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CONTACT: Bill Teets (614) 466-2382  
or Merle Madrid (614) 466-4133

**LT. GOVERNOR VISIT TO JACKSON FOCUSES ON ECONOMY, ISSUE 1**

Jackson – Lt. Governor Johnson today joined State Senator John Carey and officials from the City of Jackson at a press conference to emphasize the importance of the Jobs for Ohio Bond Initiative.

“Through tort reform, tax reform and increased marketing efforts, we are showing the world that Ohio Means Business,” said Johnson, who also serves as state development director. “The next step is to ensure economic development opportunities for all Ohioans by making more investment available for public infrastructure, job ready sites, research, and the development of new technologies.”

According to Johnson, the Jobs for Ohio Bond Initiative, Issue 1 on the November 8 ballot, provides the comprehensive infrastructure necessary for today’s economy. The \$2 billion initiative funds three measures; \$1.35 billion over the next ten years for traditional infrastructure, \$500 million over seven years for technology infrastructure and \$150 million over seven years for the creation of job ready sites. “Without raising taxes, Issue 1 ensures local governments can continue building the roads, bridges and water systems that are important to their community, while allowing the state to build upon a technology infrastructure that will attract good jobs in the knowledge economy,” said Johnson.

Since its inception in 1987, public works dollars have funded more than 10,200 projects totaling more than \$2.4 billion, leveraging more than \$5.25 billion in local construction projects. In Jackson County alone, the Public Works Commission has provided more than \$8 million in funding, resulting in \$21.8 million in projects being constructed.

"Issue 1 will save Ohioans tax dollars because the State will partner with our local townships, municipalities, and counties to build and maintain public infrastructure such as roads, water, and sewer systems," said Carey. "It is a good deal for our area."

Jackson Mayor Shane Goodman agreed that Issue 1 would have positive impacts on Jackson. “The City of Jackson has participated in the Ohio Public Works Grant program for nearly twenty years, and city officials have completed ten projects. Most recently, these funds were utilized for important rehabilitation of our main sanitary sewer trunk line. This program has strengthened our infrastructure and positioned our city for important economic development opportunities. Since the beginning of the OPWC program, the local governments of Jackson County have received over \$8 million dollars in project funds,” said Goodman.

In addition to being placed on the ballot with overwhelming bipartisan support, Issue 1 has been endorsed by numerous organizations, including the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, the Ohio Farm Bureau, and the Ohio Chapter of the AFL-CIO. In addition to today’s participants, local supporters include the Jackson County Commissioners.

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