



Community
Improvement
Corporation



Licking County Launches LC Forward... and Wants to Hear From You!

You're invited to a
Community Conversation

Join us for an interactive workshop to help shape a new plan for Licking County! Share your ideas for the County moving forward.

LC FORWARD
Your Voice, Our Future

Learn more
and register at
LC-Forward.org

June 23
6-7:30 pm
The John Gilbert
Reese Center

June 25
6-7:30 pm
Licking Valley
High School

June 30
6-7:30 pm
Pataskala
Grace Church

An aerial photograph of a rural road winding through a green landscape with some buildings and trees.

Licking County has kicked off *LC Forward*, its first countywide growth strategy in over 25 years. The plan will set a long-term vision for land use, housing, conservation, infrastructure, and more, and community input is essential to the process.

Three Community Conversation workshops are scheduled in late June:

- **June 23**, 6–7:30 pm — John Gilbert Reese Center, Newark
- **June 25**, 6–7:30 pm — Licking Valley High School, Newark
- **June 30**, 6–7:30 pm — Pataskala Grace Church, Pataskala

All are welcome; registration is helpful but not required at LC-Forward.org. Can't attend in person? Online activities will also be available at LC-Forward.org.

[Register Here](#)

Perma-Pipe Opens Manufacturing Facility in Hebron



Perma-Pipe is a global leader in engineered piping solutions, providing pre-insulated piping systems, containment systems, anti-corrosion coatings, and leak detection technologies that support critical infrastructure projects across the energy, industrial, and utility sectors worldwide.

The company's expansion into Hebron represents a significant milestone, marking Perma-Pipe's first U.S. manufacturing operation in more than 60 years. This investment further strengthens Licking County's growing reputation as a hub for advanced manufacturing, innovation, and industrial growth.

[Learn More](#)

2026 State of the Market Report

STATE OF THE MARKET REPORT

MAY 2026

Published by Grow Licking County CIC

Prepared by: Lal Serzgin
Cameron Garczyk, Executive Director

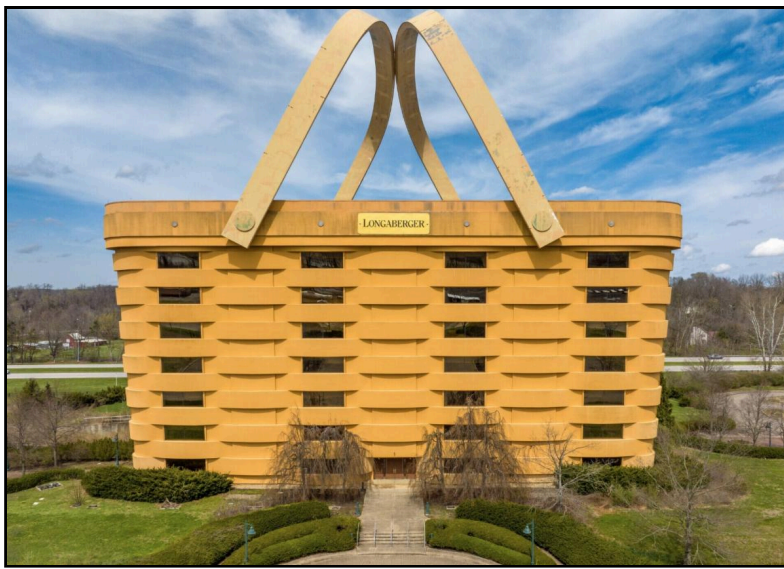


This inaugural report provides a comprehensive analysis of Licking County's housing, retail, office, industrial, and multifamily sectors. By comparing local market conditions with regional and national trends, the report offers valuable insights into home prices, rent growth, vacancy rates, inventory levels, absorption, and development activity shaping the future of Licking County and Central Ohio.

Key findings include continued industrial growth driving regional economic momentum, improving housing affordability trends, and strong retail demand supported by low vacancy rates. The report also features detailed multifamily and commercial market analysis powered by CoStar data.

[Learn More](#)

The Newark Basket is Officially on the Market



One of Ohio's most iconic and recognizable buildings is now available for purchase.

Located at 1500 E. Main Street in Newark, the world-famous Newark Basket offers a rare opportunity to acquire a landmark property with unmatched visibility and a distinctive presence in the Central Ohio market. The seven-story, 180,000-square-foot Class A office building sits on a 21.5-acre campus and provides a premier professional environment designed to support a wide range of business and organizational needs.

The property features high-end interior finishes, glass elevators overlooking a dramatic central atrium, a media room, on-site fitness facility, heated underground executive parking, and parking accommodations for more than 555 vehicles.

Strategically positioned along State Route 16, the Newark Basket offers exceptional regional accessibility and visibility while providing convenient access to the growing Licking County and Central Ohio markets. For organizations seeking a signature headquarters location or a unique redevelopment opportunity, this landmark property presents an exceptional investment opportunity.

Adding to the excitement surrounding the listing, WSYX ABC 6 recently featured GROW Licking County Board Member Brandon Hess of Shai-Hess Commercial Real Estate for an inside look at the newly available property. The segment highlighted the building's unique design, amenities, and potential, showcasing why this landmark asset continues to attract attention from across the region and beyond.

[View WSYX ABC 6 Segment](#)

[Learn More](#)

Licking County Chamber of Commerce Hosts its May Manufacturers' Council



The Licking County Chamber of Commerce hosted its May Manufacturers' Council meeting May,13th at Kaiser Aluminum in Heath, bringing together industry leaders and partners to discuss the continued growth and success of manufacturing in our region.

Attendees heard an overview of Kaiser Aluminum's operations and impact on the community. The company has been producing aluminum products in Licking County for more than 80 years and remains an important part of the county's manufacturing legacy. Participants also received updates from the Central Ohio Manufacturing Partnership, The Works: Ohio Center for History, Art & Technology, and GROW Licking County.

Manufacturing continues to play a vital role in Licking County's economy, employing nearly 10,000 people across dozens of companies of all sizes. From long-standing industry leaders to innovative new manufacturers, the sector continues to honor the county's rich industrial heritage while driving economic growth, investment, and innovation throughout Ohio and beyond.

Cologix Announces Major Expansion in Johnstown



Cologix, a leading North American provider of data center and interconnection services, has announced plans to expand its presence in Central Ohio with more than \$1.1 billion in investment across new campuses in Delaware and Licking counties. The project will create more than 90 direct jobs and hundreds of additional construction jobs through a multi-year buildout.

A key component of the expansion is Cologix's planned Johnstown campus in Licking County. Located on approximately 154 acres, the campus is expected to

include eight data center facilities when fully built out, delivering up to 800 megawatts of capacity across more than 2 million square feet. Development of the first phase is anticipated to begin in 2025, further advancing Licking County's role as a destination for large-scale technology investment and digital infrastructure.

Building on more than a decade of operations in the Columbus Region, Cologix's expansion will strengthen the digital infrastructure that supports businesses, cloud services, healthcare systems, education networks, and emerging technologies. The company currently serves more than 200 customers across the region and operates four data centers in Central Ohio.

The investment further reinforces Licking County's position as a growing hub for technology and digital infrastructure. As demand for data processing, connectivity, and AI-enabled technologies continues to increase, projects like Cologix's help build the foundation for long-term economic growth, innovation, and competitiveness across Central Ohio.

[Learn More](#)

June Investor Spotlight



MPW Industrial Services

Founded in 1972 by Monte Black as Central Ohio Mobile Power Wash, MPW started as a three-person truck-washing operation with a commitment to hard work, quality, and customer service. More than five decades later, that entrepreneurial vision has grown into a leading industrial services company employing more than 4,100 people across over 100 locations throughout North America.

Early success came through a partnership with American Electric Power (AEP), a relationship that continues today. As customer needs evolved, so did MPW's capabilities, expanding beyond power washing to include water jetting, industrial vacuuming, chemical cleaning, proprietary container cleaning, and water treatment services. This focus on innovation and continuous improvement has helped position MPW as a trusted partner across a wide range of industries.

Today, MPW remains one of the few major industrial cleaning companies led by its original management team. Under the leadership of Founder and CEO Monte Black, the company continues to operate with the same customer-first philosophy and entrepreneurial spirit that fueled its success more than 50 years ago.

[MPW Industrial Services Website](#)

[View Our Current Investors!](#)

If you are interested in becoming an investor of GROW Licking County or want to learn more, contact Cameron Garczyk at Cameron@growlickingcounty.org.

Check out our available buildings and sites!

The GROW Licking County team provides site selection services to professional consultants and business executives considering expanding or relocating to Licking County communities.



[View Properties](#)

Did You Know?

Manufacturing and construction are the fastest-growing industries in the county, with 65% and 62% new jobs over the last 5 years, respectively. Since 2020, there have been:

+4,648
New Manufacturing Jobs

+2,711
New Construction Jobs

Investors & Partners

Platinum Investors



Gold Investors



Silver Investors

- OhioMeansJobs Licking County
- Licking County Chamber of Commerce
- Village of Granville
- MedBen
- Huntington National Bank
- Vorys, Sater, Seymour & Pease LLP
- TruCore Federal Credit Union
- C-TEC
- Denison University
- Shai Hess Commercial Real Estate
- Southgate Corporation

Bronze Investors

- Pataskala Area Chamber of Commerce
- Granville Area Chamber of Commerce
- Buckeye Lake Region Corp
- Power Connect
- Terracon
- Verdantas
- ADR
- American Structurepoint
- Bricker Graydon Wyatt
- Legat Architects
- Wilson, Shannon & Snow
- Monroe Township
- Union Township
- Granville Township
- Matesich Distributing Co
- MPW
- North Valley Bank
- AEP Ohio
- OPUS
- Project Architecture LTD. Project Construction
- Reese Pyle Meyer PLL



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GROW Licking County | 20 S. 2nd Street 4th Floor | Newark, OH 43055 US

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