LOCATING YOUR BUSINESS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

OHIO CITY
OUR NEIGHBORHOOD IS GROWING

Ohio City has over 250 local businesses.

70 are new in the last 4 years.

800 new housing units under development.
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A COMPLETE NEIGHBORHOOD
Ohio City is home to nearly 10,000 residents and 250 businesses and offers a wealth of cultural institutions: public, private and charter schools; non-profits and charities; local restaurants and shopping. Known for its diversity, historic housing stock, entrepreneurial spirit, passionate neighbors, and anchors like the West Side Market, Lutheran Hospital and Saint Ignatius High School, Ohio City is Cleveland’s most complete neighborhood.

MARKET DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION
Market District Ambassadors provide safety and maintenance services that include patrolling the district, removing litter and graffiti, dealing with panhandlers, providing safety escorts, and greeting and assisting visitors and businesses.

Through the Market District Improvement Corp, a special improvement district (SID), investments by property owners in the Market District are leveraged to create a clean, safe, attractive, and welcoming district. Since the formation of the SID in 2012, Market District Ambassadors have interacted with businesses and visitors 24,957 times and have:

- Removed 222,355 lbs of trash
- Cleaned 3,314 instances of graffiti
- Provided 1,056 safety escorts

2014 GROWTH FACTS

- Over $100 million in private and public investment over the last two years with $200 million more currently planned or under construction.
- More than 800 units of for-sale and rental housing under construction or development.
- Ohio City Incorporated’s Small Business Development program invested $50,000 in eleven businesses leveraging over $108,000 from the city and over $346,000 in private investment, spurring over $504,000 in neighborhood investment.
- 14 new businesses opened last year, bringing 200 jobs to the neighborhood. Since 2011 over 70 new businesses have opened in Ohio City.
- Seven businesses completed the City of Cleveland’s Storefront Renovation Program, enhancing the public realm and creating a more attractive, economically viable, and diverse commercial district.
MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION

TRANSIT FACTS

• Zagster, Cleveland’s first bike share system was launched by Ohio City business owners with six stations installed throughout the neighborhood.

• Through the Ohio City Bike Rack Program, OCI will provide a match (up to $500) on custom bike racks from Rust Belt Welding.

• The Ohio City Connector was launched in 2014 to promote convenient and easy public transportation access between Ohio City and downtown.

• The Lorain Avenue streetscape is in the planning phase and will include the city’s first protected bike lane, providing safe bike connections from Zone Recreation Center to downtown.

• More than five million people per year pass through the Market District by public transit.

A CONNECTED NEIGHBORHOOD

Ohio City is one of the most walkable neighborhoods in Cleveland. Vibrant commercial districts and access to public transportation make it easy for residents and visitors to navigate the neighborhood without a car.

The second largest transit hub in Cuyahoga County is located in the Market District at West 25th Street and Lorain Avenue. Nine RTA bus routes service the neighborhood as frequently as every six minutes with connections to and from downtown. The RTA Rapid Transit travels through the neighborhood over 100 times a day with connections to University Circle and the airport.

OCI in partnership with RTA launched in 2015 the Ohio City Commuter Pass to further encourage employees to take advantage of multiple modes of transportation when commuting to the neighborhood. Through the program, subsidized monthly transit passes are available to employees in Ohio City (participating employers only).
LOCATING YOUR BUSINESS IN OHIO CITY

OHIO CITY IN NUMBERS

- Ohio City has nearly 10,000 residents and is located 1.5 miles from downtown and its growing population of approximately 13,000 residents.
- Ohio City has seen over $100 million in private and public investment over the last two years, with $200 million more currently planned or under construction.
- The Market District has over 4,000 employees making it the 3rd largest employment center in the City of Cleveland.
- Commercial vacancy rate in the Market District has dropped from 35% to 2% in the last four years.
- The intersection of West 25th Street and Lorain Avenue has an average daily traffic count of over 15,000 vehicles.
- The West Side Market has 1.8 million visitors annually; with over ten-thousand visitors every Saturday.
- Ohio City is home to Saint Ignatius High School, one of the nation’s premiere parochial high schools, with over 1,400 students.

BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

Ohio City Incorporated, partnering with the City of Cleveland, offers several programs that provide financial assistance to business owners.

NEIGHBORHOOD RETAIL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

- A low interest loan up to $40,000
- Up to $3,000 can be forgivable

STOREFRONT RENOVATION PROGRAM

- 40% rebate up to $25,000 for exterior building rehabilitation
- 40% rebate up to $3,000 for exterior signage
- Free design assistance

OHIO CITY SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT FUND

- 40% grant up to $3,000 on signage to match City of Cleveland’s SRP rebate
- Financial assistance up to $10,000 on storefront renovations
- 50% match up to $500 on bike racks from Rust Belt Welding

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Anna Enderle
Residential Development and Planning Manager
216.781.3222 x109
aenderle@ohiocity.org

Ashley Shaw
Economic Development and Property Manager
216.781.3222 x104
ashaw@ohiocity.org
BUSINESS RESOURCES

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

The Economic and Community Development Institute is a non-profit economic development organization based in Columbus that recently opened a Cleveland office. The institute offers valuable services to micro start-up companies including financial literacy, industry specific training, and one on one technical assistance. The Institute also offers loans in amounts ranging from $500 to $100,000 through its revolving microloan fund program.

Marco Grguvrevic
216.921.5657
mrggrurevic@ecdi.org
ECDI Cleveland
2800 Euclid Avenue, Suite 620
Cleveland, OH 44115

NORTHEAST OHIO HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Hispanic Business Center Cleveland Small Business Program is a partnership with the City of Cleveland open to entrepreneurs of all ethnicities which provides assistance in: individual business start-up plans; group training sessions; MBE/FBE certification assistance with the Office of Equal Opportunity; loan packaging assistance; storefront renovation assistance.

NEOHCC
216.281.4422
info@hbcenter.org
NEOHCC
2511 Clark Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44109

BAD GIRL VENTURES

Bad Girl Ventures is an educational and micro-finance organization dedicated to inspiring and supporting women entrepreneurs in all key elements of their development. Bad Girl Ventures combines micro-lending with a nine week business development course. Each three hour class is taught by successful business owners and professionals from the local community with in-depth experience in their fields. Each class consists of a two hour classroom session followed by a one hour one-on-one coaching session where experts in the industry spend time answering questions.

Reka Barabas
216.759.4575
reka@badgirlventures.com
Bad Girl Ventures
3558 Lee Road
Shaker Heights, OH 44120
OHIO CITY INCORPORATED

WHAT WE DO
Ohio City Incorporated is the community development corporation that leads the development of Ohio City by serving a diverse community of committed people, driving new investments in and preserving the history of a unique place, and promoting an authentic urban neighborhood. Ohio City Incorporated fosters neighborhood relationships that build community and create vehicles for community growth and enrichment. Ohio City Incorporated and its predecessor organizations have 30 years of experience in planning, economic development, and community building. The organization serves the community by providing assistance to neighborhood residents, businesses and institutions including community building, marketing, special events, neighborhood planning, real estate technical assistance, and tenant attraction & retention to make Ohio City a vibrant and livable community.

OHIO CITY INCORPORATED SERVES THE NEIGHBORHOOD IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:
• Organizing block clubs & community events
• Hosting neighborhood events
• Assisting in commercial & residential development
• Marketing & public relations for the neighborhood
• Attracting businesses
• Connecting existing residents to resources
• Educating community on safety
• Partnership with the City of Cleveland to provide promotion for West Side Market
• Advocating and planning for public infrastructure investment

CONTACT US
2525 Market Avenue, Suite A
Cleveland, Ohio 44113
216.781.3222

STAFF
Zoe Adams
Director of Marketing
Agnes Akite
Executive Assistant & Policy Analyst
Anna Enderle
Residential Development & Planning Manager
Hattie Kotz
Marketing & Events Coordinator
Kerry McCormack
Director of Community Affairs
Thomas McNair
Executive Director
Keri Palma
Near West Recreation Manager
Ashley Shaw
Economic Development & Property Manager
Ben Trimble
Senior Director of Real Estate & Planning

STAY INFORMED
Visit our website: ohiocity.org and sign up for our weekly newsletter.

@ohiocitytweets
Like Ohio City Inc. on Facebook
@ohiocityinc