
Licking County Economic Stimulus Task Force

A public-private partnership advocating to maximize the impact of the federal stimulus package on the economy of Licking County and our region.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q: *Why do this?*

A: The list of projects being submitted for consideration by various agencies for federal stimulus dollars is large. The number of projects that actually get funded will, in comparison, be small. It is entirely possible that no discretionary stimulus dollars come to Licking County. With an advocacy effort, our chances improve.

Q: *Why is an advocacy effort needed?*

A: Its felt that an advocacy effort will help maximize the impact of the federal stimulus package on the economy of Licking County and our region.

Look at it this way. If you had 15 seconds in an elevator with a state agency official making a stimulus allocation decision, what would you say? The job of the task force is to develop a priority list that it agrees to advocate for on behalf of Licking County.

Q: *Who picks the task force members?*

A: This task force concept was first advocated for by the Port Authority in discussions with the Licking County Commissioners and the Licking County Chamber. In concert with various community stakeholders, the Port Authority invited a representative group of public and private community leaders to join an effort to prioritize and advocate.

Q: *Will this task force be choosing where to spend federal dollars?*

A: No. The way the federal stimulus plan is being enacted, the decision on how \$8+ billion in federal dollars coming to Ohio will be spent is being left to state officials. Though some money will come via “formula” distributions and some Licking County agencies will receive those funds, the task force will not be deciding any of those distributions.

Q: *Why should I care whether stimulus dollars come to Licking County?*

A: Whether you agree with the federal stimulus or not, \$787 billion has been set to be spent nationally with the intent of sparking economic recovery. Licking Countians are going to pay for this package whether money comes back here or not.