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THE FUTURE OF SOUTHEAST OHIO'S ECONOMY: A REGIONAL REVITALIZATION REPORT

Fall 2024

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Executive Summary

The projects contained in the Southeast Ohio Regional Revitalization Report outline a strategic vision to drive economic growth, improve infrastructure, and enhance community well-being across Appalachian Ohio. This report presents a catalog of projects that, with additional state investment, could deliver long-lasting benefits to the region's residents and economy. With a focus on transformative initiatives born out of the state's Appalachian Community Grant Program, the report highlights projects in key areas such as downtown revitalization, outdoor recreation, community centers, arts, culture, and workforce development. While these projects did not receive implementation funding through the Appalachian Community Grant Program, many of them received significant support for planning and design, making them well-positioned for implementation.

Downtown revitalization and streetscape improvements are central to this vision, aiming to breathe new life into historic downtown areas, improve accessibility, and foster local economic growth. Projects like the Jacksonville Revitalization and the New Lexington revitalization effort will restore sidewalks, improve pedestrian safety, and create welcoming public spaces. These efforts are designed to attract businesses, residents, and tourists, creating vibrant community hubs.

In the outdoor recreation sector, projects are focused on expanding access to parks, trails, and recreational facilities. This includes trail systems that connect communities and offer healthy, outdoor activities, like

the enhancements planned for the Morgan County Trail System. Other projects will enhance parks and recreation amenities to ensure accessibility for all residents, promoting wellness and tourism through expanded outdoor opportunities.

Community centers are another cornerstone of the revitalization effort. These projects aim to enhance the services available to residents by creating spaces for workforce development, health services, and community engagement. Projects like the Federal Valley Resource Center and the Blakeslee Center will not only improve physical infrastructure but also serve as critical hubs for education, arts, and cultural activities.

The report also emphasizes the importance of arts, history, and culture in revitalizing the region. Projects such as the renovations of Stuart's Opera House and the Tecumseh Theater will preserve and showcase the region's cultural heritage while driving economic development through increased tourism and community engagement.

Collectively, these initiatives aim to create sustainable economic growth, improve the quality of life for residents, and establish Appalachian Ohio as a vibrant, thriving region. With strategic state investment, these projects can transform communities, creating lasting impacts for generations to come.

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Downtowns & Streetscapes

DOWNTOWNS & STREETS CAPES

Projects: 12

Total Project Costs: \$67,156,233

Downtown revitalization projects aim to rejuvenate and enhance community spaces by improving infrastructure, promoting accessibility, and encouraging local economic growth. These initiatives focus on restoring historic areas, upgrading pedestrian and bike pathways, and creating vibrant, connected spaces that attract residents and visitors alike. By enhancing cultural, recreational, and commercial offerings, these projects foster a sense of community pride and stimulate economic activity, while also transforming downtown areas into thriving hubs for regional development. Each of these projects received planning support through the Appalachian Community Grant Program.

Jacksonville Revitalization



Athens County

Total Project Costs: \$962,810

This project will revitalize the downtown area by restoring brick sidewalks, adding pavement markings for pedestrian safety, and installing wayfinding signs. The construction of a new trail will connect the communities of Glouster, Trimble, and Jacksonville. Improvements will include landscaping, an amphitheater, a park, a gazebo, and a parking lot, providing an enhanced outdoor space for residents. A mural along SR 13 will contribute to the beautification of the community.

Nelsonville Public Square and Trails



Athens County

Total Project Costs: \$2,718,390

This project proposes a downtown connection from the City of Nelsonville Public Square to the Hockhocking Adena Bikeway to drive recreational traffic to downtown restaurants, shopping, and cultural points in Nelsonville. Improvements to pedestrian and bike access, including a newly ADA-accessible trail, will support the tourism industry in the region.

Albany Revitalization



Athens County

Total Project Costs: \$1,000,000

This project seeks to attract visitors by reviving its downtown area and creating trail connections to nearby communities. The downtown redevelopment will replace the roofs of five downtown buildings. All windows, doors, plumbing, electrical, flooring, interior walls, and HVAC will be upgraded. Two miles of trail connections will be completed to connect downtown Albany to residential neighborhoods and local assets. This project will create 80 new jobs and 6 new Airbnb rentals.

Woodsfield Downtown Streetscape



Monroe County
Total Project Costs: \$6,000,000

This project involves improvements that include 3,350 linear feet of trail through the Village, a retaining wall, utility relocation, benches, trash receptacles, bike racks, and landscaping. The ADA-accessible connection from the Downtown Business District to the Monroe Manor Apartments, Monroe Central High School, the Monroe Family Health Center, and several other community hotspots will provide safe access for everyone.

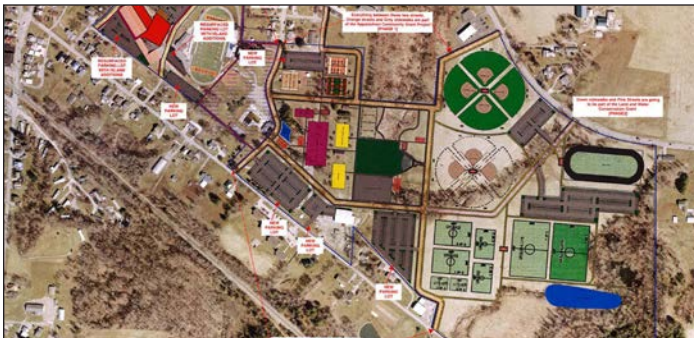
Shawnee Historic Main Street



Perry County
Total Project Costs: \$3,000,000

This project transforms the Historic Main Street of the Village of Shawnee with a pavilion-style amphitheater and streetscape to bring existing trails into town for increased traffic. One location on Walnut Street and three locations along West Main Street have been evaluated for renovation. These renovations include park reconstruction, Walnut Street renovations, and downtown access improvements.

New Lexington Revitalization



Perry County
Total Project Costs: \$44,000,000

This project will enhance the downtown streetscape, buildings, and parks to foster multimodal transportation, ADA accessibility, and opportunities for residents and visitors. The streetscape improvements will occur on three main streets throughout the village's downtown. The project includes Community Park Revitalization with a Multi-Purpose Trail Connection to become an inclusive space for all community members.

Malta Streetscape, Parks, and Trails



Morgan County
Total Project Costs: \$2,922,108

This project encompasses renovations to the Third Street streetscape, the Community Connectivity Trail, improvements to Community Park, and the Riverside Campground and Dock. Safe sidewalks and streetscapes will be installed from throughout Malta, connecting the Village Park, medical offices, and trails in McConnelsville. Facilities at the park will be improved, unused space for campsites will be utilized, and kayak access will be installed on the river.

Village of Amesville Revitalization



Athens County
Total Project Costs: \$1,111,189

The Village of Amesville aims to bolster its outdoor community events and revitalize the downtown business district. This will be achieved by building a new 30'x80' outdoor pavilion and stage in the park. Additionally, the project will involve creating a mural on the wall of a downtown restaurant and making facade enhancements to two downtown buildings.

Village of Belle Valley Streetscape and Farmers Market



Noble County
Total Project Costs: \$2,355,088

The Village of Belle Valley seeks to improve its streetscape and expand its outdoor farmers market. To facilitate the already popular farmers market, which functions on Liberty Market's parking lot, a permanent structure will be created. Sidewalks and curbs along Main Street will also be installed, improving walkability and addressing stormwater drainage issues.

Village of Rutland Revitalization



Meigs County
Total Project Costs: \$500,000

The Village of Rutland Revitalization Project will create a walkable downtown that will improve the quality of life and safety of the community. Improvements will support foot traffic and increase opportunities for business development. The project will replace 7,762 linear feet, add 810 linear feet of sidewalk along Main St. and Salem St., and replace a sidewalk along the Rutland Civic Center. The addition of 544 linear feet of crosswalks will increase safety in the Village.

Junction City Streetscape and Park



Perry County
Total Project Costs: \$2,586,108

Junction City plans to enhance the park and streetscape in the village to create more accessible, comfortable, and safer public spaces for residents. These improvements will allow safe passage across town, including access to the community medical office, retail, services, restaurants, banks, and the Village Hall. The project aims to establish an agreement with the County Transportation Agency.

Village of Crooksville Downtown



Perry County **Total Project Costs: \$1,912,000**

The Village of Crooksville plans to modernize a 700 foot stretch of its Main Street from Moxhala Creek to just past the E Main/S State intersection that will include wider sidewalks, historical signage, pavement markings, reorganize store-front parking, and add decorative natural elements (trees, planters, etc.) to its downtown core.

Outdoor Recreation

Projects: 21

Total Project Costs: \$78,790,879

The following outdoor recreation projects aim to improve health, well-being, and alternative transportation options in their respective communities. These projects, which include the development of parks, trails, and ADA-accessible amenities, prioritize creating inclusive outdoor spaces. Enhancements such as walking and biking paths, kayak launches, and mountain bike trails promote physical activity while improving access to nature. Developing these recreational assets not only boosts residents' quality of life but also enhances tourism, driving local economic growth and sustainable development.

Sells Park Bouldering Area



Athens County

Total Project Costs: \$740,097

This project will expand Appalachian Ohio's outdoor recreation opportunities by enhancing access for climbers, paddlers, and those with limited mobility. A new boat ramp on the Hocking River will be added to increase access to outdoor recreation in the City of Athens. The City hopes to build upon the thriving arts and culture assets to grow tax revenue by creating a sustainable outdoor recreation asset.

Tomcat Trail Improvements



Athens County

Total Project Costs: \$1,0956,105

The reconstruction of some sections of the Tomcat Trail will include lighting and safety enhancements as well as the addition of a climbing wall and bike rack in Trimble, and ADA parking accommodations in Glouster. The trail, which is over 2 miles long, currently links Glouster, Trimble, and Jacksonville, but it is considered unsafe and underutilized. The proposed enhancements would make Tomcat Trail a vital asset for Athens County.

Trimble Park Revitalization



Athens County

Total Project Costs: \$1,126,430

This project will enhance a village park along the Tomcat Trail in with new play equipment on a rubberized play surface; a resurfaced basketball court and repaired baseball diamond; and an ADA accessible path from the parking lot to the shelter house providing individuals with limited mobility increased access to outdoor recreation assets.

Village of Syracuse Revitalization



Meigs County
Total Project Costs: \$1,750,000

The Village of Syracuse Revitalization will enhance the community by constructing a boat dock and kayak launch on the Ohio River, an amphitheater, and other outdoor recreation enhancements, including tennis, pickleball, and basketball courts. This project will enhance outdoor recreation access, strengthening the community’s physical and mental health. These investments will improve the quality of life for residents and attract visitors to boost economic development.

Kiedaisch Point Park



Monroe County
Total Project Costs: \$750,000

Kiedaisch Point Park is undergoing significant enhancements to ensure accessibility and convenience for all visitors. This includes the addition of a concrete and boardwalk trail encircling the point, making the park ADA-accessible. Furthermore, the plan encompasses the construction of a new restroom facility and picnic shelter, providing essential amenities for park-goers to enjoy their visit.

OUTDOOR RECREATION

Piatt Park



Monroe County
Total Project Costs: \$1,000,000

The proposed improvements to Piatt Park will make the site ADA-accessible by adding parking and a trail along the rim of the 119-acre park. The project also includes improvements to signage, the addition of a restroom, and a picnic shelter to transform the park into a welcoming destination for visitors and residents. The upgrades will include the installation of drainage to wet areas, walking bridges over drainage swales, and safety barriers along rock cliffs.

Woodsfield Industrial Park Mountain Bike Trail System



Monroe County
Total Project Costs: \$554,116

This project will develop portions of the 175-acre Industrial Park into a mountain bike trail system. The trail system will be less than 1.5 miles from downtown Woodsfield and include an ADA-accessible paved 1-mile trail in addition to the 7 miles of mountain bike trail. The Woodsfield Industrial Park Mountain Bike Trail will improve the quality of life for everyone in the community by increasing access to outdoor recreation.

Morgan County Murals & Visitor Center



Morgan County Total Project Costs: \$750,000

Morgan County seeks to create four murals on public walls in McConnelsville, Stockport, Malta, and Chesterhill. An interactive exhibit will be built in the current visitor center, which will showcase the outdoor recreation available in the county and educate visitors about local history. The proposed Wellness Hub will also provide amenities to visitors, including water, outdoor recreation supply vendors, and maps, ensuring a comprehensive and enriching visitor experience.

Morgan County Mobility ADA Kayak Launches



Morgan County Total Project Costs: \$1,890,889

This project will create 8 ADA-access points to the Muskingum River in Lowell, Beverly, Stockport, and McConnelsville. These ramps will allow those with limited mobility to enjoy outdoor recreation in a way they might not have been able to before. These kayak launches and access improvements will not only make a lasting impact on the community but also ensure a sustainable and accessible outdoor environment for future generations.

Village of Stockport Downtown & Riverfront Park



Morgan County Total Project Costs: \$1,616,001

This project will enhance Stockport's unique historical character and promote its walkable landscape while enhancing safety, lighting, and the overall appearance of downtown sidewalks and roads. Additional improvements include a 72x32 covered picnic area and a complete revitalization of the Riverfront Park. These enhancements will enrich the community's experience and create a more inviting and enjoyable environment for residents and visitors.

Village of Glenford Shelly and Lions Club Park Improvements



Perry County Total Project Costs: \$3,750,742

The Glenford Park Improvements project will upgrade two of the village's most important parks. At Lions Club Park, improvements will be made to the ball fields, restrooms, and a concession stand. The concession building will also feature solar lighting. At Shelly Park, a community shelter and a footbridge will be upgraded. Both parks' parking lots and walking paths will be paved to be ADA accessible.

Village of New Lexington Park



Perry County
Total Project Costs: \$22,000,000

This project will enhance the outdoor, cultural, and recreational opportunities available in New Lexington. Project components include the development of baseball, softball, pickleball, volleyball, and basketball courts alongside batting cages, a creatively designed playground, a dedicated dog park, a state-of-the-art amphitheater, convenient concession facilities, well-maintained restrooms, and comfortable shelter houses, with an emphasis on ADA accessibility.

Village of Corning Altier Park



Perry County
Total Project Costs: \$1,561,185

The Altier Park project aims to make much-needed improvements to the downtown area of the Village of Corning. It involves enhancing 440 linear feet of pedestrian-friendly sidewalks from the Altier building to the railroad tracks, installing lighting, benches, landscaping, and a mural depicting the village's history on a central building.

Village of Lowell Buell Island Park



Washington County
Total Project Costs: \$5,000,000

This project is designed to create better connectivity between Downtown Lowell and the park on Buell Island. It involves the construction of a scenic walking trail that is accessible to all, with ADA-compliant accommodations. Additionally, the project features trailheads with parking, interpretation areas, and improvements to the downtown streetscape to enhance the overall experience for visitors.

City of Belpre Civitan Park



Washington County
Total Project Costs: \$2,106,169

This project will improve the three-acre Civitan Park, by developing a comprehensive sidewalk network, creating attractive public spaces for both formal and informal gatherings, and enhancing the green infrastructure of the riverbank. The Belpre Riverfront Park will feature various elements including a stage with lawn seating area, a recreational shelter, a floating kayak launch, a parking lot, and ADA-accessible sidewalks, all of which will provide public access to the Ohio River.

Morgan County Trail System



Morgan County Total Project Costs: \$2,500,000

Conceptual trail plan. Includes identification of alternative routes and typical sections for 10 trail segment projects, preliminary engineering for 1-2 trail segments projects.

Dexter City Park



Noble County Total Project Costs: \$3,480,224

This project takes place at the Villages public park and involves park renovations including trail improvements, restroom facilities, playground equipment and a gazebo for public events. The renovations will focus on several key areas to modernize and improve the facilities. The project at the public park is a development aimed at enhancing the recreational experience for residents of Dexter City.

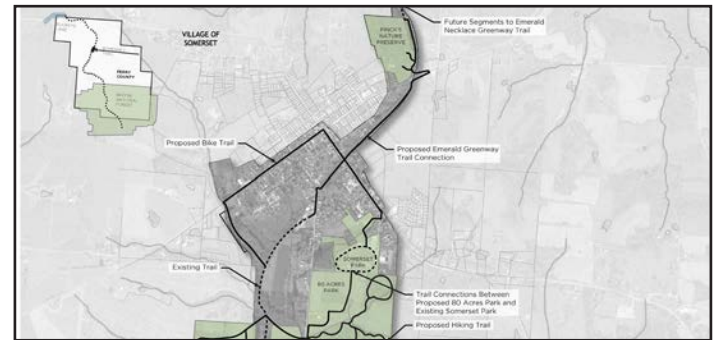
Village of Hemlock Park



Perry County Total Project Costs: \$678,660

The Village of Hemlock seeks to make its town more welcoming and better able to serve residents with a revitalized neighborhood park. This project will feature park upgrades including a new playground, walking path, shelter, and performance pavilion. A new mural will provide context on the history of the community. The project provides outdoor space to promote community wellness activities.

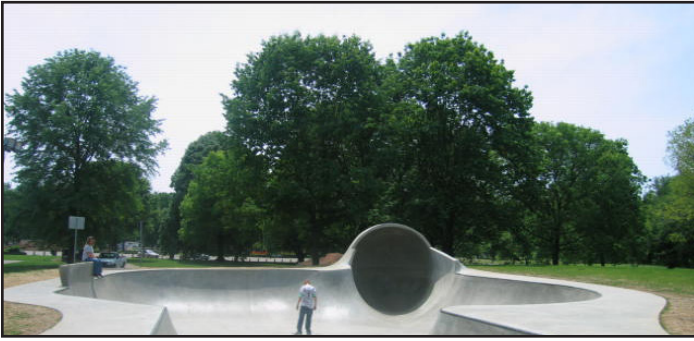
Somerset Emerald Necklace & St. Joseph Lake



Perry County Total Project Costs: \$4,244,594

Somerset's Emerald Necklace is an ongoing, phased green space project that aims to provide the residents of the village and the greater Perry County population with a connected and comprehensive recreational experience. The goal of the project is to acquire the CSX abandoned railroad property, open up the existing tunnel and create a hiking trail that links the communities recreational assets.

Indian Acres Park



Washington County Total Project Costs: \$1,181,700

Indian Acres Park, located in Marietta, is a picturesque 35-acre green space that offers a serene and inviting ambiance. It is an excellent location for year-round outdoor activities, providing ample opportunities for fitness enthusiasts to enjoy the park's offerings regardless of the season. This project will rehabilitate of tennis courts, basketball and pickleball courts as well as providing site furnishings such as picnic tables, benches, and trash receptacles.

Marietta Memorial Park



Washington County Total Project Costs: \$11,153,961

This project involves the renovation of Marietta Memorial Park at the confluence of the Ohio and Muskingum Rivers. Major project components include the renovation of the park, parking, trails, bank stabilization, trail improvements and the renovation of a historic onsite building and entertainment venue. The project will cover approximately 12 acres along Putnam Street to Wooster Street and connector corridors into Memorial Park.

Community Centers

COMMUNITY CENTERS

Projects: 9

Total Project Costs: \$40,931,811

The following community center projects aim to enhance health, education, and accessibility in Appalachian Ohio. These projects, including the development and renovation of libraries, resource centers, and cultural hubs, provide essential services like technology training, workforce development, and community health support. Upgrades such as ADA-accessible spaces, amphitheaters, and multipurpose rooms foster inclusivity, offering gathering places for events, meetings, and recreational activities. By modernizing these facilities, communities not only enrich daily life for residents but also create opportunities for increased civic engagement and long-term growth.

Athens Public Library



Athens County

Total Project Costs: \$2,441,775

This renovation project will expand on the most demanded services at the library, providing additional space and vastly improved facilities for community meetings; technology training and digital literacy; services for children, teens, and families; and programming space for the library's numerous community agency partners. This renovation will support activities that contribute to the success of Athens City and its residents.

Federal Valley Resource Center



Athens County

Total Project Costs: \$12,701,041

Federal Valley Resource Center serves as a multi-county facility with a food pantry, an instrument lending library, a thrift store, arts and culture programming, exercise classes, and a community library with book access through a partnership through the Athens County Library. This project will restore the historic building on its campus to improve the ADA accessibility to build on workforce development, healthcare, and other community uses.

Blakeslee Center

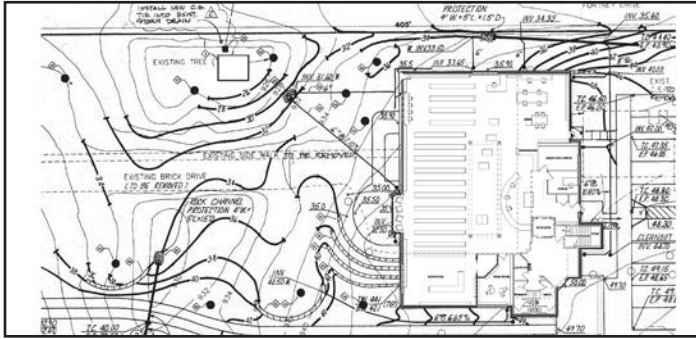


Meigs County

Total Project Costs: \$4,000,000

The Meigs County Council on Aging currently operates in the Blakeslee Center Campus, which houses community offerings such as a community theater, restaurant, food and nutrition programs for seniors and children, and Meals on Wheels. The Blakeslee Center seeks to improve the Central Building located on its campus. This includes brick tuckpointing, new windows, caulking/sealants, ADA accessibility, an elevator, and hazardous material abatement.

New Lexington Library



Perry County
Total Project Costs: \$3,000,000

The Perry County District Library is a direct connection to educational and technology resources for the community. This project will include an ADA-accessible amphitheater featuring music on the lawn with local artists. This project will increase the Outreach Department space and facilitate hosting events. This will include storage for the Book Mobile, which serves as an integral part of the library as it is the only mobile book unit in the county.

Village of New Straitsville Delyn Building



Perry County
Total Project Costs: \$2,400,732

The Village of New Straitsville seeks to revitalize the historic Delyn building to make it functional for community health and wellness. This includes restoring the ceiling and walls, installing new MEP systems, and creating functional event spaces. An 80'x20' mural depicting the town's history will be painted on the building's exterior wall. The renovation will create 1,525 square feet of office space next to the 4,650 square-foot community hall.

Little Cities Heritage Center Ward Building



Perry County
Total Project Costs: \$1,000,000

The Village of New Straitsville plans to renovate the Ward Building to house the Little Cities of Black Diamonds Welcome Center. The center will feature a cafe and an artisanal local product gift shop. Three retail spaces will occupy the ground floor with residential units on the top floor. Improvements include facade and window repairs, floor replacement, and general HVAC upgrades. Meeting spaces will be equipped with phone, internet, and video conferencing equipment.

Marietta College Center for Community & Campus Engagement



Washington County
Total Project Costs: \$10,000,000

Marietta College plans to renovate Gilman Hall and establish a Center for Campus and Community Engagement. The center aims to foster connections among students, staff, and local communities, offering space for programs, educational initiatives, and community meetings. Renovations will focus on improving ADA accessibility, HVAC, and filtering systems, while designing indoor and outdoor seating areas equipped with state-of-the-art technology.

Laurelville Community Center and Food Pantry



Hocking County
Total Project Costs: \$2,888,263

“Transforming Communities Together” is an ambitious project led by the Village of Laurelville and partner agencies. This project seeks to renovate the old school building into a versatile Village Community Center with classrooms to address local workforce and technical skill needs, a doctor’s office and a satellite office for Women, Infant, and Children (WIC) services as well as storage space for the food pantry.

Hotel Lafayette



Washington County
Total Project Costs: \$2,500,000

Owners of the Hotel Lafayette want to increase access to its historic hotel for those with physical limitations and to create an employment pipeline for those in the hospitality industry. This project will allow for ADA improvements to the property that will include a new entryway ramp and accessible elevators, as well as improvements to the layout and the renovation of the hotel’s basement to support community use.

Arts, History & Culture

Projects: 10

Total Project Costs: \$40,478,000

The following arts, culture, and history projects seek to preserve Appalachian Ohio's heritage and promote cultural vitality. These initiatives include the restoration of historic theaters, museums, and performance spaces, with a focus on improving accessibility through ADA upgrades. Projects such as the renovation of the Athena Cinema, Tecumseh Theater, Stuart's Opera House, and Peoples Bank Theatre aim to create vibrant community hubs for the arts. By revitalizing these cultural landmarks, the region enhances its artistic offerings and supports tourism, fostering both cultural engagement and the regional arts economy.

Athena Cinema Ohio University College of Fine Arts



Athens County

Total Project Costs: \$5,750,000

The Athena Cinema is a historic community meeting ground and the only fine art film theater in Appalachian Ohio. Its renovation will promote local tourism, increase sales and memberships, and support the International Athens Film and Video Festival. Renovations include replacing the concessions area, revamping the lobby and office, and replacing 520 seats. Roofing, mechanical, and lighting upgrades will make the arts accessible to rural Ohio communities.

Public Amphitheater Ohio University College of Fine Arts



Athens County

Total Project Costs: \$5,750,000

The College of Fine Arts at Ohio University is looking to transform the North Green of the College into a public amphitheater for the community. This will create a new arts hub for SE Appalachian Ohio and the only outdoor amphitheater in the area, assist in developing preventative measures for future public health crises, and increase economic and cultural tourism in the area in collaboration with community wide efforts.

Ohio Museum Complex



Athens County

Total Project Costs: \$12,000,000

The Ohio Museum Complex is a free, open-to-the-public Natural and Cultural History museum located on The Ridges on the Ohio University campus. This project includes adding exhibition space to expand educational opportunities for student field trips and renovating the facility to bring it up to ADA standards. The enhancements will also help showcase the Crane Hollow All Taxa Biodiversity Index, a collection of over 120,000 specimens from the Crane Hollow Preserve.

Stuart's Opera House Enhancements



Athens County
Total Project Costs: \$750,000

Located on Nelsonville's Public Square, Stuart's Opera House is a driving force for community vibrancy, culture, and economic activity. The 144-year-old historic building includes a 450-seat theater, education center, production facilities, and event spaces. Stuart's plans to improve the iconic Opera House, add solar panels to increase sustainability and cut costs, install interpretive signage about Coal Era Arts and Culture, and improve Opera House Acoustics to increase visitation.

Village of Chesterhill Union Hall Theater



Morgan County
Total Project Costs: \$750,000

The Village of Chesterhill project will rehabilitate the Union Theater. With the addition of a 550-square-foot ADA-accessible restroom, the 325-seat theater will become a more vibrant hub for the community. This also includes retucking the brickwork on the building to preserve the brick. Window sash and trim repairs, the rebuild of the front portico, and the addition of ADA ramps, railings, and sidewalks will enhance the theater's accessibility.

Twin City Opera House



Morgan County
Total Project Costs: \$3,000,000

The Twin City Opera House plans to undergo a comprehensive modernization initiative to better serve its patrons and the needs of new and expanding businesses in downtown McConnellsville. The modifications encompass a strategic overhaul of the facility's restrooms, lobby area, treatment of a bat infestation, resolution of foundation moisture issues, and the installation of ADA-compliant accessibility through the addition of an elevator.

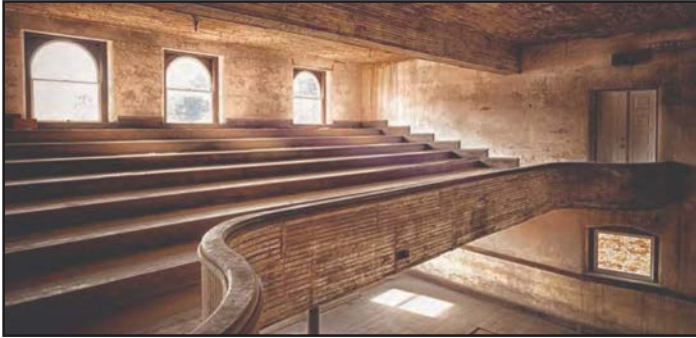
Rendville Heritage Center



Perry County
Total Project Costs: \$1,000,000

This project aims to establish a small "Welcome Center" to serve the Little Cities Corridor community. The plan involves the renovation of the historic Rendville Town Hall building to house a museum. Additionally, the adjacent home will be transformed into the Heritage Center, showcasing a traditional coal miners' duplex home. As part of the project, an ADA accessible restroom will be built on the site to ensure inclusivity for all visitors.

Tecumseh Theater



Perry County Total Project Costs: \$3,000,000

The Village of Shawnee is embarking on an initiative to elevate the Tecumseh Theater by undertaking a comprehensive renovation project. This project will involve refurbishing the third-floor community space, office, and kitchen, and implementing enhancements to the balcony, theater, and exterior. The aim is to modernize the facilities and create an even more inviting and functional space for the community to enjoy cultural and entertainment events.

Peoples Bank Theatre



Washington County Total Project Costs: \$3,447,000

The Peoples Bank Theatre project will involve expanding the lobby, relocating concessions, adding canopies to the existing fire escapes, reworking the HVAC and electrical systems, and installing a fire suppression system, a new PA system, and an additional restroom. Additionally, the project will include interior and exterior painting, drywall installation, and framing work.

Start Westward Memorial



Washington County Total Project Costs: \$5,031,000

The Start Westward Memorial, officially known as the Memorial to the “Start Westward of the United States,” is a 1938 sculpture located in Muskingum Park in Marietta. It commemorates the westward expansion of the United States, and the sesquicentennial of the establishment of Marietta in 1788. This project would allow the relocation of the stone structure and replace the existing stone structure with a bronze replica.

Village of McConnellsville Stanbury Building Healthcare



Morgan County
Total Project Costs: \$3,000,000

The plan involves a comprehensive renovation of the historic Stanbury Building, incorporating an imaging center, laboratory services, and primary care for all ages by partnering with Memorial Health System. A portion of the first floor will be reinforced to allow for large medical equipment. The second floor offices will be renovated to be at “medical-grade”. The third floor will be renovated for expansion and training opportunities.

Natural Freedom Wellness Center



Meigs County
Total Project Costs: \$600,000

The project will enhance mental health services at an existing equine therapy center in Meigs County. A mental health therapy trail will offer connection to nature through aquatic habitats, trees, sensory surfaces, a slack line, and retreat locations in a young forest. Additionally, a yoga deck, a labyrinth, and a shelter for hay bale forts will be included. All of these elements have been proven to aid in the development of mental health breakthroughs in children and teens.

Perry County Community Kitchen



Perry County
Total Project Costs: \$4,457,321

The project involves the renovation of buildings on Main Street in the Village of Somerset. The complex is proposed to function as a primary community kitchen space. This includes a catering-type kitchen with a walk-in fridge and freezer, ice maker, and space for processing produce. It will also be a flexible community space to hold educational workshops, pop-up restaurant serving areas, a seasonal outdoor dining area, and farmers market events.

United Plant Savers Brickhouse Apothecary



Meigs County
Total Project Costs: \$1,384,148

United Plant Savers intends to renovate the Brickhouse Apothecary, a historic riverfront building, and make ADA upgrades, including an accessible building entrance and expanding the first-floor restroom. This will also expand the organization’s library. Additionally, the plan includes upgrading the kitchen to a commercial kitchen to serve as a plant-based microbusiness incubator.

Inland Waterways Maritime Complex



Monroe County Total Project Costs: \$47,745,809

The Inland Waterways Maritime Complex will create an educational and workforce development that serves as a central hub for river history, education, and workforce training. The complex will feature interactive exhibits and historical artifacts, state-of-the-art training facilities, and scenic trails for community events. The main floor of the complex will feature exhibit space with a U.S. Coast Guard-approved training simulator for river industry certifications.

Washington County Career Center Nursing & Medical Preparation



Washington County Total Project Costs: \$5,815,500

Washington County Career Center is seeking to renovate approximately 30,000 square feet of an existing building. The renovated building will house the ever-expanding STNA, Practical Nurse, and Medical Preparation programs. These programs already have established employment partnerships with local entities and are in high demand. The scope of the renovations includes interior demolitions, renovations, envelope, and systems upgrades.

WORKFORCE

Ely Chapman Education Foundation Renovation



Washington County Total Project Costs: \$3,000,000

The Ely Chapman Education Foundation is proposing a renovation project for its 33,000-square-foot building, which currently serves 180 children. The renovations will involve replacing doors and windows, improving ADA-compliant access points, enhancing meeting spaces, and upgrading ADA-compliant restrooms. The project will also include the renovation of 4,212 square feet of community meeting room space and 1,490 square feet of clinical spaces.

Muskingum Valley ESC Driving School



Hocking County Total Project Costs: \$844,800

Muskingum Valley Educational Service Center (MVESC) found that students weren't getting driver licenses due to program unavailability and cost. MVESC will expand driver education into 2 new Appalachian counties (Hocking & Athens) and 9 additional school districts during the 2024–2025 school year. It will support the participation of its current 15 school districts for that year as well, including staffing and replacement vehicles.

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