



Fact Sheet

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The Recovery Act: A Report on the Path to Progress in Ohio

Creating and Saving Jobs, Boosting Household Resources, Providing Assistance for the Vulnerable in Ohio

On February 13, 2009, the Senate approved the final version of the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009* and sent the legislation to President Obama to be signed into law (**P.L. 111-5**). The *Recovery Act* is an extraordinary response by Democrats to an inherited economic crisis unlike any since the Great Depression. The legislation represents an unprecedented effort to jumpstart our economy, create and save millions of jobs, and put a down payment on addressing long-neglected challenges so our country can not only recover but prosper once again.

Nationwide, we have already seen companies rehiring laid-off workers, construction and renovation of facilities, and the re-starting of environmental remediation activities. And, just a few months into the two-year *Recovery Act* programs:

- **We have minimized and avoided reductions in essential services in Ohio** by providing aid to help stabilize state and local budgets, protected critical safety-net programs, and saved teaching and law enforcement jobs. .
- **Plans for job-creating infrastructure projects in Ohio are already planned and underway** with the Department of Transportation allocation of \$183.5 million for highway infrastructure investments (through the Federal Highway Administration); and \$4.8 million in airport grants for development projects that enhance safety, capacity and security and airport facilities and equipment upgrades (through the Federal Aviation Administration) (as of June 2, 2009). These *Recovery Act* projects deliver jobs and make important investments in the safety of our transportation systems. [DOT Allocation Report, 6/2/2009].
- **Families and communities in Ohio that have been hard-hit by the recession** can access increased unemployment benefits, assistance with health insurance premiums for those who have become unemployed, and food aid. And 4.5 million households in Ohio – approximately 95 percent of all families and individuals – have already begun seeing an increase in their take-home pay through the landmark Making Work Pay tax credit. The typical family will have about \$800 extra cash delivered to them in their paychecks over the next year. [The White House, 4/2/2009]

Here is a sampling of projects in Ohio that have been covered by local media and press releases in the past several weeks, demonstrating the real-life impacts that the *Recovery Act* has already made for Ohioans, only four months after the enactment of the *Recovery Act*:

- **Akron's mayor announced he will seek *Recovery Act* funds to hire 21 cops.** [*Akron Beacon Journal*, 6/10/2009]
- **Ohio applied for *Recovery Act* Build America Bonds program.** Governor Strickland hopes to use stimulus bonds for road improvement, making bridges and rails safer, reducing state budget deficit. The state will apply for the federal government's 35% direct-pay interest subsidy offered through the BAB program with overall savings estimated at between \$700,000 and \$1 million. [*The Bond Buyer*, 6/9/2009]
- **The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency announced Columbus can spend up to \$5 million in *Recovery Act* funds to make court-ordered repairs to sewers downtown.** The work will help the city stop sewage from overflowing into the Scioto River during heavy rain. [*The Columbus Dispatch*, 6/9/2009]
- **Northeast Ohio parceling out \$3.9 million in *Recovery Act* funds to private home rehabilitators.** *Recovery Act* money finally is starting to hit the ground in northeast Ohio, helping get foreclosed homes back on the market and putting some kids to work. [*Crain's Cleveland Business*, 6/8/2009]
- **Ohio will receive \$6.1 million in *Recovery Act* funds as part of the National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program.** Of that amount, at least \$1 million is headed to projects in Central Ohio. The first round sent nearly \$7.3 million to 10 organizations, including regional bus operator, Central Ohio Transit Authority, while a more than \$12 million round announced last month sent nearly \$1.4 million to the city of Dublin and Columbus City Schools for the replacement of trucks or buses with lower-emission alternatives. [*Business First of Columbus*, 6/4/2009]
- ***Recovery Act* funding includes \$19.1 million in Trade Adjustment Assistance and \$6 million for clean diesel retrofitting of automobiles.** Senator Brown announced \$1.66 million in job training funds to help 700 workers who are losing their jobs at Chrysler's stamping plant in Twinsburg and the release of \$19.1 million in trade adjustment assistance for any worker in the state who has lost a job because of trade-related issues. [*Youngstown Vindicator*, 6/4/2009]
- **Special provisions for small business administration loans have decidedly improved loan volume and business activity across Ohio.** Has led to a 20 percent increase in applications statewide and a 50 percent increase in the Columbus District. [*Columbus Dispatch*, 6/3/2009]
- **Ohio receiving \$278 million in *Recovery Act* funds for drinking water and water pollution control projects.** "Combined with existing funding in the state revolving loan funds, Ohio will be able to provide more than \$1 billion to help stimulate Ohio's economy. Ohio is receiving \$58.46 million in ARRA funding to combine with \$81 million in non-ARRA funding for drinking water projects. Ohio also is receiving \$220.6 million in ARRA funding to combine with \$730 million in non-ARRA funding for water pollution control projects." [*Marion Star*, 5/28/2009]

- **Northwest Ohio apportioned \$4 million in community service block grants from *Recovery Act*.** “The funds may be used to assist families and individuals whose annual household income is at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines.” [*Toledo Blade*, 5/25/2009]
- **Olmstead Falls granted \$5 million in *Recovery Act* funds to construct bridge underpass.** “The project was first proposed in 1999, but problems with funding and design prevented the city from moving forward.” [*Cleveland Plain Dealer*, 5/25/2009]
- ***Recovery Act* will pay for 7000 Cleveland teens to work summer jobs, develop skills.** “Cleveland teenagers can apply for 7,000 six-week summer jobs that city leaders hope will keep them off street corners and out of trouble. The \$6.4 million program will be paid for with federal stimulus money.” [*Cleveland Plain Dealer*, 5/20/2009]
- **Ohio research institutions hope to receive *Recovery Act* funding for research programs.** President of nationwide children’s research institute called funding “an exceptional opportunity.” [*Columbus Dispatch*, 5/18/2009]
- **Energy tech insulation owner expects business to grow as homeowners use *Recovery Act* incentives to weatherize houses.** “Home weatherization is one of the first areas where federal stimulus dollars will result in actual job creation. Agencies such as the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, Ground Level Solutions Inc. and Impact Community Action Agency in Columbus have added employees and expect to hire more to meet the surge in weatherization projects funded with stimulus dollars....” “Glen Kubinski likes that the home-weatherization industry he has been part of for 25 years is at the forefront of creating jobs to help lift the nation out of recession.” [*Columbus Business First*, 5/15/2009]
- ***Recovery Act* incentives for weatherization encouraged several Ohio companies to hire more workers to meet growing demand.** “Home weatherization is one of the first areas where federal stimulus dollars will result in actual job creation. Agencies such as the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, Ground Level Solutions Inc. and Impact Community Action Agency in Columbus have added employees and expect to hire more to meet the surge in weatherization projects funded with stimulus dollars. In addition, heating and cooling contractors and insulation companies hurt by the national home building slump may be able to keep workers busy with weatherization jobs.” [*Columbus Business First*, 5/15/2009]
- **Ohioans receiving extra \$25 a week in jobless benefits thanks to *Recovery Act*.** “Unemployed Ohioans should receive an extra \$25 a week in jobless benefits provided through the federal stimulus package. The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, which oversees the unemployment compensation system, yesterday distributed more than \$1.1 million in added payments. The agency expects to distribute another \$50 million over the weekend.” [*Columbus Dispatch*, 5/9/2009]
- **Marion’s United Way will spend *Recovery Act* funds on emergency food and shelter programs.** Marion County will receive the \$25,528.00 to supplement local emergency food and shelter programs. [*The Marion Star*, 5/7/2009]
- **Akron plans to spend portion of *Recovery Act* to build fence on the side of bridge to prevent suicides.** “Ohio plans to use more than a million dollars of it to

build a fence to keep people from jumping to their deaths in the Little Cuyahoga River valley below... mental health officials say the All-America Bridge has become a 'magnet bridge': one with a reputation for suicides, therefore drawing more troubled people to try to jump off of it." State Rep. Williams: "Some of these projects are actually going to save lives." [[New York Times](#), 5/5/2009]