

P R E S S R E L E A S E

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 25, 2017

Commissioners: Steven A. Davis Mike Kiger David L. Levacy

County Administrator Carri L. Brown

Fairfield County Purchases Building for County Records Center

Lancaster, Ohio- The Fairfield County Commissioners announced today that the county has entered into a contract to purchase property for a records center. The new records center is planned for property on Chestnut Street. The property includes a 16,320 square foot office building, which will be used for office space in connection with the records center. Initially, the new records center will house records from the County Clerk of Courts. Over time, all county departments will be able to use the records center.

Currently, the county leases storage space at two facilities and continues to use multiple basements and rooms for storage. The new records center will allow for records to be stored in a central location. In the future, it will allow easier public access to stored records for multiple departments and agencies. The target date for the county wide opening of the records center is 2019.

While the county had planned to use property purchased on Baldwin Drive for records and assets storage, the county will use that property for a maintenance garage, Emergency Management Agency office, and other asset storage.

Dave Levacy, Commissioner, stated, "Entering into a contract to purchase property on Chestnut Street is a significant step forward in meeting overall records and storage needs. The location on Chestnut Street offers efficiency because most of the employees who will be accessing the records will be within walking distance of the building. In addition, we are happy to contribute something positive for downtown Lancaster."

Branden Meyer, Clerk of Courts, added, "The new records center on Chestnut Street will include a conference space that we intend to use for training, which will bring more people downtown."

The purchase and remodeling of the building are sourced from a surplus transfer from the Clerk of Courts Certificate of Title Fund and from the county's general fund. For more information, please contact Carri Brown at <u>carri.brown@fairfieldcountyohio.gov</u> or at (740) 652-7096.

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