



CITY OF CLEVELAND
Mayor Frank G. Jackson

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Mayor Jackson and public-private partnership sign on to implement historic Community Benefits Agreement

Model CBA for public and private sectors will encourage economic growth through training, jobs and contracting opportunities for local residents and businesses

CLEVELAND – Today, Mayor Frank G. Jackson along with representatives from several key business, civic, labor and trade organizations signed a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) (MOU) regarding Community Benefits and Inclusion. This historic public-private agreement will help drive investment in Cleveland in a way that creates direct benefits for local residents and businesses by increasing pre-apprentice and apprenticeship training opportunities, connecting qualified local residents with job opportunities by adopting First Source Hiring, increase utilization of minority, female and locally owned business enterprises as both prime and sub-contractors, and convening a committee to monitor progress of these efforts.

“We started by asking the question – who benefits from investment in our city, in our neighborhoods and how do we make sure that everyone has the opportunity to benefit? The result is this MOU that will focus our efforts, in both the public sector and the private sector, on reaching a common goal: creating opportunities for Clevelanders and Cleveland companies to directly participate in our economic success,” said Mayor Jackson.

The partner organizations are: the City of Cleveland; the Construction Employers Association, represented by Tony Panzica; Black Contractors Group, represented by Dominic Ozanne; Hispanic Roundtable represented by Jose Feliciano; Hard Hatted Women, represented by Terrie Burgess Sandu; the Urban League of Greater Cleveland represented by Marsha Mockabee, President; Greater Cleveland Partnership, represented by Joe Roman, President; Cuyahoga Community College, represented by Dr. Jerry Sue Thornton, President; the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, represented by Eric Gordon, Chief Executive Officer; and the Cleveland Building and Construction Trades Council, represented by Dave Wondolowski.

The MOU is the result of two years' worth of work by Mayor Jackson, representatives from these organizations, as well as former Congressman Louis Stokes and representatives from University Hospitals, Steve Standley and Mary Beth Levine.

"I am proud to have been part of the group announcing this roll out of a historic Community Benefits Agreement in our City. I commend Mayor Frank Jackson and the Minority Contractors Coalition who were the strong drivers of this initiative," said Congressman Stokes. "Also to be commended are the labor and business owners who have adopted this Agreement as a means of enabling Cleveland to join other progressive cities in our nation in utilizing diversity to level the economic playing field. This Agreement will have far reaching consequences for our city."

The MOU and model community benefits agreement builds on the work that Mayor Jackson has done over the past decade, including the Fannie Lewis Resident Employment Law, the Cleveland Small Business Program, and Local Producer legislation, as well as the voluntary commitment by University Hospitals during its Vision 2010 capital development project.

"This Community Benefits Agreement will serve as a national model of how urban cities can help to drive economic development," says Steven D. Standley, Chief Administrative Officer, University Hospitals. "We are very proud to have been a part of this effort led by Mayor Jackson. We acted throughout in an advisory capacity given our experience in connection with our Vision 2010 strategic plan where we contractually incorporated goals for the utilization of minority and female business enterprises, voluntarily complying with the City's goals for resident employment. We remain committed to, and are fully supportive of, this innovative agreement."

The private sector's support for encouraging local economic growth through inclusion and by increasing diversity is essential to the success of this MOU and for building a sustainable economic future in Cleveland.

"CBAs will further enhance the work that we do through the Commission on Economic Inclusion," said Greater Cleveland Partnership President and CEO Joe Roman. "They can serve as additional channels through which the private sector can become engaged to support job creation that will benefit all Greater Cleveland citizens and positively impact economic development in this community."

Summary of Memorandum of Understanding

The MOU brings the partners together to

1. Fund and conduct a **Demand Driven Workforce Study** to determine both the near- and long- term demand for construction tradespersons, construction administration and technology and facilities maintenance personnel. This demand study will provide the basis for future pre-apprenticeship, and other training in the Northeast Ohio area's high schools, community colleges, and workforce training programs;
2. Increase and improve **Pre-Apprenticeship and School-To-Registered-Apprenticeship Programs** in partnership with the CMSD, Max Hayes High Schools and other high schools, Cuyahoga Community College and other education partners;
3. Led by GCP, generate outside **Funding** for the study and to support the development of the training programs;
4. **Workforce Reporting** – Encourage local developers and business owners to use CBAs with their contractors and report their progress in terms of hiring a diverse local workforce, Cleveland residents, hiring apprentices, contacting with minority and female owned businesses for goods and services;
5. Encourage developers, designers, contractors and owners to establish **Mentor Protégé** standards, minimum goals for **hiring MBE/FBE/SBE** firms and for hiring a minimum of 20% **Cleveland residents** for projects in Cleveland.
6. Offer **Assistance to Contractors** to increase the use of Apprenticeships and Pre-Apprenticeships, by encouraging the use of CBAs on development projects;
7. Create a **Construction Diversity & Inclusion Committee** to identify best practices for economic inclusion, create metrics for measuring success and monitoring the progress and use of CBAs in the local economy.