

**DRAFT - PaCC Economic Development Meeting
March 8, 2023**

PaCC Mission Statement: *“The Pataskala Area Chamber of Commerce works to strengthen and enhance the business environment, represent the interests of our members, and foster balanced growth in the area. Our vision is to be the preeminent advocate for business and catalyst for economic growth in the region”*

Present – John Erickson (PaCC/PNB), Mayor Mike Compton (City of Pataskala), Adam Shillig (YMCA), Bart Weiler (YMCA/Weiler Financials), Debbie Kohman (YMCA/CPA), Amy Hoovler (YMCA/Hoovler Financials), Jeff Rothweiler (PaCC/Pataskala Public Library), Dr. Kasey Perkins (SWLSD), Emily Smith (INTEL), Diane Grove (PaCC), Shelly Marie Ipacs (PaCC), Andria Coppel (Johnstown City Council/Huntington Bank), Ryan Green (Johnstown City Council), Debbie Manos-McHenry (United Way/Huntington Bank), Lauren Massie (C-TEC), Nathan Yolles (PaCC/Keller Williams Commercial), Mark Schillig (Mid-Ohio Development), Chip Sergakis (Bedrock Group), Julie Gwinn (ODOT), Morgan Overbey (ODOT)

Participants shared updates and observations.

Julie Gwinn & Morgan Overbey, ODOT – The Pataskala area is in ODOT District 5. District 5 is in east-central Ohio and includes Knox, Licking, Fairfield, Coshocton, Muskingum, and Guernsey Counties. There is a big project in District 6 to widen State Rt 161 and I70 east of Rt 62, ideally before 2025. Next, District 5 will pick up the project on State Rt 161 east of Rt 62 to at least Mink Street, adding one more lane in each direction. There are also plans to lengthen turn lanes at the Beech Rd interchange to keep traffic from backing up onto State Rt 161. Plans also include adding a left turn lane at Smith’s Mill Rd and Beech Rd. There is no set time frame on these District 5 projects, as they have just started the evaluation process to determine if/when they will go forward. There will be many opportunities for public involvement as West Licking County studies are underway.

It was noted that a connector from Rt 33 to State Route 310 is not an ODOT sponsored project. MORPC (Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission) will be doing the study and it’s not yet funded.

Licking County will be doing a flood study for the interchanges at Routes 37 at I70 and 79 at I70. The unique conditions and existing infrastructure combined with the topography make this the first-of-its kind study done in Ohio.

There will be an upgrade safety study with Pataskala for the Broad St and Taylor Rd.

More updates and details can be found on the ODOT District 5 Featured Projects link, <https://www.transportation.ohio.gov/projects#page=1&subset=district,District%205>

Residents can sign up for email updates by scrolling to the bottom and entering email address or mobile phone number at <https://www.transportation.ohio.gov/>

Mayor Mike Compton, City of Pataskala – The city continues to be busy studying, looking at, and working on planned and anticipated projects related to Mink Street, Intel Development, and ODOT. The city continues to meet regularly with Intel and Framework. There is focus on possible

connections and improvements from I70 using Mink Street or other possible routes. MORPC holds all traffic models. Current models don't include or accommodate anticipated impact from Intel because MORPC needs updated land use models from regional entities, including the townships.

The city is working on replacing the Cable Rd. Bridge and street paving/repairs for Columbia Rd at Mill Street to Refugee Rd. As well as repaving Barrington Ridge. The Refugee Rd. Project with Etna Twp. Is approved and will begin with a roundabout at Etna Parkway. Later, roundabouts will go I at Havens Corners and Taylor Roads, then Mink Street and Rt 16. Traffic improvements are currently underway at Summit Road and Rt 16. Following are plans for improvements to Taylor Road and Rt 16.

All property in the original Corporate Park has been sold and adjacent landowners interested in joining can come in as part of the existing JEDD(s), or Joint Economic Development Districts. One Columbus is expected to do a press release very soon about something big coming to the Corporate Park, something that will help with the infrastructure.

Ryan Green, City of Johnstown – The City is working with One Columbus and MORPC in relation to infrastructure. They have their Comprehensive Plan in place and anticipate continued annexation. The City plans a lot of public information and education. Face Book pages for Intel, Meta, and Johnstown may be of interest to the public but as with all social media posts one must remember that independent research may be necessary to discern truths from opinions.

Dr Perkins, SWLSD – Refurbishing of the Kirksville building is beginning and in May they will be breaking ground for the new elementary school on Watkins Road. There is a survey out to gauge public interest in repurposing the Pataskala Elementary. The district is in the process of another growth study showing the biggest increase in the west. Redistricting may have to be considered.

Lauren Massie, C-TEC – They are working on curriculum for one-year, short-term specialized certificate programs in manufacturing, healthcare, and other high-demand jobs to fill the needs of area business and industry.

Adam Shillig, YMCA – The board has agreed to do master planning to expand the campus. There will be an opportunity for community input with the plan expected to be finished this summer. They've already agreed to lease their fields for soccer, flag football, and other possible sports. The “Y on the Fly” describes YMCA programs without the walls concept. This will bring free programs into the community, as transportation and financial issues are the biggest barriers to people getting the services they need now. The focus will be on West Pataskala.

The Youth Needs Assessment has been completed and will be presented at the Pataskala Area Chamber of Commerce March Monthly Meeting.

Jeff Rothweiler, PaCC/Pataskala Public Library - The library is partnering with the West Licking YMCA for temporary space while the library is being renovated. The temporary space will allow the library to stay in the same neighborhood and accommodate the people used to walking/biking to and from the library. They can also keep the library programs together in one room. The new library will have larger rooms with meeting space. Renderings are available on their Face Book page as well as their website, <https://www.pataskalalibrary.org>

Debbie Manos-McHenry, United Way/Huntington Bank – The United is thrilled to celebrate their 90th Year Anniversary and is seeking sponsors for their celebration, which will be a celebration and breakfast at Denison University, May 4th from 6:00am – 9:00am. They've also recently added four new board members.

Emily Smith, Intel – Intel is moving into the next phase of construction to build. Trucks will divert from Mink Street and State Rt 161, so they come in the back way. They continue to make donations for educational scholarships. Ninety percent of Intel's people will be hired from Ohio. City of New Albany, Silicon Heartland, and Welcome Intel Task Force are recommended Face Book pages.

Action Steps

- Let John Erickson know if there are others to be included on the invitation list

Next meeting will be in June 2023

Respectfully submitted by Shelly Marie Ipacs