

## Portage County Office of Economic Development

The Portage County Office of Economic Development (PCOED) manages the county's 14 Enterprise Zones, which further reduce the cost of locating or expanding in Portage County. The office maintains a database of industrial sites and buildings, economic development financing and other business development incentives. The office provides confidential assistance in locating the appropriate site, building and incentive programs.



Above: new construction in retail, housing and a new manufacturing facility.

The Portage County Office of Economic Development was a member of the Akron/Canton, Ohio Region "Partners for Progress" comprised of the Greater Akron Chamber, First Energy, Dominion/East Ohio Gas and the counties of Portage, Summit, Medina and Stark. Through this partnership the office promoted the county and region at industry trade shows and selected advertising in trade publications. After more than a decade of cooperation in regional marketing the Akron/Canton Partners for Progress merged into Team NEO. Team NEO covers all counties in NE Ohio.

In 2000, the Partners for Progress sponsored a technology oriented field trip for over 450 area high school students to a fabricating technologies show at the Cleveland IX Center.

In 2001, the partners group teamed up with the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME) at the Apex 2001 Show to sponsor a Student Summit for 250 NE Ohio machining technologies students at the Cleveland IX Center.



Above, Maplewood Career Center Students at 2001 Apex Show.

The PCOED director serves on the board of trustees of the Northeast Ohio Economic and Trade Consortium (NEOTEC), which is a six-county economic development organization. NEOTEC focuses on international trade issues such as foreign trade zones, logistics and other initiatives designed to enhance the competitiveness of Northeast Ohio and its businesses in the global market.

### Additional services and activities

The Portage County Office of Economic Development works with local, regional and state organizations to address issues such as workforce development, logistics and business incentive programs. For more information, visit our web site at: [www.portageworkforce.org/pcoed](http://www.portageworkforce.org/pcoed), or contact us.

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