



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Franklin County Awarded \$3 Million Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund Grant

Franklin County was awarded a \$3 million Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund (CORF) state grant for the Phase II environmental remediation and redevelopment for the Gowdy Field North Project – the last phase of a multi-year clean-up of a former landfill site.

The Gowdy North Project site, 681 W.3rd St, Columbus, is the current location of the Columbus Police Department Heliport which will be relocated to accommodate the new development.

The Gowdy North Project will consist of a new 100,000 – 120,000 square foot Class “A” office building with the main tenant proposed to be the JamesCare Woman’s Oncology and Out Patient Surgery Center – a part of The Ohio State University’s Comprehensive Care Center. The Center is expected to employ approximately 100 employees. Once fully leased the office building will house over 300 jobs.

"Environmental redevelopment is vital for the economic health of our communities," said Commissioner Paula Brooks. "These Clean Ohio Revitalization Funds will continue to allow Gowdy Field to grow and attract new economic development opportunities and improve the quality of life for local residents. The result will be more jobs on a former landfill site."

“By taking steps to reclaim these once contaminated, underutilized sites, we are contributing to a cleaner environment, while creating additional opportunities for economic growth,” said Commissioner Marilyn Brown. “Not only will we be creating jobs but we’re supporting smart, green growth.”

“It is refreshing to see that sites that were unclean, unsafe and unproductive are now being transformed into areas our neighborhoods can be proud of,” said Commissioner John O’Grady.

The site is part of the larger Gowdy Field project, which once was home to several baseball diamonds and named for Columbus baseball great, Hank Gowdy. In the late 1950’s the site became a City of Columbus landfill that ceased operation in the 1970s.

Gowdy Field sat vacant until 2005, when it was remediated by the Daimler Group Inc, and Wagenbrenner Development (Gowdy Partners III LLC) through a previous CORF grant.

As part of Phase I, the property was remediated and is now the 160,000 square foot regional headquarters of Time Warner located at 1015 Olentangy River Road. Time Warner employs approximately 700 central Ohio workers at the location and generates approximately \$2.4 million in local sales tax annually. Additionally, immediately south of Time Warner's building is a 140,000 square foot speculative office building which has recently been completed and will become home to the Ohio State Medical Center's Eye and Ear Institute in 2009.

Once the entire Gowdy Field project has been completed, the \$6 million supplied through the CORF program will have generated over \$100 million worth of private investment. The Gowdy Field project has won numerous brownfield and redevelopment awards and is recognized nationally as a cutting edge landfill redevelopment project.