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Hamilton County among best at landing new companies

NORWOOD – July 16, 2007 – Hamilton County has been one of the most successful in the nation at attracting new businesses over the past eight years, according to a new study by *Expansion Management* magazine and the nonpartisan National Policy Research Council.

The research, published in the latest issue of *Expansion Management*, ranked Hamilton County No. 16 among mid-sized counties. It was one of just 60 counties recognized out of 3,141 nationwide, based on relocation and expansion data on 19 million companies for the past eight years.

“For the metros and counties that ranked high in this study, it represents the best of all possible validation that their local economies are on the right track,” said the article, written by Chief Editor Bill King.

“There’s probably not a better vote of confidence than knowing that, when faced with a decision of where in the entire United States to locate a new facility or branch office, the consensus of millions of business executives was to choose these locations for a significant business investment,” it continued. “In a very real sense, this is a reflection of the marketplace at work.”

The only other Ohio county that made the grade was Franklin, home to Columbus, which ranked No. 16 among large counties.

“Hamilton County’s ranking is great news,” commissioners President Todd Portune said. “It speaks to how attractive we are as a community and encourages us to continue with the improvements and enhancements in our business environment that we are making and that are making Hamilton County a business magnet.”

Echoed David K. Main, president of Hamilton County Development Co.: “It is gratifying that not only our economic development efforts but our results are being recognized by a national publication and resource such as *Expansion Management* magazine.”

HCDC, a private, nonprofit corporation, administers the programs of Hamilton County’s Economic Development Office as well as the SBA 504 and Ohio Regional 166 loan programs. It also operates the largest business incubator in the region.

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