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SCHAFFER ANNOUNCES STATE SUPPORT FOR U.S. CORRUGATED EXPANSION

COLUMBUS – State Senator Tim Schaffer (R-Lancaster) today announced that the state Controlling Board approved the release of \$240,000 in state support for U.S. Corrugated, Inc. in Fairfield County. These funds will assist with the company’s planned construction of a new facility, as well as lead to the creation of more than 100 new full-time positions.

“Economic development is an important tool for any state when looking to create new jobs,” Schaffer said. “The efforts we have made up to this point have benefited countless communities and continue to do so, as is evident by investment U.S. Corrugated is looking to make in Lancaster.”

A portion of the funds being released today, \$90,000, are in the form of a Rapid Outreach Grant. These grants are administered by the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) and are designed to assist companies and communities that are creating and retaining jobs in Ohio. Awarded to the City of Lancaster, this grant will assist with the extension of a rail spur. Lancaster plans to add 1,500 feet to an existing spur in support U.S. Corrugated’s new operation.

The remaining \$150,000 will be used for the necessary road improvements that will be needed to support the increased traffic. The City of Lancaster plans to reconstruct approximately 1,500 lineal feet of Camp Ground Road from Fair Avenue to Lithopolis Road. As part of the project, the road will be widened to two 12-foot lanes with four-foot berms. Additionally, the thickness of the pavement will also be upgraded to handle increased wear and tear. Following these upgrades, the roadway will provide direct access to the newly completed U.S. Route 33 by-pass and also help to ensure that the road can safely handle the heavy industrial truck traffic that will result from U.S. Corrugated's new facility on Camp Ground Road.

Formed in 2006, U.S. Corrugated is a corrugated packaging manufacturer that is seeking to expand operations and looking at sites in Ohio and Pennsylvania and the Lancaster site will not be chosen without the rail spur extension.

“The state support will enable Lancaster to construct the rail spur and ensure that Ohio is the most attractive site for the project.” Schaffer said.

To help secure the project, the ODOD is also offering the City of Lancaster a Roadwork Development grant of \$150,000 to assist with public roadwork improvements. Additionally, the Ohio Tax Credit Authority approved a 55 percent, five-year Job Creation Tax Credit for the U.S. Corrugated. The ODOD has also offered U.S. Corrugated up to \$8 million in Ohio Enterprise Bond Fund monies which the Controlling Board will be asked to approve at a future meeting.