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THE STATEHOUSE REPORT

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Thank you to Nan Whaley (pictured above with Montgomery County Commissioner Carolyn Rice), as well as Cheryl Stephens, for joining the CCAO Board of Directors last week to discuss their policy priorities for their campaign for Governor and Lt. Governor.

ODJFS announces ARPA Incentive Funding for County Job and Family Service Agencies

This week, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services [announced](#) it is providing county job and family services agencies \$5.1 million in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) dollars as an incentive for successes in the SNAP program. As incentives, there are no federal restrictions on the use of these funds as they are considered local dollars and may be utilized in ways to garner additional federal matching funds – depending on where counties chose to invest their incentives. Agency incentive amounts can be found on [this spreadsheet](#).

President Biden to attend Intel groundbreaking in Licking County

President Joe Biden will be traveling to Licking County next Friday as part of the groundbreaking ceremony for the Intel computer-chip manufacturing complex currently under construction. The president is expected to speak on the CHIPS Act, bipartisan legislation he recently signed into law that will help with the project. Governor Mike DeWine also plans to attend the ceremony, along with other state and local officials.

The Intel site is projected to be the largest economic development project in state history, with a \$20 billion investment, with the potential for additional investment to come. The site will eventually employ 3,000 permanent workers, with an additional 7,000 workers required for construction.

Funding Now Available for Local Major Bridge Projects

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine announced on Friday that the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) is now accepting applications for funding as part of the [Local Major Bridge Program](#), which provides federal funds to counties and municipalities for bridge replacement, bridge rehabilitation, and bridge demolition projects.

Governor DeWine announced in April that [more locally-owned bridges would be eligible for funding](#) as part of this program. Modified program requirements opened eligibility to 238 bridges, up from 54. During the current funding cycle, the program will pay up to 95 percent of the construction and engineering costs for major bridge projects with a cap of \$20 million.

“Expanding the number of eligible bridges in this program gives more communities the opportunity to seek assistance with expensive repairs,” said Governor DeWine. “Ensuring that Ohio bridges are safe now and into the future is our goal, and this program helps accomplish that.”

ODOT has identified a [list of bridges](#) that meet the definition of a Local Major Bridge, but to qualify for funding, bridges must also meet other specific criteria related to inspection history, load restriction, and operation status.

Completed online applications are due by October 1. Selected projects will be announced by January 2023.

A criteria-based project selection process has been developed to focus on eliminating deficiencies while keeping within a financial plan that utilizes existing available resources. Funding of all projects will be linked to defined deficiencies to ensure that each dollar invested results in system improvement.

CCAO advisory bulletin on rent control and pipeline notification legislation now available

CCAO recently published its latest County Advisory Bulletin on House Bill 430, [available here](#). The legislation contains provisions, amongst others, to improve the safety of construction projects near underground pipelines with additional notifications to the appropriation public authorities. The legislation also prohibits political subdivisions from imposing or requiring residential rent control or rent stabilization without the consent of the property owner.

Any questions about HB 430 can be directed to CCAO Senior Policy Analyst [Jon Honeck](#).

Bill Introductions

[HB 713](#) (Ginter) To require the Ohio Department of Transportation and local authorities to issue special regional heavy hauling permits within every county that borders Pennsylvania.

