

ISSUE 41 — Spring 2022



Everyday Technologies Plans Office Expansion

Sidney-based Everyday Technologies is planning a 6,500 s.f. office expansion to support the company's growth initiatives. "We look forward to ground breaking in 4-6 weeks," said Cody Lee, President. Everyday is also planning to add an automated paint line and a new 10,000 watt Trumpf Fiber Laser with automation as part of their expansion this year.

Cody Lee explains, "It was apparent to me when I bought the business that Everyday Technologies had the ingredients to become an even bigger leader in the metal fabrication and wire harness industry. The new Trumpf Fiber Laser will cut material 10x faster than our current system and will have the ability to run unattended during off-shift hours. The new paint line will replace old equipment and will increase our capacity to existing and new customers. Our new office will be an amazing headquarters for our three locations. Our team is excited about our future and to

be part of the Shelby County manufacturing powerhouse."

Everyday Technologies has been serving equipment manufacturer needs since 1928. They specialize in metal fabrication, short to medium production runs, prototypes and first run samples; stampings; and wire harness products. For more information, visit www.everydaytech.com



Robust Activity in the Electrical Vehicle Supply Chain

According to Business Wire, "The global EV batteries market is expected to grow from \$22.9 billion in 2021 to 38.32 billion in 2025." According to Area Development Magazine, this rate of growth means OEM's are racing to secure a battery supply chain for their future electric vehicles. As more EV's are manufactured in the U.S., domestic battery production also needs to increase. Currently, most of the EV battery production capacity is located in Asia.

"In early 2021 we began to see a significant increase of industrial site seekers in the electrical vehicle supply chain," said Jim Hill of SSEP. "A company typically remains confidential in the early stages of the search, but we did know that the site seekers were all

foreign direct investment projects," added Hill. "Later we learned that most, if not all the companies were currently industry leaders in EV who needed to increase capacity in closer proximity to the OEM's in the US," added Hill.

During the SiteOhio Authentication process in late 2020 the Sidney Ohio Industrial Park was identified as a site with great utility infrastructure that would provide a client with "speed to market". "Entering 2021, we found that the Industrial Park was very well aligned with the EV market. This resulted in a dramatic increase in the number of leads and visits to Sidney and Shelby County," said Hill.

Currently SSEP and the City of Sidney are working closely with Jobs Ohio and the Dayton Development Coalition to finalize a project that could result in the largest initial foreign direct investment ever in the state of Ohio.

On March 28th, the Ohio Tax Credit Authority approved a 15-year Job Creation Tax Credit for the project. Subsequent incentives are scheduled for approval in April.

"Our goal is to continue Sidney's proud history as a manufacturing powerhouse," said Andrew Bowsher, Sidney City Manager. "We look forward to positioning Sidney Ohio as a leader in the next generation of motor vehicles," added Bowsher.

"A project of this size and scale will place Sidney and Shelby County as an important player in the emerging EV supply chain in North America, added Hill.

Commissioners Offer Small Business Recovery Grant Program

The Commissioners have committed \$400,000 of ARPA funding to provide an offset of economic losses through a Small Business Recovery Program. This program will provide grants to reimburse eligible business owners for COVID-19 related expenses, which are defined in the on-line document along with eligible reimbursement costs and additional program guidelines.

Applicants must be a for-profit entity with a location in Shelby County.

- Eligible bricks-and-mortar businesses may apply for a one-time grant of \$5,000—\$25,000 to reimburse for pandemic-related expenses.

- Eligible at-home businesses may apply for a one-time grant of \$5,000—\$10,000 for pandemic-related expenses.

Award determinations will be based on a first-come, first-serve basis. Applications will be accepted until May 31, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. Program details and application forms can be found on the County website under News, <https://co.shelby.oh.us>.

For questions regarding the program, please contact: Angela Hamberg, Regional Planning Commissioner, ARPA Grant Administrator, 937-498-7273 or email: ahamberg@shelbycountyrpc.com.

Top 100 Micropolitan Area 6 years running

The Sidney-Shelby County area was again named to the prestigious Top 100 Micropolitan list by *Site Selection Magazine*. We have received this honor 6-years running, ranking as 19th nationwide for 2021. Site Selection looks at an annual snapshot of economic investment. Ohio received the highest state ranking with 17 micropolitans in the Top 100.

"The micropolitan rankings provide a good measure that business investment is strong and Sidney-Shelby County continues to be a great place to do business," says Jim Hill, Executive Director of Sidney-Shelby Economic Partnership.

OHIO COMMUNITIES

IN TOP 20

Findlay

Wooster

Fremont

Tiffin

Congratulations, Mike



Mike Lochard, SSEP Vice-President, was awarded the 2021 Zenith Award for his dedication to community service. The award was presented at the Sidney-Shelby County Chamber Annual Dinner on

Brookings Institute Report on Midwest Rejuvenation

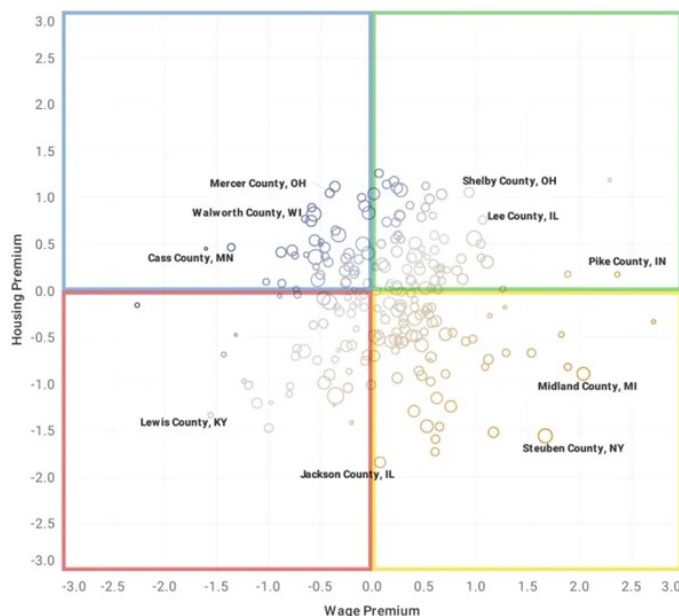
Sidney and Shelby County are mentioned in a recent Brookings Institute report on Midwest Rejuvenation. The report argues that Midwestern communities that focus on improving quality of life, not just traditional economic development strategies, have experienced new economic dynamism and relative prosperity. The graphic on the right that shows data for both Shelby and Mercer Counties.

In referring to this graphic, Brookings notes: "The upper right (green) quadrant displays places that both households and businesses believe are nice places to live and work. These include Sidney, Ohio (Shelby County), a historic town with an extensive parks and recreation system as well as various headquarters and manufacturing plants."

"Overall, this report provides us with encouragement that our strategic efforts to encourage housing, place-making, quality of life and downtown/neighborhood revitalization, while continuing traditional business development activities, is a good plan," said Jim Hill, SSEP Executive Director.

The following link will allow you to read the complete article: <https://www.brookings.edu>

Small industrial towns focus on quality of life to realize their full growth potential.



Source: Authors' calculations using Census Bureau data

B Brookings Metro

Thanks for Your Service, Todd



SSEP Board President Mick Given thanked Todd Weigandt, CEO/President of Area Electric, for his years of service to Sidney-Shelby Economic Partnership. Appointed to the Board by the CIC, Todd served on the SSEP Board since 2016 and its Executive Committee since 2017.

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Thank you to our contributors:

SSEP; Kari Egbert, City of Sidney; Julie Ehemann, Shelby County; and Jeff Raible, Sidney-Shelby County Chamber. The publishers invite your comments, suggestions, story ideas, and sponsorship of future issues. If you have questions or concerns, please contact **Jim Hill** at jhill@choosesidneyshelby.com

* For a free digital copy of Shelby Sizzles, please visit www.choosesidneyshelby.com

Workforce Partnership Power Lunch



Deb McDermott, Workforce Director, and Kelly Edwards, Career Coach welcome attendees



Greg Dickman, Slagle Mechanical, speaks to students



Companies interview students



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