

For Immediate Release
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Contact:
Dave Stratton
419-348-6538



Allen County receives grant to redevelop blighted area

LIMA — Eleven acres in the city will be redeveloped thanks to cleanup grant from the state.

Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine announced today \$192 million in grants for communities as part of the new Ohio Brownfield Remediation Program. Allen County will receive \$860,500 to clean and remediate 11 acres along the 1100 block of East Kibby Street.

The Port Authority of Allen County (PAAC) has an option to purchase the former EDCO Tool and Supply site. Once the two remaining buildings are demolished and the site cleaned it will be marketed for redevelopment. Its location near I-75 makes it ideal for manufacturing or warehousing.

“The EDCO property on Kibby Street has great potential and this brownfield funding will assist our team in the clean-up and remediation of this space,” said Dave Stratton, President/CEO of Allen Economic Development Group. “It is our goal to regain vitality and attractiveness in this entranceway into the city. We believe that the outcome can be that of positive economic and business growth.”

The PAAC entered into an Option to Purchase the former industrial site in 2018. It has conducted environmental studies and maintained the site for several years. The location in the city’s fifth ward is zoned industrial and has utilities at the site.

Allen County previously received two grants: \$710,000 to remediate the site of the former county home at 3125 Ada Road, and \$200,000 to complete environmental studies on a 57-acre site at 1403 Neubrecht Road, on which a creosote facility operated from 1938-1972.

“Allen Economic Development Group is committed to collaborating with our partners to advance Lima/Allen County,” Stratton said. “It is a privilege to work with the team at the Ohio Department of Development in utilizing the Brownfield Remediation program for the removal of several blighted properties for purposeful redevelopment.”

The brownfield program is part of Governor DeWine's Ohio BUILDS Initiative, which focuses on supporting targeted solutions that impact quality of life, such as water infrastructure improvements, broadband expansion, brownfield redevelopment, the demolition of blighted buildings, and more.

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About AEDG: The Allen Economic Development Group is a public/private partnership that was formed in 1993 as a facilitator for countywide economic development. Its mission is to create an environment for new business development, promote and nurture existing business and facilitate the creation of new jobs in Allen County.