

City of Cheviot Economic Development Tools

Administered Locally

Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) – The CRA is a tax abatement incentive offered by the City of Cheviot to encourage economic development in its business district. Owners of real estate who renovate existing commercial buildings or construct new commercial buildings can receive property tax abatement for up to 50% on the assessed new value added to the property for a period up to 15 years. Abatements are awarded on a case by case basis prior to construction. Contact Caroline Statkus at cstatkus@cheviot.org or 257-4949.

Administered at the County level

Both the **SBA 504 Loan** and the **Ohio 166 Loan** are administered by Horizon Certified Development Company, a branch of Hamilton County Development Company. They handle all application paperwork, processing, and required State of Ohio reviews. Both programs require the borrower to contribute at least 10% of the project cost in cash. It is required for both loans that a minimum of 1 job must be created for each \$50,000 borrowed. HCDC's website is www.hcdc.com/financing/programs. Contact Andrew Young, Angela Howard, or Michael Crowe at (513) 631-8292.

- **SBA 504 Loan** - This program enables small businesses to purchase, construct, renovate or partially refinance owner-occupied real estate and to purchase equipment with a low down payment and fixed interest rate for a term of 10 to 20 years. Maximum loan amount is \$1.5 million.
- **Ohio 166 Loan** – Through this very low-interest loan program, current manufacturers, distributors, or others* can acquire machinery, equipment, or real estate, as well as renovate or expand an existing facility. Maximum amount of loan is \$350,000. * Other = if a retail or service business has at least 60% of their sales/services outside of Ohio, they may be applicable for a 166 loan.

Administered by the State

- **Ohio Grow Now Program** – When a business takes out a loan with an eligible bank (Fifth Third and PNC Banks are currently participating), GrowNOW can provide a 3% interest rate reduction on that loan. The business must create or save one full-time or two part-time jobs for every \$50,000 requested, up to \$400,000. The loan can be used for equipment, inventory, or to provide working capital. Contact Ohio Treasury at 614-466-6546 or email: grownow@tos.ohio.gov.
- **Ohio Investment in Training Program (OITP)** – This program provides financial assistance when new or expanding companies make investments resulting in the creation or retention of jobs. OITP provides reimbursement for up to 50% of eligible training costs including payments for instructor costs, training materials, etc. While the program focuses on manufacturing companies, it also provides training funding and support to information technology businesses and financial service operations. For more information contact Jennifer Spohr of the Ohio Dept. of Development at (513) 852-2828 or email: jspohr@odod.state.oh.us
- **Ohio Historic Preservation Tax Credit** – This program provides a tax credit for the rehabilitation expenses to owners of historically significant buildings. The tax credit subsidy is 25% of qualified rehabilitation expenditures, with an application cap of \$5 million. These are hard construction costs that meet the requirements of the US Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Properties. The building must be categorized as having historic significance. (The City of Cheviot may be able to assist in obtaining the historic designation.) Further information is available from the Urban Development Division at <http://www.ohiohistory.org/resource/histpres/yourtown/taxincnt.html> or (614) 644-6552.

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- **Ohio Job Creation Tax Credit** – This program provides corporate franchise or state income tax credit for businesses that expand or locate in Cheviot. Eligible businesses must create at least 10 new full-time jobs (minimum annual payroll is \$660,000 during first 3 years of project operations). For more info: <http://development.ohio.gov/EDD/jctc/>
- **Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund** – Once a site has been designated a brownfield, this fund can provide grant money for many activities such as asbestos surveys, phase II environmental assessments, demolition, and several other remediation strategies. A match is required for 25% of total project costs. This is a competitive fund with 2 rounds per year. Contact Urban Development Division of ODOD at 614-995-2292 or email urban@development.ohio.gov.
- **Microloan Program** – This federal government program (through the Small Business Association) provides small, short-term loans to entrepreneurs and small businesses as well as not-for-profit child-care centers. It is intended to provide financing to borrowers who do not qualify for traditional financing, including low- to moderate-income households and borrowers with insufficient credit history. The maximum loan is \$35,000 and the average is \$13,000; loans can be made for up to 5 years. Loans can be used for working capital or the purchase of inventory, supplies, furniture, fixtures, machinery and/or equipment. Although the microloan program has not been operating in Hamilton County, we hope to have it offered in Cheviot in the near future. Visit the www.cheviot.org website in the Economic Development section for further information.