

**Cleve Ricksecker**  
 Executive Director  
 Capital Crossroads  
 Special Improvement District



*Downtown may be the most under-served retail market in central Ohio. Yet, misconceptions about downtown linger because of the demise of Columbus City Center. The City's support of a retail recruitment effort by Capital Crossroads, along with the Mayor's Mile on High initiative, will help re-establish street-level retailing in downtown, one storefront at a time.*

**Michael Morris**  
 President and CEO  
 American Electric Power



*AEP is proud to be headquartered in downtown Columbus, and it has been great to see so much new investment by local companies and the City starting to bring people back to the area. The City is stepping up and I look forward to seeing more retail and restaurant options in the Mile on High area. Great downtowns are more than just the bricks and mortar, they are all about people having great places to explore, to work and to have fun.*

**Mark Ballard**  
 Co-Founder/Co-CEO  
 Sugardaddy's Sumptuous Sweeties



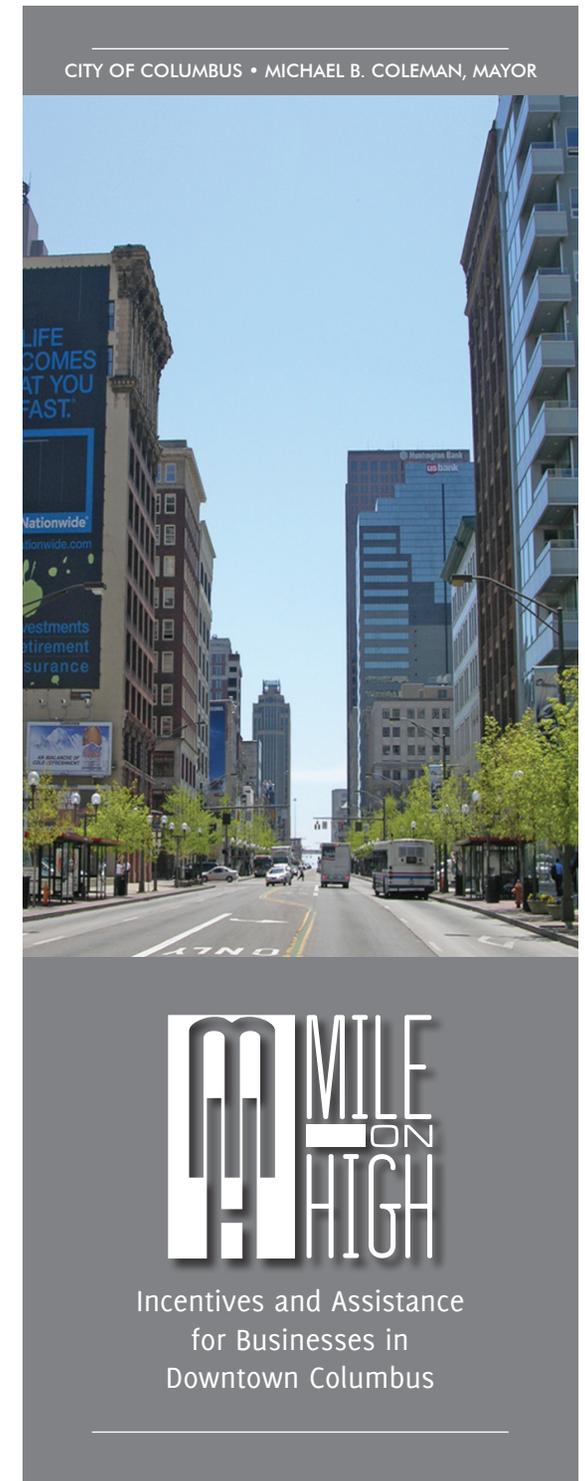
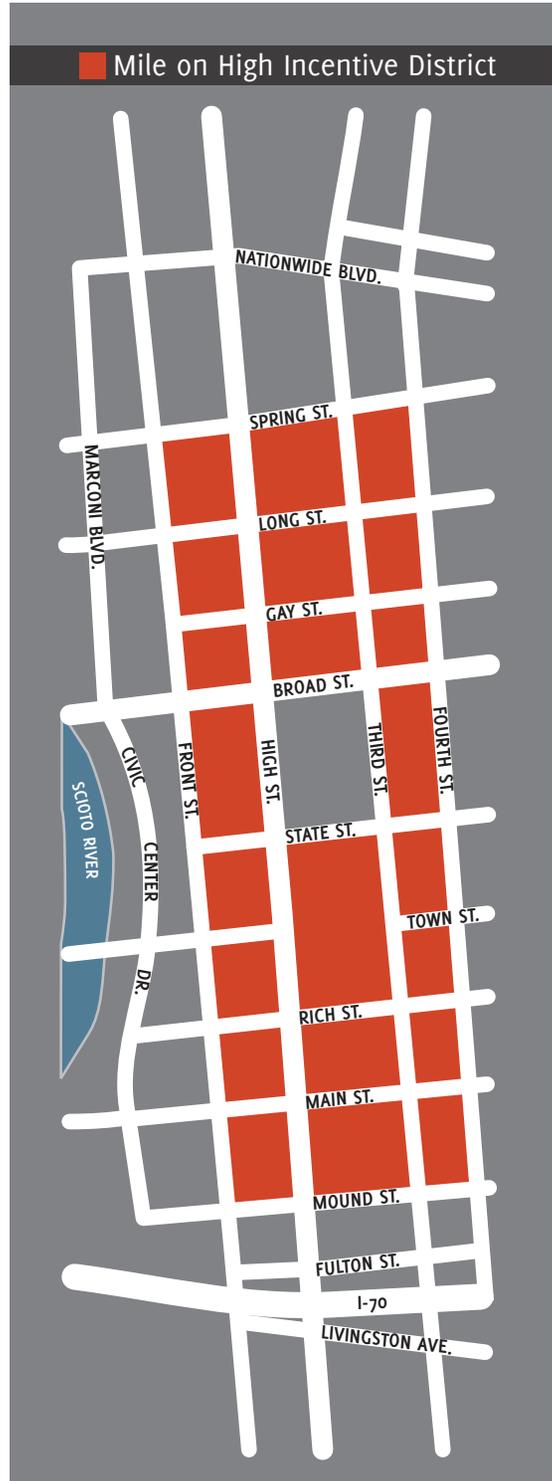
*Sugardaddy's Sumptuous Sweeties is investing in a new shop in the heart of downtown because we want to be a part of the vibrant growth taking place in the Gay Street Corridor. With help from the City's Retail Facade Renovation Program, we were able to offset the cost of signage in our new location. It was great to work with the Mayor's team and know they care about our business' success.*

**For more information:**

Columbus Department of Development  
 Economic Development Division  
 150 S. Front St. Columbus, OH 43215 • 614-645-8616  
 e-mail: pf.development.economicdevelopment@columbus.gov



CITY OF COLUMBUS • MICHAEL B. COLEMAN, MAYOR



Incentives and Assistance  
 for Businesses in  
 Downtown Columbus

The Mile on High is a new program designed to assist existing businesses and encourage new ventures within a designated area in downtown Columbus. Bounded by Spring Street on the north, Front Street on the west, Mound Street on the south and Fourth Street, Mile on High will offer tax incentives, loans and matching funds for qualified businesses within the area. The City of Columbus is partners with the State of Ohio and Franklin County in assisting business growth and development. The Mayor's Office, along with City Council, is committed to making downtown Columbus a great place to live, work and shop by increasing retail opportunities and expanding businesses already in place. Contact us with questions or comments. We welcome your input and encourage participation to improve the quality of downtown for all citizens and visitors to Columbus.

Michael B. Coleman, Mayor



# Mile on High Incentives

## Performance Incentives

**Downtown Office Incentive** – Payment equal to 50% of local income tax withholdings for a period equal to a lease term minus 2 years not to exceed a maximum of 5 years

### Qualifications

- Lease or purchase office space
- Create or relocate 10 new full-time Jobs

**Jobs Growth Retail Incentive** – Payment equal to 25% of local income tax withholdings for a period equal to a lease term minus 2 years not to exceed a maximum of 5 years

### Qualifications

- Lease or purchase retail space
- Create or relocate 2 new full-time Jobs

## Property Tax Abatement

**Community Reinvestment Area** – Tax Abatement up to 100% for up to 15 years on residential real property improvements.

**Enterprise Zone** – Tax Abatement up to 75% for up to 10 years on commercial real property improvements.

### Qualifications

- Investment in new construction or renovation
- Create or relocate new jobs

## Grants

**Retail Façade Renovation** – Grant up to \$5,000 match for storefront exterior renovation.

### Qualifications

- Lease or purchase retail space
- Provide design proposal
- One grant per storefront

**Retail Façade Design** – The Neighborhood Design Center provides design services for exterior renovation and signs for first-floor building facades.

## Business Loans

**Business Development Fund** – Loan of up to \$200,000 for purposes of real estate acquisition.

**Working Capital Fund** – Loan of up to \$100,000 for five years to be used for working capital.

### Qualifications

- 3 years of business history
- 1 Job created for every \$30,000 borrowed

**Micro Enterprise Loan Fund** – Loan of up to \$35,000 for small business start-up and expansion.

### Qualifications

- 1 Job created for every \$30,000 borrowed

## State of Ohio

**The Ohio Historic Preservation Tax Credit** program provides a tax credit for the rehabilitation expenses to owners of historically significant buildings. The tax credit subsidy is 25% of qualified rehabilitation expenditures with an application cap of \$5M.

**The Ohio Job Creation Tax Credit Program** was established in 1993. The program provides a refundable tax credit against a company's corporate franchise or income tax based on the state income tax withheld from new, full-time employees.

