branden Meyer stated that his office will conduct in-house testing of credit card processing. He continues to present to different groups on the Good Deeds Program and plans to continue with more presentations.

Corey Clark with Job and Family Services spoke about the impact of SNAP benefit theft and the other types of fraud his office assists in preventing. He also spoke about the Child Abuse

Roundtable Meeting #9 - 2025
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Prevention Breakfast which will take place on April 4th; and the Family Fun Fest which will take place May 16th.

Commissioner Davis spoke about the positive changes that are taking place internally with the Major Crimes Unit (MCU).

Scott Duff with MCU stated that he is committed to improving the operations at MCU and is thankful for the assistance from the county in getting the agency back to a good financial position.

Jason Grubb stated that Facilities continues to make improvements to county buildings and touched on several of the current projects.

Jon Kochis with Facilities and the Emergency Management Agency stated that there are currently 6 capital improvement projects. The Commissioners purchased the Colonnade Building which will be renamed to the Sheridan Center and will serve as a conference and banquet facility for the county.

Commissioner Davis spoke about the importance of tornado shelters and stated that he has spoken with Mayor McDaniel of Lancaster about the potential of installing a tornado shelter at a mobile home neighborhood in Lancaster.

Dan Neeley with Information Technology stated that fraud is becoming more prevalent and added that IT is working to implement protections against any potential cyber security attacks. He also asked that agencies inform IT about any technology purchases so they can ensure they are added to the county's systems.

Rick Szabrak with Economic and Workforce Development provided an update on the programs being offered at the Workforce Center. He thanked Mr. Corey for his assistance in conducting a hiring event.

Mr. Hampson stated that the Commissioners' budget hearings have been set and he will begin setting up times to meet with each agency.

Commissioner Levacy complimented Mr. Clark and his team for helping seniors in the community and protecting them from fraud.

Commissioner Davis stated that the addition of Deputy Roberts at the Administrative Courthouse has been a great benefit.

Recorder McKenzie shared a story about Deputy Roberts being very thorough in monitoring the security cameras.

Ms. Cordle thanked the Sheriff's Office for their assistance in providing a deputy for the Administrative Courthouse.

Adjournment

With no further business, On the motion of David Levacy and the second of Steve Davis, the Board of Commissioners voted to adjourn at 3:24 p.m.

Roll call vote of the motion resulted as follows:
Voting aye thereon: David Levacy and Steve Davis

Roundtable Meeting #9 - 2025 – February 25, 2025

- 4 -

The next Roundtable is scheduled for July 15, 2025, from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the Fairfield Center.

Seconded by: Steve Davis

that the February 25, 2025, Roundtable minutes were approved by the following vote:

NAYS: None

*Approved on March 4, 2025

David Levacy
Commissioner

Bennett Niceswanger, Asst. Clerk

A resolution authorizing to appropriate from Unappropriated into a major expenditure category to the Capital Improvement Project Fund# 3435 and fund to fund transfer.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners desires to fund the capital improvement project fund for capital projects; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners approved the 2025 Budget transfer of \$2,235,000 to the capital improvement fund; and

WHEREAS, appropriations need adjusted for the 2025 Budget and a fund to fund transfer will transfer the cash.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. Request that the Fairfield County Commissioners appropriate from Unappropriated funds to the following major expense category for capital outlay:

\$618,023.24 12343500 570000

Section 2. That the transfer of funds in the amount of \$ 2,235,000 hereby authorized as follows:

From: 12100149 700007 General Fund transfer capital improvement
To: 12343500 439100 Capital Improvement intergovernmental transfers in

A resolution authorizing to Appropriate from Unappropriated into a major expenditure category to the Capital Improvement Project Fund# 3435 and fund to fund transfer.

For Auditor's purpose only:

Section 1. \$618,023.24 12343500 570000

Resolution No. 2025-03.04.a

A resolution authorizing to appropriate from Unappropriated into a major expenditure category to the Capital Improvement Project Fund# 3435 and fund to fund transfer.

(Fairfield County Commissioners)

This resolution has not yet been voted on.

CERTIFICATE OF CLERK

It is hereby certified that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of a resolution acted upon by the Board of County Commissioners, Fairfield County, Ohio on the date noted above.

A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in major expenditure object categories for the Health Insurance Fund# 5376.

WHEREAS, an increase in the major expense object categories for contractual services is necessary for the 2025 budget for increased administrative fees; and

WHEREAS, to appropriate from unappropriated will allow proper accounting in the major expenditure object categories for 12537600.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. The Fairfield County Board of Commissioners appropriate from unappropriated into the following categories:

\$452,000	12537600	contractual services
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A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated funds in a major expense object category for the Self-Funded Insurance Fund# 5376.

For Auditor's Office Use Only:

Section 1.

\$452,000 12537600 530000 contract services

Resolution No. 2025-03.04.b

A resolution to appropriate from unappropriated in major expenditure object categories for the Health Insurance Fund# 5376.

(Fairfield County Commissioners)

This resolution has not yet been voted on.

CERTIFICATE OF CLERK

It is hereby certified that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of a resolution acted upon by the Board of County Commissioners, Fairfield County, Ohio on the date noted above.

A resolution authorizing fund to fund transfers from the General Fund # 1001 to: #4809, #4851, #4714, #4819, #4895, #4878 for Debt Service Payments for 2025.

WHEREAS, the General Fund is responsible for payments of debt service; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to transfer the cash to meet obligations.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That the Board of Commissioners approves the following fund to fund transfers:

\$230,086.00	12100149 700110	12480900 439100	Transfers - Debt - Energy conservation	
\$1,579,618.76	12100149 700305	12481900 439100	Transfers - Debt - Jail	
\$78,050.00	12100149 700114	12485100 439100	transfers - co building/facility improvements	
\$43,444.61	12100149 700118	12471442 439100	Transfers - Airport	
\$19,518.59	12100149 700118	12471443 439100	Transfers - Airport	
\$296,744.00	12100149 700118	12489500 439100	Transfers - Airport Hangars 2024/2025	
\$446,612.50	12100149 700119	12487800 439100	Transfers - Debt - Energy conservation Part#2	
\$2,694,074.46				

Prepared by: Staci Knisley
cc: Commissioners' Office

Signature Page

Resolution No. 2025-03.04.c

A resolution authorizing fund to fund transfers from the General Fund # 1001 to:
#4809, #4851, #4714, #4819, #4895, #4878 for Debt Service Payments for 2025.

(Fairfield County Commissioners)

This resolution has not yet been voted on.

CERTIFICATE OF CLERK

It is hereby certified that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of a resolution acted upon by the Board of County Commissioners, Fairfield County, Ohio on the date noted above.

A resolution authorizing a fund to fund transfer for the 2nd half 2025 Allocation for Soil & Water.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners approved \$346,800 for the 2025 Allocation for Soil & Water to be disbursed in two (2) payments, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to transfer the cash to meet obligations.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That the transfer of funds in the amount of \$173,400 hereby authorized as follows:

From: 12100148 700204 GRF transfers out
To: 61702600 439100 Soil & Water transfers in

Prepared by: Staci Knisley
cc: Commissioners' Office, Soil & Water

Signature Page

Resolution No. 2025-03.04.d

A resolution authorizing a fund to fund transfer for the 2nd half 2025 Allocation for Soil & Water.

(Fairfield County Commissioners)

This resolution has not yet been voted on.

CERTIFICATE OF CLERK

It is hereby certified that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of a resolution acted upon by the Board of County Commissioners, Fairfield County, Ohio on the date noted above.

A resolution authorizing the joint use agreement between Ohio University and the Fairfield County Board of County Commissioners.

WHEREAS, the Ohio General Assembly reappropriated \$500,000 ("Appropriation") to Ohio University for the benefit of Fairfield County, as identified as H.B. 2 (135th General Assembly), Fund 7034, ALI C30180, described as Fairfield County Workforce Center; and

WHEREAS, these funds will reimburse the Fairfield County Commissioners for the construction of an Engineering Technology Laboratory at the Fairfield County Workforce Center; and

WHEREAS, a joint use agreement was completed and approved by the Ohio Department of Higher Education to allow Ohio University to use these funds for Fairfield County.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That the Fairfield County Commissioners approve the joint use agreement between Fairfield County Board of Commissioners and Ohio University.

Prepared by: Angel Conrad

JOINT USE AGREEMENT

This Joint Use Agreement (“Agreement”) is entered into by and between the Ohio University, an instrumentality of the State of Ohio, created under Chapter 3337 of the Ohio Revised Code, whose principal place of business is at Cutler Hall, Athens, Ohio, and the Fairfield County Commissioners, a governing body in Fairfield County, Ohio, whose address is 210 E. Main St., Lancaster, OH 43130.

WHEREAS, Fairfield County owns and operates the Fairfield County Workforce Center (“Building”), 4465 Coonpath Rd. NW, Carroll, OH 43112;

WHEREAS, as part of its efforts to further improve county-wide infrastructure, promote and encourage new local businesses, enhance educational and cultural opportunities for the community, and achieve downtown revitalization, Fairfield County seeks to make improvements to the Fairfield County Workforce Center, which are intended to create jobs, strengthen the economy through enhanced workforce development opportunities, and attract and retain local talent;

WHEREAS, the Ohio General Assembly reappropriated \$500,000 (“Appropriation”) to the University for the benefit of Fairfield County, as identified as H.B. 2 (135th General Assembly), Fund 7034, ALI C30180, described as Fairfield County Workforce Center;

WHEREAS, the appropriation will be used to finance capital building improvements to the facilities;

WHEREAS, the release of the Appropriation by the Controlling Board to the University requires the recommendation of the Department of Higher Education;

WHEREAS, Ohio Administrative Code §3333-1-03(E) requires a public institution to submit to the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education a joint use agreement that contains the requirements in (E)(1)-(11) for review and approval; and,

WHEREAS, Ohio University has demonstrated that the value of the use of the facility or equipment is reasonably related to the amount of appropriation through the worksheet included in this Agreement as Attachment A;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual benefits hereunder, it is hereby agreed to between the parties as follows:

Joint Use Agreement

1. The Building is owned by the Fairfield County Commissioners (“Fairfield”) and is located at 4465 Coonpath Rd. NW, Carroll, OH 43112.
2. Use of the Building by Ohio University. Ohio University utilizes the Fairfield County Workforce Center for various programs. As one of the higher education partners at the Workforce Center, Ohio University utilizes classroom space, lab space, and office space to operate these programs as described in Attachment A, hereby incorporated. The University is entitled to use of the facility subject only, in limited instances, to prescheduled use by others. As applicable, the parties understand the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) program approval is a separate process, and this JUA does not exempt the College from seeking approval under ODHE rules.
3. Term. This Agreement shall be effective as of the date that the University has access to the Building (“Effective Date”) and shall expire twenty (20) years following the Effective Date.
4. Reimbursement of funds. In an event that the University’s right to use the Building is terminated by Fairfield prior to the expiration of the twenty-year term, Fairfield shall reimburse the State of Ohio a pro rata portion of the Appropriation, to be calculated by dividing the funds contributed by the State of Ohio by twenty and multiplying that sum by twenty less the number of full years the Building is used by the University. Such payment shall be made within sixty (60) days of Fairfield’s termination of this Agreement and be made by cash, wire transfer or certified check.
5. Use of Appropriations. Fairfield shall use the Appropriation solely to finance its restoration of the facility. The funds will be used only for capital improvements and not operation costs.
6. Insurance for Building and hold harmless. During the term of this Agreement, Fairfield shall maintain at its cost a policy of comprehensive general personal injury and property damage liability against claims for bodily injury, death and property damage on an occurrence basis in an amount not less than \$1,000,000 combined single limits and an all-risk property insurance policy, including fire and casualty insurance for the Building, in an amount equal to its full replacement cost. Fairfield shall provide certificates of insurance evidencing this coverage to University upon request. This provision shall survive termination of this Agreement.
7. Compliance with law. Fairfield shall comply with all pertinent federal, state and local laws and state regulations.

Joint Use Agreement

8. Competitive bidding. Fairfield shall adopt and follow policies for the competitive purchasing of construction and renovation related-work that substantially comply with Ohio Revised Code Chapter 153, including policies regarding bidding, publication of advertisements to seek bids, receipt of sealed bids and awarding of contracts to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.
9. Appropriation administrative fee. University will be reimbursed administrative costs as a result of the project in the amount of \$7,500.00 which is equal to 1.5% of the appropriated amount.
10. Amendments. This agreement may be amended or modified only by a writing signed by both parties and approved by the Ohio Department of Higher Education.
11. Payment. University will request release of the Appropriation from the Controlling Board. Fairfield shall provide an appropriate invoice and other documentation reasonable requested by University that reflects appropriate users of the Appropriation and Fairfield's ownership of the Building. Upon receipt and approval of such documentation, University will pay the requested amounts to Fairfield.
12. Exhibits and Recitals. Exhibit A is attached hereto and the recitals above are incorporated by reference into this Agreement.
13. Notices. Any notice required or permitted to be given under this Agreement shall be given either by: (i) first-class certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to the party at the address shown below; (ii) national-recognized overnight carrier; or (iii) personal delivery at the then-current address of such party. Such notices shall be deemed effective when delivered as indicated above. A party may modify its notice address(es) by notice provided in the manner described herein. The current addresses of the parties and persons to receive copies are as follows:

To University:

Director, Capital Projects Finance

Ohio University

1 Ohio University

19 East Circle Dr., Building 18160 Athens, OH 45701

With a copy to:

General Counsel

Ohio University

1 Ohio University

Joint Use Agreement

19 East Circle Dr., Building 18 Athens, OH. 45701

To Fairfield:

14. **Governing Law.** This Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio. Any action brought pursuant to this Agreement shall be brought in an appropriate Ohio state court, including in the Ohio Court of Claims as required by law.

OHIO UNIVERSITY

FAIRFIELD CO. COMMISSIONERS

Signature

Signature

**Joint Use Agreement
Attachment A
Worksheet**

Project: Fairfield County Workforce Center Engineering Technology Lab

Date: March, 2024

Section I: State appropriation information.

1. Amount of state appropriation provided:	<u>\$500,000.00</u>
2. Estimated annual debt service on the appropriation:	<u>\$40,122</u>
3. Term of the state bond, in years:	<u>20</u>

Section II: Estimated value of use of the facility.

Use(s) of the facility*	Annual value of use	# of years
a. <u>Use of classroom space</u>	\$ <u>22,000</u>	<u>20</u>
b. <u>Use of Lab space</u>	\$ <u>88,000</u>	<u>20</u>
c. <u>Use of office space</u>	\$ <u>2,412</u>	<u>20</u>
d. _____	\$ _____	_____
e. _____	\$ _____	_____
f. _____	\$ _____	_____

(* List additional uses on separate page as needed.)

Section III:

Ohio University will use the Fairfield County Workforce Center Engineering Technology Lab for academic and community gatherings for conducting both credit and non-credit classes and other functions. The facility will host Ohio University-Lancaster's Engineering Technology (ENGT) program as well as Phlebotomy and other offerings. The facility and equipment will be available both during the standard workday and on evenings and weekends. Ohio University will have exclusive use of office space and will be assured priority access upon request consistent with the terms of this Agreement and requests for access will not be unreasonably refused. The facility will be available to Ohio University on a year around basis. Ohio University will be given keys/cards to ensure access on a 24/7/365 basis.

There will be no charge for any functions scheduled by Ohio University for academic purposes, technical and research purposes, or for community or University meetings and events sponsored by the University.

The amount of the basis of the estimated annual use value that is provided to Ohio University by Fairfield for Ohio University's utilization of the Facility is as follows:

**Joint Use Agreement
Attachment A
Worksheet**

Basis of Estimated Annual Use Value

<u>Estimated Facility Usage</u>	<u>per year</u>	<u>hrs/wk</u>	<u>Rate/hr.</u>	<u>Annual Use Value</u>
USE 1	44 wks/yr	20	\$25.00	\$22,000.00
USE 2	44 wks/yr ¹	40	\$50.00	\$88,000.00
<u>Estimated Facility Usage per year</u>		<u>Rate/Sq. ft.</u>	<u>Annual Use Value</u>	
USE 3	12 months	360 sq. ft.	\$6.70	\$2,412.00

Description of basis for Calculations:

Under the Joint Use Agreement, Fairfield is required to allow the University to use the Building in the following ways:

- a. Use 1: The University will be entitled under the terms of this agreement to use the classroom space throughout the 44 academic weeks of the year, as well as at other times as needed. University will be entitled to priority access 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. At present, it is anticipated that the classrooms will be used for Ohio University-Lancaster's Engineering Technology (ENGT) program as well as Phlebotomy and other offerings. While not limiting access for other use, the University be entitled to use the classrooms as needed during the academic day as scheduled in advance of the beginning of each term. It is anticipated that the minimum actual use would be 20 hours per week. A reasonable rental rate for the classrooms, based upon similar rates charged by Ohio University for similar space use at its Lancaster regional campus, would be \$25.00/hr. Accordingly, the value of this use would be, at minimum, ($\$25.00 \times 20\text{hrs} \times 44\text{ weeks} =$) \$22,000.00.
- b. Use 2: The University will be entitled under the terms of this agreement to use the lab space throughout the 44 academic weeks of the year as well as at other times as needed. University will be entitled to priority access 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. While not limiting access for other use, the University be entitled to use the laboratory space as needed during the academic day as needed to support academic offering and research and as otherwise scheduled upon agreement of the parties. It is anticipated that the minimum actual use would be 40 hours per week. A reasonable rental rate for the laboratory space, based upon rates charged by Ohio University for similar space use at its Lancaster regional campus, would be \$50.00/hr. Accordingly, the value of this use would be ($\$50.00 \times 40\text{hrs} \times 44\text{ weeks} =$) \$88,000.00. Importantly, the University's use of the lab space is not restricted by the academic calendar and the University will have access on a year around basis.
- c. Use 3: Use of office space will be exclusive. 360 square feet of office space will be for the University's exclusive use and will be available to the University all day, every day, all year long. Office space will be primarily used by University personnel to support the other uses on site. Based

¹ While the University anticipates that it will make greater use of the Building during the academic calendar, the University will have unfettered access to the building at all times, nothing in this agreement, for instance, limits the ability of the University to access the Building on holidays, weekends, or during University closures.

**Joint Use Agreement
Attachment A
Worksheet**

upon a mutually acceptable annual rental value of \$6.70 per sq.ft/yr, the annual value of this use is approximately \$2412.00. Local rates for similar space can be as high as \$16.00 per sq/ft.

Fairfield will provide described access to the facility and equipment for use by Ohio University students, faculty and Ohio University related activities consistent with the terms of this Agreement.

Prosecutor's Approval Page

Resolution No.

A resolution authorizing the joint use agreement between Ohio University and the Fairfield County Board of County Commissioners.

(Fairfield County Economic & Workforce Development)

Approved as to form on 2/27/2025 1:25:06 PM by Steven Darnell,

Resolution No. 2025-03.04.e

A resolution authorizing the joint use agreement between Ohio University and the Fairfield County Board of County Commissioners.

(Fairfield County Economic & Workforce Development)

This resolution has not yet been voted on.

CERTIFICATE OF CLERK

It is hereby certified that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of a resolution acted upon by the Board of County Commissioners, Fairfield County, Ohio on the date noted above.

A resolution to approve a Grant Agreement between Fairfield County Board of Commissioners and Ohio Emergency Management Agency for the FY24 Emergency Management Performance Grant Award.

WHEREAS, Fairfield County applied and has been awarded \$88,515.00 in reimbursable grant funds for the FY24 Emergency Management Performance Grant; and

WHEREAS, these funds require a local match that will be paid with allocated funds from the Fairfield County Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, these total funds will be used for approved grant purchases; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Emergency Management Agency provided a grant agreement to be expended or obligated by December 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners desires to assign authority to the County Administrator or Deputy County Administrator to sign and approve the agreement.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That the Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Administrator or Deputy County Administrator to sign and approve the attached agreement with the Ohio Emergency Management Agency on pages 3, 5, 7, 9, and 10.

Section 2. The Commissioners authorize the EMA Director or Deputy Director to sign and approve any other future documents related to this grant.

Prepared by: Christy Noland, EMA

**OHIO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
GRANT AGREEMENT**

Subrecipient Grant Agreement #		Subrecipient Vendor ID #		Federal Pass-Thru #	AL #	State Fund #	State Grant #
FY24EMPG-23		56164		EMC-2024-EP-05000	97.042	3370	DPSFE293
FY2024 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)				Total Award		Performance Period	
Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency				\$ 88,515.00		10/01/2023 – 12/31/2025	
Subrecipient Signatory / Project Site Address				Recipient Signatory Office/Address			
Signatory Name/Title	Aundrea Cordle, County Administrator			Name/Title	Sima S. Merick, Executive Director		
Organization	Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency			Agency	Ohio Emergency Management Agency		
Project Site Address	240 Baldwin Dr, Lancaster, OH, 43130, USA			Address	2855 W. Dublin-Granville Road		
City, State, Zip	Lancaster	OH	43130-3343	City, Zip	Columbus	OH	43235-2206


Grant Award Requirements

- The following forms must be filled out, signed and returned with to the Ohio EMA Grants Branch via e-mail to EMA_Grants@dps.ohio.gov within sixty (60) days after receipt of this Award:
 - **Grant Agreement – (Insert Subrecipient Grant Manager and Fiscal Contact information)**
 - **Assurances & Disclosure of Lobbying Agreement**
- Signatory of this Agreement must have authority to obligate the Subrecipient.
- Subrecipient agrees that program funds are not available to be drawn until Ohio EMA accepts and approves all the submitted application forms and the executed signed Notice of Award document has been returned to Ohio EMA.
- Subrecipient agrees to submit through revised Baseline Work Plan any significant revisions to their pre-approved budget, with justification for review and approval by Ohio EMA prior to obligating funds for any such revision.
- Subrecipient will draw down funds through submission of a “Request for Cash” to include proof of cost and proof of payment documentation
- When applicable, the Subrecipient shall provide proof of competitive procurement in accordance with applicable federal, state and local procurement laws and regulations through either submission of three quotes and/or bid package (i.e. request for quotes, advertisement of bid, bid specs, bid proposals, tabulations, etc.) or submission of pre-approved non-competitive procurement form.
- Subrecipient will submit the Ohio EMA non-competitive procurement form to Ohio EMA prior to making a “sole source” purchase for required pre-approval. Retro-active approval will not be granted and expenditures will not be reimbursed without pre-approval.
- All procurements exceeding \$10,000 must be pre-approved by Ohio EMA prior to obligation of funds
- Ohio EMA reserves the right to request additional documentation and/or information prior to reimbursement and may deny reimbursement if it is determined that the goods or services purchased or that the procurement method used does not comply with state or federal grant requirements.
- Subrecipient affirms that funds will be disbursed within ten (10) days of receipt.
- Subrecipient agrees that it cannot undertake any project having potential impact on Environmental and Historical Preservation (EHP) resources without the prior approval of DHS-FEMA. Subrecipient must comply with all conditions placed on a project as a result of the EHP review. A change in scope of work will require EHP re-evaluation.

- The EMPG Grant requires a **50% match**. Subrecipients may only provide up to 25% of their federal award with third party in-kind (soft match) contributions. Any in-kind match requires proper documentation.
- **Subrecipient is required to submit quarterly Requests for Cash via EM Grants. Requests for Cash are due until all funds are expended, de-obligated or until the period of performance ends.**
- Failure to demonstrate progress or report progress on a quarterly basis will result in de-obligation of grant funding.
- Subrecipient agrees to comply with the grant requirements found in the most recent version of Title 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and the Federal Acquisition Regulations Part 31.2 as applicable and as amended.
 - Subrecipient shall use a procurement procedure which reflects applicable State and local laws and regulations, and conforms to Federal laws and the standards identified in **2 CFR 200**, in the expenditure, management and accounting of these funds for any procurement using these funds. Inclusive of the federal requirements is the need to utilize one of the approved procurement methods outlined in **2 CFR 200**.
 - Subrecipient shall only use funds in accordance with the FY2024 EMPG Federal and State guidance and the rules, regulations and requirements contained within.
 - Subrecipient affirms these funds will not be used as a match for other federal programs and that funds will supplement, and not supplant, local, state or federal funds.
 - Subrecipient shall not utilize federal funds as a match for this grant.
 - Subrecipient affirms reimbursed funds through this grant have not been reimbursed through any other grant - federal or otherwise.
 - Subrecipient agrees to update and finalize the Bi-annual Strategy Implementation Report (BSIR) within the time frames provided by and as directed by Ohio EMA.
 - Subrecipient agrees to submit a current Master Asset Listing along with a yearly inventory certification within 30 days after December 31 of each year for grant funded assets from the current and any previous awards.
 - Subrecipient shall submit policies and procedures annually as guided by the Ohio EMA Grants Branch.
 - Any amendment or modification of this Grant Agreement shall be pre-coordinated and made in writing, signed by both parties, & shall specify the changes & justification.
- This Grant Agreement, all rights, duties and/or obligations described herein may not be assigned or sub-contracted by the Subrecipient without prior consent of Ohio EMA.
- Authorized Program Expenditures include: Planning, Organization, Personnel, Equipment, Training, and Administration as outlined in the county's application and in accordance with FY2024 EMPG guidance.
- Unauthorized Program Expenditures include: Any other costs without the prior approval of Ohio EMA as SAA.
- Subrecipient agrees, to the extent permissible by applicable law, to be responsible for any & all liabilities or claims caused by or resulting from the Subrecipient's completion of the Project under this Grant Agreement. Nothing in this Grant Agreement shall be construed as an assumption of liability by Ohio EMA, Ohio Department of Public Safety, or U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
- This Grant Agreement and documents referred to herein constitute the complete understanding of the parties with respect to this award. Whenever possible, each provision of this Grant Agreement shall be interpreted in such a manner as to be effective & valid under applicable law. To the extent any provision is determined to be invalid the remainder of the Grant Agreement will not be invalid.
- Recipient agrees to be responsible for compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, including but not limited to, equal employment opportunity, conflict of interest, ethics (ORC Chapter 102) and elections (ORC Chapter 3517).
- In the event the Subrecipient fails to follow proper procurement procedures or utilize these funds for the purposes set forth and in accordance with guidance, applicable laws and regulations, the Subrecipient shall be in default. In such event, Ohio EMA may: a) withhold further payment of funds to Subrecipient, b) require Subrecipient to reimburse all or any portion of funds, and/or (c) terminate the Grant Agreement. Before taking action, Ohio EMA will provide Subrecipient reasonable notice of intent to impose measures and will make efforts to resolve the problem informally. In the event that US DHS-FEMA or the State of Ohio

determines that funds are not appropriated or otherwise available to support continuation of this sub-grant, the sub-grant shall be canceled. A determination of unavailability of funds shall be final and conclusive.

- Recipient may request review any decision made under this grant program to the Executive Director of Ohio EMA. Decisions of the Executive Director will be final.
- Recipient shall maintain all accounting records and supporting documents, papers and other evidence of this project in a separate location. Records of different federal fiscal periods and grants shall be separately identified and maintained. Recipient shall maintain all accounting records and supporting documents, papers and other evidence of this project and shall make such materials available at all reasonable times during normal business hours for inspection by any authorized representative of the State, the federal granting agency, or the United States Comptroller General for a period of at three years after the federal closeout date (not three years from end of the performance period set forth in the Agreement.)
- Subrecipient is prohibited from transferring funds among direct cost categories, programs, functions, or activities without prior written approval from Ohio EMA where the cumulative amount of such transfers exceeds or is expected to exceed ten percent (10%) of the total budget Ohio EMA last approved.
- Subrecipient is prohibited from transferring grant funds between various federal programs or awards.
- Subrecipient shall provide such information as may be requested by U.S. DHS to ensure compliance with any applicable environmental laws and regulations.
- Subrecipient agrees to cooperate with any assessments, national evaluation efforts, or information or data collection requests, including, but not limited to, the provision of any information required for the assessment or evaluation of any activities within this grant program.
- Subrecipient understands and agrees that it cannot use any federal funds, either directly or indirectly, in support of the enactment, repeal, modification or adoption of any law, regulation or policy, at any level of government, without the express prior written approval of Ohio EMA and U.S. DHS.
- Per DHS special conditions of the FY2024 EMPG, the Subrecipient and Subrecipient's employees may not engage in trafficking of persons, procurement of commercial sex acts and/or use of forced labor in the performance of this award or during the duration that this award is in place.
- Subrecipient shall ensure that all applicable and appropriate guidance, rules, regulations and terms of this agreement are included in any sub-award or contract funded by these funds.
- Funds not expended and reimbursed within the period of performance listed in this grant or as otherwise amended will be de-obligated.
- Subrecipient agrees to reimburse Grantor for all costs and expenses incurred if an audit, monitoring visit or investigation determines the Subrecipient was in violation of the terms of this Grant Agreement (including local, state, and federal requirements). Reimbursement for such costs and expenses may be withheld from any amounts due to the Subrecipient pursuant the payment terms of this agreement.
- Subrecipient agrees to review and abide by the applicable portions of DPS policy 501.39, and shall report to Ohio EMA any complaints alleging discrimination from clients, customers, program participants, or consumers of DPS or DPS grant recipients related to sub-recipients actions under this Agreement.

Subrecipient Signatory Official(s)	Date	Grantee Signatory Official	Date
			02/12/2025
Aundrea Cordle, County Administrator Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency, Subrecipient		Sima S. Merick, Executive Director Ohio Emergency Management Agency, State Administrative Agency	


**State of Ohio
Ohio Emergency Management Agency
NIMS Compliance Certification Statement**

I, Budget Officer Christy Noland of the Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency, have reviewed Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency's application and supporting documentation to the Ohio Emergency Management Agency for NIMS certification and Ohio NIMS compliance.

I hereby certify:

- 1. that the Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency is a current legal authority provided by Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency's laws enacted or promulgated statute, ordinance or regulation to adopt the NIMS requirements.
- 2. that such statute, ordinance or regulation are in force and effect on the date of this certification.
- 3. that the tasks necessary to implement NIMS requirements have been assigned to the "good faith effort" standard within the Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency and the receiving direct benefit as a result of federal readiness funding and
- 4. that Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency has received the information in the NIMS NIMS certification and has met the annual NIS survey as provided by the NIMS in to grant announcement.

To assist Ohio EMA's review of this application, additional evidence of NIMS compliance has been requested and received by the NIMS and will be made available upon request under a future to provide the information as a result of extended or terminated funding.

 Christy Noland Budget Officer	2/25/2025 Date
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Summary Sheet for Assurances and Certifications

Grant Year: **Federal Fiscal Year 2024**

Grant Program: **EMPG**

This summary sheet includes Assurances and Certifications that must be read, signed, and submitted as a part of the Application for Federal Assistance.

An applicant must check each item that they are certifying to:

- Part I** ☒ SF-424B, Assurances for Non-construction Programs
- Part II** ☒ SF-424D, Assurances for Construction Programs
- Part III** ☒ GG Lobbying Form, Certification Regarding Lobbying
- Part IV** ☐ SF LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities *(Only if applicable)*

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I hereby certify that the applicant will comply with the identified attached assurances and certifications.

Aundrea Cordle, County Administrator

Typed Name of Authorized Representative

Title

Signature of Authorized Representative




























































































Date Signed

[illegible]

title and identifier
 27 related to printing
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The Federal Reserve Order regulating and governing the program

The requirement section of the Training Grant Application of February 2000, as amended, 22 CFR 70.000000, provides that grant award recipient or a surrogate must be engaging in certain training in person during the period of time that the award is in effect (2000) during a one-year period during the period of time that the award is in effect or funding awarded prior to the termination of the award or award under the award.

<p>                     </p>	<p>   </p> <p>            </p>
<p>                     </p> <p>                     </p>	<p>                   </p>

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CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

Certification of Contract Grant and Cooperative Agreement

The undersigned certifies that he/she is the owner and representative of

_____ Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to an individual or entity for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency of a Member of Congress or an officer or employee of Congress or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of a Federal contract, the awarding of a Federal grant, the awarding of a Federal loan, the entering into of a cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

2. I am not a Federal appropriated fund have been paid or will be paid to an individual or entity for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency of a Member of Congress or an officer or employee of Congress or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement under the Federal Acquisition Regulation and the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

The undersigned certifies that the language of this certification be included in the award document or a subaward at a tier including subcontracts, grants, and contracts under grant, and cooperative agreement, and that a subrecipient of a contract and document according to this certification in a later representation shall upon reasonable and placed upon the transaction shall be entered into such that this certification is a prerequisite for awarding or entering into the transaction. I am not a Federal appropriated fund have been paid or will be paid to an individual or entity for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency of a Member of Congress or an officer or employee of Congress or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement under the Federal Acquisition Regulation and the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

State or State Guarantee and State Insurance

The undersigned certifies that he/she is the owner and representative of

I am not a Federal appropriated fund have been paid or will be paid to an individual or entity for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency of a Member of Congress or an officer or employee of Congress or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement under the Federal Acquisition Regulation and the Federal Acquisition Regulation. I am not a Federal appropriated fund have been paid or will be paid to an individual or entity for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency of a Member of Congress or an officer or employee of Congress or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement under the Federal Acquisition Regulation and the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

_____ RG_____

_____ Contract Management _____

_____ R_____ D_____ T_____ R_____ R_____ T_____

_____ e_____ d_____

_____ T_____ e_____ n_____ t_____

_____ G_____ T_____ R_____

_____ D_____ T_____

ROUTING FORM FOR CONTRACTS

The undersigned designee of the County affirms that he/she has reviewed the attached contract to ensure that it complies with County's needs and previous negotiations. The undersigned designee further affirms that the County has complied with the competitive selection process, as prescribed by Ohio Revised Code 9.17, and the applicable sections as outlined on this form, by selecting the applicable boxes below.

- A. ☐ Goods and/or Services in excess of \$75,000.00—competitively selected via an Invitation to Bid, pursuant to R.C. 307.86-307.92
- B. ☐ Goods and/or Services in excess of \$75,000.00—competitively selected via a Request for Proposals, pursuant to R.C. 307.862
- C. ☐ Public Improvement contracts—competitively selected pursuant to R.C. 153.08-153.12
- D. ☐ Architect/Engineer design services for public improvements—selected through the Request for Qualifications process pursuant to R.C. 153.65-153.72
- E. ☐ County Road Improvement/Construction—competitively selected pursuant to R.C. 5555.61
- F. ☐ The subject matter was exempt from competitive selection for the following reason(s):
1. ☐ Under \$75,000
 2. ☐ State Term #: _____ (copy of State Term Contract must be attached)
 3. ☐ ODOT Term #: _____ (See R.C. 5513.01)
 4. ☐ Professional Services (See the list of exempted occupations/services under R.C. 307.86)
 5. ☐ Emergency (Follow procedure under ORC 307.86(A))
 6. ☐ Sole Source (attach documentation as to why contract is sole source)
 7. ☐ Other: _____ (cite to authority or explain why matter is exempt from competitive bidding)
- G. ☐ Agreement not subject to Sections A-F (explain): _____
- H. ☐ Compliance with Fairfield County Board of Commissioners Procurement Guidelines
1. ☐ No County employee, employee's family member, or employee's business associate has an interest in this contract OR such interest has been disclosed and reviewed by the Prosecutor's Office
 2. ☐ No Finding for Recovery against Vendor as required under R.C. 9.24 (search via "Certified Search" on <http://ffr.ohioauditor.gov/>)
 3. ☐ Obtained 3 quotes for purchases under \$75,000 (as applicable)
 4. ☐ Purchase Order is included with Agreement

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20_____.



Budget Officer

Name and Title

*** Please note that this checklist only addresses County and statutory requirements. If a contract is paid for with state and/or federal funds, please consult with the appropriate state and/or federal agency to ensure your department is complying with any additional requirements. By submitting a request for approval, you are certifying you have addressed County, statutory, and grant requirements.***

Prosecutor's Approval Page

Resolution No.

A resolution to approve a Grant Agreement between Fairfield County Board of Commissioners and Ohio Emergency Management Agency for the FY24 Emergency Management Performance Grant Award.

(Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency)

Approved as to form on 2/26/2025 9:46:20 AM by Amy Brown-Thompson,



Amy Brown-Thompson
Prosecutor's Office
Fairfield County, Ohio

Resolution No. 2025-03.04.f

A resolution to approve a Grant Agreement between Fairfield County Board of Commissioners and Ohio Emergency Management Agency for the FY24 Emergency Management Performance Grant Award.

(Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency)

This resolution has not yet been voted on.

CERTIFICATE OF CLERK

It is hereby certified that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of a resolution acted upon by the Board of County Commissioners, Fairfield County, Ohio on the date noted above.

A resolution authorizing an account to account transfer for EMA Fund 2090 (Subfund 8221) COTS Grant 2024/2025 [EMA]

WHEREAS, appropriations are needed to cover expenses for 2025; and

WHEREAS, an account to account transfer will allow for proper classification of major expenditure object categories.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That the transfer of appropriations in the amount of \$2,000.00. is hereby authorized as follows:

FROM: 12209055 Materials and Supplies
TO: 12209055 Contract Services

Prepared by: Christy Noland
cc: EMA

A resolution authorizing an account to account transfer for EMA Fund 2090 (Subfund 8221) COTS Grant 2024/2025 [EMA]

For Auditor Use Only:

Section 1.

FROM: 12209055 561000 G0002 General Office Supplies -\$2000.00
TO: 12209055 530000 G0002 Contractual Services +\$2000.00

Prepared by: Christy Noland
cc: EMA

Resolution No. 2025-03.04.g

A resolution authorizing an account to account transfer for EMA Fund 2090
(Subfund 8221) COTS Grant 2024/2025

(Fairfield County Emergency Management Agency)

This resolution has not yet been voted on.

CERTIFICATE OF CLERK

It is hereby certified that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of a resolution acted upon by the Board of County Commissioners, Fairfield County, Ohio on the date noted above.

A Resolution to authorize the County Administrator to sign a letter of intent on behalf of Fairfield County Protective Services to partner with the Gallia County Child Wellness Center.

WHEREAS, Placement costs across the state of Ohio have continued to rise forcing child welfare agencies to continue to explore various solutions to reduce the number of children in care and the length of time children spend in congregate care; and

WHEREAS, Fairfield County Protective Services has experienced a 54% increase in placement costs from 2017-2024, while serving similar amounts of children in paid placement; and

WHEREAS, Fairfield County Protective Services experienced a 29% increase in congregate care costs from 2023 to 2024;

WHEREAS, Fairfield County Protective Services has an opportunity to join a ten member council looking to open a Child Wellness Center aimed at reducing the length of time children spend in congregate care; and

WHEREAS, Governor DeWine has committed significant funds within his proposed budget to assist communities in starting child wellness center to provide short-term treatment and care for multi-system youth at risk of custody relinquishment or in PCSA custody and unable to access timely, appropriate placements; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners desires to assign authority to the County Administrator or Deputy County Administrator to sign a letter of intent allowing Fairfield County Protective Services to commit a one time fee of \$45,000 to join in the ten county collaboration; and

WHEREAS, an Administrative Approval for items up to \$77,250.00 is permitted as per Sections 1-3 of resolution 2023-10.10.a and all other sections of resolution 2021-11.23.b.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, STATE OF OHIO:

A Resolution to authorize the County Administrator to sign a letter of intent on behalf of Fairfield County Protective Services to partner with the Gallia County Child Wellness Center.

Section 1. That the Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Administrator or Deputy County Administrator to sign and approve a letter of intent regarding the Gallia County Child Wellness Center.

Prepared by: Heather O'Keefe, JFS Assistant Director

Resolution No. 2025-03.04.h

A Resolution to authorize the County Administrator to sign a letter of intent on behalf of Fairfield County Protective Services to partner with the Gallia County Child Wellness Center.

(Fairfield County Job and Family Services)

This resolution has not yet been voted on.

CERTIFICATE OF CLERK

It is hereby certified that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of a resolution acted upon by the Board of County Commissioners, Fairfield County, Ohio on the date noted above.

A resolution authorizing the approval of the Fairfield County Prevention, Retention and Contingency Plan (PRC Plan) between Fairfield County Job & Family Services and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

WHEREAS, Fairfield County Job & Family Services is requesting the Board of Commissioners approval of a service agreement with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, 30 E Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215, and;

WHEREAS, Fairfield County Job and Family Services PRC Plan creates the authority for the county to deliver benefits and services to serve the residents of our community. Fairfield County Job and Family Services as determined amendments are necessary to serve the resides of our community more effectively. The Family Services Planning Committee has review and approved the Fairfield County Job and Family Services PRC Plan, and;

WHEREAS, this agreement shall be effective March 3, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Prosecuting Attorney has approved the agreement as to form.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, AND STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the attached Fairfield County Prevention, Retention and Contingency Plan (PRC Plan) between Fairfield County Job and Family Services and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

Prepared by: Brandi Downhour
cc: JFS / Fiscal Supervisor

Fairfield County Job & Family Services
239 W. Main Street
Lancaster, OH 43130
740-652-7889
Corey B. Clark, Director

PRC Plan

Prevention, Retention & Contingency Program

Previous Submissions

Modified and Effective October 1, 2021
Modified and Effective March 1, 2022
Modified and Effective May 8, 2023
Modified and Effective October 1, 2023
Modified and Effective March 3, 2025

**FAIRFIELD COUNTY JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES (FCJFS)
PREVENTION, RETENTION AND CONTINGENCY (PRC) PLAN**

March 3, 2025

A. Preamble

Fairfield County Job and Family Services acting, under Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Chapter 5108, established a Prevention, Retention, and Contingency program effective September 23, 1997. Effective March 3, 2025, the PRC Plan is hereby amended. Although funded under the same TANF Block Grant, and subject to the federal restrictions, PRC is a county-designed program separate and apart from the state Ohio Works First program. The PRC Program is intended to assist individuals by providing specific services to address urgent needs in an effort to prevent unemployment/job loss, assist in obtaining employment and/or to address urgent emergency needs with a long-term goal of enhancing or maintaining a family's self-sufficiency. PRC services and assistance are contingent upon funding constraints of Fairfield County Job and Family Services (FCJFS). Certain types of assistance and services may be eliminated based upon the financial situation of FCJFS.

Consistent with AM. Sub. H.B. 95, the PRC Plan is first approved by the Fairfield County Family Services Planning Committee and then approved by the Board of Commissioners. The Board of Commissioners certifies that Fairfield County Job and Family Services complied with ORC Chapter 5108 in adopting the statement of policies. The plan must be updated at least every two years and can be amended at any time.

B. General Provisions

PRC services are: 1) services that have no direct monetary value to an individual family and that does not involve implicit or explicit income support; or 2) short-term assistance which is limited to the amount required to meet the presenting need, up to the financial limit specified below per 12 consecutive month period of eligibility. Any number of payments can be made during this period as long as they are distinct non-ongoing occurrences and do not exceed the financial limits specified below per 12 consecutive month period of eligibility. A PRC Assistance Group (PRC AG) is a group of individuals containing at least one minor child and treated as a unit for the purpose of determining eligibility for the PRC Program. (See ORC 5108.01). In Fairfield County the general guideline to follow in creating a PRC AG is the OWF standard filing unit guidelines found in OAC rule 5101:1-23-10 with exception to the rule of pregnant women. PRC eligibility includes any woman verified to be pregnant by a doctor. For income eligibility purposes, single pregnant women are considered an AG of one. PRC excludes the income from individual rebates (also referred to as stimulus payments) and pandemic unemployment compensation authorized under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

PRC assistance is only available to members who have not received PRC assistance above the monetary cap (with respect to the type of service) during the previous 12 consecutive months. PRC AG's containing members receiving assistance from other programs but meeting all current eligibility criteria for PRC shall be eligible for PRC services.

The total maximum amount of PRC funds which can be allocated cannot exceed \$2,000.00 in a twelve -month period of eligibility. This amount does not include short-term training funds awarded through the Fairfield Works Program.

Contingency Funding

Fairfield County Job and Family Services will continue to evaluate funding to determine if it is feasible to provide the contingency category, which includes rental assistance, utility assistance, appliances, school clothing/supplies, or services that will, at the discretion of Fairfield County Job and Family Services serve the goal of self-sufficiency. The PRC plan will focus on assisting families for job-related expenses and/or job retention services.

This program is designed to help people overcome immediate barriers to achieving or maintaining self-sufficiency and personal responsibility, thereby preventing the need for ongoing public assistance. However, the fact that an ongoing Medicaid or OWF assistance group is active is not a determining factor in the consideration of eligibility for the PRC program. In addition, FCJFS must inform individuals about other programs (i.e., Medicaid and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, SNAP) that are available and hearing rights that are applicable.

Services are provided to an assistance group to **prevent (P)** them from reliance on, and divert them from, ongoing cash assistance and guide them to self-sufficiency by helping them through the presenting crisis. Services are also provided to a PRC AG to help members **retain (R)** employment and, thereby, to achieve or continue self-sufficiency. In addition, services are provided to a PRC AG to meet a presenting or **contingent (C)** need that, if not satisfied, threatens the safety, health, or well-being of one or more PRC AG members. Contingency services or payments will be authorized with the expectation that the PRC AG will then be able to function without additional agency help. Consistent with the goal of self-reliance for Fairfield County families, assistance through the PRC program may require a 50% customer co-pay towards the total amount needed. The customer co-pay may apply to prevention, retention, and contingency categories.

Households are expected to use their own resources in meeting the presenting need. In Fairfield County the term resources shall be interpreted to mean liquid assets. Liquid assets are those resources that are in cash or readily convertible to cash on demand. Common examples of liquid assets are cash on hand, savings accounts, checking accounts, stocks, bonds, cash app, Direct Express, PayPal, and mutual funds. This list is not all inclusive.

See Appendix A – Benefit Matrix for a summary of services.

C. General Eligibility and Application

The PRC Program replaces the former Family Emergency Assistance (FEA) programs and policies. All PRC hard services are required to be entered into the PRC Reporting Tool. The data collected by the PRC Reporting Tool will allow information to be streamlined for the annual PRC evaluation.

Eligibility for PRC is dependent upon the PRC AG's demonstration and verifications of the need for financial assistance and/or services. FCJFS in its sole discretion will determine if the provision of PRC will satisfy the need. In order for the PRC AG to be found eligible, the PRC AG's income must be at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG) in effect April 1 and updated annually (to be effective on April 1 of each year assuming that the new FPG has been released). *See Appendix B – Standards Help Sheet*

1. The PRC AG must complete the Fairfield County JFS Application for the Prevention, Retention, and Contingency Program. *(Appendix C)*
2. The PRC AG must contain at least one minor child or a pregnant woman and be a resident of Fairfield County.
 - a. If a shared parenting agreement exists, eligibility would go to the named residential parent or the parent who has the child more than 50% of the time.
3. The PRC AG must contain at least one US Citizen or qualified alien as defined in O.A.C. 5101:1-2-30.
4. If the children in the home have been removed by CPS, the PRC AG may be eligible if the PRC application is received within 45 days from the date of the Safety Plan or 6 months from the date the child was placed on a Reunification Plan. There must be a reunification plan in place. Caretaker must be in cooperation with CPS and their case plan.
5. *The PRC AG must provide proof of income.*
 - a. Verification of income must be provided. If verification is verbal, there must be clear documentation in the PRC AG record concerning:
 - i. Name and position of the supplier of the information
 - ii. The date the information was obtained
 - iii. The amount of the verified income
 - iv. The name of the individual who obtained the verification
 - b. Countable income is determined by: (1) looking back 30 days from the date of application, (2) Anticipating income for the next 30 days when there has been a significant change in household circumstances (involuntary loss of employment or other source of income).
 - c. The total gross income, both earned and unearned, of all adult and minor head of household PRC AG members, must be counted.
6. The PRC AG must provide a current banking statement (checking, saving, or certificates of deposits) for any AG member in the household.

- a. If the PRC AG is applying for Retention or Prevention Service, their resources must be less than \$500.00.
 - b. If the PRC AG is applying for Contingency Service, their resources must be less than \$100.00.
7. The PRC AG must provide disconnect notice and/or estimate of needed assistance upon completing PRC application.
8. The PRC AG may be required to pay at least a 50% co-pay of the requested assistance amount based on current funding, unless waived by the director or designee.

The county is responsible for using objective criteria when determining eligibility and approving or denying the application within 10 business days from the date on the PRC application.

- Issuance of a PRC voucher within 10 business days of the PRC application will serve as the notice of approval of benefits.
- If the PRC application is denied, the PRC Specialist/Success Coach will issue a denial notice via the Filemaker system (software program) in Fairfield County. The denial notice will include reason for denial, information regarding the state hearing process, and referral to other social services agencies if appropriate.

Voter Registration

Fairfield County Job and Family Services provides all customers with the opportunity to register to vote. The voter registration application as prescribed by the Secretary of State under section 3503.10 of the ORC will be made available to persons who are applying for, receiving assistance from, or participating in the PRC program (reference ORC 3503.10).

INELIGIBLE ASSISTANCE GROUPS

Applicants who are ineligible include:

- a) AG without a minor child, unless the AG includes a pregnant woman.
- b) Fugitive felons, probation and/or parole violators
- c) Pursuant to section 5101.83 of the Ohio Revised Code and rule 5101:1:1-23-75 of the Ohio Administrative Code, PRC benefits and services may not be provided to a family that fraudulently receives assistance under the OWF or PRC programs until a member of the AG repays the cost of the fraudulent assistance in full.
- d) AG which consists of an individual who has an outstanding Public Assistance Overpayment and is not in a current repayment agreement with the exception of Agency Error Overpayments.
- e) Unmarried, non-graduate minor parent, with a child more than 12 weeks old, and not attending high school or participating in activities aimed at enabling the teen to receive an equivalency degree.
- f) Unmarried minor parent or pregnant minor not living in an approved adult supervised setting.

- g) PRC AG which consists of a household member that is currently serving a sanction when the sanction imposed was due to a Work Activity failure.
 - i. If the original sanction was imposed on OWF, the AG must live the OWF sanction out before they will be considered eligible for PRC.
 - ii. If the original sanction was imposed for reasons other than a Work Activity failure (i.e., CSEA or CPS refusal to cooperate) the AG must live the sanction out before they will be considered eligible for PRC. Depending on the nature of the original sanction, the other agency/division must release sanction.
- h) Illegal aliens and/or aliens not authorized to work.
- i) AG which consists of an individual(s) who knowingly provided false information, withheld information, or otherwise attempted to obtain PRC benefits under false pretense of any type as determined by FCJFS staff, an Intentional Program Violation will be sought by the agency. If an Intentional Program Violation is received, the AG will be ineligible to obtain PRC assistance until those benefits are repaid.

D. Exploring Community Resources

FCJFS recognizes that the agency is a primary source of flexible funding for social service needs. As such, FCJFS shall be the primary point of contact for families in need. If the family is not eligible for benefits, or the type of service needed is not covered by TANF funds or is known to be available from other agencies or sources, referrals to other local area agencies shall be made.

Fairfield County JFS staff will refer customers to the following programs when appropriate.

1. The Percentage of Income Plan (PIP) shall be considered an available community resource. In any appropriate situation, eligibility for the PIP shall be explored.
2. Annual HEAP program administered through Lancaster Fairfield Community Action. This program assists families with utility bills.
3. The Neighbor-to-Neighbor program administered through the Dollar Energy Fund and American Electric Power (AEP) offers utility assistance for AEP customers. Customers can apply at Lancaster Fairfield Community Action.
4. Fairfield County Veteran Affairs office. The AG must contain a veteran before referring to Fairfield County VA office.
5. Fairfield County 2-1-1 Information & Referral
6. Any other program that may be available in the community.

E. Specific Categorical Requirements

AG groups are limited to \$2,000.00 total PRC assistance in any given 12-month period. The Prevention and Retention categories are the primary focus of Fairfield County's PRC program. Emphasis shall be placed on those employment-related goods and services needed to aid the applicants in their quest for self-sufficiency. Any item or service that is an

eligible expense under the federal TANF Block Grant shall be allowed as potentially eligible item under either the Prevention, Retention or Contingency categories.

1. Prevention and Retention Categories

Job-Related Support Services and/or Expenses

Short-term job-related counseling, clothing required for employment, short-term education expenses, transportation expenses, tools, safety equipment, work incidentals, training needs, or car repair.

These programs meet TANF purpose 2: End the dependency of needy parents by promoting job preparation, work and marriage.

a) Incentive-Based Training and Certification Programs

Fairfield Works; Skills, Training and Education Program is a program developed to provide training and incentive payments to TANF eligible individuals. Individuals could be eligible to attend short-term certifications programs and receive incentive payments paid through PRC funding. These incentives will also include customers who obtain a GED or high school diploma.

- I. Individuals must be enrolled in OWF, SNAP Employment and Training Program or Benefit Bridge. Individuals who apply and then enroll in a short-term approved training program may be eligible for tuition assistance.
 - i. Individuals who successfully complete that training or certification may be eligible for a \$500.00 incentive payment once employment in that field is obtained.
- II. Approved certification programs offered will be Workforce Investment Opportunity Act approved sites.
- III. Fairfield Works is based on availability of state funding and may be reduced or eliminated at any point in time. Priority will be given to those individuals receiving OWF cash assistance.

b) Car Repair Assistance

- i. Individual must be working at least 25 hours per week making at least federal minimum wage.
 - i. Self employed individuals will have work hours determined by taking their net income and dividing it by federal minimum wage.
- ii. Individual must have a valid driver's license.
- iii. Title to the car must be in the name of the individual or spouse of the individual completing the PRC application. AG has no other operating vehicles titled to their name.
- iv. The repair cannot already have been completed at the time of application.
- v. Individual must provide proof of insurance.
- vi. Individual must provide two estimates of repair.
- vii. PRC will not be used for general maintenance such as oil changes and tune-ups.
 - i. Bodywork is allowable if it is necessary for the safety and drivability of the vehicle.
- viii. The estimate for new tires must state that the old tires were unsafe.

- ix. PRC car repairs will only be issued to an approved car repair dealer who will accept the FCJFS voucher.
- x. Car repair PRC is approved only if it is cost effective; the mechanic will make that determination.

c) License Reinstatement Fee

- i. Individual must be working at least 25 hours per week making at least federal minimum wage, or actively participating in a Federally Approved Work Activity and the FCJFS has determined the reinstatement a necessity to help the individual continue to work toward self-sufficiency.
- ii. If the individual had any other violation (i.e. OMVI/DUI, 12-point violation, reckless operation and etc. they are not eligible for assistance). Reinstatement fee will **only** be paid for the following.
 - a. Driving without insurance
 - b. Medical Suspension (A physician's note approving driving privileges is also necessary.)
- iii. No court fines will be paid by PRC.

d) Transportation Assistance

Transportation assistance under the PRC Program may be authorized for employment-related activities only. These activities include FCJFS Federally Approved Work Activities and actual paid employment. Transportation for Work Activity Required Customers will only be provided to those individuals who have demonstrated willingness to follow-through with their Self-Sufficiency Contract or SNAP Education and Training Employability Plan. Transportation may also be provided to TANF eligible individuals participating in the Fairfield Works Program.

Transportation assistance is limited to the following:

- a. Fuel Cards (only approved if not in current receipt of Work Allowance).
- b. Transportation secured through contracted vendors.
- c. Direct Transport through FCJFS Transportation Team.
- d. Bus passes

Services will be prioritized in the above order. Depending on the method of issuance, transportation assistance may be considered soft or hard services. Fuel Cards are hard services and count toward the monetary cap. Contracted transportation vendors and Direct Transport are soft services and do not count toward the monetary cap.

Transportation assistance is only available for a total of four months in any rolling calendar year.

e) Employment related items and clothing

- i. Individual must be working at least 25 hours per week making at least federal minimum wage.
- ii. Individuals need to have written documentation from the new employer to show the equipment/clothing needed and that it will not be provided.

2. Contingency Category

The focus of the contingency category is to be somewhat of a replacement of the former Emergency Assistance program. That is not to say that it is a duplicate of the former program. It is a realization that some funding is needed to address short term unplanned emergencies that occasionally occur. As defined earlier, the contingency category addresses those emergencies that threaten the health, safety, or well-being of one or more PRC AG members.

The financial limit for contingency services is \$2,000.00 per 12-month period. Assistance under contingency may include: rent deposits or rent payment, utility expenses, emergency food assistance, household appliances, and any other assistance that will serve the goal of self-sufficiency. FCJFC will not pay partial bills, the entire bill or past due amount has to be paid and verification provided before a PRC voucher will be issued.

These services meet TANF purpose 1: Provide assistance to needy families so that children can be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives.

a) Rental/Mortgage Assistance – Contingent upon funding

- i. Rental / mortgage assistance will only be available to families one time per 12-month period.
- ii. An individual must be in threat of homelessness within the last 60 days:
 - a. Individual is currently a resident in a homeless shelter or domestic abuse shelter (this requirement may be waived if it is verified that all shelters in the area are full).
 - b. Individual is in threat of foreclosure.
 - c. Uninhabitable living conditions as determined by the Health or Fire Department.
 - d. Individual has recently been approved for a Metropolitan Housing Voucher or income-based housing.
 - e. Individual has a 3-day notice that can be verified by landlord.
- iii. Budget sheet is completed, and PRC AG is able to establish that the ongoing household expenses and rent can be met the following month.
- iv. Late fees, legal fees and pet fees will not be covered by PRC and are the responsibility of the individual. All other fees will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
- v. If past due amount is more than PRC approval, the remaining amount must be paid before voucher will be issued and verification provided.
- vi. New landlord will accept PRC voucher from Fairfield County.
 - a. Complete W-9 form.
 - b. Complete Ohio New Hire Reporting Form.
 - c. Complete OPERS Independent Contractor / Worker Acknowledgment if applicable.

b) Utility Assistance – Contingent upon funding

- i. Individual must have a disconnection notice or have a request for new services.
- ii. Propane and Fuel Oil must be below 25% to be eligible for assistance.
 - a. Quote will be required and will need to show below 25%.
- iii. Customer must show personal responsibility to maintain self-sufficiency. There must be self-pay between PRC payments. Discretion will fall on the agency to determine the required amount based on the household income.
- iv. FCJFS will not pay partial bills, the entire disconnect either has to be paid by the customer or community agency before the PRC portion can be pledged.
- v. Prior to exploring PRC eligibility, the individual must utilize the HEAP program during HEAP season. If the AG provides a denial from Community Action for HEAP, the AG may be eligible for PRC.
- vi. The Percentage of Income Plan (PIP) shall be considered an available community resource. In any appropriate situation, eligibility for the PIP shall be explored.
- vii. If the utility bill is in an individual's name (other than the applicants name) they will be responsible for a portion of the bill at the County's discretion.

c) Necessary Household Items

- a. All necessary items will be basic versions and meet the essential needs of the family. FCJFS has the discretion to limit the amount of PRC funds that can be used in this area. These items can only be purchased once in a lifetime unless extenuating circumstances can be provided.
 - i. Stoves, refrigerators, washers, dryers, microwaves, fans, and air conditioners are the appliances deemed necessary for the purpose of the FCJFS PRC program.
 - ii. Beds, mattresses, box springs and cribs are the furniture deemed necessary for the purpose of the FCJFS PRC program.
 - iii. Child car seats are deemed necessary for the purpose of the FCJFS PRC program.

d) School Clothes/School Supplies

- i. When funding is available, school clothes and school supplies may be provided to eligible families. Fairfield County Job and Family Services may partner with community agencies to obtain additional funding and school supplies for Fairfield County families.
- ii. Payments for these items will not count toward the family's contingency cap of \$2,000.00.
- iii. A separate application for school clothes will be utilized, see *Appendix D*.
- iv. The amount provided for school clothes will be determined on an annual basis, depending upon the PRC budget. TANF eligible customers would be eligible based on receiving Ohio Works First, SNAP or Medicaid and would have to complete an application but would not have to turn in income verifications. For the purpose of Kinship School Clothes applications, only child income will be counted.

Other

- i. When funding is available, winter coats may be purchased and distributed, or a voucher given to purchase the items to TANF eligible families.
- ii. When funding is available, diapers and wipes may be purchased and distributed, or a voucher given to purchase the items to TANF/kinship eligible families.
- iii. Payments for these items will not count toward the family's contingency cap of \$2,000.00.
- iv. TANF eligible customers would be eligible based on receiving Ohio Works First, SNAP, or Medicaid and would have to complete an application but would not have to turn in income verifications.
- v. TANF eligible customers who are not in receipt of Public Assistance will have to complete an application and provide needed verifications.

F. Non-Custodial Parent

For Non-Custodial Seek Work Services, the AG is defined as the non-custodial parent and all such minor children residing in Ohio for which the non-custodial parent is required to provide financial support, as verified by CSEA. These children would not be residing with the non-custodial parent.

To be eligible, the PRC AG must be at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. The non-custodial parent must be cooperating with child support and have a current child support order and the intent to meet their financial obligation. PRC payments for employment and training purposes under Seek Work Services are limited to the amount required to meet the presenting need up to a total maximum of \$2,000.00 per 12 consecutive month period of eligibility.

Services include:

- Vehicle repairs and/or insurance for employment and training purposes
- Employment-related expenses such as uniforms, tools, equipment, etc.
- Short-term certification programs

Non-custodial Parents can also participate in S.T.A.R.S. (Skills, Training, Attitude, Readiness for Success), a work readiness program is provided at Fairfield County Job and Family Services and is not subject to a maximum reimbursement level.

This program meets TANF purpose 2: Reduce the dependency of *needy* parents by promoting job preparation, work and marriage.

G. Disaster Services

In situations where the governor or the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services declares Fairfield County as a disaster area and/or provides supplemental and/or additional disaster-related PRC funds outside of Fairfield County's current allocations the following criteria shall apply:

The PRC Plan shall conform to any mandated Ohio Department of Job and Family Services rules and regulations specified in the disaster services assistance supplement.

In the absence of any mandated state limitations, the Fairfield County PRC Plan will be followed regarding Assistance Group definition, Federal Poverty Guidelines, eligibility determination.

Services, unless limited by the State of Ohio/Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, include all service categories listed under Contingency and Employment Support Services. Disaster Services payments will not count towards the family's contingency cap of \$2,000.

Expenditure limitations, unless limited by the State of Ohio or waived by the FCJFS Director or his designee are limited to a maximum total of \$1,500.00. Disaster Service payments are made independently from other PRC payments and shall not affect the AG's eligibility for non-disaster related PRC services.

This program meets TANF purpose 1: Provide assistance to needy families so that children can be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives.

H. Domestic Violence Services

Domestic violence services are defined as providing direct assistance to victims of domestic violence and their dependents for the purpose of preventing further violence and may include but are not limited to: meals, transportation, housing referral services, housing assistance, utility assistance, shelter costs, supportive services, and other services to victims of domestic violence and their dependents. Payments for shelter costs will not count toward the family's contingency cap of \$2,000. For this category of assistance, the applicant's resources may be more than \$100.00 based on County discretion.

This service meets TANF purpose 1: Provide assistance to needy families so that children can be cared for in their own homes or in homes of relatives. or **TANF purpose 2:** End the dependency of needy parents by promoting job preparation, work and marriage.

I. FCJFS Projects and Services Through Contracts with Other Providers

A wide continuum of services may be offered to families by the county or through vendor contacts to build family capacity, to assist families in becoming self-sufficient, or to maintain or stabilize family functioning. Such programs are **contingent on funding** and may include but are not limited to: Work Experience and Readiness programs, Employment Retention incentives, Kinship support services, IDA programs, Afterschool Programs, family support activities, youth enrichment programs, Summer Employment Program for Youth and/or School Readiness Resource Centers, and screening and assessment of mental, physical, or learning disabilities.

Employment Integration

Mental, physical, and learning disabilities are significant barriers to employment. Many individuals have previously unidentified or undisclosed disabilities that present barriers to

employment. Contracts with appropriate providers for screening tools and assessments to identify disabilities and the impact on employability will assure effective supports and services to this unique population. Programs that address this type of strategy offer services directly related to employment, including vocational assessment, vocational training, job training, job search and placement assistance and transitional employment support.

This service meets TANF purpose 2: End the dependency of needy parents by promoting job preparation, work, and marriage.

Child Protective Services

Children who have been abused and neglected face many challenges and are at an increased risk of failure to thrive. There are many causes of abuse and neglect including substance abuse in the home, domestic violence, and a variety of other stressors within families including financial difficulties. Families served by Fairfield County Child Protective Services work together with caseworkers to keep children safe in the least restrictive environment while reducing the need for out of home care.

FCJFS and CPS work closely together to coordinate child safety issues for families that may include PRC services. PRC funds can be provided to prevent the imminent removal of children from their homes or to allow for reunification with their family. PRC services may be incorporated into the family's case plan (1435 or Safety Plan). The case plan should be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure progress and aid in the family's success.

These services may include all previously mention programs, but in addition CPS specific services including but not limited to respite care, day treatment, diagnostic services (but not medical treatment), emergency caretaker services, homemaker services, parent education, in home services, special services for drug and/or alcohol abuse, transportation, unmarried parent services, post-finalization services, placement prevention services, and family reunification services.

This service meets TANF purpose 1: Provide assistance to needy families so that children can be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives, or **TANF purpose 2:** End the dependency of needy parents by promoting job preparation, work and marriage.

Kinship Support Services

These services provide information, referral and supportive services for relative caregivers, legal guardians, or court-ordered legal custodians responsible for the day-to-day care of a minor child (not their biological child) residing with the caregiver. These may also include Kinship Navigator services such as identification of kinship caregivers, assessing needs, facilitating access to services, facilitating a kinship support group and information and referral to appropriate providers such as legal services, childcare services, respite care services, training, support groups and financial assistance.

Under the parameters of this plan, specified relative kinship caregivers caring for children in the custody of Fairfield County Protective Services and working with the child welfare system may be eligible for assistance as a one-time emergent need. The assistance may be utilized to assist relative kinship caregivers who are determined to have significant unexpected needs as the result of caring for children in their home. Examples may include increased utility costs, purchase of seasonally appropriate or school clothing, school fees, car repairs, rent or mortgage assistance. The relative kinship caregiver would complete and submit the PRC application, with the children's income as that of the assistance group.

This service meets TANF purpose 1: Provide assistance to needy families so that children can be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives.

Summer Youth Employment Program

The TANF Summer Youth Program shall only serve persons from a TANF-eligible family. The types of persons that may be served are:

- Youth aged 14-18 enrolled in secondary school if the youth is in a needy family and in school.

The youth served may be non-custodial parents if they are considered "needy" and have a minor child. "Needy" is determined in Fairfield County as being under the 200% federal poverty level.

Family is defined in federal and state law and regulations as follows: a minor child who resides with a parent, specified relative, legal guardian or legal custodian (a child may be temporarily absent from the home provided certain requirements are met); a pregnant individual with no other children; or a non-custodial parent who lives in the state, but does not reside with his/her minor child(ren).

Foster Care: Youth in a foster care setting age 14 to 18 years of age if they are a full-time student in a secondary school may be served under the TANF Summer Youth Employment Program and no other TANF or PRC Program.

Limits for Wage Subsidies

Wages for the TANF Summer Youth Employment Program are determined according to the Family Assistance Letter regarding the allocation for the program. Performance bonuses or lump sum payments are not allowed.

This service meets TANF purpose 1: Provide assistance to needy families so that children can be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives, or **TANF purpose 2:** End the dependency of needy parents by promoting job preparation, work and marriage.

Employment Incentives Program (EIP)

The mission of the Fairfield County Employment Incentives Program is to emphasize the importance of employment, personal and community responsibility, and self-support. This

program will provide support to Fairfield County individuals in achieving financial independence while strengthening Ohio's workforce.

This program is not funded by TANF and has different eligibility requirements than PRC. (See AppendixE)

J. Scope of Service

All PRC payments are limited to the amount required to meet the presenting need. Any payments must also be within the financial limit based on the category of service per 12 consecutive month period of eligibility. Supportive Services under ORC 5107.66 are available for ongoing OWF recipients participating in the work programs.

It is specifically Fairfield County's intent to be as broad as possible under the federal and state TANF guidelines. Within the framework of the Block Grant rules, any goods and/or services deemed by the FCJFS to foster the goal of self-sufficiency shall be a potentially covered item. Individual case files should document why a given decision was made on a case-by-case basis.

It is Fairfield County's intent to cover certain special projects under the PRC program umbrella. The goal of these projects is to enhance the self-sufficiency of the participants. An individual description of each special project will appear as an appendix item. Each appendix item will list any special eligibility or processing standards that differ from or enhance the criteria specified in the overall plan. As with any changes to the plan, ODJFS Central and District offices will be notified when any of these special projects are added to, deleted from, or changed.

K. Community Outreach

Certain benefits and services do not require an application or certification for PRC Benefits or services as they do not provide a direct service linked to an individual family. FCJFS will conduct an annual family event focused on TANF purpose 4; Encourage the Formation and maintenance of two-parent families and conduct outreach to educate Families about Medicaid and SNAP programs.

L. Authorization and Notification

Once eligibility for PRC is established, the FCJFS director or designee will authorize and generate payment for the assistance, goods, and/or services. The payment process used is by first issuing a voucher that is countersigned by the client and vendor to acknowledge receipt. The completed voucher is then returned to the FCJFS for processing through the normal county process. Authorization may occur at any time during a period beginning on the date the PRC is approved. If payment is authorized within the appropriate period, actual payment may be

made to vendors according to the procedures in place at the FCJFS. All PRC payments are made by the FCJFS to the vendor or PRC AG. The county must ensure that its policies meet all auditing requirements.

This plan shall be considered approved and effective based upon the resolution adopted by the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners.

Fairfield County Job and Family Services agrees to implement the PRC Plan as written above revised and effective March 3, 2025

Corey B. Clark, Director

Date

APPENDICES

Appendix A	Benefit Matrix
Appendix B	Standards Help Sheet
Appendix C	PRC Application
Appendix D	School Clothes/Supplies Application
Appendix E	Employment Incentives Program (EIP)

Effective March 3, 2025

Fairfield County Job & Family Services

PRC Services and Benefits Matrix

Service or Benefit	Provider	Cap	Assistance Group	Economic Need Standard	Targeted Group
Disaster Services					
Disaster Services	FCJFS	Dependent upon need and funding available	Families with minor children	200% FPG	Families affected by a disaster declared by the Ohio Department of Job & Family Services
Child Protective Services					
Services to prevent imminent removal of a child(ren) from his/her home or to make reunification possible	FCJFS	Up to \$2,000 in a 12-month period – when funding allows	Families with minor children	200% FPG	Families with children at risk of placement
Kinship Support Services – Services designed to identify kinship caregivers and assist with accessing community resources	FCJFS	Up to \$2,000 in a 12-month period – when funding allows	Families with minor children, caregivers	200% FPG	Relatives providing care to children
Contingency Services					
Necessary Household Items Stoves, refrigerators, washers, dryers, microwaves, fans, air conditioners, beds, mattresses, box springs, cribs, and child car seats	FCJFS	Up to \$2,000 in a 12-month period – when funding allows	Families with minor children	200% FPG	Families with basic needs that aren't being met within their household
Rent/Mortgage Assistance Short-term housing	FCJFS	Up to \$2,000 in a 12-month period – when funding allows	Families with minor children	200% FPG	Families with urgent needs which, if left unattended could result in the family requiring public assistance
Utility Assistance AG is eligible for PRC for utility assistance in any 12-month period	FCJFS	Up to \$2,000 in a 12-month period – when funding allows	Families with minor children	200% FPG	Families with a disconnection notice, need to have used HEAP and PIPP if eligible
School Clothes Assistance Assistance with purchasing school clothes/supplies for children K-12 th grade	FCJFS	\$300 per child in the AG – when funding allows	Families with minor children	200% FPG	Families with children attending school
Domestic Violence					
Providing direct assistance to victims of domestic violence. May include but not limited to meals, transportation, housing, and shelter costs	FCJFS	No cap	Families with minor children	200% FPG	Families that have experienced domestic violence
Transportation					
Car Repair Assistance with repair is available for individuals who are employed.	FCJFS/Automotive Repair Vendors	\$2,000 in a 12-month period	Employed families with children, non-custodial parents	200% FPG	Working at least 25 hpw with a valid driver's license, insurance and two estimates for repairs.

Assessment Services					
Contracts with appropriate providers for screening tools and assessments to identify disabilities and the impact on employability will assure effective supports and services to this unique population.	FCJFS/Approved Vendors	No cap	Families with minor children	200% FPG	Individuals with severe mental, physical, and learning disabilities are significant barriers to employment.
Work Support & Retention Services					
STARS (Skills, Training, Attitude and Readiness for Success) Assessment, training, education, and job development to increase employment and/or advancement in the job.	FCJFS	n/a	Families with minor children, non-custodial parents	200% FPG	Under employed, unemployed, recently employed, and individuals reaching OWF time-limits
Fairfield Works; Skills, Training and Education Program Program to provide incentive payments and training to individuals.	FCJFS/WIOA approved vendors	Dependent upon need and funding available	Families with minor children, non-custodial parents	200% FPG	Under employed, unemployed, recently employed, and individuals reaching OWF time-limits
Employment Related Expenses Work clothes, equipment, gas cards, incidentals, licensing fees, vehicle repairs, transportation services, job related counseling and certification programs. Contingent upon funding, incentives may be available for successful participants.	FCJFS	\$2,000 Incentives/Job training and counseling will not count towards the cap	Families with minor children, non-custodial parents	200% FPG	Under employed, unemployed, recently employed, and individuals reaching OWF time-limits
Success Coach Case Management 1-on-1 coaching and case management services to individuals who are interested in finding employment.	FCJFS	n/a	Families with minor children, non-custodial parents	200% FPG	Fairfield County residents who are unemployed, underemployed, or seeking a job change
Services Through Contracts					
Summer Youth Employment	FCJFS/Approved Vendors	No cap	Families with minor children 14–18 year-old	200% FPG	14–18-year-old teens enrolled in school full time
Community Outreach					
Circus Night Community-wide event supporting, celebrating, and educating families on services available through FCJFS.	FCJFS	Dependent upon need and funding available	Families with minor children, non-custodial parents	200% FPG	Fairfield County residents

SNAP AND CASH PROGRAM STANDARDS

Cash

PRC

SNAP Assistance

AG Size	OWF Initial Elig. Test 7/1/24	OWF PMT STD 1/1/25	OWF Alloc. Allow. 100% 7/1/97	PRC FPG 100% 1/1/24	PRC FPG 200% 1/1/24	SNAP Allot 10/1/24	130% Gross Std. 10/1/24	Net Std. 10/1/24	165% Gross 10/1/24	200% Gross 10/1/24	Std. Ded. 10/1/24
1	628	372	583	1255	2510	292	1632	1255	2071	2510	204
2	852	507	802	1704	3407	536	2215	1704	2811	3407	204
3	1076	623	980	2152	4304	768	2798	2152	3551	4304	204
4	1300	768	1210	2600	5200	975	3380	2600	4290	5200	217
5	1525	899	1417	3049	6097	1158	3963	3049	5030	6097	254
6	1749	1000	1578	3497	6994	1390	4546	3497	5770	6994	291
7	1973	1118	1761	3945	7890	1536	5129	3945	6510	7890	291
8	2197	1240	1954	4394	8787	1756	5712	4394	7249	8787	291
9	2421	1362	2149	4842	9684	1976	6295	4843	7989	9684	291
10	2645	1485	2345	5290	10,580	2196	6878	5292	8729	10,580	291
11	2870	1605	2532	5739	11,477	2416	7461	5741	9469	11,477	291
12	3094	1729	2727	6187	12,374	2636	8044	6190	10,209	12,374	291

MEDICARE PREMIUM (1/1/25)

\$ 185.00

SNAP ASSISTANCE (10/1/24)

Standard Shelter Estimate Homeless

Earned Income Deduction

Excess Medical Deduction

Dependent Care Deduction

Minimum Monthly Allotment

Standard Utility Allowance

Limited Utility Allowance

Single Utility Allowance

Standard Telephone Allowance

Limit on Shelter Deduction

Resource Limit

Resource Limit for Elderly/Disabled AG

\$190.00

20%

\$ 35

No Limit

\$ 23

\$746

\$466

\$105

\$ 45

\$712

\$3000

\$4500

SSI Payment (1/1/25)

Single \$ 967

Couple \$1450

APPENDIX C

Application for PRC Assistance Fairfield County Job & Family Services, 239 West Main Street, Lancaster, Ohio 43130 (740) 652-7889 Fax (740) 689-4848 Email: prc23@jfs.ohio.gov This application must be fully completed, along with an Income vs. Expense Worksheet.				
First		Last		Middle Initial
Address				
City	State	Zip	Preferred Method of Contact: <input type="checkbox"/> Phone <input type="checkbox"/> Email	
Social Security Number	Phone Number		Email:	

- 1. Complete the spaces below for all individuals living in your home, including yourself. You are required to verify all income for all members of your household. Please list all social security numbers.**

Name	Relationship	DOB	Social Security Number	Monthly Income
	SELF			
Household Total Monthly Income:				Total Income

- 2. Does anyone living in your household, including yourself, have any liquid assets such as savings/checking accounts, PayPal, Cash App, Direct Express, Direct Deposit Card, stocks, bonds, or 401K funds: ☐ Yes ☐ No**

Name	Type of Asset/Resource	Current Balance

- 3. Is anyone in your household pregnant?**
☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, list who?

Name

- 4. Is anyone in your household receiving child support?**
☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, list name(s) of individuals receiving child support.

Name of Child	Amount

- 5. Are you involved with Child Protective Services?**
☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, what is the name of your caseworker?

--

- 6. What services are you needing assistance with and the amount?**

--

The information I have provided in this application is accurate to my knowledge. I understand my application is valid for 10 business days.

Signature of Applicant:	Date:

Case Number:

**Fairfield County Job & Family Services
Income vs. Expense Worksheet**

Please complete for all members in the household for the past 30 days.

Last 30 Days Income- Household Resources		Amount	
Employment		\$	
Unemployment Compensation		\$	
Workers' Compensation		\$	
SSI/Social Security		\$	
Child Support		\$	
OWF Monthly Cash Assistance		\$	
Food Stamp Direction Card		\$	
Money received from family and friends		\$	
Resources (checking account, savings account, etc.)		\$	
Other (specify)		\$	
Total:		\$	
Household Expenses	Amount Owed	I have paid this	
Rent/Mortgage		Y	N
Rent/Homeowner Insurance		Y	N
Electric		Y	N
Household Gas		Y	N
Water/Sewer/Trash		Y	N
Home Phone/ Cell Phone		Y	N
Grocery (out-of-pocket expense)		Y	N
Cable Television/Internet		Y	N
Other		Y	N
Transportation Expenses	Amount Owed	I have paid this	
Vehicle Payment(s)		Y	N
Auto Maintenance		Y	N
Auto Insurance		Y	N
Gasoline		Y	N
Medical Expenses	Amount Owed	I have paid this	
Doctor Visits		Y	N
Health Insurance		Y	N
Prescriptions		Y	N
Other medical		Y	N
Personal Expenses	Amount Owed	I have paid this	
Childcare		Y	N
Child Support		Y	N
Loans		Y	N
Credit Cards		Y	N
Laundry		Y	N
Cigarettes		Y	N
Legal Fees/Court Fines		Y	N
Other		Y	N
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	Total:		
	Difference:		

This Section is for Agency Use Only: PRC Authorization/Denial Form

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Application Expires _____

Name of Applicant _____ Case Number _____

Date of Application ____/____/____ 30 Day Budget Period _____ to _____

PRC issued within previous 12 rolling months? Check PRC Reporting Tool ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, month, date & category: _____

Utility payment history: _____

CSEA – SETS checked? ☐ Yes ☐ No Last 30 days received \$ _____Fraud list? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, details: _____Currently in receipt of benefits? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, category and amount: _____

Currently on sanction? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, details: _____Liquid Assets verified? ☐ Yes ☐ No Amount \$ _____Co-Pay Received? ☐ Yes ☐ No Amount \$ _____Completion of S.T.A.R.S. ☐ Yes ☐ No Date _____

Certification Program Requested Type _____ Start Date _____

Protective Services Worker and Case Status _____

Household Income

Name:	Name:	Name:
Gross Income	Gross Income	Gross Income

Total HH Income:
FPL:Entered into the PRC Reporting Tool: ☐ Yes ☐ No Date _____ Pledge Completed _____☐ **PRC Approved** ☐ **PRC Denied**☐ **Prevention** ☐ **Retention** ☐ **Contingency**

1. Vendor's Name:		Address	
Account Number		Name on Account	
Voucher Begin Date:	Voucher Ending Date:	Amount:	
Reason for Denial:			
Caseworker Signature		Supervisor Signature	
Date		Date	

09/24/2021

Voter Registration and Information Update Form

Please read instructions carefully. Please type or print clearly with blue or black ink.
For further information, you may consult the Secretary of State's website at: VoteOhio.gov or call (877) 767-6446.

Eligibility

You are qualified to register to vote in Ohio if you meet all the following requirements:

1. You are a citizen of the United States.
2. You will be at least 18 years old on or before the day of the general election.
3. You will be a resident of Ohio for at least 30 days immediately before the election in which you want to vote.
4. You are not incarcerated (in jail or in prison) for a felony conviction.
5. You have not been declared incompetent for voting purposes by a probate court.
6. You have not been permanently disenfranchised for violations of election laws.

Use this form to register to vote or to update your current Ohio registration if you have changed your address or name.

NOTICE: This form must be received or postmarked by the 30th day before an election at which you intend to vote. You will be notified by your county board of elections of the location where you vote. If you do not receive a notice following timely submission of this form, please contact your county board of elections.

Numbers 1 and 2 below are required by law. You must answer both of the questions for your registration to be processed.

Registering in Person

If you have a current valid Ohio driver's license, you must provide that number on line 10. If you do not have an Ohio driver's license, you must provide the last four digits of your Social Security number on line 10. If you have neither, please write "None."

Please see information on back of this form to learn how to obtain an absentee ballot.

Registering by Mail

If you register by mail and do not provide either an Ohio driver's license number or the last four digits of your Social Security number, you must enclose with your application a copy of one of the following forms of identification:

Current and valid photo identification, a military identification, or a current (within the last 12 months) utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or government document (other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections) that shows the voter's name and current address.

Residency Requirements

Your voting residence is the location that you consider to be a permanent, not a temporary, residence. Your voting residence is the place in which your habitation is fixed and to which, whenever you are absent, you intend to return. If you do not have a fixed place of habitation, but you are a consistent or regular inhabitant of a shelter or other location to which you intend to return, you may use that shelter or other location as your residence for purposes of registering to vote. If you have questions about your specific residency circumstances, you may contact your local board of elections for further information.

Your Signature

In the area below the arrow in Box 14, please write your cursive, hand-written signature or make your legal mark, taking care that it does not touch the surrounding lines so when it is digitally imaged by your county board of elections it can effectively be used to identify your signature.

WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE

I am: ☐ Registering as an Ohio voter ☐ Updating my address ☐ Updating my name

1. Are you a U.S. citizen? ☐ Yes ☐ No

2. Will you be at least 18 years of age on or before the next general election? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you answered NO to either of the questions, do not complete this form.

3. Last Name		First Name		Middle Name or Initial		Jr., II, etc.			
4. House Number and Street (Enter new address if changed)				Apt. or Lot #		5. City or Post Office		6. ZIP Code	
7. Additional Mailing Address (if necessary)						8. County (where you live)		FOR BOARD USE ONLY SEC4010 (rev. 4/15) City, Village, Twp. Ward Precinct School Dist. Cong. Dist. Senate Dist. House Dist.	
9. Birthdate (MM/DD/YYYY) (required)		10. Ohio Driver's License number OR Last Four Digits of Social Security number (one form of ID required to be listed or provided)				11. Phone Number (voluntary)			
12. PREVIOUS ADDRESS IF UPDATING CURRENT REGISTRATION - Previous House Number and Street									
Previous City or Post Office		Previous County		Previous State					
13. CHANGE OF NAME ONLY Former Legal Name						Former Signature			
14. I declare under penalty of election falsification I am a citizen of the United States, will have lived in this state for 30 days immediately preceding the next election, and will be at least 18 years of age at the time of the general election.									
Your Signature				Date (MM/DD/YYYY)					

**TO ENSURE YOUR INFORMATION IS RECEIVED,
PLEASE DO THE FOLLOWING:**

1. Print this form.
2. Make sure all required fields are complete.
3. Sign and date your form.
4. Fold and insert your form into an envelope.
5. Mail your form to your county board of elections.

For your county board's address please visit VoteOhio.gov/Boards

If you have additional questions, please call the office of the Ohio Secretary of State at (877) SOS-OHIO (877-767-6446).

HOW TO OBTAIN AN OHIO ABSENTEE BALLOT

You are entitled to vote by absentee ballot in Ohio without providing a reason. Absentee ballot applications may be obtained from your county board of elections or from the Secretary of State at: VoteOhio.gov or by calling (877) 767-6446.

OHIO VOTER IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Voters must bring identification to the polls in order to verify identity. Identification may include current and valid photo identification, a military identification, or a copy of a current (within the last 12 months) utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document (other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections) that shows the voter's name and current address. Voters who do not provide one of these documents will still be able to vote by providing the last four digits of the voter's Social Security number and by casting a provisional ballot pursuant to R.C. 3505.181. For more information on voter identification requirements, please consult the Secretary of State's website at: VoteOhio.gov or call (877) 767-6446.

**WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A
FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE.**

APPENDIX D

PRC Application School Clothes 2023		
Fairfield County Job & Family Services, 239 West Main Street, Lancaster, Ohio 43130 Phone: (740) 652-7889 Fax: (740) 689-4848 Email: prc23@jfs.ohio.gov This application must be fully completed and signed.		

Name of Caretaker/Parent (Individual who will redeem the voucher at Walmart)

First	Last	Middle Initial
Address		
City	State	Zip
DOB		
Social Security Number	Case Number	Phone Number
VOTER REGISTRATION ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE If you are not registered to vote where you live now, would you like to apply to register to vote here today? <input type="checkbox"/> YES, I want to register to vote. <input type="checkbox"/> NO, I do not want to register to vote. If you do not check either box, you will be considered to have decided not to register to vote at this time.		

Name of Child	Age	Grade	Please insert SSN for each child below

The information I have provided in this application is accurate to my knowledge. I understand this voucher is to be used for the purchase of school clothes and/or school supplies for the children listed above who are currently in my care.

Signature of Applicant:	Date:
-------------------------	-------

<input type="checkbox"/> PRC - School Clothes Approved			
Vendor's Name: WALMART		Address: 2687 N Memorial Drive	
City: Lancaster	State: OH	Zip: 43130	Phone: 740-687-0323
Voucher Begin Date:	Voucher Ending Date:	Amount:	
Caseworker's Signature/Date:		Supervisor's Signature/Date:	

<input type="checkbox"/> PRC - School Clothes Denied	
Reason for Denial:	
Caseworker's Signature/Date:	Supervisor's Signature/Date:

4/13/23

APPENDIX E

Fairfield County Employment Incentives Program

Fairfield County Employment Incentives Program

The mission of the Fairfield County Employment Incentives Program is to emphasize the importance of employment, personal and community responsibility, and self-support. This program will provide support to Fairfield County individuals in achieving financial independence while strengthening Ohio's workforce.

These supports include limited non-recurring, short term, crisis-oriented benefits to assist in retaining employment as well as employment incentives.

Eligibility and Application

- Participant must be a resident of Fairfield County
- Participant must be a work activity required Able-Bodied Adult Without Dependents (ABAWD)
- Eligibility will be determined using income received in the last 30 days and must be under the 300% FPL
- Participants must be working an average of at least 32 hours per week
- Eligibility will be determined during the initial application for ongoing Employment Incentives Program participation for 6 months (180 days)
- Individuals who are ineligible include fugitive felons, probation or parole violators, individuals convicted of residency fraud, individuals with an outstanding SNAP IPV overpayment balance, and individuals with an active SNAP sanction.

Amount of Assistance

- Financial incentives will be awarded to each participant based on maintaining full time employment for targeted intervals. These incentives will help aid employed participants in becoming self-sufficient as they experience reductions in their public assistance benefits. Full time employment for the program is considered 32 hours per week
- Participants will participate for a duration of 180 days
- Participants will receive a \$250 incentive at the 30-day interval and \$500 at the 180-day interval if the participant has maintained full-time employment verified through the employer or last 30 days paystubs
- Participants that change employment during program participation must be able to verify their new employment is deemed as financially beneficial based on the wage and/or total compensation package (wage, benefits, etc) in order to continue participation in the Employment Incentives Program
- Support services may also be provided to help the individual retain employment and eliminate barriers such as gas cards, clothing vouchers, car repair, etc.



FAIRFIELD COUNTY
**Family &
Children First**
COUNCIL

FAIRFIELD COUNTY FCFC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Friday, February 21, 2025
Ag Center, 831 College Ave Lancaster, Ohio 43130

Minutes

I. **Welcome**– Jeannette Curtis, 211 Executive Director, Council President

- *President, 211 Executive Direct, Jeanette Curtis; Vice President, Health Department Health Commissioner, Joe Eble; Vice President of Regional Operations, Amanda Wattenberg; JFS Director, Corey Clark; LFCAA Early Childhood Program's Director, Dana Hoff; Fairfield County Health Center CFO, Dan Fisher; County Commissioner, Dave Levacy; Fairfield County BDD Superintendent, David Uhl; ADAMH Executive Director, Marcy Fields; Superintendent Lancaster City Schools, Nathan Hale; JFS Deputy Director of Protective Services, Sarah Fortner; City of Lancaster Executive Assistant Major Designee, Shannon Seesholtz; Fairfield County Juvenile Court, Judge Vandervoort.*
- *FCFC and JFS staff in attendance: FCFC Manager, Tiffany Wilson.*
- *Welcome and introductions by Jeannette Curtis; a quorum was confirmed, and the meeting commenced at 8:30 am*

II. **Review/Approval of December's meeting minutes**- Jeannette Curtis, 211 Executive Director, Council President

- *December's meeting minutes were reviewed by members.*
- ***Motion to approve by Commissioner Dave Levacy; second on the motion by Amanda Wattenberg; the minutes were approved without objection.***

III. **Fiscal Report**-Tiffany Wilson, FCFC Manager

- *The fiscal report was reviewed by the members.*
- *Tiffany reminds the group that all FCFC's wage and fringe comes out of the main fund. Because of this, that account's expenses will be higher than the others.*
- ***Motion to approve by Nathan Hale; second on the motion by Corey Clark; the financial reports were approved without objection.***



IV. **Family Services Planning Committee**-Corey Clark, JFS Director

- Updates to the PRC was sent out via email prior to the meeting.
 - *Corey has sent out an email with the language that was changed. Most of it was clarifying language.*
 - *Additional clarifying information added for children that are part of a shared parenting agreement. The applicant must show where they are the residential parents or have their children more than 50% of the time.*
 - *Added more detail through the plan about work hours and self-employment.*
 - *Clarified that car repairs must not be already completed at the time of application for PRC.*
 - *Added propane and bulk fuel payments back into the plan.*
 - *Removed the previous cap of \$1000 for utilities and rent/deposit. This is due to the amount rent and utility bills have increased over the last couple years.*
 - ***Motion to approve by Dan Fisher; second on the motion by Sarah Fortner; Corey Clark abstained; the PRC was approved without objection.***

V. **Old Business:** Tiffany Wilson, FCFC Manager

- Strategic Planning
 - Fiscal Sub Committee Update.
 - *The Fiscal Sub Committee met and discussed sustainable funding options for the council.*
 - *It was decided that the council cannot fundraise, but a different agency could fundraise on behalf of the council. The committee discussed using United Way for this.*
 - *The group discussed dues or contributions from the Executive Committee Members. Tiffany has received examples from multiple counties on how they collect dues and what the amounts are from each agency. The group discussed the possibility of the statutory members paying more*



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than the non-statutory members. The group decided that this would have to be something that is discussed among the larger Executive Committee.

- *Tiffany explains to the group that she and Heather O’Keefe were part of a committee that asked the governor for more funds for FCFCs. This Committee asked for enough funds to cover 1.5 FTE per county. All counties, no matter the size would receive the same amount. Unfortunately, this request was denied. Commissioner Levacy suggests talking to Legislatures about funding. He is willing to help set this up. He suggests a presentation be conducted to each one individually.*

- New Shared Plan

- Share Planed Funds: Fairfield County was awarded \$16,748 towards Increasing Access to Respite Care Providers in Fairfield County. Next Steps?

- *These funds would go towards outreach, training, and incentives for respite providers.*
- *The next step for the new shared plan would be to form the sub-committee for respite. Tiffany asked everyone to send the names of the individuals they would like to see on this committee via email.*
- *David Uhl Asked if this was for adult respite or only youth. Tiffany answers that it is only for youth. David mentions that they would like to be involved in this.*

VI. New Business:

- HMG EI Oversight Report. Report was sent out via email
 - *Tiffany shared the EI oversight report with the committee. Early Intervention has seen a rise in referrals since the last report. This means that caseload sizes have increased as well. Tiffany adds that LFCAA has just hired another Service Coordinator. FCFC and LFCAA have also discussed supplemental funding with our state consultant. This funding would go towards hiring another Service Coordinator. David Uhl asks if the new Service Coordinator that was hired is the fourth service coordinator and Dana Hoffa answers yes.*
 - *If anyone has questions about the report at a later date, they can email Tiffany.*
- FCFC Staff Updates



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- FCFC Has hired a new Parent Education Facilitator. Her name is Stephanie Loudon and she starts on Monday. This is a great benefit to the council because Tiffany has been running the classes up until now.
- Laurie Clark has applied and was offered the EI Contract Manager/Parent Ed Coordinator position with the council, leaving her position of the perinatal cluster coordinator empty. Laurie is transitioning slowly to the new position slowly while we look to fill her position.
- I-Teams (MSY Monthly Meetings) Attendance
 - The I-Teams meeting is a meeting with the Multi-System Youth Program and partnering agencies. This meeting is a great opportunity for agencies to get updates on youth, help problem solve, and discuss upcoming families. Lately, attendance at these meetings has gone down. The Executive committee has just updated the Service Coordination Mechanism, which Tiffany is hoping will help partners see the benefit of this meeting. The next meeting will be March 11th. Tiffany asks that everyone ask their staff to attend to listen to her discuss the Service Coordination Mechanism updates and the benefit of this meeting. Judge Vandervoort asks if her staff are attending. Tiffany says yes, they are and have been extremely helpful in attempting to get others to attend as well. Jenette asks Tiffany to go around the room and let people know whose staff should be there. Tiffany mentions FCBDD, LFCAA, PS, Juvenile Court, schools, and mental health agencies. Anyone who works with MSY youth should be at this meeting. Tiffany also mentions that the schools were not on the release but this has been corrected and they are now able to attend the meeting.

VII. Manager Report-Tiffany Wilson FCFC Manager

- MSY Residential Updates.
 - FCFC Currently has no one in residential but has 7 at-risk. IHBT has been a benefit in helping keep this youth out of residential.

VIII. Parent Representative Update-Melissa Newman

- N/A

IX. Announcements-Executive Committee Members

Joe Eble: mentions that the health department just received a shipment of car seats to distribute. They also still have cribs for kids.



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Sarah Fortner: The Child Abuse Prevention breakfast is coming up in April 9th 2025. The State is coming down to talk about the tiered foster systems pilot program. Protective Services will have a position dedicated to this.

Judge Vandervoort: The attendance program through the ESC is up and running. They have one funded position through the court, one through the ADAMH, and one through Protective Services. The judge is writing a DYS grant to fund a case manager, but this would only be a one-year grant. The Case Manager has a touch base with the family. They are trying to avoid involvement with CPS and courts. This time last year the juvenile court had 50 cases, today they have only 1 or 2. Families have positively received case management. Incentives are provided by the court to help keep the kids engaged. Thank you to the partners who have helped. Positive

David Uhl: FCBDD received a grant that they just finished up. They used this money to invest into the community. They invested in an all-accessible park and ball fields. 2026 into 2027 the city is going to revamp the park. DD donated \$500,000 towards this investment. They also donated \$150,000 to the center of independence. They also donated \$100,000 for a new accessible van for the county's transportation's fleet. They also updated their forms into different languages. They can now track what languages are being used. Two members have been added to the board, Jason and Becky. March is DD awareness month. Guest barista day is March 7th between 10 and 11 and AHA. The celebration of possibilities is March 26th at Crossroads. No entrainer this year, but entertaining things will be discussed. FCBDD is on the ballot for a straight renewal. Cost 0 more dollars for 5 years. The levy is ending and now needs to be renewed in May.

Commissioner Levacy: Fairfield county transit is now called The Link. There is going to be a change in color and rebranding. The Sharidan center, formally the colonnade, is being renovated. It will have a big conference area in the building that can seat up to 400 people. Hopefully, it will be completed this summer.

Corey Clark: Snap benefits continue to be stolen. JFS is no longer able to replace these. They were only allowed to replace through the end of Dec. There is lots of advocacy to reauthorize this, but currently there are no placements.

Marcey Field: The ADAMH annual dinner is on April 29th. The Theme is Creating hope and breaking the stigma. Friends of ADAMHS award nominations are needed, please send them in.



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Amanda Wattenberg: The Starlight Center is open and accepting patents. They have short stays, beds are open to adults only. Currently, 40% full. 4-5 individuals in substance use which is a 12 bed unit. Weekends are busy. ADAMH will pay for the stay if needed.

Dana Hoff-HMG programs numbers are rising but accepting referrals for Head Start and Early Head Start. They have new flyers for these programs that Dana will get to Tiffany to send out. Can extend the poverty level to 200% if needed.

X. Adjournment-Jeannette Curtis, 211 Executive Director, Council President

- ***Motion to Adjourn by David Uhl; second on the motion by Amanda Wattenberg; the motion approved without objection.***

Upcoming Meetings:

Friday, April 18, 2025, 8:30 a.m., Executive Committee at Ag Center

Friday, June 20, 2025, 8:30 a.m., Executive Committee at Ag Center

Friday, August 15, 2025, 8:30 a.m., Executive Committee at Ag Center

Friday, October 17, 2025, 8:30 a.m., Executive Committee at Ag Center

Friday, December 19, 2025, 8:30 a.m., Executive Committee at Ag Center

ROUTING FORM FOR CONTRACTS

The undersigned designee of the County affirms that he/she has reviewed the attached contract to ensure that it complies with County's needs and previous negotiations. The undersigned designee further affirms that the County has complied with the competitive selection process, as prescribed by Ohio Revised Code 9.17, and the applicable sections as outlined on this form, by selecting the applicable boxes below.

- A. ☐ Goods and/or Services in excess of \$77,250.00—competitively selected via an Invitation to Bid, pursuant to R.C. 307.86-307.92
- B. ☐ Goods and/or Services in excess of \$77,250.00—competitively selected via a Request for Proposals, pursuant to R.C. 307.862
- C. ☐ Public Improvement contracts—competitively selected pursuant to R.C. 153.08-153.12
- D. ☐ Architect/Engineer design services for public improvements—selected through the Request for Qualifications process pursuant to R.C. 153.65-153.72
- E. ☐ County Road Improvement/Construction—competitively selected pursuant to R.C. 5555.61
- F. ☐ The subject matter was exempt from competitive selection for the following reason(s):
1. ☐ Under \$77,250.00
 2. ☐ State Term #: _____ (copy of State Term Contract must be attached)
 3. ☐ ODOT Term #: _____ (See R.C. 5513.01)
 4. ☐ Professional Services (See the list of exempted occupations/services under R.C. 307.86)
 5. ☐ Emergency (Follow procedure under ORC 307.86(A))
 6. ☐ Sole Source (attach documentation as to why contract is sole source)
 7. ☐ Other: _____ (cite to authority or explain why matter is exempt from competitive bidding)
- G. ☐ Agreement not subject to Sections A-F (explain): _____
- H. ☐ Compliance with Fairfield County Board of Commissioners Procurement Guidelines
1. ☐ No County employee, employee's family member, or employee's business associate has an interest in this contract OR such interest has been disclosed and reviewed by the Prosecutor's Office
 2. ☐ No Finding for Recovery against Vendor as required under R.C. 9.24 (search via "Certified Search" on <http://ffr.ohioauditor.gov/>)
 3. ☐ Obtained 3 quotes for purchases under \$77,250.00 (as applicable)
 4. ☐ Purchase Order is included with Agreement

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20_____.



Budget Manager

Name and Title

*** Please note that this checklist only addresses County and statutory requirements. If a contract is paid for with state and/or federal funds, please consult with the appropriate state and/or federal agency to ensure your department is complying with any additional requirements. By submitting a request for approval, you are certifying you have addressed County, statutory, and grant requirements.***

Prosecutor's Approval Page

Resolution No.

A resolution authorizing the approval of the Fairfield County Prevention, Retention and Contingency Plan (PRC Plan) between Fairfield County Job & Family Services and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

(Fairfield County Job and Family Services)

Approved as to form on 2/27/2025 4:18:52 PM by Steven Darnell,

Resolution No. 2025-03.04.i

A resolution authorizing the approval of the Fairfield County Prevention, Retention and Contingency Plan (PRC Plan) between Fairfield County Job & Family Services and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

(Fairfield County Job and Family Services)

This resolution has not yet been voted on.

CERTIFICATE OF CLERK

It is hereby certified that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of a resolution acted upon by the Board of County Commissioners, Fairfield County, Ohio on the date noted above.

A resolution to approve a memo exp./ memo receipt for the costs of Birth Certificates paid to Fairfield County Health Departments as a memo expenditure for fund# 2072 Public Children's Services

WHEREAS, FCJFS is responsible for paying the Health Department for their Birth Certificate costs; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1: That the Fairfield County Auditor reflect the following memo receipt:

71700300- 434410 Reimbursement - \$32.00

This amount represents monies owed to the Health Department for FCJFS's costs paid to the Health Department as denoted in the attached documentation.

Section 2: That the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners approves the following expenditure of other expenses and requests that the Fairfield County Auditor accomplish the transaction as if a regular County Auditor warrant reimbursing the Health Department for FCJFS's Birth Certificate costs

Memo expenditure as referenced in supporting documentation:

Vendor # 7482 Fairfield County Health Department

Account: 12207207-533000 Other Professional Services

Amount: \$32.00

Prepared by: Morgan Fox, Fiscal Officer

cc: Jamie Ehorn, Fairfield County Health Department

Resolution No. 2025-03.04.j

A resolution to approve a memo exp./ memo receipt for the costs of Birth
Certificates paid to Fairfield County Health Departments as a memo expenditure for fund# 2072
Public Children's Services

(Fairfield County Job and Family Services)

This resolution has not yet been voted on.

CERTIFICATE OF CLERK

It is hereby certified that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of a resolution acted
upon by the Board of County Commissioners, Fairfield County, Ohio on the date noted above.

A resolution to request for appropriations for receipts for Major Crimes Violent Crimes Reduction Grant Fund 7911 and advance

WHEREAS, the Major Crimes will receive additional reimbursement dollars this calendar year for the 2024 Violent Crimes Reduction Grant Award in the amount of \$70,000.00; and

WHEREAS, this grant pays for the Flock Camera system throughout the county; and

WHEREAS, an additional advance from the General Fund is needed to pay the invoice prior to reimbursement; and

WHEREAS, monies will be reimbursed for grant approved purchases and the advance repaid by September 15, 2025.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, COUNTY OF FAIRFIELD, STATE OF OHIO:

SECTION 1. Request that the Fairfield County Commissioners Appropriate from Unappropriated funds in the amount of:
\$70,000.00 78791100 Contract Services

SECTION 2. Request the Fairfield County Commissioners make the following advance:
DEBIT 1001 090000 General Fund Advance <\$65,000.00>
CREDIT 7911 223001 Violent Crimes Reduction Grant \$65,000.00

SECTION 3. Request that the advance be paid back to the General Fund, no later than September 15, 2025.

Prepared by: Christy Noland
cc: EMA

A resolution to request for appropriations for receipts for Major Crimes Violent Crimes Reduction Grant Fund 7911

For Auditor's Office Use Only:

Section 1. 78791100 530000 Contractual Services \$70,000.00

Section 2. Issue an Amended Certificate in the amount \$70,000.00 to credit of 7911.

Section 3. Request that the Fairfield County Auditor, on behalf of the Budget Commission, update receipt line 78791100 433400 State Grants in the amount of \$70,000.00.

Signature Page

Resolution No. 2025-03.04.k

A resolution to request for appropriations for receipts for Major Crimes Violent Crimes Reduction Grant Fund 7911 and advance

(South Central Major Crimes Unit)

This resolution has not yet been voted on.

CERTIFICATE OF CLERK

It is hereby certified that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of a resolution acted upon by the Board of County Commissioners, Fairfield County, Ohio on the date noted above.

A resolution authorizing the approval of payment of invoices for departments that need Board of Commissioners' approval.

WHEREAS, departments that need the Board of Commissioners' approval for payment of their invoices have submitted their invoices to the County Auditor; and

WHEREAS, the County Auditor has submitted the cash disbursement journal for payment of invoices for the check date March 6, 2025.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, FAIRFIELD COUNTY, STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That the Fairfield County Board of County Commissioners approves the attached cash disbursement journal.

Prepared by: Auditor/Finance
cc: Finance Office

FAIRFIELD COUNTY OHIO - INVOICES BY DEPARTMENT

Department									
Check #	Check Date	Vend #	Vendor Name	Invoice #	Invoice Date	PO #	Warrant	Line Item Description	Amount
1200 - COMMISSIONERS ADMIN									
FUND: 1001 - GENERAL FUND									
5421747	3/6/2025	940	CCAO	2025 DUES	2/20/2025	185	C0304	AUNDREA CORDLE	380.00
5421748	3/6/2025	3720	LANC FF CO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	50855	2/14/2025	391	C0304	STATE OF THE CITY - PORTER	25.00
5421748	3/6/2025	3720	LANC FF CO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	50854	2/14/2025	391	C0304	STATE OF THE CITY - WATSON/DAVIS/LEVACY/CORDLE/JK	125.00
1589138	3/6/2025	80132	AUNDREA N CORDLE	2/2025	2/1/2025	341	C0304	MONTHLY CELL PHONE STIPEND 2/2025	60.00
1589139	3/6/2025	82133	JEFF PORTER	2/2025	2/1/2025	417	C0304	MONTHLY CELL PHONE STIPEND 2/2025	60.00
TOTAL: COMMISSIONERS ADMIN									650.00
Summary Total for this report:									650.00

FAIRFIELD COUNTY OHIO - INVOICES BY DEPARTMENT - SUMMARY

Department	Total Amount
1200 - COMMISSIONERS ADMIN	\$650.00
Summary Total For This Report:	\$650.00

Commissioner Steven A. Davis

Commissioner Jeffery M Fix

Commissioner David L Levacy

Date

Resolution No. 2025-03.04.I

A resolution authorizing the approval of payment of invoices for departments that need Board of Commissioners' approval.

(Fairfield County Commissioners)

This resolution has not yet been voted on.

CERTIFICATE OF CLERK

It is hereby certified that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of a resolution acted upon by the Board of County Commissioners, Fairfield County, Ohio on the date noted above.