



## NEWS RELEASE

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## **CITY OF CINCINNATI SELECTED AS AN EXCELLENCE AWARD FINALIST**

*Ohio Economic Development Association Recognizes City at Annual Summit*

Cincinnati, OH – The Ohio Economic Development Association (OEDA) presented its annual Excellence Awards at its 2010 Annual Summit, held October 25-27 at the Conference Center at NorthPointe in Columbus. The Ohio Economic Development Association's annual excellence awards program recognizes the achievements of individuals and organizations in Ohio in the areas of economic and workforce development.

OEDA recognized the City of Cincinnati's Economic Development Division for Excellence in Economic Development Marketing for its newly created website ([www.choosecincy.com](http://www.choosecincy.com)). The website is a complete redesign from its original site which was buried inside of the city's main website. The Economic Development Division focused on developing a website that was both user-friendly and useful for visitors in Cincinnati and the global marketplace, thereby increasing the number of businesses and jobs located within Cincinnati.

The Division worked to develop a customer friendly site to provide timely information to make Cincinnati more competitive for site selectors and developers interested in doing business in Cincinnati. The interactive site features reporting tools, mapping capabilities, search functions, and a foreign language translator to reach international audiences. Since its launch, the website has had visitors from far away as France, India, Thailand, and Tanzania. The results of this launch have been impressive as evidenced by current, 1st page placement in Google searches for Economic Development in Cincinnati.

"The new website signified a huge step forward on how we communicate with the Economic Development community as we seek new investors and bring jobs to Cincinnati," said Interim Economic Development Director, Patrick Ewing. "This will help us to further compete in a global economy."

Cincinnati Neighborhood Business Districts United (CNBDU) was recognized by OEDA as a Finalist in the Excellence in Volunteerism category. Specifically, Mike Wagner and John Price were recognized for their years of service in leading CNBDU, a non-profit, volunteer-based organization whose mission is to improve and advocate for Cincinnati's neighborhood business districts (NBDs). Mr. Wagner and Mr. Price led the organization from its creation in 1993 until Mr. Price passed away in 2009. Mr. Wagner has since been serving as the organization's president despite also running two small businesses. Since its inception, CNBDU has helped its members secure approximately \$30 million in City funding for capital improvement projects in the city's various NBDs. In 1995, CNBDU convinced the City to use a highly competitive peer review process for determining which projects receive City funding. Since 1995, the process has remained in place and the Department of Community Development has partnered with CNBDU to implement approximately 200 different capital improvement projects.

The Ohio Economic Development Association supports efforts by state, regional and local governments and other organizations to strengthen the economic climate in Ohio, foster employment growth and expand economic opportunities for Ohio's citizens. For more information about OEDA, please visit [www.ohioeda.com](http://www.ohioeda.com).

## **About The City Of Cincinnati**

The City of Cincinnati government is comprised of over 5,000 employees, dedicated to maintaining the highest quality of life for the people of Cincinnati. The City is focused on economic development to create jobs and pursues partnerships to help create opportunities that benefit Cincinnati's residents, diverse businesses and visitors. The day-to-day business of operating the City is the responsibility of the City Manager, who functions as the Chief Administrator for the City. The paramount responsibilities of the City Manager are executing the policy, delivering services to the citizens and customers of the City of Cincinnati, managing government finances, and providing continuity of government and support to the Mayor and Members of City Council. For more information, visit [www.cincinnati-oh.gov](http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov).

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